



# LIBRARY NEWS

Published by The Friends of the  
Morristown & Morris Township Library

Winter 2020

[www.MMTLibrary.org](http://www.MMTLibrary.org)

The Morristown & Morris Township Library, 1 Miller Road, Morristown, NJ

973-538-6161



## Director's Column by Chad Leinaweaver

Holidays! They are upon us once more, though this year they will look decidedly different for most people. No large parties or gatherings, shopping expeditions, or trips into the city this year. Though some folks might secretly prefer the “perks” of this quieter type of holiday, our familiar rituals have become upended, and the Library understands this can be stressful for so many of us. We hope that visiting and using the Library is a comfortable ritual for our patrons which they can still enjoy, even though it is not exactly the way it used to be. Our limited services which were instituted this summer remain in place. Curbside delivery of items continues — some patrons even consider this a decided perk of an otherwise unpleasant time, particularly for people with mobility issues or sleeping toddlers in their car seats! Virtual online Library programs for adults such as book clubs and film discussions continue to be popular, a perk of which is the fact that people can attend from all over, no matter their accessibility to the physical Library. Another perk for patrons has been takeaway crafts for children and teens who can take advantage of their own DIY program at home. We still have available all of your favorite books, magazines, CDs and DVDs, ready for you to check out and enjoy with a 7-day safety quarantine upon their return. Another perk of the pandemic — no fines for the rest of 2020!

So, similarly to the new reality of our upcoming holiday season, none of these pandemic perks makes up for the current stressful situation we are in. However, we hope that the Library services which we can offer help to make it a bit easier to bear. Happy holidays from the Morristown & Township Library to you and yours!

## Call for Submissions! Morristown and Morris Township COVID-19 Quarantine Experience

The North Jersey History and Genealogy Center and Morristown and Morris Township Library would like to know how residents of Morristown and Morris Township have handled being quarantined or self-isolated during the COVID-19 pandemic. This unique time is worth preserving in writing so that we can help future generations understand how to handle a quarantine and what it is like for us being quarantined in 2020. There is no deadline, but keep in mind what you think about COVID-19 months or a year from now could change. If you are interested in sharing with others, please tell us in 1500 words or less what being quarantined has been like for you. We would like to know:

1. What has surprised you the most during this quarantine?
2. What is your biggest fear?
3. Have there been any positive impacts of this quarantine?

(Call for Submissions! continued on page 2)

## President's Message

by Susan Kleemeyer

Greetings to everyone! I hope you are remaining healthy despite all the warnings of doom and precautionary restrictions due to COVID-19.

The Friends are longing to return to work and having book sales once more. We miss each other and you, our patrons and customers.

Happy Holidays to all! We hope and pray for a return to normal in the New Year.

We would greatly appreciate your renewal of membership in the Friends in 2021. If you've never been a Friend sponsor, please support us. Thank you.

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## The Library Goes Virtual, Part 2! by Louis Muñoz Jr.

In our Fall newsletter, we shared about the many exciting new virtual programs that the Library launched during the pandemic to help everyone stay connected, stimulated, and having fun. Among these online programs have been the popular biweekly “*Foreign Film Lovers Club*” which features a variety of recent and classic movies from all around the world, *Zoom Book Talk* events with local authors, and the continuation of our *Health Seminars* with local doctors from Summit Medical Group. Upcoming programs will include travelogues with our staff world traveler Stephen Brunskill and technology tutorials with our computer expert Doug!

With the success of these online programs, we are happy to announce the return of our popular *Evening and Morning Book Clubs*! The *Evening Book Club* is meeting online the second Tuesday of each month at 7:00 PM. December's choice is *Ask Again, Yes* by Mary Beth Keane. (Copies at the Circulation Desk)

The Morning Book Club will be meeting the second Thursday of each month online at 10:00 AM. December's book is *Where the Crawdads Sing* by Delia Owens and January's book is *Circe* by Madeline Miller. (Copies at the Circulation Desk)

Our popular *Book Lovers' Circle* will continue to meet in 2021 as well as our new *Virtual Classics Book Club*, through which we have enjoyed great conversations about such classics as *Catch-22* and *Song of Solomon*. December's classic is *Tender is the Night* by F. Scott Fitzgerald and January's is *Brave New World* by Aldous Huxley.

The Library is still going strong with a variety of YouTube videos from our various departments, especially our Children's and Young Adult Librarians. Check out our YouTube channel “MMTLibrary.” All of our programs are free and easy to join through Zoom, and more information can be found on our website's Events page and our Events Calendar, [www.mmtlibrary.org/calendar](http://www.mmtlibrary.org/calendar). We are adding new dates and programs all the time, so check online for up-to-date information. Please join us for these and other great opportunities to meet, learn, and have fun together!



## The CHILDREN'S ROOM by Arlene Sprague

The winter season finds us still adjusting to coronavirus limitations. Like the rest of the Library, the Children's Department is without seating, but open for browsing. We still offer computer access, but because of social distancing requirements, fewer computers are available. Story times continue on our YouTube channel since we are not offering inside programming. Each Monday we change the posted story time and finish the story time with a craft. Patrons can use materials from home, or they can stop in the Library and pick up a craft kit that corresponds to the story time. Links to the story times are on our webpage, leading directly to our channel. Originally major publishers allowed online recordings of their books through June 2020. However, as the virus continued to limit libraries' programming and force school closures, publishers have extended their permissions into March 2021. These permissions also extend to reading longer chapter books. On our YouTube channel you can also find our *The Hobbit*, and *The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe* read alouds. Families can also pick up take-and-make craft kits in addition to the story time crafts in the Children's Department. If anyone is nervous about coming into the Library, all of our books, movies, and crafts are available for curbside pick up. You can call in advance or fill out a curbside concierge form on the Library's web page.

Cloud Library is another alternative for families who are trying to stay safe and are reluctant to enter the building. While many think of Cloud Library as a source for adult books, there are many ebook choices for children and young adults. Favorite authors like Raina Telgemeier, Tui Sutherland, Dav Pilkey, and Dan Gutman are all available to download. All you need is a library card and a device to start reading from the extensive cloud library. Once you have the app on your device you can browse for titles, or you can browse for titles on the MAIN online catalog. Just look for the Cloud Library link on the front of the Library webpage for further information.

While Cloud Library is a great solution for some readers, some still prefer the feeling of a printed book in their hands. Rest assured that we are still purchasing print materials. Every few days we feature a new book in our *Book of the Day* posting on our website. Any title featured can be requested through the catalog, curbside concierge, or by phone. Whichever format you choose, we just want to make sure all of our readers have many different options for reading materials!

## Just for TEENS! by Abigail Hsu

### FALL/WINTER TEEN EVENTS



Staying connected and well-informed is more important than ever in our current era of social distancing! Be sure to check out the Library website's Teen section ([mmtlibrary.org/teens](http://mmtlibrary.org/teens)) for curated book lists, recommended websites, and upcoming virtual teen events. For reading suggestions, fill out our online Curbside Concierge form and a librarian will select books and DVDs according to your preferences.

### Teen Book Club: Tuesdays, December 1, January 12, February 9, 3:00–3:30 PM

Teen Book Club meets once a month on a Tuesday afternoon to chat about what we have read. This winter, we will read the futuristic dystopian novel *Scythe* by Neal Shusterman, fantasy heist (and soon-to-be Netflix show) *Six of Crows* by Leigh Bardugo, and pirate adventure *Song of the Current* by Sarah Tolcser. Books will be provided by the Library. Register through the Library website or at the following URL to reserve a copy of the books and receive meeting links: <https://forms.gle/kpA99qjAcaLDzvKu6>.

### Take & Make Craft Kits

Available everyday for curbside pick-up and in the Teen Space. Feeling crafty? Swing by the Library and grab a Take & Make Craft Kit to go! Each kit includes craft components and step-by-step instructions with photo examples. Crafts available this winter include 3-D paper snowflakes, "stained" glass jar luminaries, Lunar New Year paper cutting and more! Programs are open to teens in 7th grade and up, unless otherwise noted. For more information or to sign up, contact the YA Librarian at [abigail.hsu@mmt.mainlib.org](mailto:abigail.hsu@mmt.mainlib.org) or visit the Library website [www.mmtlibrary.org/teens](http://www.mmtlibrary.org/teens).

## New Faces at the Library!



Leila Sarmiento is excited to join the MMT Library as the new Bookmobile Driver! She had the pleasure of visiting the pools at Morristown and Morris Township this summer with the Bookmobile and hopes to schedule more stops for the upcoming fall and winter season! She enjoys reading books with her dog and two cats on rainy days. When she's not reading a book, you can catch her watching home renovation shows and spending time with her family. She looks forward to becoming a part of the Morristown and Morris Township community.



The North Jersey History & Genealogy Center is pleased to announce the hiring of Chris Larlee as our new Digital Resources Librarian. Chris has been employed as a part-time Library Assistant in the History Center since 2016. A graduate of the School of Information and Communication at Rutgers University, Chris is particularly interested in American colonial history. He loves reading non-fiction books about anything and sharing in other's enthusiasm for their research. He also enjoys hosting occasional meetings of the Library's Virtual Classics Book Club. Chris looks forward to helping patrons find their ancestors; when it comes to family history research, there's no time like the present!

## Call for Submissions!

(Continued from page 1)

4. What is the most difficult part of the quarantine?
5. What are your hopes for the future when this quarantine is over? And how have those hopes changed from before this quarantine began?

Please let us know if you are willing to be contacted by the North Jersey History and Genealogy Center after the quarantine is over. That could be months from now.

All submissions must include your first and last name, age, whether you reside in the Town or Township and any other pertinent information such as occupation and level of education completed. We welcome submissions from a diverse population. Please email your submission to [njhgc@jfpl.org](mailto:njhgc@jfpl.org) as a document attachment or mail via USPS to *North Jersey History and Genealogy Center, Morristown and Morris Township Library, 1 Miller Rd., Morristown, NJ 07960*.

\*Please only send in a submission if you are in agreement that the Morristown and Morris Township Library has permission to share your words with the public as part of the historical record and no benefit, financial or otherwise, is given or implied for the submitted material.

## ON THE SHELF

## NONFICTION

by Stephen Brunskill

***Arguing With Zombies: Economics, Politics, and the Fight For a Better Future*** by Paul Krugman

Columnist and Nobel Prize-winning economist Paul Krugman authors a welcoming approach to understanding macroeconomics as it addresses “policy as usual.” A timely book in light of current issues worldwide, he offers intelligent perspectives on the major concepts affecting government policy today.

***A Place For Everything : the Curious History of Alphabetical Order*** by Judith Flanders

Aside from what we learned in school as children, this we may take for granted! Judith Flanders brings an entirely original way to view this mundane topic – the Graeco-Roman alphabet – explaining its long and complex history, and how its impact affects modern organizational habits today.

***Ravenna: Capital of Empire, Crucible of Europe*** by Judith Herrin

Quick! What’s the “third” capital of the ancient Mediterranean world? Well indexed, beautifully illustrated and based on the latest archaeological findings, Judith Herrin, a British archaeologist and an academic in classics, heralds the growing geographic prominence of Ravenna. Based on her deep, original research, she gleams insights into the city’s personalities and events that bridge not only East and West, but also pagan and modern, demolishing the idea how the West just “fell” into the Dark Ages.

***Dancing with the octopus: a Memoir of a Crime*** by Debora Harding

The story of a teenager held for ransom who survived this terrible crime. This author recounts her harrowing personal story as a fourteen year-old girl who was abducted at knife-point from a church parking lot on a cold Omaha day in November 1978. Shifting between the past and present throughout the book, she explains how facing her attacker face-to-face in prison as an adult gave her the strength and heart to move on past this trauma.

## FICTION

by Gracey Osmun Palmer

***Snow*** by John Banville

The first mystery Banville has written under his own name, rather than as his pseudonym Benjamin Black, *Snow* stars a crusty Protestant detective investigating a murder in County Wexford. Detective Inspector St. John Strafford has been summoned to County Wexford to investigate a murder. A parish priest has been found dead in Ballyglass House, the family seat of the aristocratic, secretive Osborne family. The year is 1957 and the Catholic Church rules Ireland with an iron fist. Strafford, flinty, visibly Protestant and determined to identify the murderer, faces obstruction at every turn, from the heavily accumulating snow to the culture of silence in the tight-knit community he begins to investigate.

***Too Much Lip***

by Melissa Lucashenko

Guilty of ‘too much lip,’ headstrong Kerry Salter is veering close to prison but still distancing herself from her Bundjalung homeland in Australia—until her father falls ill. She heads home on a stolen Harley, meaning to stay a day, but soon enters the fight against building a prison on her family’s spiritual homeland. Plus, a handsome white man steps in.

***Solutions and Other Problems***

by Allie Brosh

With her bestselling *Hyperbole and a Half*, based on her award-winning blog of the same name, cartoonist Brosh shared snapshots of her life, including her struggles with depression. In this long-awaited follow-up, complete with her signature illustrations, she reflects on her childhood along with the challenges of adulthood. From moving in with roommates after the end of her marriage to reflecting on the death of her younger sister to contemplating the meaning of friendship, the author brings readers alongside her as life doesn’t always go according to plan. Brosh is relatable and humorous, whether discussing loneliness; navigating health issues; or trying too hard to either interact with or avoid neighbors, depending on the day.

## History Center Reopens to Researchers

by Jeffrey V. Moy, Archivist

The North Jersey History & Genealogy Center, located on the lower level of the Library, is now taking appointments for onsite research visits via email at [njhgc@jfpl.org](mailto:njhgc@jfpl.org) or by phone at 973-538-3473. Before contacting us, please visit our online catalog and finding aids at <https://mmtlibrary.org/nj-history-genealogy/> to create a list of materials you would like to see and send us your list. This way we can prepare for your visit in advance, optimizing your time. For those unable to visit us in person, we have temporarily waived fees for Remote Research requests for individuals.

Due to the ongoing pandemic, our hours and policies have changed, and they are outlined in the *Plan Your Visit* section on our site. All visits must be scheduled in advance (**walk in appointments are not allowed**) since we are limited to two researchers in the Reading Room at a time. All items are quarantined after each use, and the Library has enacted enhanced cleaning and social distancing practices. Refer to the Library’s main web page for the most up to date information on our operations and hours.

You can also keep up with us online. Follow us on Twitter @NJHistoryCenter, friend the Library on Facebook and view our highly regarded History articles on [MorristownGreen.com](http://MorristownGreen.com).

## Everything’s NEW at the North Jersey History and Genealogy Center! by James Lewis

**NEW ACCESSIONS!** The NJHGC is happy to share that we have added great new items to our collections during the pandemic. These include local author Mike Ryer’s *Morris Township Fire Department’s Woodland Fire Company* book, (thank you Mike Ryer and to the Morris Township Fire Department); thanks to a donor from Madison, we have a new (old) photograph of World War I veteran Sam Nixon (look for his name on *Morristown’s Cenotaph in front of the Jockey Hollow Club*); and a local photographer’s wonderful digital photographs of Morris Township and Morristown. We look forward to sharing our new resources with you!

**Looking for a NEW HOBBY?** Why not explore your family history?! Library cardholders can begin their family history from home by searching *MyHeritage*, a genealogy database that provides access to records from across the globe. I suggest clicking on their advanced search. Here’s a link to MyHeritage and our other Genealogy Databases: <https://mmtlibrary.org/nj-history-genealogy/research-sources-databases/>. If you would like more guidance, read one of our pathfinders or guides at <https://mmtlibrary.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/03/Genealogical-Research-at-NJHC.pdf> or call us at 973-538-3473.

**Looking for OLD NEWS?** Library cardholders can search ProQuest Historic Northeast Newspapers from home during COVID-19. This database provides access to 68 newspapers from as far west as Memphis, Tennessee, and as far east as Boston and with a wide range of years, with newspapers dating from before the Civil War to as recent as 2013. Only interested in news from New Jersey newspapers? No problem — this database has newspapers from Asbury Park, Bridgewater, Millville, New Brunswick, Plainfield, Vineland and Morristown’s *Daily Record* from 1974 to 2012. **Everything old is new again!**

**Friends of the Library**  
One Miller Road  
Morristown, New Jersey 07960

(Address Service Requested)

Support the Friends who are working hard  
to make your Library even better!  
Fill in the form below on the right  
and become a FRIEND today!

Everybody  
Needs  
a Friend



### Library Information During the Pandemic

We are here for you! The Library building is open and we offer many ways for patrons to access our materials and services both in-person and virtually. Some new updates are below. For more information visit our website [MMTLibrary.org](http://MMTLibrary.org) or call 973-538-6161.

- ♥ Statewide delivery is back! Patrons can again receive items from all over NJ. Delivery will take a bit longer as most libraries are operating with reduced staff and schedules.
- ♥ There are NO fines! We will remain fine-free through Thursday, December 31, 2020 (*New Year's Eve!*).
- ♥ Updated safety: National library organizations have recommended increased quarantining of books to seven days. When you return items you may notice that they remain on your patron record for another week. Do not worry, we will check them in appropriately after seven days.
- ♥ Our current hours are **Monday-Thursday, 11:00 AM–7:00 PM, Friday 9:00 AM–5:00 PM, and Saturday 10:00 AM–2:00 PM.** The History Center is open by appointment only during these hours. E-mail the History Center at [njhgc@jfpl.org](mailto:njhgc@jfpl.org) or call at 973-538-3473 to schedule an appointment.
- ♥ Curbside pickup continues. Call the main number 973-538-6161 when you arrive and we will bring out your items to you. Use the designated spots in the back of the lot. Try our **Curbside Concierge** service and staff members will personally pick out books for you based on your preferences if you are not comfortable coming in to browse the shelves.
- ♥ NJ state safety regulations continue. Patrons ages 2 and up are required to wear a mask, use hand sanitizing stations upon entering, practice social distancing and limit their time inside the Library to 45 minutes.
- ♥ We have many virtual and online services. There are loads of streaming and downloading options for all ages with **Kanopy**, **CloudLibrary**, and **TumbleBooks**. Research databases and History materials are available with your library card.
- ♥ Programs continue online! Visit our website events calendar and YouTube channel for info on programs for all ages! We have virtual book clubs, author events, "Make & Take" kits, Foreign Film Lovers Club and more!

Follow the Morristown & Morris Township Library on Social Media!



The Morristown & Morris Township Library is located at One Miller Road in Morristown, on the corner of South Street and Miller Road directly across from the Community Theatre.

**How to reach us:** General: 973-538-6161  
Reference: 973-538-2592  
Local History: 973-538-3473  
Library email: [info@jfpl.org](mailto:info@jfpl.org)

Visit the Library's website for more information:  
[MMTLibrary.org](http://MMTLibrary.org)

### Become a FRIEND of the Morristown & Morris Township Library!



Belonging to the FRIENDS is worthwhile.

Please join us as we work to help your Library!

\_\_\_\_\_ NEW \_\_\_\_\_ RENEWAL

\_\_\_ Individual: \$15

\_\_\_ Patron: \$60 & up

\_\_\_ Family: \$30

\_\_\_ Benefactor: \$100 & up

Make checks out to "Friends of the Morristown & Morris Township Library"

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address\*: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

\*If you know your 9-digit zip code, please include it.

### VOLUNTEER WITH THE FRIENDS!

\_\_\_ YES, I would like to volunteer with the Friends of the Library!  
Please contact me with more information!

For more information about the Friends and opportunities to participate, please email [morristownlib.booksale@gmail.com](mailto:morristownlib.booksale@gmail.com).

Please leave this form at the Library Circulation Desk or mail to:

Friends of the Morristown/Morris Township Library

1 Miller Road

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