

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

Public libraries are one of the earliest, and continue to be one of the best, shared public resource examples in the United States. What could be better than sharing books and other items such as those in our popular Library of Things? (L.O.T.) In the recent 2024 issue of *NJ Monthly*, the article "Can I Borrow That?" in which I was quoted, mentions that libraries lend things as varied as musical instruments, electronic and photography equipment, sporting goods and tools to fix things around your house. The MMT Library was also mentioned again in the *Jersey's Best* magazine article "Low Fund Fun" which listed our MMT L.O.T. as a great way to have fun on a budget using items you check out from the Library for all kinds of family adventures.

New additions to our L.O.T. include an Electromagnetic Field Meter and a Toniebox for kids. Our most popular item is the metal detector (which patrons have been known to return a tiny bit sandy from the beach!) but my personal favorite is the karaoke machine! Take advantage of this great resource the next time you're in the Library.



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How to become a FRIEND?

Fill out the form on page 4 of this newsletter. Or log onto the Library's website at mmtlibrary.org and click on "ABOUT US" and then click on "FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY." From there, click on "Join the Friends."



President's Message by Linda Muse-Deo

Last year was a busy one for the Friends, and we are happy to say that patrons of the Library were very generous with their time and donations. We also have a dedicated group of volunteers who assist the board members with weekly sales and with pricing and shelving.

February is the time that members of the Friends renew their commitment to the Library. Letters have been sent to all current members as a reminder. It's also a time when we encourage all patrons to consider becoming a Friend. Applications can be picked up at the Circulation Desk or obtained at any Tuesday or Saturday sale, or on page 4 of this newsletter and at the Library's website under the 'Friends' tab. (See information below on the left on finding the Friends' tab on the Library website.) Joining the Friends does not require volunteering at the Library, but we are always happy to welcome new volunteers.

During the month of February, a group of books including those about U.S. Presidents, women's and relationship issues are being offered at half of the marked price. Each month features different groups for you to choose from. Please come and check this out!

We also offer a large selection of young children's, middle readers and young adult books. An additional location on the second floor has more children's books in the Children's Department.

The Friends' weekly used book sales continue to be held from 10 AM to 2 PM every Tuesday all year long, and the first and third Saturdays of the month from September through June. Saturday sales have now been expanded into two locations within the Library. In addition to the Bookworm Room, which is accessible through the Reference Department, the Meeting Room on the lower level will be stocked with carts and tables with many genres. **We can only continue to do this work that we love if you donate your unwanted books that are in good condition.** We take most genres except textbooks, magazines, and small paperbacks. We also encourage you to donate your unwanted CD's and DVD's as well as books on CDs. The proceeds are passed on to the Library and fund many of the programs that are so popular with our patrons.

Come and visit us at one of our sales. We look forward to seeing you there!

Patron Memorial Tribute by Mary Lynn Becza

Our Library has many devoted patrons who value their local library and they share their feelings with their families. Recently one of our long-time patrons, Mrs. Irene Preiser, passed away and we certainly do miss her visits. Mrs. Preiser's family decided that the perfect way to honor her memory would be to purchase something for the Library in her name. They decided to buy a new book display shelf which was needed for the second floor Mystery section. In addition, her family also made a very generous donation to purchase book tributes in memory of Mrs. Preiser in the subject of mystery novels over the next five years. Book tributes are used by patrons to commemorate birthdays and other special occasions as well as for memorials. Each book contains a book plate with a tribute to the person for whom the book was purchased to honor. Interested patrons can stop by for a book tribute form or download one from the Library website. (Go to MMTLibrary.org. Click on ABOUT US. The **Donate a Book Form** is on the far right.) Or click **HERE** to download one.

Director Chad Leinaweaver with a book display purchased in honor of Mrs. Irene Preiser.



Just for TEENS! by Abigail Hsu

There are days in the spring where clear skies and warm sunshine beckons us outdoors, and then there are days where dreary clouds and muddy puddles make the indoors much more appealing! Screen-based entertainment is always an option to pass the time, but if you would like to try a more hands-on activity, check out some of these books in our YA Nonfiction area:



COOKING

The Complete Cookbook for Teen Chefs by America's Test Kitchen Kids

Whether a teen is looking to make Tik Tok-worthy sticky buns or a simple egg and cheese breakfast sandwich, this cookbook has something for everyone.



Be More Vegan by Niki Webster

This guide to a plant-based lifestyle explains the reasons behind going vegan, answers questions about nutrition and ethics, and contains over 50 mouthwatering recipes.

CRAFTING

Let's Make Cute Stuff by Aranzi Aronzo

Follow instructions to make 17 different small objects — including hair ties, book covers, purses, and key holders — featuring the Aronzo's menagerie of characters.



The Polymer Clay Techniques Book by Sue Heaser

Find all the techniques you need to create oven-clay projects like buttons, beads, jewelry, figurines, boxes, mosaics, and frames.

SELF-CARE

Where's My Stuff? by Samantha Moss

This user-friendly reference offers tips for teens to become organized at school, home, and while out, in an illustrated guide that shares recommendations for decluttering, overcoming disorganized habits, and managing a schedule.



97 Things to Do Before You Finish High School

by Steve Jenkins & Erika Stalder

Want to make a time capsule? Spend a day in silence? Learn how to make beats like a DJ? Whatever your inclinations, you'll find 97 ways on these pages to amuse, educate, and interest yourself and your friends.



NJ Makers Day: March 15

by Jen Harter

Come to the Library and make a bookmark on March 15! To celebrate **NJ Makers Day**, we will have materials available all day long to upcycle your own paper

bookmarks. Experienced and aspiring yarn artists can join us at 10 AM or 2 PM to learn how to make a crocheted or knitted bookmark. Bring knitting needles/crochet hooks if you have them.

The CHILDREN'S ROOM

by Arlene Sprague

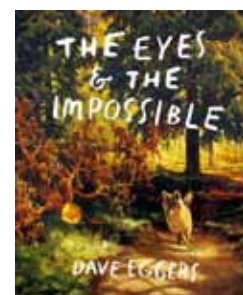


The Oscars, the Grammys, the Emmys, the Tonys, the Caldecotts, and the Newberys! While most are familiar with the first four, the American Library Association awards the last two, recognizing the best illustrators and authors of children's literature. Every year, teachers, librarians, and children's book fans create mock committees to try and guess the winners in anticipation of the ALA's medal announcements. Books winning the award see a dramatic increase in sales, often increasing by a thousand percent.

This year, Vashti Harrison, and her book *Big*, took the Caldecott honor for the artist of the most distinguished American picture book for children. Harrison not only illustrated the book, but also wrote the text. *Big* follows a little girl as the meaning of the word big changes during her childhood. At first, she is praised for acting big, but then as she grows, big becomes a negative term until she learns to be comfortable with who she is. As stated by Kathie Meizner, the Caldecott Medal Committee Chair, "Harrison's use of color and space throughout the book masterfully conveys emotions as a young girl struggles to free herself from the confines of damaging words." Vashti Harrison is the first Black woman to win the Caldecott in its 86-year history.



Pulitzer Prize finalist Dave Eggers and his book *The Eyes and The Impossible*, won the Newbery Medal given for the most distinguished American Children's book published the previous year. Johannes is a free dog who lives in a park. His job is to be the Eyes, watching for everything that happens within the park, and report his observations back to the park's elders, three ancient Bison. With the help of his friends, a seagull, a raccoon, a squirrel and a pelican, they make sure The Equilibrium is in balance. But changes are coming to the park, along with a shocking revelation that changes Johannes's view of the world. According to Amber Creger, Newbery Medal Committee Chair "Eggers puts us inside the mind of Johannes... *The Eyes and The Impossible* is a captivating read that is full of joy."



You can find both books in our Children's Room along with the winners from previous years. Decades of quality children's titles are available for perusal. Stop in to check them out. Take home a craft kit or stay for one of our many story times. We currently offer sessions for children ages 2–8 on Tuesday and Wednesday mornings at 10:00 AM and Saturday mornings at 11:00 AM. If you have a child under two, we just started a baby song and story time that runs on alternate Mondays at 10:30 AM. All story times will meet through May. So, come and listen to a story or come and borrow a few to read at home.

ON THE SHELF

FICTION by Louis Muñoz Jr.

Fourteen Days: A Collaborative Novel

Edited by Margaret Atwood and Douglas Preston

Set in a Lower East Side tenement in the early days of the Covid-19 lockdowns, *Fourteen Days* is an irresistibly propulsive novel with an unusual twist: each character in this diverse, eccentric cast of NYC neighbors has been secretly written by a different, major literary voice, ranging from editors Atwood and Preston to many other voices including Louise Erdrich, Neil Gaiman, Diana Gabaldon, Tommy Orange, Meg Wolitzer, R.L. Stine, Scott Turow and Celeste Ng.

Table for Two: Fictions by Amor Towles

Amor Towles latest features six short stories and a novella. The stories, most of which are set around the year 2000, range from the death-defying acrobatics of the male ego, to the fateful consequences of brief encounters, and the delicate mechanics of modern marriages. Told from seven points of view, the novella describes how a young woman crafts a new future for herself and others in the midst of Hollywood's 1930s golden age. Throughout all of the stories, two characters often find themselves sitting across a table for two where the direction of their futures may hinge upon what they say to each other next.

After Annie by Anna Quindlen

When Annie Brown dies suddenly, her husband, four young children and closest friend are left to struggle without the woman who centered their lives. Yet over the course of the next year, while Annie looms large in their memories, all of them are able to grow, change, and become stronger and more sure of themselves. The enduring power Annie gave to those who loved her is the power to love, and to go on without her. This is a story that ends with hope, a beautiful novel about how adversity can change us in profound ways.

LARGE-PRINT by Louis Muñoz Jr. (Edited from Publishers Weekly)

Diva by Daisy Goodwin

Daisy Goodwin (*The American Heiress*) returns with a story of the scandalous love affair between Maria Callas, the most celebrated opera singer of all time, and Aristotle Onassis, one of the richest men in the world. He introduced her to a life of luxury, showering her with jewels and sojourns in the most fashionable places with celebrities and royalty. This world crashed when it was announced that Onassis would marry former First Lady Jacqueline Kennedy, leaving Maria to pick up the pieces. But it was only in confronting heartbreak that Maria Callas found her true voice and went on to triumph.

Kinfolk by Sean Dietrich

Jeremiah Lewis "Nub" Taylor has spent his whole life listening to those he loves tell him he's no good — first his ex-wife, now his disapproving daughter. Sure, his escapades have made him and his cousin and perennial sidekick, Benny, just a smidge too familiar with small-town law enforcement, but he's never harmed anyone — except perhaps himself. He never meant to change, but when he and 15-year-old waitress Minnie form an unlikely friendship, he realizes for the first time that there may be some good in him after all, and gradually realizes he's been given a second chance to make a difference.

Las Madres by Esmeralda Santiago

From the best-selling author of *When I Was Puerto Rican* comes this powerful novel of family, race, faith, sex, and disaster that moves between Puerto Rico and the Bronx, revealing the lives and loves of five women and the secret that binds. They refer to themselves as "las Madres," a close-knit group of women who, with their daughters, have created a family based on friendship and blood ties. Their story begins in 1975 and continues into 2017, when two back-to-back hurricanes rock their worlds.

The Truth About the Devlins by Lisa Scottoline

TJ Devlin is the disappointment in his prominent family, all of whom are lawyers at their highly successful firm — except him. After stints in prison and rehab, TJ can't get hired anywhere except at the firm, in a make-work job with the title of investigator. TJ's world turns upside down after his older brother John confesses that he murdered one of the clients, an accountant he'd confronted with proof of embezzlement. It seems impossible coming from John, the firstborn and Most Valuable Devlin. TJ plunges into the investigation, seizing the chance to prove his worth and save his brother. But in no time, they find themselves entangled in a lethal web of deception and murder. TJ will fight to save his family, but what he learns might break them first.

NONFICTION by Stephen Brunskill

Unshrinking: How to Face Fatphobia by Kate Manne

Intimate stories are presented here with the analysis that has become the signature of this Cornell University professor author. She proposes that our bodies — no matter what shape they are — exist in the world for ourselves and no one else.

Renters' Rights edited 2024 by Nolo Publishing

Landlord abuse could happen to you. Updated to reflect changes to state laws, this book covers federal antidiscrimination laws and includes advice on how to deal with corporate landlords and property managers too. Great for both landlords and tenants.

Making It in America: The Almost Impossible Quest to Manufacture in the U.S.A. (And How It Got That Way) by Rachel Slade

A moving story that shares how manufacturing developed in the US, and explores whether outsourced means of production can ever successfully return to our shores.

A Critical Introduction to Tarot: Examining the Nature of a Belief in Tarot by Simon Kenny

This is not a "pick up the cards and read them" book. Here, independent researcher Simon Kenny presents Tarot to the curious reader and those who wish to know more about this amazing mystical art.

Want to know more about what is
happening at your Library?
Visit the Library's website for more information!


MMTLibrary.org

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HOW TO REACH US:
 Library email: info@jflpl.org
 General: 973-538-6161
 Reference: 973-538-2592
 Local History: 973-538-3473

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

Follow the Morristown & Morris Township Library on Social Media



The Washington Association at 150 (1874-2024)

The staff of the Caroline Rose Foster North Jersey History and Genealogy Center, with the assistance of the Washington Association of New Jersey's archivist, Linda Forgosh and others, designed an exhibit celebrating 150 years of the Washington Association of NJ, a not-for-profit organization that saved the Ford Mansion (AKA Washington's Headquarters) from being demolished when it was bought at an auction in 1873. The Washington Association of NJ raises money to continue to preserve the important landmark and promote the study of George Washington and the Revolutionary War in Morristown and Morris County. The exhibit will be on display in the F.M. Kirby Gallery on the Library's second floor through August 2024.

New Employees by Mary Lynn Becza

Our new Office Manager, Maria Sanchez, brings many years of management and business experience in the private/non-profit sectors. She served as the Office Manager at a non-profit early childhood center where she gave back to many families and the community. Maria values our mission and really enjoys being part of MMT.



Katelyn Leffler is the new Assistant Archivist in our Caroline Foster North Jersey History and Genealogy Center. She has a bachelor's degree from Purdue University and is currently working on her master's degree at Rutgers. In her spare time, she enjoys reading fantasy books and playing with her dog.



LA VOZ HISPANA by Ignacio Drayer, Traducción por Domenica Guaman

Apreciados lectores, de acuerdo a planes y proyectos de pronta realización por la Biblioteca, estamos expandiendo nuestras colecciones de libros y otros materiales en español, ambos en formas físicas y digitales. Nuestro deseo es incorporar títulos nuevos actualizados y de mayor solicitud, así como otras mejoras que resulten en beneficios a nuestra comunidad hispana. Queremos tomar esta oportunidad para invitarlos a que participen aportando ideas, sugerencias y opiniones de lo que consideren de mayor utilidad en este proyecto. Tenemos una caja para dejar sus sugerencias en la Área de Referencia y también pueden mandar sus ideas a louis.munoz@mmt.mainlib.org. Muchas gracias a todos.

The Hispanic Voice

Dear readers, according to plans and projects soon to be carried out by the Library, we are expanding our collections of books and other materials in Spanish, both in physical and digital forms. Our desire is to incorporate new, updated, and frequently requested titles, as well as provide other improvements in services that result in benefits for our Hispanic/Latinx community. We want to take this opportunity to invite you to participate by contributing ideas, suggestions and opinions of what you consider most useful in this project. We have a box to leave your suggestions in the Reference Area and you can also send your ideas to louis.munoz@mmt.mainlib.org. Thank you very much to all.

Wall Street Journal Online by David Greene

The Library is pleased to announce that we have recently secured access to *The Wall Street Journal* online through the Main Library Alliance. This new resource will help our communities to stay informed with the latest business news, financial insights, and global updates. The WSJ online is free with your MMT library card. To access this wonderful addition to our lineup, click on the large image on our webpage, MMTLibrary.org, follow the link and create a new account to sign up. The WSJ provides account access to Library patrons in 3-day intervals. After 3 days, please follow the link again and log in with your new account.



Become a FRIEND
of the Morristown & Morris Township Library!

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

Individual: \$15 Family: \$30 Patron: \$60 & up Benefactor: \$100 & up

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

Name: _____ Email: _____

Address: _____ Phone: _____

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 Friends@MMT.Mainlib.org.

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

See page 1 for information on finding this form on the Library's website at www.MMTLibrary.org