

Otto Bruyns Public Library of Northfield

Summer 2009
Newsletter



Beach Party Time At the Library



On Saturday, July 25th from 1 to 2 p.m., the Friends of the Library will host their annual Summer Party for all local children.

This will be a giant "beach party," complete with fun games, crafts, contests, and delicious snacks for everyone. We'll also have a Summer Story Time to hear and enjoy.



So get "in the swim" and join us!

Book Discussion Group



The Book Discussion Group will meet in the Library at 6:30 p.m. on Tuesday, June 2nd.

You can participate or just listen and enjoy the discussion. The book being discussed will be "*Utopia, New Jersey*" by Perdita Buchan. Advance reading copies are available at the Library on request.

The "Summer Six"



Summertime is a time for children to relax and have fun. It's also a good time for them to read books that they enjoy.

That's one reason the Library has a summer reading program, which begins July 1st and ends on August 31st.

When your children read six books of their choice over the summer, they can get a free "Happy Meal" and an ice cream sundae at Friendly's Restaurant in Northfield.



More information and official entry forms will be available at the Main Desk throughout the summer.



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Arriving Soon

FICTION

Matters of the Heart – Danielle Steel
My Father's Tears – John Updike
Strangers – Anita Brookner
Swimsuit – James Patterson
Assegai – Wilbur Smith
Heartless – Diana Palmer
Gone Tomorrow – Lee Child
Skin Trade – Laurel K. Hamilton
Death & Honesty – Cynthia Riggs
Finger Lickin' Fifteen – Janet Evanovich

*These are just some
of our new books —*

*please come in
and see them all!*



NONFICTION

Blue Collar, Blue Scrubs – Memoir of a four-year residency at the Mayo Clinic, expertly infusing the journey to become a doctor with humanity, compassion and humor

The Garth Factor – The inside story behind the meteoric rise of Garth Brooks and modern country music

Just Like Family: Inside the Lives of Nannies – A peek inside the vast, varied, and largely unknown world of nannies, who often hold great power in the families they work for

Prime For Life – A revolutionary approach to achieving a healthy, long life by focusing on maintaining healthy joints, with specific strategies for doing so

Strokes of Genius – Thoughtful and entertaining look at the science, art, psychology, technology, and personality that go into a single tennis match

Book Adoptions

Ambitious Brew – History of the American beer industry, from Budweiser to Anchor Steam Beer and beyond

Real Stew – Collection of recipes for familiar and exotic stews from around the world

Best-Loved Poems – An anthology of over 100 poets, including Emily Dickinson, John Keats, A.A. Milne, W.B. Yeats and many more

Monopoly! – Pictorial history of the world famous board game and the Atlantic City landmarks contained in it

Cobblers & Crumbles – Collection of old-fashioned fruit desserts, with some new twists

A Night at the Opera (DVD) – Classic 1935 comedy starring the Marx Brothers, Allan Jones and Kitty Carlisle

Timeless Toys – Pictorial history of classic toys, from the 1930's to the present time

A book adoption makes an unusual and lasting gift for someone, as well as for the entire Northfield community.



Since its inception in 2002, our Book Adoption Program has added over 165 books to the Library's shelves. For more information about adopting a book, please stop at the Main Desk or call the Library at 646-4476.

The Northfield Public Library Newsletter is published quarterly in March, June, September and December by the Otto Bruyns Public Library of Northfield, 241 Mill Road, Northfield, New Jersey 08225

Telephone: (609) 646-4476



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Waffles & Ice Cream Time

So what could be better in the summertime than ice cream? Well, how about waffles and ice cream?

At 1 p.m. on Saturday, August 15th, we're having a very special Story Time that includes a delicious, old-fashioned treat – fresh, hot, homemade waffles covered with a scoop of your favorite ice cream.

If your children have never had waffles and ice cream, this is the perfect opportunity to introduce them to this tasty summertime treat.

In addition to a great snack, we'll be reading a book about summer during Story Time. There will also be a neat craft project for everyone to do and take home.



So please plan to join us and cool off with a tasty treat while we celebrate the summer season at the Library!

LIBRARY HOURS

Monday to Thursday
10 am — 8 pm

Friday and Saturday
10 am — 5 pm

Great Children's Reading At The Library

By Josephine Reese, Library Assistant

For elementary grades

Beach Party – When Dorothy and her family head to the beach for another summer party, her family helps her to remember what she liked best about the previous summer. A great story about a close-knit family and a perfect beach day.

Two-Minute Little Critter Stories – Eight favorite stories by beloved author Mercer Mayer, including *Just a Mess*, *I Just Forgot*, and *Just Go to Bed*, in short story form.

Moonbathing – Put on your favorite pirate shirt, and come along with Michael to feel the cool ocean breeze.

Ferryboat Ride! – Join a family's summer trip on a ferry, as they travel to their island for a vacation.



For middle schoolers

Summer Hawk – Taylor moves to a remote town, where she plans to bide her time until she can escape to college. But in the meantime, Taylor finds herself rescuing a hawk and becoming friends with someone she did not expect.

Spindrift – The Spindrift is a seaside bed-and-breakfast house where Cassie and her friends live. But her security is threatened when her mother decides to sell the house. So it is a summer of goodbyes for Cassie, and also one of growing up.

Dear Mr. President – The true story of a little girl who wrote to President Franklin Roosevelt during the Great Depression of the 1930's, and the letters he wrote back to her.

“One Book” For Northfield 2009

By Ida Margolis, “One Book” Chairperson
and Library Board trustee

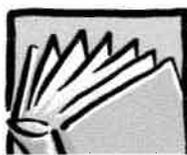
The Library is once again joining with many cities throughout the nation in sponsoring a “One City, One Book” discussion. On July 28, 29 and 30th, we will present our third annual “One Book for Northfield,” in which everyone is invited to discuss a book of current interest.



This year the book is “Three Cups of Tea” by Greg Mortenson and David Relin. This is a very special book; not only does it have the potential to generate great discussion, but it can also have enormous impact. This book has really changed the way people think about the world, and has motivated readers to promote world peace.

The “Three Cups of Tea” Internet home page (www.threecupsoftea.com) recounts the journey that led Greg Mortenson from a failed 1993 attempt to climb the world’s second highest mountain, to establish schools in some of the most remote regions of Afghanistan and Pakistan. By replacing guns with pencils and rhetoric with reading, Mortenson combined his unique background with his intimate knowledge of the Third World to promote peace with books, not bombs; he brought education and hope to remote communities in central Asia.

Readers of this book have found it not only inspiring, but full of adventure and suspense. Far from a dull non-fiction text, this book is “one of the most remarkable adventure stories of our time,” according to Tom Brokaw, who added, “Greg Mortenson’s dangerous and difficult quest to build schools in the wildest parts of Pakistan



and Afghanistan is not only a thrilling read. It is proof that one ordinary person, with the right combination of character and determination, really can change the world.”

After completing this book, many readers related this story to their children. Teachers have told their students about Greg Mortenson and his mission to build schools. The efforts of one elementary school to collect pennies and donate them inspired adults to take action that resulted in completion of the first school in 1996.

Since Mortenson built that first school in Pakistan, his work has resulted in the completion of more than sixty schools in Afghanistan and Pakistan; he has also established the Central Asia Institute and Pennies for Peace. To help tell this story to young people, two special editions of this book were released earlier this year. There is a young reader’s edition which includes a glossary, a timeline and a color photo album. A read-aloud picture book for even younger children is entitled “Listen to the Wind: The Story of Dr. Greg and Three Cups of Tea.” As in the young reader’s edition, there is information about how children can get involved in helping children around the world get an education.



The goal of the “One Book” project is to bring people together to discuss literature and important issues; certainly the issue of education is an important one for all people to discuss. There will be discussions of “Three Cups of Tea” at the Library as well as a picture book reading for children. Copies of all three editions are now available in the Library. You will want to share in discussing this beautifully written cliffhanger, which also gives insight into the culture of an area of the world that is often not understood by many Americans.

The Story of a Chef



When we enjoy a meal, we often say “my compliments to the chef” without even a second thought. But have you ever wondered where the word “chef” originated, or what it takes to become a chef?

The word “chef” probably comes from the word “chief,” which originally referred to the head of a village. And “chief” may derive from the Middle English “cheftayne” or from the French “chevetaine,” also meaning “captain.” Finally, “captain” comes from the Latin “caput,” meaning a person’s head.

The fact that a chef is the head of a kitchen refers to the “brigade system,” which was devised in the 19th century by French chefs Careme and Escoffier. This was essentially a forerunner of Henry Ford’s famous “production line,” where tasks are divided up for more efficiency. Instead of having one person make one complete dish at a time, there were now separate cooks for meat, fish, pastry, sauces, bread, and so on.

With this system, when a meal was ordered, it was simply a matter of assembling the various components. This revolutionized food preparation by increasing the number of people that could be served at once, and decreasing the amount of time needed to prepare a food order. Ironically, it’s the same basic system now used in many fast-food restaurants.



Few people are aware of the multitude of skills and knowledge that are required to be a good

chef, or the stamina that’s required to turn out hundreds of meals a day.

Fortunately, we can get a peek behind the kitchen doors from Michael Ruhlman, who became a student at the Culinary Institute of America in Hyde Park, New York, and chronicled his experiences in *The Making of a Chef* (Holt, 1997). He shares his successes, frustrations and failures and as he learns the proper way to chop an onion, make a béchamel sauce, butcher and roast a chicken, or prepare a dozen meals simultaneously. We also see the surprising amount of math and the science that’s required to be successful in a kitchen. Mr. Ruhlman wrote two sequels, *The Soul of a Chef* (Viking, 2000) and *The Reach of a Chef* (Viking, 2006); both are interesting but neither is as good as his first book, in my opinion.



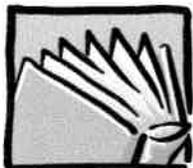
Another excellent chef-author is Doug Psaltis, who became a chef in the traditional way – the apprentice system, in which you learn by watching and doing. *The Seasoning of a Chef* (Broadway Books, 2005) is the story of his long and often arduous climb from a short-order cook in a diner to a master chef. It also demonstrates that often it is the journey that matters, not the destination; read it and see!

Finally, John LaFemina’s *A Man and His Meatballs* (HarperCollins, 2006) is a humorous and fascinating account of one man’s desire to use his favorite meatball recipe (stuffed with ricotta cheese) as the basis for creating his own successful restaurant.

So the next time you’re dining out, please think of the chef!

*Don't miss the
Friends' Summer
Party on July 25th!
See Page 1 for details*

Northfield Public Library
241 W. Mill Road
Northfield, N.J. 08225



Around the Library

The Friends of the Library are a quiet group, and you don't hear much about them. But they're like an iceberg -- you often just see the tip, and the other 90% is hidden below the surface!

For example, as you enter the Library, you pass a beautiful landscaped garden; the Friends did that. See the children giggling at the colorful Fairy Tale Mural in Children's Section? The Friends did that, too. They also donated a 6" reflecting telescope for our Astronomy Nights, bought half a dozen new 8' work tables for



Library events, and re-upholstered all the chairs, which were over 20 years old.

The Friends contribute not only money, but also time and elbow grease. They help at Story Times with crafts and snacks, and they are at Library programs, helping to distribute materials. They create an annual Summer Party for local schoolchildren, run the Annual Student Essay Contest, and sponsor Poetry Nights, music recitals, teas and other events. They also run the semi-annual Book Sales, which helps us make room for new book acquisitions.

The Friends provide the extras that really help the Library to come alive and reach its full potential -- and we wanted to take this opportunity to say "Thank You" to our good Friends of the Library.