



LIBRARY NEWS

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Morristown & Morris Township Library

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www.MMTLibrary.org

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

973-538-6161



Director's Column by Chad Leinaweaver

You may have noticed over the years that we have done a lot of work on our building: stone masonry repair, interior painting, upgrading lighting, installing new HVAC equipment, and other upkeeps, all necessary when you operate a building as old as our 1917 Library. In the coming years, we will certainly have many more building repairs, but we are starting to pay more attention to the outside. We recently secured the services of a landscape architect to give us some new ideas for making a beautiful downtown landscape for our patrons. After working so much on the building itself, we needed an expert to take a fresh look at the grounds of the Library to update plantings, highlight the architecture of our historic building and provide for new signage, among other projects both large and small.

What spurred this plan on was the installation of a new statue on the Library's South Street lawn that you will see very soon. The statue will honor Steve Wiley, the late Morristown lawyer and bank president who was a friend to many institutions in Morristown including the Mayo Performing Arts Center, the Morris School District and the Library — where he aided with our 2006 building expansion. A local civic group wanted to honor Wiley, who passed away in 2015, with a statue and place it here on the Library grounds in the heart of the town he loved so much.

Maintaining and updating old and new plantings and the lawn, installing benches and a walking path, removing plantings which obscure our beautiful building (and were never meant to!) and installing exterior lighting are all on the list of things we can do to improve the Library grounds and help to beautify downtown Morristown. The plan will take a few years and cost a bit of money over the next several years. After the statue, our next big effort is the signage and we are looking at sample designs now. Stay tuned to see what happens!

StoryWalk™ Comes to the Library! by Mary Lynn Becza

We are having a new outdoor children's activity at the Library this spring which we are very excited about and hope to continue in the future. It is called a **StoryWalk**™ and will be on the front and side lawns of the Library beginning May 17. StoryWalks were developed by Anne Ferguson in Montpelier, Vermont, and they are a fun way to combine reading and literacy with outdoor activity. Children (*adults are allowed too!*) read pages from picture books which are posted outdoors on posts along a path. The book we are featuring on our StoryWalk is **Book! Book! Book!** by Deborah Bruss. Let us know how you like this new activity when you participate!



Bookmobile
Coordinator
Leila Uhl
with one
of the
StoryWalk
"pages" she
created for
the Library.

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The Friends are BACK!

The Friends of the Library have resumed their weekly book sales. Saturday, May 15, 2021, was our first book sale since March 2020! Until more restrictions are lifted, sales will start at 11:00 AM, on Tuesdays (weather permitting) outside the Library. We are so excited to be back and can't wait to see all of you!

President's Message

by Susan Kleemeyer

What a year we have had, wearing masks, keeping our distance and staying close to home. I hesitate to say the word that begins with C because I am so tired of hearing it! However, now that vaccines are becoming more available for one and all, life may soon be coming back to somewhat normal. At the very least, it will be similar to what life was like before C started. Hopefully.

The Friends thank all who have renewed their membership, especially those who have been extra generous this year. If you have not renewed yet, please do not hesitate to do so. Since the pandemic began, we were not able to have our book sales which are our major means of funding extra Library projects and programs. However, with the warmer weather and lifting of restrictions, we are now having our book sales outside on a smaller scale. We can't wait to see you there! (*See photo above of our first day back!*)

Just for TEENS!

by Abigail Hsu



Library programming in a pandemic has been challenging, but it has also been an opportunity to try new things for our teen patrons. In March, we invited an automotive educator based in Chicago to remotely teach a class on car maintenance. In April, we partnered with both the Mountain Lakes Public Library Makerspace for a virtual program about Icon Graphics and with JBWS for a vital seminar about teen dating violence awareness. On May 19, we celebrated Asian Pacific American Heritage Month with an author talk featuring Suzanne Park (*Loathe at First Sight, The Perfect Escape*).

Our tried-and-true programs are also going strong. **Teen Book Club** meets monthly to discuss our current book of the month. On June 1, we will talk about *The Merciful Crow* by Margaret Owen. Take & Make craft kits will be available throughout the spring and summer. 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 or visit the teen homepage on the Library website mmtlibrary.org/teens.

June Pride Month Event

Offerings by Louis Muñoz Jr.

In honor of this year's **Pride Month** in June, a variety of our Library's virtual programs will have an LGBTQ+ theme. Our featured **Morning and Evening Book Club** title will be *White Houses* by Amy Bloom, a fictionalized story of Eleanor Roosevelt's relationship with journalist Lorena Hickok. In addition, our **Book Lovers' Circle** will highlight some new releases of fiction and nonfiction books that explore the spectrum of LGBTQ+ lives and characters. Next, our popular annual **Pride Month Film Series** is returning, featuring several new and classic domestic and international movies. Lastly, we are launching a new quarterly documentary film discussion night in June similar to our Pride Month Film Series. The first film discussion will also be in honor of Pride Month. We hope you will join us for these and other great activities at the Library. Please look for dates and titles on our Facebook page and on our website, www.mmtlibrary.org.



The CHILDREN'S ROOM by Arlene Sprague

While the Library has been open for months, some of our services are still unavailable. Patrons are free to browse the collections, choose books, and use the computers. However, not all of our computers are back in service. Nor is all the furniture back out on the floor. Indoor programming will not resume until fall at the earliest. But we are preparing some outdoor programming for the warmer weather. **Lunch with the Librarian** will resume in the gardens of **Macculloch Hall** on **Wednesdays** starting in July. Library staff brings the stories and families bring their own lunches and blankets for a story time picnic. We have been doing these lunch story times at Macculloch Hall for more than 35 years and are excited about continuing the tradition this summer. Plans are underway for a series of **StoryWalks™** on the Library grounds. (See article on page 1) StoryWalks are designed to combine literature and outdoor experiences. Pages from a book are "planted" in the lawn on yard stakes and patrons can walk around and read the story. Hopefully a few other programs will be outside as well. Give us a call or check our website for more information.

Since our programming options are limited, our focus remains on take-home crafts and remote story time. YouTube story time will continue as long as we have publishers' permission. Craft kits that tie into the story are available in the Children's Room while supplies last. Take and make craft kits are available in a couple of age ranges. Materials are prepackaged to be done at home. Most of the time, you will just need to provide the glue.

Our newest entry for take-home kits is a **do-it-yourself scavenger hunt**. In past summers, we had scavenger hunts with pictures and they were really popular. The scavenger hunts are something that were easily adaptable for a take-home activity. Each kit contains 12 pictures for someone to hide, then a master sheet with all the pictures you need to find. More matching games are on the way as well. So even though summer programs will remain curtailed when compared to previous years, the Children's Department is committed to offering a hybrid summer program of take-home kits and outdoor events.

Book Clubs Galore! by Mary Lynn Becza

The Library has four popular book clubs which we have been offering for the past year on Zoom. Various staff members have been hosting the clubs and we have loads of fun! There is something for everyone in our monthly picks and we offer a variety of genres. The **Morning and Evening Book Clubs** discuss the same title (though not always in the same month) so if you miss one date, check another. Those choices include current fiction and nonfiction books which have wide appeal. Our **Virtual Classics Book Club (VCBC)** reads a broad selection of the "classics," both modern and traditional. **Book Lovers Circle** is a monthly club at which a staff member booktalks about the newly published titles of note the Library wants to highlight and then all attendees are invited to briefly speak about the books they are each reading. We all love to share our favorite new finds!

You are welcome to attend as many book club events as you would like. We describe our clubs as "low stress"—no pressure to finish a book and if you don't like something we especially want to hear from you! Below is a list of upcoming book club books. To be put on the email list for any or all of the book clubs email us at morristownreaders@gmail.com. We will send you the Zoom link each month. There are no meetings in August.

All book clubs are on the following dates and times of each month, unless otherwise noted*:

- **Book Lovers Circle: 1st Thursday, 7:00 PM**
June 4, July 1, September 2, October 7, November 4, December 2
- **Morning Book Club: 2nd Thursday, 10:00 AM**
June 10, *White Houses* by Amy Bloom; July 15*, *When We Were Vikings* by Andrew David McDonald; September 9, *The Flight Portfolio* by Julie Orringer; October 14, *The Book of Lost Friends* by Lisa Wingate; November 11, TBA; December 9, *The Mother-In Law* by Sally Hepworth
- **Virtual Classics Book Club: 2nd Thursday, 7:00 PM**
June 10, *Lady Chatterley's Lover*; July 8, *Adventures of Huckleberry Finn*; September 9, *Great Expectations*; October 14, *The French Lieutenant's Woman*; November 11, *Portnoy's Complaint*; December 9, *And Then There Were None* by Agatha Christie
- **Evening Book Club: 3rd Thursday, 7:00 PM** (formerly the 2nd Tuesday of each month)
June 17, *White Houses* by Amy Bloom; July 15, *A Long Petal of the Sea* by Isabel Allende; September 23,* *The Book of Lost Friends* by Lisa Wingate; October 21, *Mexican Gothic* by Silvia Moreno-Garcia; November 18, *Transcendent Kingdom* by Yaa Gyasi; December 16, *The Exiles* by Christina Baker Kline

ON THE SHELF

NONFICTION by Stephen Brunskill**Remote Work Revolution: Succeeding From Anywhere** by Tsedal Neeley

A Harvard Business School professor explains how this topic originated before the COVID-19 pandemic and offers compelling, evidence-based answers to issues on working remotely from anywhere as well as how anyone — leaders, middle-management, entrepreneurs or single — should apply best practices necessary to perform at the highest levels in their organizations.

Cook This Book: Techniques That Teach & Recipes to Repeat by Molly Baz

This completely modern guide will show you how to become a smarter, faster, more creative cook, and will present clear and uncomplicated recipes that make the experience of cooking fun!

Cosmic Queries: StarTalk's Guide to Who We Are, How We Got Here, and Where We're Going by Neil deGrasse Tyson

Armed with his wit, wisdom and his unique scientific take, this book may enlighten some and inspire others — exploring some of the deepest questions about our place in the universe.

Get Good With Money: Ten Simple Steps To Becoming Financially Whole by Tiffany Aliche

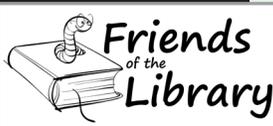
Also known as “The Budgetista”, Aliche introduces the powerful idea of striving for financial wholeness instead of early retirement or millionaire status. With ten short-term steps from the simple (best practices for budgeting and saving) to the more sophisticated (investing, taking charge of your credit score, and calculating your insurance needs), her advice may help you build a solid foundation for a life that is rich in every way.

Information: A Historical Companion

Edited by Ann Blair, Paul Duguid, Anja-Silvia Goeing, and Anthony Grafton

With a clear and accessible approach, this unique resource traces the history of information with an approach for readers to draw connections across fields and perspectives, and provide essential context for our current age of information. A second section includes more than 100 entries that cover specific concepts, culminating with a glossary of terms addressed in this book.

Become a
FRIEND
of the
Library!



Help the Friends support our wonderful Library. Fill out the form on page 4 and become a **FRIEND** today!

LARGE-PRINT by Louis Muñoz Jr.**Great Circle** by Maggie Shipstead

Spanning Prohibition-era Montana, the Pacific Northwest, Alaska, New Zealand, wartime London, and modern-day Los Angeles, **Great Circle** tells the unforgettable story of a daredevil female aviator determined to chart her own course in life, at any cost.

Hour of the Witch by Chris Bohjalian

A young Puritan woman — faithful, resourceful, but afraid of the demons that dog her soul — plots her escape from a violent marriage in this riveting and propulsive historical thriller from the #1 *New York Times* bestselling author of *The Flight Attendant*.

While Justice Sleeps by Stacey Abrams

A gripping, complexly plotted thriller set within the halls of the U.S. Supreme Court, this book is a cunningly crafted, sophisticated novel, layered with myriad twists and a vibrant cast of characters. Drawing on her astute inside knowledge of the court and political landscape, Stacey Abrams shows herself to be not only a force for good in politics and voter fairness but also a major new talent in suspense fiction.

The Last Green Valley by Mark T. Sullivan

A new historical novel inspired by one family's incredible story of daring, survival, and triumph. Caught between two warring forces and overcoming horrific trials to pursue their hope of immigrating to the West, the Martels' story is a brutal, complex, and ultimately triumphant tale that illuminates the extraordinary power of love, faith and one family's incredible will to survive and see their dreams realized.

FICTION by Virginia Lee**Dictionary of Lost Words** by Pip Williams

Motherless Esme spent her childhood in the Scriptorium, a shed in Oxford where her father and a team of lexicographers collected words for the very first Oxford English Dictionary. Young Esme's place is beneath the sorting table, unseen and unheard. She begins to collect words relating to women's and common folks' experiences that have been discarded or neglected by the men creating the dictionary.

Raft of Stars by Andrew J. Graff

In 1990s northern Wisconsin, 10-year-old Fischer “Fish” Branson and Dale “Bread” Breadwin flee into the woods after believing that Fish has killed Bread's abusive father, constructing a raft to carry them down a dangerous river. Four adults track them into the forest, each on a journey of their own. Fish's mother Miranda, a wise woman full of fierce faith; his tough, wilderness-smart granddad, Teddy; Tiffany, a gas station attendant and poet; and Sheriff Cal, who is having doubts about a life in law enforcement.

The Echo Wife by Sarah Gailey

Dr. Evelyn Caldwell's husband, Nathan, is having an affair — with a clone of Evelyn herself. Martine is everything Evelyn isn't: attentive, submissive, and family-oriented. A confrontation ends in Nathan's murder, so Evelyn and Martine work together, creatively, to save themselves.

Foregone by Russell Banks

A septuagenarian leftist documentary filmmaker gives a last interview about his mythologized life to a former star student to whom he discloses his experiences as a draft dodger who fled to a new life in Montreal.

Recent History Center Acquisitions by Mary Lynn Becza

The North Jersey History & Genealogy Center in the Library is always seeking to purchase items to enhance our collection. We look for photographs, maps, monographs, prints and other ephemera of interest to local Morris County and NJ history that fill gaps in our holdings. James Lewis, the Head of our History Center, recently purchased a few new (old) acquisitions for the collection. These include: a framed ca. 1900 photograph of The Public House on Main Street in Chester; three historic gas station road maps of New Jersey; a print of the Ralston Cider Mill in Mendham from a painting by Dan Campanelli; a drawing of the Hackettstown Presbyterian Church; a drawing of the Baptist Church on Main Street in Hackettstown; and a Davis Gray print of a painting of Morristown Green. We are thrilled to be able to offer these research tools to our patrons in the History Center.



The Ralston Cider Mill
by Dan Campanelli

Maps,
drawings
and prints
recently
acquired
by the
History
Center



What's that SMELL? by Jeffrey Moy, Archivist

How do we treat water or smoke-damaged materials acquired by the local history collections? Archivists utilize various techniques for recovering materials affected by natural and man-made disasters, but removing musty or smoky odors are among the most difficult conservation tasks to achieve. It is difficult to get rid of persistent and long-lived odors in papers, books and photographs.

Odor absorbent materials and time are often the best tools. In photos below, our Archivist is attempting to deodorize a collection of musty photographs by placing a satchel of volcanic rocks in a sealed container. After a few weeks, the rocks are "recharged" by placing them in direct sunlight for 6-8 hours, which burns off the absorbed odors.

The process is repeated until the desired effect is achieved. In situations where the treatment is unsuccessful other methods are used to try to salvage the records. However, in some cases — such as when active mold is detected — the only way to include severely damaged items without risking existing collections is to make a preservation copy and destroy the original.



Deodorizing volcanic rocks being recharged by the sun on the Library roof.

Box of history center items to be deodorized using volcanic rocks.



From the Library's Business Office by Joanne Fattrosso

As the Library's Office Manager, I dwell in paper work all day long. When I refocus, though, I see the beautiful windows of the Willis Wing (*now called the Reference Room*), which was built in 1917 and I fall in love all over again with this Library.

It is not just the beauty of the Library with its golden eagle, fireplaces, alcoves and soaring window views of historic churches. It is the kindness of all who work here. I see it from my vantage point, observing the smiles and courtesy afforded each patron. I hear it as the Reference Librarian navigates a patron's way through the use of a kindle. I see it as my colleagues pull books or movies for patrons who are safely quarantined in their cars and I can feel the enthusiasm as suggestions and advice is offered.

Patrons will always have a safe haven here at the Library and I thank all who make that possible. Libraries not only give help, they give hope.

CALL FOR SUBMISSIONS!

Share your COVID-19 Experiences!

The North Jersey History & Genealogy Center would like to know how residents of Morristown and Morris Township have handled being quarantined or self-isolated during the COVID-19 pandemic and other special situations related to the 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 to be quarantined. If you are interested in sharing with others, please tell us in 1500 words or less what living through COVID-19 has been like for you. We would like to know:

1. What has surprised you the most during this period?
2. What is your biggest fear?
3. Have there been any positive impacts of this quarantine/COVID-19 time?
4. What is the most difficult part of the quarantine/COVID-19 time?
5. What are your hopes for the future when this crisis is over? And how have those hopes changed over the past year?

Please let us know if you are willing to be contacted by the North Jersey History and Genealogy Center. That could be some weeks or 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, level of education completed. We welcome submissions from a diverse population. Please email your submission to 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 Road, Morristown, NJ 07960.

*Please only send in a submission if in agreement that the Morristown & 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.

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 Mayo Performing Arts Center.

How to reach us: General: 973-538-6161 Reference: 973-538-2592
 Local History: 973-538-3473 Library email: info@jfpl.org

Visit the Library's website for more information: MMTLibrary.org

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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.

Please leave this form at the Library Circulation Desk or mail to:
 Friends of the Morristown/Morris Township Library
 1 Miller Road, Morristown, NJ 07960-5234