

LIBRARY NEWS

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

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Director's Column by Chad Leinaweaver

Community partnerships are important to us at the Library and integral to what we do with programming and events. We enjoy working with organizations such as Pioneer Productions Theatre, the Morristown Cultural District, Macculloch Hall Museum, and the Morris Educational Foundation, to name but a few. MMT Library is pleased to partner again with The Morristown Festival of Books with whom we are celebrating 10 years of festival fun! A very special project this summer has been the creation of a "rock snake" named Dewey, suggested by a local business partner, Learning Express Toys, located on South Street. There is also a rock snake, Burnie, located at Burnham Park. This inclusive community art project has been a joy for patrons both young and old who have been painting colorful rocks with pictures, designs and quotes to create a long wiggly creature. Located next to the South Street door, Dewey will be greeting patrons until it's too cold for him to stay outside!



Dewey the 'Rock Snake' at his summer home!

Featured Fall Adult Library Programs

Join us on September 27 at 7:00 PM for Larry Wolfert's presentation on *The History of Simon & Garfunkel*. This is the story behind one of the most successful groups of the 1960s whose musical legacy lives on to this day. A fascinating journey filled with musical excerpts and accompanying words, you are encouraged to sing along with their musical masterpieces!

Our own librarian Stephen Brunskill will transport us to Istanbul and other exotic Turkish locales on October 11 at 7:00 PM with a *Turkey Travelogue*. On November 7 at 7:00 PM we will move south for *Rome, the Most Visited City in the World* a travel program by popular local speaker Mark Rockkind.

On Friday, October 13 at 7:00 PM we have *A Night with Neil Simon by Pioneer Productions Theatre Company featuring John Kenrick*. This very special event featuring scenes from Simon's plays and expert commentary, will be held in the Circulation Room after hours, and doors will open at 6:30 PM. It is free for all ages and refreshments will be served.

We have many additional upcoming programs on Zoom and in person. Please visit our website MMTLibrary.org for more events and don't forget to sign up for our email newsletter on the homepage!

President's Message

by Linda Muse-Deo

It's late August, only another month of official summer left, but still many weeks to enjoy the local activities and the delightful weather. We are fortunate to live in the Morristown area where we have so many choices.

One of the best places to go is the Morristown and Morris Township Library where there are programs for the whole family. The Friends of the Library raise money for these programs through used book sales. For the months of July and August we hold weekly sales on Tuesdays from 10 AM to 2 PM. Saturday sales will start again on September 16 and will continue every first and third Saturday after that. The sales are in the lower level of the Library in the Bookworm Room which is accessible through the Reference Department. We are very happy to be back in that location after nearly three years of moving carts filled with books into conference rooms and outside the front of the Library. Our patrons have been enthusiastic about our return to our old quarters.

The Friends sponsored a special fundraising event in July. *Jazz in July* featured local musicians from the band Library Dixieland Allstars. They played American classic jazz standards and Dixieland hits. It was a very successful evening.

We are pleased to report that during the month of August, all fiction books are on sale for half of the marked price. History and classic books are also being sold at half price. However, fiction books for young adults and middle readers are not included in this sale.

Please continue to donate your gently used books. It is your support that enables the Friends of the Library to provide valuable financial assistance to our library. We appreciate you very much!

"A JAZZY HOLIDAY"

Friday Night Fundraising Concert
Friday December 1, 2023, 7-9 PM

We are excited to have bandleader David Humm and his jazz band back for a Holiday concert fundraiser. Rather than hold two "Jazz in July" Friends of the Library fundraisers this year, we thought it would be nice to change things up a bit! Join us on Friday, December 1 at 7:00 PM in the Media Wing. Tickets are \$20 at the door and doors open at 6:30 PM. No advance ticket sales are available and payment by cash or check only please. Refreshments will be served.



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Library to Receive Historic Grant From Morris County

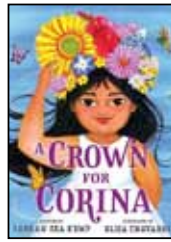
In our ongoing efforts to maintain and restore our Library building, it was announced this summer that the Library will receive a grant from the Morris County Preservation Trust Fund to do restorative work on the 1917 wing of the building. The grant, which awarded \$232,460 to the Library Foundation — who also will provide matching funds of \$58,144 — is designated to curb leaking by completing masonry work around the south corner of the building and its working scuppers; repair window leading, framing and sealing; and also restore the original 1917 doors that lead to Miller Road. “Although repairs have been done on the building since it was first constructed, many of the windows and the Miller Road doors are over 100 years old,” says Library Director Chad Leinaweaver. “The fact that we can continue to operate in a grand, historic building and keep up with repair work with thanks to the Morris County Preservation Trust Fund is such a great service to our patrons who come from all over the greater Morris County area.” Some preliminary efforts may begin this fall depending upon weather, but the bulk of the work is scheduled for spring 2024.

Rachel Shraer received the Marian Gerhart Scholarship from Linda Muse-Deo, President of the Friends, on May 15, 2023.



The CHILDREN'S ROOM by Arlene Sprague

At the halfway point of the year, *School Library Journal* highlights their starred reviews through July. The star rating bestowed by reviewers spotlights the best children's books written so far this year. Some of their recommended picture books include *Welcome to the World* by Julia Donaldson, *My Baba's Garden* by Jordan Scott, *A Crown for Corina* by Laekan Zea Kemp, and *Nell Plants a Tree* by Anne Wynter. All of these books tell stories of families and the connection between generations. Middle grade readers will enjoy the starred titles of *The Superteacher Project* by Gordon Korman, *You Are Here: Connecting Flights* by Ellen Oh, *The Windeby Puzzle* by Lois Lowry, and *The Labors of Hercules* by Gary Schmidt. While these titles tell stories filled with either humor, mystery, or mythology, they are all written by award winning authors and deserve their starred reviews. Memoirs are the focus of the graphic novel recommendations with *School Trip* by Jerry Craft, *Four Eyes* by Rex Ogle, and *A First Time for Everything* by Dan Santat. All three books tell of their authors' search for acceptance and friendship as they were growing up. These picture books, middle grade readers, and graphic novel memoirs are just some of the few books included in the *School Library Journal* list. If you are looking for additional titles, ask us for the complete list.



When you visit the Library this fall, in addition to selecting a SLJ starred book, be sure to stay for one of our story times. Story time will happen on Tuesday and Wednesday mornings at 10:00 AM and Saturday mornings at 11:00 AM. We read stories, and children make a craft to take home. If crafts are a passion, visit our monthly drop in craft program one Saturday a month, or grab one of our take home craft kits. We started the kits during the pandemic when our live programming was put on hold. They are now one of our most popular offerings, with hundreds of crafts handed out each month!

Just for TEENS! by Abigail Hsu



Each month, I prepare 50-60 teen craft kits and place them in the Teen Space for patrons to take home. What began as an experiment during the Covid-19 pandemic has now become an important part of teen services at the library. In addition to being an alternative to screen-based entertainment, the act of making a craft has many benefits for teens. It nurtures creativity, supports self-esteem, and develops patience and dexterity. Below are descriptions of some of my favorite crafts from the past three years.

Stop by the Childrens' Desk for more information!

Yarn Painting (Yarn, 5"x3" canvas, glue)

Different colored yarn lengths are arranged and glued onto a canvas to form a picture. This low-budget craft challenges teens to reconsider the role of textures and shapes in visual art and lets them get a little messy in the process.



Jar Ring Suncatcher (Contact paper, pressed plants, Mason jar rings)

Pressed plants are sandwiched between two circular pieces of contact paper and fitted into the jar rings. The rings are then attached to a stick with string. An eye-catching craft, patrons asked about the sample suncatcher long after the craft kits were gone!

Origami Pencil Holder (Paper, old atlas pages)

The Japanese word “origami” refers to the art of paper folding and often conjures thoughts of animals and flowers. For this craft, I went with something practical: teens used sheets of colored paper and pieces cut from an old atlas to make a six-sided pencil holder.



Autumnal Bunting (Felt, embroidery floss, string)

Leaf and mushroom-shaped felt pieces are sewn together and stuffed with polyester filling, then strung together on a long piece of string. This was one of the more involved crafts, requiring several skills — tracing, cutting and sewing — but the final product was worth the effort!

ON THE SHELF

LARGE-PRINT by Louis Muñoz Jr.

Edited from Publishers Weekly

The Secret Book of Flora Lea

by Patti Callahan Henry

In 1960, when she receives a rare book linked to the 1939 disappearance of her sister Flora, Hazel, believing this is a sign Flora is still alive, embarks on a feverish quest, revisiting long-dormant relationships and reopening past wounds. An astonishing twist ultimately reveals the truth in this transporting novel about sisterly bonds, the complications of conflicted love, and the enduring magic of storytelling.

The Covenant of Water

by Abraham Verghese

The long-awaited new novel by the author of *Cutting for Stone*. Spanning 80 years, Verghese follows three generations of a family that suffers a peculiar affliction: in every generation, at least one person dies by drowning. In 1900, a 12-year-old girl from Kerala's long-existing Christian community is sent to her wedding, where she will meet her 40-year-old husband for the first time. This young girl and future matriarch will witness unthinkable changes over the span of her extraordinary life, full of joy and triumph as well as hardship and loss. A shimmering evocation of a bygone India and of the passage of time itself, this novel is a humbling testament to the difficulties undergone by past generations for the sake of those alive today.

NONFICTION by Stephen Brunskill

Anansi's Gold: the Man Who Looted the West, Outfoxed Washington, and Swindled the World by Yepoka Yeebo

A book of international intrigue, mad thievery, and rampant corruption, this is an astonishing account of Cold War entanglements and international finance, one lie at a time.

Disentangling From Emotionally Immature People: Avoid Emotional Traps, Stand Up For Yourself, and Transform Your Relationships as an Adult Child of Emotionally Immature Parents by Lindsay C. Gibson

This best-selling author offers everyday solutions to help deal with any emotionally immature person, including guidance on setting boundaries and establishing healthier relationships.

FICTION by Louis Muñoz Jr.

Edited from Library Journal & Publisher's Weekly

The Fraud by Zadie Smith

A fictional retelling of the notorious Tichborne trial in 1873 London, in which a butcher from Australia argued that he was the rightful heir to the estate and title claimed by Sir Roger Tichborne. Those affected by the trial include Eliza Touchet, the skeptical Scottish housekeeper to a has-been novelist, and Andrew Bogle, who grew up enslaved in Jamaica and is a star witness at the trial, his fate depending on telling the right story.

The Heaven & Earth Grocery Store by James McBride

National Book Award winner McBride tells a vibrant tale of Chicken Hill, a working-class neighborhood of diverse families in Pottstown, Pa., where the 1972 discovery of a human skeleton unearths events that took place in the 1920s, when a tragedy occurred that brought the community together to exact justice. The pages burst with life in a saga that highlights the different ways in which people look out for one another.

The House of Doors by Tan Twan Eng

In 1921 Malaya, Lesley Hamlyn prepares to receive "Willie" Somerset Maugham, the famed but closeted English writer and friend of her husband, Robert. She gradually unburdens herself to the author, unearthing a trove of long-buried secrets ranging from the personal to the political. Tan seamlessly merges fact and fiction as he explores the underlying tensions in two marriages, as well as Lesley's intriguing involvement with the Chinese revolutionary Sun Yat Sen.

La Voz Hispana – La Curiosidad

Por Ignacio Drayer

La curiosidad es el deseo innato de saber y conocer más acerca de un tema u objeto en específico. La curiosidad es un comportamiento instintivo natural, es el aspecto emocional en seres vivos que engendra la exploración, la investigación y el aprendizaje. Las personas curiosas siempre hacen preguntas y buscan respuestas en sus mentes. Sus mentes están siempre activas. El ejercicio mental causado por la curiosidad hace que tu mente sea mas y mas fuerte. La curiosidad es la base del desarrollo del talento. La curiosidad nos ayuda a aprender mejor, sugiere investigación. Se aprende mejor las cosas cuando tenemos curiosidad, esto mejora nuestra memoria. Fomenta el hábito de lectura. La curiosidad es la intención de descubrir algo que uno no conoce. Se considera la curiosidad como una conducta natural compartida por el ser humano y los animales. En el caso de las personas esta lleva al individuo a la búsqueda de información para saciar su interés. La curiosidad hay que saberla usar, es decir respetando siempre el derecho y la privacidad ajena, sin derivar en una conducta peligrosa o dañina, no se puede violar la intimidad y la privacidad de otro solo para satisfacer la propia curiosidad. La curiosidad suele ser una fuerza de partida hacia el desarrollo personal, artístico y profesional.

The Hispanic Voice – Curiosity

by Ignacio Drayer, Translation by Louis Muñoz

Curiosity is the innate desire to know more about a specific subject or object. Curiosity is a natural instinctive behavior, it is the emotional aspect in living beings that engenders exploration, research and learning. Curious people always ask questions and look for answers in their minds. Their minds are always active and the mental exercise caused by curiosity makes their minds stronger. Curiosity is the basis of the development of talent and research suggests it helps us learn better. We learn better when we are curious, as it improves our memory. Encourage the habit of reading! Curiosity is the intention to discover something that one does not know and is considered a natural behavior shared by humans and animals. In the case of people, this leads the individual to search for information to satisfy their interest. Curiosity should always be used in a way that respects the rights and privacy of others, never dangerous or harmful to others, and with care not to violate the privacy of others just to satisfy one's own curiosity. Curiosity is often a starting force towards personal, artistic and professional development.

The Morristown & Morris Township Library

One Miller Road
Morristown, New Jersey 07960

HOW TO REACH US:

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Local History: 973-538-3473

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

Follow the Morristown & Morris Township Library on Social Media



New MMT Employees

by Mary Lynn Becza

The Library is excited to welcome our recent new employees. Say hello to them next time you're in!

Leigh Whitworth is a recent graduate of Moravian University in Bethlehem, PA, and is excited to be the new Library Assistant in the History and Genealogy Center! He is looking forward to working with patrons on research questions and getting to learn more about the library's amazing collection of historic books, art, and ephemera.



Miguel Reyes Nochebuena is our new full-time Maintenance Technician.

Previously he worked in the fire sprinkler industry. Miguel is really happy to be working here and enjoys his new position.



David Alexander is a law student at Rutgers Newark and is glad to be a new Readers Advisor.

He is learning how to play the banjo and enjoys reading science fiction and romance novels. David loves the Library as it is one of the only public places that encourages learning and respect.



News from The Caroline Rose Foster North Jersey History and Genealogy Center by James Lewis

The History Center's staff have been busy assisting researchers in the Reading Room, as well as adding new content online. Digital Librarian Chris Larlee recently digitized *County Men in Service*, a collection of biographies of those from Morris County who served in World War II that the *Daily Record* published from 1942-1946. He also digitized a rare commemorative *Jersey Observer* book that detailed construction of the Holland Tunnel in 1927. Archivist Jeff Moy digitized the *Ralston and Nesbitt Family Papers*, which document two longtime Mendham families that first emigrated from Ireland in 1785 and ran successful businesses and operated hundreds of acres of farmland. He also processed the *Conover's Cash Store News* collection, a news sheet published to promote George Conover's general store located in Chester during the early 1900s.

The CRFNJHGC provides FREE access to a number of **genealogy databases**. Did you know that Morristown and Morris Township Library cardholders could access some of them from home? You can access the following databases from home: **MyHeritage** (a database that provides access to records from across the globe not just the good old US of A!); **Heritage Quest**, an **ancestry.com** product that provides access to American and Canadian resources including history books; **U.S. Freedman's Bank Records**; NOTE the Research Aids for those getting started); ProQuest's Historical Northeast Newspapers with coverage dating from 1785 to 2010 from all over New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania and a few from Delaware; **Heritage Hub** (a collection of obituaries but by doing a keyword search you can search for regular news articles from across the country which should be of great help to students!); and for those interested in the War Between the States, there is **Civil War Era** that provides access to newspapers from Union states, Massachusetts, New York, Ohio, Pennsylvania to Confederate States, Kentucky, Louisiana, South Carolina, Tennessee and Virginia from 1840-1865. If you do not find what you are seeking in those databases, we provide access to a few more in the CRFNJHGC in the Library's lower level. We are happy to help you!

The CRFNJHGC collects a wide variety of magazines and newsletters from the *Abbey Family Newsletter* to *Maine History*, *Mennonite Family History* to *Yorker Palatine*. Included in this collection are articles and publications about various aspects of Morris County and northern New Jersey. *Internet Genealogy* is but one of several publications that offers helpful tips to those seeking records of their ancestors. Visit us to peruse these publications.



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Please join us as we work to help YOUR Library! ☐ NEW ☐ RENEWAL

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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, email morristownlib.booksale@gmail.com.

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

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