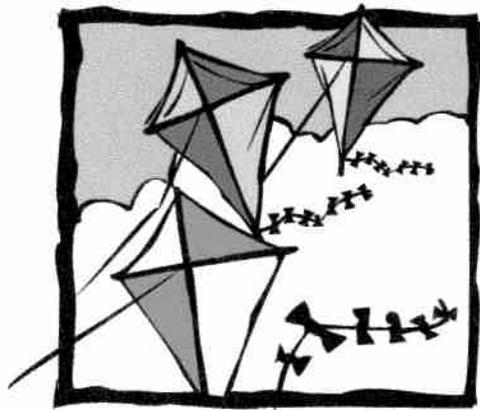


# Otto Bruyns Public Library of Northfield

Spring 2009  
Newsletter



## Friends of the Library Spring Book/Bake Sale



*May 2, 2009*  
*(Rain or Shine)*  
*10 am to 2 pm*



*Children's books* — 25¢/50¢  
*Adult paperbacks* — 50¢  
*Adult hardcovers* — \$1 each  
*New bestsellers* — \$2 each  
*Oversize books* — \$2 and up

*Lots of delicious homemade  
cakes, cookies and pies, too!*

All book donations are greatly  
appreciated and are tax-deductible

### BOOK SALE COUPON

*This coupon entitles you to \$1 off a  
\$5 purchase at the Friends Spring  
2009 Book/Bake Sale.*

*Only one coupon per person,  
please; no cash value.*

## It's Time for Story Time!



Reading to young children  
helps prepare them to read;  
it also makes good readers  
even better readers.

That's why we have a Story  
Time at 11 a.m. every other Saturday, and all  
local children are always welcome.

Our librarians will read one or more  
stories in our Children's Section, which has  
special pint-sized chairs and comfortable  
floor cushions. We also usually have a neat  
craft to do after the story, along with a small  
snack, and everyone always has a good time.

Introduce or revisit the joys of reading  
with your child at our story times! For more  
information, call the Library at 646-4476.



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## Arriving Soon

### FICTION

True Detectives – Jon Kellerman  
Handle With Care – Jodi Picoult  
Paths of Glory – Jeffrey Archer  
Execution Dock – Anne Perry  
Corsair – Clive Cussler  
Tsar – Ted Bell  
Still Life – Joy Fielding  
America, America – Ethan Canin  
People of the Thunder – W. M. Gear  
Salvation Boulevard – Larry Beinhart

*These are just some  
of our new books —*

*please come in  
and see them all!*



### NONFICTION

**Fight For Your Money** – America's favorite financial coach, David Bach, shows you how to save thousands of dollars of your hard earned money

**Madness Under the Royal Palms** – The secrets of the Palm Beach elite who reside behind the high walls and manicured hedges of this exclusive enclave

**Where Did Pluto Go?** – A twenty-first century look at our Sun, its planets, and their moons, including the latest research and technology on studying and defining the mysteries of space.

**Your Call Is (Not That) Important to Us** – a penetrating look at "customer service" and what it reveals about our world and our lives

**The Woman Who Named God** – A compelling, smart, and provocative take on one of the Bible's most intriguing love stories: the saga of Abraham, Sarah, and Hagar

## 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 see Page Four of this newsletter, 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



#### Editors

Meg Derascavage & Seth Brilliant

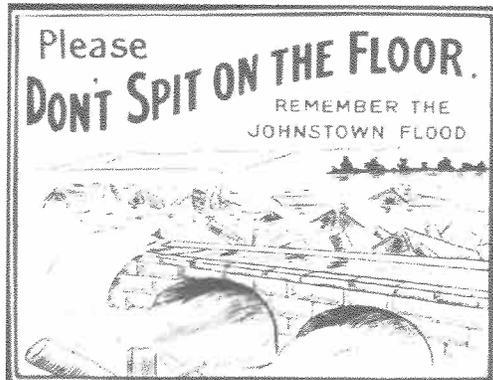
#### Contributors

Jo Reese Sue Koiro Seth Brilliant

## Silents, Please!

On Tuesday, April 14th, the Library is having a Silent Comedy Film Night, with classic silent comedy shorts starring Charlie Chaplin, Laurel & Hardy, Buster Keaton, Charley Chase, the Keystone Kops, Ben Turpin, Normand and many more.

All films have musical accompaniment, and there will also be antique "intermission



slides," which were originally shown before and between the movies. As you can see from the two examples shown here, movie-going hasn't changed much in 80 years! Copies of these historic slides will also be on display at the Library's entrance.

There will also be song slides and a community sing-a-long, with fresh hot popcorn for everyone. You can watch, sing or both! Please join us for a fun-filled and unusual evening at our 8-foot wide movie screen and these great classic comedies.

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## Great Children's Reading At The Library

By Josephine Reese, Library Assistant

### For elementary grades

**Baby D** – Babies lead very busy lives. They are happy and angry; they eat and play. This is a book of lively and expressive babies and toddlers.

**In a Blue Room** – Alice likes everything in her room to be "blue" before she can go to sleep, because it's her favorite color. And Mom knows just what to do to make her room comfortable, so Alice can fall asleep fast.

**Friday My Radio Flyer Flew** – What do you do with an old red wagon? The wagon in this book is a Radio Flyer found in the attic. If you like flying machines, you'll like this book.

**Annie Rose is My Little Sister** – Annie Rose has a big brother, and he is the one person that can make her laugh.



### For middle schoolers

**Absolutely Normal Chaos** – Mary Lou was assigned to keep a journal over the summer, and to give it to her new English teacher in the Fall. When she hands it in, she asks that the teacher not read it, but why?

**Amber Brown Goes Forth** – Amber and Justin have been friends for a long time, but now he is moving away. As Amber enters fourth grade, she has all the school supplies she needs, but will she make a new best friend?

**You Can't See a Dodo at the Zoo** – Presents a new and different way to learn about extinct animals and endangered species.

**Glass Slippers Give You Blisters** – Kelly is in the school play "Cinderella," against her mother's wishes. Will she succeed anyway?

## Adopt-A-Book !

Adopting a book is a very special way . . .

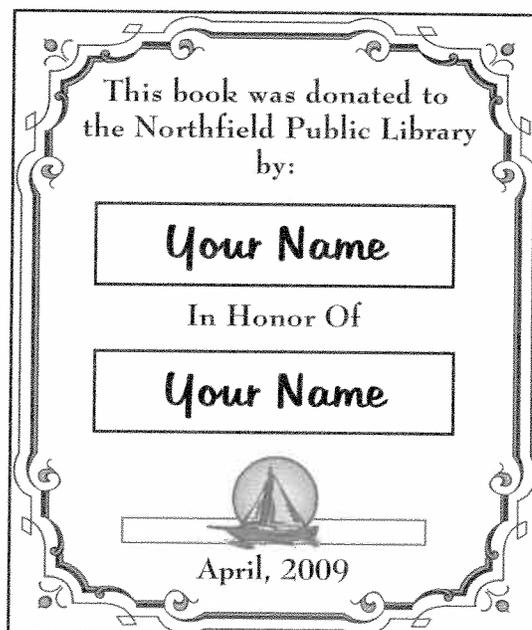
- to celebrate a birth, anniversary, graduation or other special event
- to honor an individual
- to say "Thank You" to someone
- to provide a lasting memorial
- to give a unique, unusual gift

In 2008, nineteen new books were adopted. We're very proud of this accomplishment, and we thank all of our donors for helping us to reach this point.



Our "Adopt-A-Book" program makes it easy. Simply choose a book from the new books that the Library receives each week. You may select from fiction, non-fiction, reference or children's books. Prices are based on the library's cost and are usually \$12 - \$20.

To adopt a book, just donate the library's actual cost of the book, plus \$3. A personalized bookplate will be mounted into your book, which is then placed in circulation -- and you can be the very first person to check



the book out! A copy of the bookplate will also be sent to you, along with a note acknowledging your donation.

Your "book adoption" will make a unique gift and a permanent contribution to the community. As always, your contribution to the Library is tax-deductible and is greatly appreciated.

For more information, please stop at the Main Desk and ask for Librarian Meg Derascavage. You can also call her at the Library at 646-4476.

## Visit our Fairy Tale Mural



The next time you come to the Library, be sure to stop in the Children's Section and see the beautiful mural that was donated by the Friends of the Library in 2003.

The mural is a famous 1931 painting by Jaro Hess entitled "The Land of Make Believe." The colorful print depicts an imaginary land populated by many classic

storybook characters, including Jack & Jill, The Little Mermaid, The Three Bears, Cinderella, The Water Babies, Humpty Dumpty, Hansel & Gretel, Jack Sprat and Little Miss Muffet.

Also included in the vivid 3-foot wide mural are fictional places such as Snow White's cottage, the Emerald City of Oz and Sleeping Beauty's Castle.

The mural has proven to be a perennial favorite with local children, who love to trace the many winding paths with their fingers, and see their favorite stories come to life. Don't miss it!

## Booms and Busts

Now that the nation is in a financial recession, many people are wondering exactly how we got there. In hindsight, it seems human greed and lax governmental regulation usually combine to create "perfect storms" for financial booms and busts.



A good place to begin exploring this phenomenon would be *Bubble Man* (1998, Norton) by Peter Hartcher. Although Federal Reserve Board chairman Alan Greenspan was privately quite concerned about the speculative situation on Wall Street during the 1990's "dot.com" bubble in the stock market, he declined to criticize it publicly or take any corrective action. The result was a recession in 2000 that wiped out 7 trillion dollars of shareholder equity.

Of course, that boom and bust was also caused by massive outright fraud and corruption in the stock market, as detailed by former *Wall Street Journal* reporter Roger Lowenstein in *Origins of the Crash: The Great Bubble* (Penguin, 2004). And the final ingredient for any good speculative "bubble" is simple human greed. So this was not the first boom and bust, nor will it be the last. History is littered with examples of financial booms and busts, when people thought they were going to get something for nothing.

A classic in this area is *Extraordinary Popular Delusions and The Madness of Crowds* (1994, Crown) by Charles MacKay, originally published in 1841.



It explores all sorts of irrational behavior and mass stupidity, including alchemy, fortune telling and animal magnetism. But it also covers

several famous speculative episodes, such as the 1624 Tulip Craze in Holland, when tulip bulbs traded at a price higher than gold. MacKay also reviews the infamous 18th century "South Sea Bubble," a fraud so big it threatened to topple governments and nations.

Another classic example is the 1920's Florida land boom and bust, reviewed in *Fifty Feet in Paradise*, (Harcourt Brace, 1994) by David Nolan. Because Florida real estate prices were rising so quickly at that time, many buyers never even bothered to close on their agreements of sale. Instead, they simply resold their agreements to someone else for more money, creating the term "binder boys." In the end, it all came crashing down in a 1926 financial catastrophe.



For still more financial debacles, Maury Klein's *Rainbow's End*, (Oxford, 2001) is an excellent history of the causes and effects of the 1929 stock market crash.

James Stewart's *Den of Thieves* (1991, Simon & Shuster), chronicles the story of the Ivan Boesky-Michael Milliken stock fraud, and *Predator's Ball* (1989, Penguin) by Connie Bruck details the 1980's Drexel Burnham scandal. *Serpent on the Rock* by Kurt Eichenwald (1995, Harper Collins) covers the Prudential-Bache financial swindle of the 1990's, and *Maxed Out* (Scribner, 2007) by James Scurlock reviews the credit crisis. *Panic!* (2008, Norton) by Michael Lewis is an anthology covering several recent crashes, including the new subprime mortgage crisis.

It's often said that those who fail to learn the lessons of history usually repeat them. In the case of financial booms and busts, this seems to be especially so. As the well-known old saying goes, "If it seems too good to be true, it probably is!"

Don't miss the Silent  
Comedy Film Night  
on April 14th!  
See Page 3 for details



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

## Awards Night Student Essay Contest

At 7 p.m. on April 21st, the Friends of the Library will present awards and prizes to the winners of their Student Essay Contest.



This year's contest asked the question "What is your favorite book, and why?" All local children in the 3rd through 5th grades are eligible, and the Friends usually receive, read and judge over 200 entries!

The awards will be presented by Mayor Vincent Mazzeo, Library Director Meg Derascavage, and Northfield School Superintendent Dr. Richard Stepura.

Family and friends are cordially invited; light refreshments will be served after the awards ceremony.

## LIBRARY HOURS

Monday to Thursday  
10 am — 8 pm

Friday and Saturday  
10 am — 5 pm

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.