



LIBRARY NEWS

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

973-538-6161



Director's Column by Chad Leinaweaer

I have a colleague who feels as if September, or the start of the new school year, should really be the start of the calendar year. The “back to school” spirit of new experiences and the beginning of planning for a season of holidays from October through New Year’s Eve seems to be more new than New Year’s Day itself. Who wants to celebrate a cold, blustery January day? The Library has lots of things to help you celebrate the real (according to my friend) start of the year. Adult special programs like Zoom lectures and speakers will give that back to school spirit to everyone — it’s always fun to learn something interesting! The Children’s and Teen departments continuously add new books all year to assist students with homework assignments and book reports. We also have many online databases on a variety of subjects to help students and lifelong learners of all ages to find information online at home, including Consumer Reports for those researching the best holiday gifts to buy! The fun summer vacation reading season might be ending, but the Library is just beginning to offer a fall season of great new programs, books and online offerings to start the real year off on the right foot!

President's Message

by Susan Kleemeyer

It has been a summer of change and renewal; change from the past year of Covid shutdown and renewal in the form of relaxing the restrictions, wearing of masks and ability to socialize again.

Hooray! The Friends have begun to have limited book sales outside the Library every Tuesday from 11:00 AM–1:00 PM and the first and third Saturday of the month, also from 11 to 1. The Friends are thrilled and eager to meet one and all.

Contributions of used books are also beginning to arrive, so that a variety of “new” material is available on each sale day. There is a limit of three bags or boxes at a time when contributing.

We have not yet had an okay as to when we will be able to open the Bookworm Room once again, mainly because it is such a confined space for many people to be in at any one time. Hopefully, we will be able to return there in the not too distant future.

Thank you to all who have renewed your membership with the Friends. It is most encouraging to us and is lucrative to the Library.

We are looking forward to the day that all will return to normal — or something akin to normal, in order for us to serve you with our regular used book sales, which in turn help YOUR Library!

INSIDE THIS ISSUE . . .

- History Center News (page 2)
- The Children's Room (page 2)
- Just for Teens (page 2)
- All Aboard! (page 2)
- Decoding the Mysteries of Cat Behavior (page 2)
- On the Shelf (page 3)
- New Books For Fall! (page 3)
- Fall Into Reading! (page 3)
- Upcoming Adult Fall Film Programs (page 4)
- Historic COVID Photos (page 4)
- Become a Friend of the Library! (page 4)
- Library Contact Information (page 4)



MMT Library Receives Grant From New Jersey State Library

by Chad Leinaweaer

The Library received a CARES (*Corona Aid Relief and Economic Security*) Act Mini-Grant for our Spanish Language Outreach and Children’s Outreach Technology Project this summer to further expand possibilities for both Spanish-speaking, English-speaking and bilingual children. This project is supported with funds provided by the Institute of Museum and Library Services, administered by the New Jersey State Library.

Similar to other communities across the nation, both Morristown and Morris Township have seen large increases in the number of Spanish-speaking residents over the past decade. Though we have long purchased Spanish language adult books and eBooks as well as Spanish language children’s books for new readers to discover, we felt the next step in our efforts to provide beneficial services to our Spanish-speaking patrons was to expand our literacy efforts with a technology component. Thus, we purchased a new computer learning station from AWE Learning for our young patrons in the Children’s Room. AWE Learning is a known leader in partnering with public libraries to provide educational computer stations that aid young children with early literacy and Spanish language literacy through programs installed on a computer learning station. Various programs such as *Telling Time Games* and *Spanish School Bus* and about 40 others, provide early literacy instruction in Spanish, while over 30 additional programs such as *JumpStart Preschool* and *Monster ABC* provide for early literacy instruction in English, geared toward preschoolers who visit the Library with their families. The bilingual software allows non-English speaking parents to share in the learning experiences of and with their children. The learning stations have additional educational modules, including *After School Edge*, focused on aiding children in their first years in grade school which includes *1st Grade Math* and other elementary age programs, as well as *Robo Garden*, which provides over 200 coding activities to aid young children in learning technology concepts.

The Library has made a concerted effort to bring additional technology into the Children’s Room beyond the AWE Learning Station. This effort has included purchasing mobile tablets, electronic read-along book/devices, STEM programming, STEM kits and other technology-based items as part of a multi-year plan to provide new resources to our pre-K through grade 12 patrons.

History Center News

by Jeffrey Moy

Since reopening to in-person research on August 31, 2020, the staff of the North Jersey History & Genealogy Center have assisted more than 330 onsite visitors in our Reading Room. To protect patrons and staff, research is by appointment and physically distanced. Our expanded remote reference service has responded to over 2,050 email and telephone inquiries since April, 2020. It may seem quiet in our Reading Room and back offices but we are hard at work!

Many of our questions are from individuals attempting to uncover their family's history, or from folks seeking information on the background of their homes and businesses, as well as a variety of other topics.

While working from home during the early days of the pandemic, History Center staff created an online exhibit coinciding with the 100th anniversary of the 19th Amendment titled, *The Legacy of Women of Morris County*. During the pandemic period the History Center staff also began offering virtual programs on DNA testing and genealogy, overviews of the archival collections, information on how to use historic newspaper and family history databases from home, and information on the history of racism and anti-Semitism.

Over the past year, the members of the North Jersey History & Genealogy Center have been proud to serve our local community, as well as those from across the United States, and we look forward to seeing you again in person soon.

ALL ABOARD! Virtual Travel with the Library!



International Travel — you remember it? WE remember it, too! Traveling overseas this fall is all up in the air — pun intended — so the Library will be bringing back its popular travel programs via Zoom. We will be “visiting” Switzerland, Iceland, and Scandinavia this autumn with our intrepid librarian tour guides, the dates of these “tours” to be announced. So get your travel fix with us, and maybe some ideas and suggestions as well, for when we are ready to head out internationally again. Remember, you never miss the train or plane when you are travelling by Zoom. Bon voyage!

The CHILDREN'S ROOM by Arlene Sprague

The Children's Department has added some exciting items to our collection during the past few months. With a CARES Act grant from the New Jersey State Library, we purchased an AWE Learning Machine. The AWE machine is something we have long wanted and the grant made it possible. AWE machines come with award winning, fully loaded educational software. The contents are multi-curricular with games and activities from science, technology, reading, engineering, art and music, and math. With the grant monies, we were able to purchase the early education module, the bilingual English-Spanish module, the after school Edge module, and the coding module. It was ready to use straight out of the box. So far it has been easy, and fun, to use. (For more on the CARES Act grant, see page 1.)



We also bought some new Wonderbooks and Launchpads from the Playaway company. Wonderbooks are a modern reinvention of old fashioned read-alongs — only the sound unit comes built into the book. Patrons can choose a listening or a learning mode while they interact with each title. Launchpads are self contained tablets that can be borrowed for a week at a time. Each launchpad contains preloaded learning apps and games targeting specific age ranges. Many of ours concentrate on the preschool level, but we do have a few for early elementary students.

Our last new item is our limited video game collection. We have started buying video games for the PlayStation 4, the Xbox One, and the Nintendo Switch. All of the games have a rating of Teen or below and are available in the Children's Room. Some of the titles include games like *Hollow Knight*, *Ratchet and Clank*, *Rocket League*, *Overcooked*, *SuperSmash Brothers*, and *Cadence of Hyrule*. Hopefully we can continue adding to these collections as the year goes on.

So, while we still have books for every reader, stop in and try something new!

Just for TEENS! by Abigail Hsu

Summer reading programs may be over, but we still have plenty of YA activities coming up! Here are the teen programs for this autumn:



On September 28 at 7:00 PM, the Library will host a virtual online webinar, *Paying for College Without Going Broke*, for parents with teens in middle school and high school. Learn about strategies for lowering EFC (Expected Family Contribution), the new FAFSA rules, and tips for optimizing college admissions and scholarships. Please register online to receive a meeting link.

Teen book club will resume in the fall with the following titles: *Elatsoe* by Darcy Little Badger, *Dry* by Neal Shusterman, *The Kinder Poison* by Natalie Mae, and *The Inheritance Games* by Jennifer Lynn Barnes. We will meet once a month to chat about what we have read. Registration is required; book club meeting dates will be announced soon.

Feeling crafty? Grab a *Take & Make* craft kit from the Teen Space! Projects available this fall include DIY magnets, lunar phase garlands, and magazine mosaics.

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 Library website at www.mmtlibrary.org/teens.

Decoding the Mysteries of Cat Behavior

Why does your cat do what it does? Cat owners are frequently baffled by the antics of their feline friends and cats can seem so much more mysterious than dogs and other pets. Interested in learning why your cat licks walls or has an obsession with your shower curtain? Join us for a Zoom program on **Monday, September 20 at 7:00 PM** by feline behaviorist Stephen Quandt. He will teach us about the evolutionary and adaptive forces which influence the behavior of our modern-day pet cats and answer questions from attendees. Please send an email to marylynn.becza@mmt.mainlib.org for the Zoom code. This program is co-presented by the Long Hill, Rockaway and Bernardsville Libraries.



Stephen Quandt, has been working with cats since 2002. He has previously worked with the Animal Care Centers of NYC and the ASPCA and now has a private practice assisting pet owners with their cat behavior needs.

ON THE SHELF



LARGE-PRINT by Louis Muñoz Jr

The Forest of Vanishing Stars by Kristin Harmel

The New York Times bestselling author of *The Book of Lost Names* returns with a coming-of-age World War II novel about a young woman who uses her knowledge of the wilderness to help Jewish refugees escape the Nazis — until a secret from her past threatens everything. Inspired by incredible true stories of survival against staggering odds, this is a heart-wrenching and suspenseful story.

The Women's March: A Novel of the 1913 Woman Suffrage Procession

by Jennifer Chiaverini

An enthralling historical novel of the woman's suffrage movement inspired by three courageous women who bravely risked their lives and liberty in the fight to win the vote.

The Woman They Could Not Silence: One Woman, Her Incredible Fight for Freedom, and the Men Who Tried to Make Her Disappear

by Kate Moore

From the bestselling author of *The Radium Girls* comes another dark and dramatic but ultimately uplifting history of a forgotten woman whose inspirational journey sparked lasting change for women's rights and exposed injustices that still resonate today.

Of Women and Salt by Gabriela Garcia

A sweeping debut novel about a daughter's fateful choice, a mother motivated by her own past, and a family legacy that began in Cuba before either of them were born. From 19th-Century cigar factories to present-day detention centers, from Cuba to Mexico, Garcia's tale is a kaleidoscopic portrait of betrayals — personal and political, self-inflicted and those done by others — that have shaped the lives of these extraordinary characters. A meditation on the choices of mothers, the legacy of their memories, and the tenacity of women who choose to tell their stories despite those who wish to silence them, this is more than a diaspora story; it is a story of America's most tangled, honest, human roots.

NONFICTION by Stephen Brunskill

The Premonition: a Pandemic Story by Michael Lewis Michael Lewis brings his thrilling non-fiction perspective through the eyes of medical visionaries — a secret team of dissenting doctors nicknamed the Wolverines — against the official response of past presidential administrations on the 2019–2020 outbreak of COVID-19, creating real-life characters in a way that is not just fascinating, but unexpected and eye-opening too.

The Bomber Mafia: a Dream, a Temptation, and the Longest Night of the Second World War by Malcolm Gladwell

Riveting tales of persistence, innovation, and the incalculable wages of war, questioning the aircraft bombing practices of World War II that could have only crippled the enemy armies, making the war far less deadly for its civilian victims.

Keep Sharp: Build a Better Brain At Any Age by Sanjay Gupta, MD

Kristin Loberg partners with famed neurosurgeon Doctor Sanjay Gupta, offering insights and illustrating new research that can help you heighten and protect your brain function, and maintain cognitive health at any age.

Think Again: the Power of Knowing What You Don't Know by Adam Grant

Do you ever question your habits or feel mentally lazy? Grant helps you examine how to question your beliefs and teaches you how to relearn, giving you the potential to have greater success at work and more happiness in your personal life.

Crying in H Mart: a Memoir by Michelle Zauner

New Yorker essayist Michelle Zauner gives this memoir a powerful perspective on growing up the only Korean-American in a small Oregon town through her very personal stories of family, food, grief, and endurance.

New Books For Fall!

by Valerie Cauley

Fall is always the strongest season for publishers to release new books. Some titles that were due to be published last spring had to be postponed due to Covid-19, so there is much anticipation for the fall 2021 list of new books. If you would like to place new any best-selling books by popular authors on hold, contact our Reference or Readers Advisors Departments at 973-538-2592. We have an 'Automatic Holds' list of the most popular authors for you to choose from and request. Once you are on the Auto Holds list, the staff will put you in the queue for the latest books from that author to be put on hold. This is particularly helpful for authors like James Patterson, Nelson DeMille, Harlan Coben and the like who publish books frequently. Below is a list of the most highly anticipated titles from the fall 2021 list of new books.

SEPTEMBER

Harlem Shuffle by Colson Whitehead
Apples Never Fall by Liane Moriarty
The Wish by Nicholas Sparks

OCTOBER

Oh William! by Elizabeth Strout
The Lincoln Highway by Amor Towles
State of Terror by Hillary Rodham Clinton and Louise Penny
Better off Dead: A Jack Reacher Novel by Lee Child and Andrew Child
Going There: A Memoir by Katie Couric
Dear Santa by Debbie Macomber
Foul Play by Stuart Woods

NOVEMBER

The Sentence by Louise Erdrich
The Dark Hours by Michael Connolly
Game On by Janet Evanovich
Mercy by David Baldacci
Wish You Were Here by Jodi Picoult

Fall Into Reading!

by Louis Muñoz Jr.

The Library has several long-standing book clubs, as well as a new joint book and film club, *From Page to Screen*, starting this fall. *All of our book clubs meet virtually for now.*

To join, all you have to do is email morristownreaders@gmail.com with the subject line of the book club(s) you want to join to receive further details.

We hope you will join us for these fun, informal conversations on the many great books, new and old, you see listed below, and we wish you lots of great reading this fall!

Book Lover's Circle

7:00 PM

9/2/21; 10/7/21; 11/4/21; 12/2/2021

Morning Book Club

10:00 AM

9/9: *The Flight Portfolio* by Julie Orringer
 10/14: *A Long Petal of the Sea* by Isabel Allende

11/11: *The Book of Lost Friends* by Lisa Wingate

12/9: *The Mother-in-Law* by Sally Hepworth

Virtual Classics Book Club

7:00 PM

9/9: *Great Expectations* by Charles Dickens
 10/14: *The French Lieutenant's Woman* by John Fowles
 11/11: *Portnoy's Complaint* by Philip Roth
 12/9: *And Then There Were None* by Agatha Christie

Evening Book Club

7:00 PM

9/23: *The Book of Lost Friends* by Lisa Wingate

10/21: *Mexican Gothic* by Silvia Moreno-Garcia

11/18: *Transcendent Kingdom* by Yaa Gyasi

12/16: *The Exiles* by Christina Baker Kline



Upcoming Adult Fall Film Programs!

by Louis Muñoz Jr.



Our **Foreign Film Lovers Club** discussion group, a twice-a-month online club, grew out of our in-person **Foreign Film Series**, in which the Library features a variety of entertaining and thought-provoking films from Europe, Latin America, Africa, Asia, and the Middle East. The movies we choose for our discussions are available via Kanopy (mmt.kanopy.com/), a movie streaming platform available free to MMT cardholders. Watch the movie ahead of our meetups. When we get together, get ready for a lively and interesting discussion! The dates for this fall are September 1 and 15; October 6 and 20; November 3 and 17; and December 1 and 15. For more information, and to have your name added to our contact list, please email louis.munoz@mmt.mainlib.org. (Subject Line: **Foreign Film Lovers Club**)

NEW Book and Film Clubs!

Encouraged by the success of our Foreign Film Kanopy/Zoom programs, we launched our **Real-to-Reel** documentary film group. Our next documentary film discussion (October, date TBA) will feature **Anita: Speaking Truth to Power**, marking the 30th anniversary of Anita Hill's televised testimony on Capitol Hill. Jim Collins will be hosting this series, and you can email him at james.collins@mmt.mainlib.org to make sure you are on our contact list. (Subject Line: **Real to Reel**)

Another new film/book club series, **From Page to Screen**, celebrates books, new and old, which are adapted into movies and TV shows and series. First up in September is E.M. Forster and Merchant Ivory's **Maurice**, which celebrates its 50th publication anniversary this year — although it was actually written over 100 years ago! Read the book and/or watch the movie — the movie is available on Kanopy as well as on DVD from MAIN. When we meet, our conversation will include both the book and the movie. At our next book/movie night on October 20, our featured title will be **The Shining** by Stephen King and Stanley Kubrick. Please contact morristownreaders@gmail.com. (Subject Line: **From Page to Screen**) to receive the meeting details, and we look forward to some great talks together!

How does the group work? Ahead of each meetup — generally the first and third Wednesday of each month at 7:00 PM — watch the movie on your own through Kanopy, a movie streaming platform available free to Morristown and Morris Township cardholders (mmt.kanopy.com/). When we meet online, everyone will have a chance to talk about what we liked — or didn't like — about that night's film. We are all busy, so don't worry if you are not able to watch the film before the meeting or watch it all the way through!

How do you attend online? We use Zoom for our meetings, which can be used via your phone or through the Zoom app, which you can download from their website or from your preferred devices App store. For meeting access information, please email louis.munoz@mmt.mainlib.org and include your name and town of residence. (Subject Line: **Foreign Film Lovers Club**) If you have difficulty downloading the app, you can email our reference desk for help at info@jfpl.org.

P.S. If you are not a Morristown/Morris Township resident, we invite you to join us anyway! Please check with your local library to see if it has a Kanopy subscription, and/or check www.catalog.mainlib.org or www.justwatch.com for DVD and other streaming options.

Historic COVID Photos? by James Lewis

The COVID-19 epidemic certainly is not history yet, but one day (*and we look forward to that day!*) it will be very old history.

The North Jersey History and Genealogy Center wants to see what objects have helped people get through the COVID-19 pandemic so that we can save these images for future generations. Interested in creating an historical object? Please send us a photograph of 10 objects (and if you want to include photos of people you can) and e-mail the photograph to njhgc@mmt.mainlib.org. Include a description of the items, your name, town, and age group (12–18, 19–25, 25–30, 30–65, 65–80, 80+). This will help future historians understand present day society. Your photograph will be saved in a collection in the Library's North Jersey History and Genealogy Center and will be accessible to Library users. We will not share your personal information with the public. By submitting your photograph you are agreeing to allow the Library to use the photograph on its website and/or in Library press releases. (We learned of this idea from an npr.org article by Vicky Hallett about London ethnographer Paula Zuccotti's pandemic study and website.)

There is no deadline for submissions.

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.

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

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
Local History: 973-538-3473

Reference: 973-538-2592
Library email: info@jfpl.org

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

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