Welcome to RE:fresh! This is where Middletown Thrall Library’s Reference Department updates you on its latest efforts to empower you with the best research tools and resources currently available! Online editions of RE:fresh! can be downloaded from our website at thrall.org/refresh

Ready Reference Center News
www.thrall.org/readyref

We recently added a new section for Botany, the scientific study of plants. We also revised and expanded our Gardening and Plants directory so you can quickly locate books or websites about gardens, organic gardening, landscapes, trees, weeds, among other related topics.

Our Automobiles section has numerous additions and has been restructured to cover topics such as, Auto Care and Repair, Auto Shows, “Best Car” Lists, Buying / Leasing / Selling Vehicles, History, Owners Manuals, Terminology, Vehicle Safety and Inspections, and Vehicle Values.

Our Computers directory now includes convenient links to documents and support pages from major manufacturers.

As is true for all topics in the Ready Reference Center, you can explore both our directory of select Web resources as well as subjects within the library system catalog.

Literature for Students Updates
www.thrall.org/databases

So we can provide complete access to these great literary reference works online, we acquired all previous volumes for the following research guides for students:
- Drama for Students
- Novels for Students
- Poetry for Students
- Short Stories for Students

Each volume or set can be browsed or searched online by members of Thrall.

Library Website Updates
www.thrall.org

Over the past several months we have worked to make it much easier for you to navigate library services and enjoy the many great resources available at our library’s website.

We have established a new online calendar so you can quickly identify (and, hopefully, plan to attend) free public events at our library. You can reach our calendar through our home page or by going to www.thrall.org/calendar

A navigation bar now appears on all of our pages so you can quickly reach key library services and information:

Our navigation bar also includes a search box, which lets you locate library items, websites, databases, and more!

When searching via our home page or Thrall’s very own library catalog search page, watch for suggested titles, topics, or authors as you type...

Library Catalog
Locate Books, AudioBooks, DVDs, & More!

Catalog Update: The Thrall catalog will be updated on Tuesday, September 17. Please plan ahead.

Search the catalog...
Library Website Updates (continued)

When searching “all resources” from our home page, or when searching our guides (at www.thrall.org/guides) you will encounter two new menus: a search refiner if you search for a very general topic, such as “history”...

![Search Refiner Menu]

...or a search options menu:

![Search Options Menu]

These menus are intended to help you pinpoint specific informational items (books, articles, websites, etc.) and to enable you to explore related topics in the library catalog.

We also developed new Library Catalog Help Pages, which you reach via the help link on our home page (top-center column on the Library Catalog line). Here you can learn more about checking your library account, registering for e-mail notification, finding items in the catalog, renewing and reserving items, fines, and more.

Library System Update

On August 20, 2013, our local library system (RCLS) will soon upgrade the library catalog (Enterprise) to address some technical issues in the catalog. SirsiDynix, the company providing Enterprise, has indicated:

- The new version of Enterprise (4.3) no longer supports Microsoft Internet Explorer 8 or earlier versions.
- Some features of the updated catalog might not work properly in Internet Explorer 8 or earlier.

Please see our Reference blog at www.thrall.org/refblog for more information and potential solutions.

New Databases

www.thrall.org/databases

NoveList Plus adds nonfiction suggestions to NoveList’s fiction reading recommendations for all ages. It includes read-alike lists, some book discussion guides, information on many fiction series, and more. There’s also a version for younger readers: NoveList Plus K-8.

NoveList Plus has also been partially integrated with the library system catalog: when you view a book in the catalog (by clicking on its cover or title), you can review reading recommendations related to the book (whenever they’re available). You’ll find them in a new expandable tab (“You May Also Like”) on the book’s information page.

Gannet Newsstand is a newspaper database which includes articles and abstracts from various regional newspapers including Ithaca Journal, The Journal News (Rockland and Westchester Counties), The Poughkeepsie Journal, Press and Sun-Bulletin (Binghamton), Rochester Democrat and Chronicle, Star-Gazette (Elmira), and more.

Elilibary Elementary offers access to "more than 390 magazines, newspapers, books, and transcripts plus thousands of maps, images, educator-approved websites from Homework Central, and audio/video titles."

Kids InfoBits is “designed especially for students in kindergarten through grade five. Complete with an engaging, developmentally appropriate graphic interface, premier reference content and the best magazines for elementary students, Kids InfoBits addresses the way kids learn and conduct research - and makes it fun!”

To access any of these databases, please visit thrall.org and click on Databases – or go to the website above.

Video Browser & Blog

www.thrall.org/videos

Our video browser has been visually enhanced to feature major monthly movie releases:

Click any title to search the library system catalog instantly!

Our Beyond the Box Office blog (at www.thrall.org/btbo) highlights major film / television releases on DVD/Blu-ray, enables you to locate video titles within the library catalog, and also offers links to MRQE (Movie Review Query Engine) and IMDB (Internet Movie Database) so you can locate movie reviews and other details about each video.