

Otto Bruyns Public Library of Northfield

Winter 2008
Newsletter



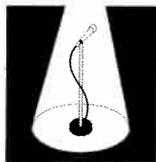
Poetry/Café Night

On Thursday, January 15th from 7 to 8 p.m., you can read your own original poetry, read from your favorite poet, or simply listen and enjoy. If you've never been to a poetry reading before, consider giving this a try.



The program will also include adults who would like to share their other creative talents. If you sing, play an instrument or have other interesting talents, we'd like to hear from you! As always, anyone who would just like to come and listen is also very welcome.

Light refreshments will be served, courtesy of the Friends of the Library. To participate, call or stop by the Library to register and reserve your spot.



We're wireless!

The Library now has a wireless Internet server. This means you can access the Internet at the Library from your own portable laptop, as long as you also have wireless capability.

We hope this makes it easier for you to log on, and also frees up our desktop computers for those who need them.



Snow (Cone) Day



On Saturday, January 31st from 1-2 p.m., the Library is having a Snow (Cone) Day.

Even if it's not snowing outside, it will be a veritable blizzard inside, with snow cones for everyone to eat in several delicious flavors – grape, root beer and cherry.

We'll have a special Snowy Story Time, with great books about snow. And children can make their own snowflakes to take home with them.

Please join us for some snowy fun!



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Arriving Soon

FICTION

Fire & Ice – Julie Garwood
Treasure – Iris Johansen
Black Ops – W.E.B. Griffin
Scarpetta – Patricia Cornwell
Born to Run – James Grippando
The Virgin Queen's Daughter –
Ella March Chase
Charlemagne Pursuit – Steve Berry
How I First Believed – Wally Lamb
Lion in the Valley – Elizabeth Peters

*These are just some
of our new books —*

*please come in
and see them all!*



NONFICTION

Food Matters – A guide to eating what's good for you and good for the planet
The Man Who Loved China – The fantastic story of the eccentric scientist who unlocked the mysteries of China's Middle Kingdom
The Longevity Factor – How red wine can activate genes for a healthier and longer life
American Thighs – Bestselling humorist Jill Conner Browne provides a hilarious life maintenance program that's designed to help women navigate our society's obsessions with body image, clothing, and personal appearance
Do The Right Thing – The inside story of Mike Huckabee's low-budget grassroots campaign to be the 2008 Republican presidential nominee
Secrets of the Great Pyramid – The mystery of how the massive Pyramids were constructed may finally have been solved

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 book adoption makes an unusual and lasting gift for someone, as well as for the entire Northfield community. It also makes a great birthday present!



Since its inception in 2002, our Book Adoption Program has added over 165 books to the Library's shelves. You can select from fiction, non-fiction, reference or children's books; prices reflect the Library's actual cost and usually range from only \$12 to \$20. We also make a personalized donor bookplate for each newly adopted book.

For more information, 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



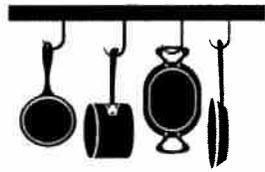
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Soup Class!



Homemade soup is a lot simpler than you might think – and if you join us on Monday, February 23rd at 7 p.m., you'll discover how fast and easy it really is!

You'll learn how to make a classic split pea soup from scratch, using dried peas, root vegetables, herbs and spices. We'll also make a flavorful Cuban Black Bean soup that's topped with lowfat sour cream, as well as a hearty Lima Bean & Sausage soup. If you're one of those people who say they don't like lima beans, just wait until you've tasted this!



You'll learn about the correct stock pots to use, and how to reconstitute and use dried beans. You'll also see how an immersion blender can thicken a soup quickly and easily, without using any flour or other artificial thickeners.



Admission is free but seating is limited, so come early and don't forget to bring your soup spoon, so that you can sample all of the soups.

Be Our Valentine!



On Saturday, February 14th from 1 to 2 p.m., the Library is having a big Valentine's Day Party.

All local children are cordially invited to come and hear a special Valentine Story Time.



A Holiday Message

*From Library Director
Meg Derascavage*

On behalf of the entire library staff, the Board of Trustees and the Friends of the Library, I wish each of you a very happy holiday and a healthy New Year.

As always, thanks very much for your patronage. We look forward to seeing you in 2009!

Meg

Thank You !

— to everyone who donated books and baked goods for the Friends of the Library's recent Book & Bake Sale. Without your generosity, we wouldn't have anything to sell.

— to everyone who purchased books and baked goods at the sale, which raised over \$400. We appreciate your purchases and assure you that your donations will be put to very good use at the Library.

We also hope everyone enjoys all of their new books!

*The Friends of the
Northfield Public Library*



We'll also have a Crafts Table where they can make a Valentine's Day card for Mom, Dad or anyone else they love. The activities are suitable for children in kindergarten through 5th grade.

There will be milk and cookies for everyone to nibble on while they work on their craft projects.



Astronomy Night & Constellation Tour



On Monday evening, March 2nd at 7:30 p.m., you can take a guided tour of the heavens at the Library (the rain/cloud date is March 3rd).

We'll look at the planet Venus and some craters on the Moon with telescopes. You will also see several famous constellations: the Big and Little Dippers, Orion the Hunter and Cassiopeia the Queen. They're simple to find once you know where to look, and are easily visible to the naked eye.

You'll be guided by the Library's newest high-tech astronomical tool – a special handheld 5-milliwatt green laser pointer bright enough to point out constellations in the night sky, but perfectly safe to look at. Its slender, bright green shaft of light will make

it easy to locate the various constellations.

You'll hear the stories behind each constellation and learn about the unique objects located in them, such as the Orion Nebula in Orion's sword. You'll also see Polaris, the star in the Little Dipper that always points North, and has guided centuries of travelers home safely.



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

The Winter Dragon – To overcome his fear of monsters in the dark, Rory creates a sparkling Winter Dragon who magically comes to life every night with fantastic tales of adventure.



Toot & Puddle Home for Christmas – It's almost Christmas and Puddle is ready to bake fruitcake and decorate the tree. But Toot is stranded far away in a winter storm. How will Puddle's best friend get home in time? With a little magic and the help of a fellow holiday traveler

A Very Marley Christmas – Marley the pup is anticipating his first snowfall and Santa's arrival. But in his enthusiasm, Marley accidentally pulls down the twinkle lights and attacks paper snowflakes. What's next?

For middle schoolers

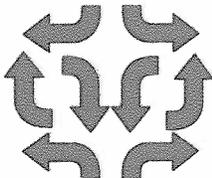
The Tale of Despereaux – The fantastic adventures of Despereaux Tilling, a small mouse of unusual talents, the princess he loves, and a devious rat determined to ruin them.

A Midnight Clear – Twelve modern-day stories that illuminate the true meaning of Christmas with a vision of hope and peace, harking back to the first Christmas over two thousand years ago.

Click and the Toyshop – Follow Click and his unlikely friend Ali as they make the best of bad situations while bringing cheer to those around them. Although the social conditions in this story have long since vanished, you will sympathize with Click and long remember him.

KNOW THYSELF!

What do you want to do when you grow up? Some of us are still asking ourselves that question, even though we're now grownups ourselves.



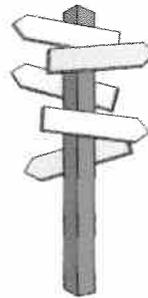
Over 5,000 years ago, the Greek poet and philosopher Ovid urged his fellow citizens to "know thyself." But this simple advice is anything but simple; in fact, it may be the most difficult thing for anyone to do.

Who are you? Each of us is a unique person with special skills, strengths and weaknesses. What will you do with your limited time on this planet? What contribution, for better or worse, will you make? In short, what will you do with your life?

It's a question that haunts college students as they select their major. Many people ponder it as they begin their first job, and again at their 40th or 50th birthdays. Some think about it during a "mid-life crisis," others wonder about it upon retirement. Almost everyone wants to make a mark in the world and is afraid of not doing so. The question seems to be a universal one, but with no simple or universal answer.

What Should I Do With My Life? by Po Bronson (Random House, 2002) does not attempt to answer the question. Instead, the author simply tells the stories of 50 people, selected from over 900 that he interviewed.

I've always been interested in biographies because I like to see how other people handle challenges and problems in their own lives. These biographies, which are centered around the common theme of career changes, provide many interesting insights into the

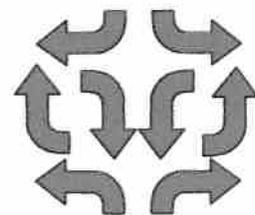


question, and may help other people resolve their own similar career predicaments.

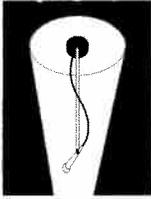
Although no one but you can ultimately decide what's best for you, it is possible to get some good advice and guidance. One of the finest books in that regard is What Color is Your Parachute? by Richard Bolles (Ten Speed Press, 2008).

Billed as a "manual for job-seekers and job-changers," it contains various quizzes and checklists that do an excellent job of helping you realize who you are. It also helps you (or your children) to think "outside the box" about possible career choices. Since the average worker will now hold at least half a dozen different jobs during his or her lifetime, this book, which is updated annually, is more timely and valuable than ever. Bolles also has good advice about the standard job seeker's skills, such as writing an effective resume, handling an interview and negotiating a salary.

If you enjoy your job but wonder about the meaning of life, you might enjoy reading When All You've Ever Wanted Isn't Enough, by Harold Kushner (Simon & Schuster, 1986). The author is a rabbi who recounts and analyzes the Biblical tale of Ecclesiastes, a man whose life seemed to be without any purpose or meaning.



I won't disclose the ending, other than to say that Kushner's answer may be relevant for you, regardless of your religious beliefs. This short but intriguing book will have you thinking long after you've finished reading it.

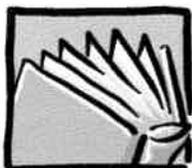


*Don't miss
Café Night
on January 15th!*



See Page 3 for details

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



Around the Library

We wanted to take a moment to thank Councilman Steven Vain for his work this past year as the liaison between the Library Board and City Council.

Steve attended each Board of Trustees meeting and helped to expedite communication between the Library and various City departments. For example, when our air conditioning system died or when we had questions about the library's insurance coverage through the City, Steve helped to smooth the way and save everyone some time



and trouble.

Thanks very much for your time and your help in getting things done, Councilman!

If you like books and libraries, please consider joining the Friends of the Library. The Friends meet at the Library on the first Thursday of every month, and they supplement the Library's offerings with special events, book sales and other activities. Dues are just \$5 a year; please make checks payable to "Northfield Public Library Association".

Help make a difference in your community! Call Heather at 645-2831 for more information.