



Violet's Porch

The Newsletter of the Jefferson Township Library



From the Director's Desk: Jeffersonlibrary.net—the new edition

Each time the library redesigns its website a new chapter in the library's story begins. Our very first website was homemade, and hosted on a free server. Back then our goal was to establish a place on the internet where people could find information about the library.

The second version of our website was intended to make many of the library's services available remotely. We knew that more people would use the library if they could use our services from a home computer.

At the end of May we will unveil the third edition of the website. Library staff members Sandy Cale and

Christine O'Brien have worked with Wolf von Bistram, our web designer and the manager of our website, on a redesign of the library website. Our goals for the redesign were to make the site accessible from tablet computers and smart phones, and to make it easier to find certain sections of the site. Previously if a person visited the library website using a tablet computer or a smart phone, many of its features could not be used. Also, if a person wanted to go to the library catalog or download material, they had to go three to four screens into the site. The redesigned site addresses both of these problems.

With this new edition of our website the library acknowledges that many

people are forsaking their laptop and desktop computers for smaller, portable multipurpose devices. Now the library can go with you! So this summer if you are at the beach and you spy the person next to you reading an interesting book, you can easily use your smart phone or tablet computer to see if the library has that book. You may even be able to download an e-book or audio edition of the book without ever leaving your blanket!

The new library website will go live by May 31, 2012. The address will not change — it remains www.jeffersonlibrary.net. Please let us know what you think of our new site by e-mailing us at: jtpl@jeffersonlibrary.net.

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Poetry Contest Winners

Congratulations to all who participated in the library's Poetry Contest held during National Poetry Month in April.

Our winner in the Children's category was Noelle Sadowski for her poem "In

The Spring"; John Gonzalez in the Teen category for his poem "Friends?"; and Debbie Georgens in the Adult category for her poem "Inspiration."

The quality and thoughtfulness of the poems submit-

ted was very impressive, making the selection of winners a real challenge!

To read 11-year old Noelle Sadowski's winning poem, see the back page of this newsletter.

LIBRARY Daily Door Count

MARCH 2011—
8,251 people

MARCH, 2012—
11,663 people

INCREASE—
41.4%!

New DVDs

A sampling of new DVDs available at the library:

50/50
 Amador
 Boardwalk Empire (1st season)
 Downtown Abbey (2nd season)
 Game of Thrones (1st season)
 Hugo
 I Don't Know How She Does It
 Ides of March
 In Time
 J. Edgar
 Moneyball
 Tinker Tailor Soldier Spy
 War Horse
 We Bought a Zoo
 What's Your Number



Databases: What & Why?

Organized and updated collections of data, databases are often the best and most direct way to find information such as magazine articles on a specific topic, genealogy information, and current company profiles.

You can use library databases, including Ebsco Periodicals, The New York Times Historical Newspapers, ERIC and Reference USA, at the library or from your home computer. One exception is The Ancestry Library, which is only available at the library.

Visit www.jeffersonlibrary.net and select *Research Tools* for a drop down list of currently available databases.

Rather than surfing the web and retrieving lots of irrelevant information, try using a database. You'll find that doing so often saves you a lot of time, and provides you with exactly the information you're looking for.

Friday Night Gazebo Concerts

They're held at 7 PM at the Township Gazebo, they're sponsored by the JT Gazebo Committee, they're free, and they're fun!

June 29—**THE JEFFERSON TOWNSHIP COMMUNITY AND JAZZ BANDS** (popular favorites)

July 6—**RB EXPRESS** (oldies and doo-wop)

July 20—**FULL CIRCLE** (5-piece party/dance)

July 27—**2BIG 2FAIL** (classic and contemporary hard rock)

August 3—**THE ACOUSTIC EELS** (eclectic mix of music and humor)

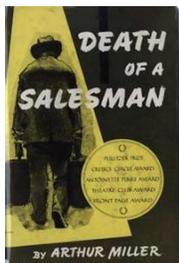
August 10—**TEQUILA ROSE** (country western and southern rock)

August 17—**RAVE ON** (music of Buddy Holly)

August 24—**SLICK** (classic rock)

August 31—**TRI-STATE ROCKERS** (rock 'n roll, past and present)

What could be better than summer nights and live music? Bring a blanket or chair and enjoy the show!



"He had the wrong dreams."

Classic Corner: *Death of a Salesman*

The ultimate tale of the low man on the totem pole, *Death of a Salesman* is the story of the little guy, Willie Loman (low man, get it?), who never really gets his piece of the rock.

After years of hard work as a stockings salesman, the

aging Loman takes stock of his life and realizes he has never amounted to anything. "He had the wrong dreams," another character observes. It is this that Loman realizes too late, after years of toiling with misguided goals and causing irreparable damage

to his family.

So when you drag your workworn body through the front door, feeling like a beaten-down Willie Loman, you may want to ask yourself what your dreams are.

Are they the right dreams?

Red, White & Blue Reading: America, Patriots and Patriotism

Breen, T. H. **American Insurgents, American Patriots: The Revolution of the People**

Before there could be a revolution, there was a rebellion; before patriots, there were insurgents. Challenging and displacing decades of received wisdom, this original book explains how ordinary Americans—most of them members of farm families living in small communities—were drawn into a successful insurgency against imperial authority. Breen is the William Smith Mason Professor of American History and director of the Chabraja Center for Historical Studies at Northwestern University.

Burrows, Edwin G. **Forgotten Patriots: The Untold Story of American prisoners During the Revolutionary War**

Between 1775 and 1783, some 200,000 Americans took up arms against the British Crown, and about 25,000 became prisoners of

war. In the British prison ships of New York, captives were chronically underfed, while multitudes died of disease in fetid, cramped cells. Evidence suggests that as many as 18,000 Americans died while incarcerated, more than twice as many as died on the battlefield. Drawing on a vast array of diaries, personal narratives, and private correspondence, Pulitzer Prizewinning historian Edwin G. Burrows offers the first complete history of this ghastly and unacknowledged tragedy of the American Revolution.

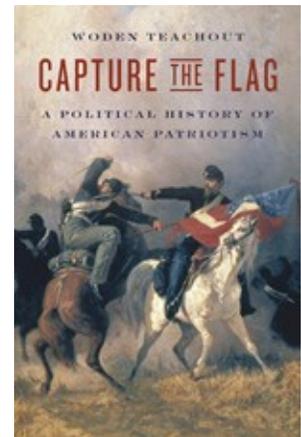
Kennedy, Caroline. **A Patriots Handbook: Songs, Poems, Stories, and Speeches Celebrating the Land We Love**

When John F. Kennedy called America "the land we love" more than 42 years ago, he was reminding us of the lofty ideals on which our country was founded. But what are those ideals, and

how have Americans defined them? The America you meet on these pages is one that derives its strength from its diversity. Caroline Kennedy is an author and editor, head of the Office of Strategic Partnerships for the New York City Department of Education, and president of the John F. Kennedy Foundation.

Teachout, Woden. **Capture the Flag: A Political History of American Patriotism**

Americans honor the flag with a fervor seen in few other countries. But what does the flag mean? Historian Teachout reveals that it has held vastly different meanings over time. In tracing the political history of the flag from its origins in the American Revolution through the present day, he demonstrates that the shifting symbolism of the flag reveals a broader shift in the definition of American patriotism.



“Counting the cars on the
New Jersey Turnpike,
They’ve all come to look for
America,
All come to look for America.”

—Paul Simon

Donations

We often get asked “Can I donate used books to the library?” Here is the library’s policy on donations:

Please bring donated materials in plastic shopping bags, with a limit of 2 to 3 bags. We accept books, CDs and DVDs in good condition. Materials you donate will be considered for the library

collection, sold or recycled. Please note that we cannot return donated items if we decide not to add them to our collection.

We do not accept encyclopedias, magazines, condensed books, textbooks, records, cassette tapes, videocassettes or any material in poor condition.

A receipt for the number of items donated may be obtained upon request at the time of donation. The library cannot assign a monetary value to your donation.

Please don’t leave donations outside the library, or place them in the book or media returns. Thank you for thinking of the library.



We accept books, CDs and DVDs
in good condition.



The Children's Area— attractive and appealing!



Coming Up for Kids

This year's summer reading program for kids, **Dream Big: READ!**, starts on Monday, June 25. Register to receive your reading log and an ice cream coupon. Receive a prize after reading six books of your choice. For each book you'll write a few sentences or draw an illustration. You'll also be entered into the Grand Prize drawing.

Here are some summer highlights to look forward to:

Thurs. July 5 at 4 PM
The Traveling Lantern Children's Theater pre-

sents **Peter Pan**, family fun for all ages.

Wed., July 11 at 9:30 AM
How to Talk to a Robot, engineering for Ages 8+.

Thurs., July 19 at 6 PM
Snakes and Scales presents **The Night Belongs to Us**, a look at how animals hunt, navigate and survive at night.

Thurs., July 26 at 6:30 PM
Join **The Bossy Frog Band** for a musical celebration of children's songs.

Wed., Aug. 1 at 12 noon
Rizzo's Reptiles for the

younger crowd brings live animals to the library.

Story time sessions for younger children begin on July 9, and Technology Tuesdays will begin on July 10.

Look for more fun and enriching summer activities on the library Event Calendar at www.jeffersonlibrary.net. There you'll find program descriptions, target ages and registration information.

Visit your library this summer and remember to **Dream Big: READ!**

Sunset in the Tropics

A SILVER flash from the sinking sun,
Then a shot of crimson across the sky
That, bursting, lets a thousand colors fly
And riot among the clouds; they run,
Deepening in purple, flaming in gold,
Changing, and opening fold after fold,
Then fading through all of the tints of the rose into gray,
Till, taking quick fright at the coming night,
They rush out down the west,
In hurried quest
Of the fleeing day.

Now above where the tardiest color flares a moment yet,
One point of light, now two, now three are set
To form the starry stairs,—
And, in her fire-fly crown,
Queen Night, on velvet slippered feet, comes softly down.

by James Weldon Johnson

Help us to provide better service...

If you change your

- telephone #
- email address
- street address

Please let us know!

Programs and Events for Adults

Essential Oils for Essential Health

Learn how to bring harmony to your body and health through the benefits of essential oils.
(Sunday, June 3 at 2 PM)

In Search of the Morris Canal

Explore the history of NJ's 102 mile long Morris Canal, which stretched from the Delaware River to the Hudson River. (Tuesday, June 12 at 7 PM)

Spotlight on: Ancient Egypt

Scarabs, mummies, lions and cats...discover their significance through handling and examining everyday objects from the Morris Museum collection. (Tuesday, June 26 at 7 PM)

Collage Painting

Create an abstract or realistic painting using various materials such as tissue paper, magazine images and shapes, colored paper and foil. (Wednesday, July 11, 2012 at 6:30 PM)

Mysteries of the Paranormal

A multimedia presentation examining such topics as ghosts, cryptozoology, Ouija Boards, séances, and crop circles. (Wednesday, July 18 at 7 PM)

Sicily: Crossroads of Mediterranean Culture

This "Travel Through History" presentation uses stories and pictures to take you to the island of Sicily through the ages. (Tuesday, July 24 at 7 PM)

The Truth About Why You Have No Time

It's all about systems—or more likely, lack of systems. Make some time to find out the best way to get your home, life and business running smoothly, and how to keep it that way.
(Tuesday, July 31 at 7 PM)



Spotlight on: Ancient Egypt
Tuesday, June 26 at 7 PM

Ongoing Programs

Wordsmith's Writing Group

Meets on the second Saturday of each month (June 9, July 14) from 10 AM to noon.

Library Knitting Circle

Meets on the first and third Saturday of each month (June 2 & 16; July 7 & 21) from 11 AM to 1 PM.

A Taste of Poetry

Meets on the second Wed. each month, 1 to 2 PM
June 13: Langston Hughes
July 11: New Jersey poets

Between the Covers

Summer: bare feet, barbecues, beaches...and BOOKS! This summer, get in the game and make each book you read count.

Sign up for **Between the Covers**, a summer reading program just for adults. The program runs June 25 to

August 17, 2012.

It's incredibly easy to join and participate. Just register at the main desk, and you'll receive a packet of book review forms. Give each book you read (or listen to) a rating of 1 to 5 stars, and drop the review form in the

designated basket. You may also write a short review if you wish.

There will be periodic drawings for prizes throughout the summer. The more you read, the better your chances of winning! So get **Between the Covers**, and read!



A Summer Reading Program for Adults

Jefferson Township Public Library

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Saturday 9:30-6
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The Library of Jefferson Township
is a sound public investment that exists
to improve the lives of residents through
self-education, recreation and
the exchange of ideas.

In The Spring

by Noelle Sadowski

In the spring, birds have beautiful
chirping and fluttering wings,
the sound of the wind chimes makes
a comforting ding.

The blue sky up ahead
decorated with a rainbow,
me running barefoot getting
a grass stain on my toe!

The flowers growing from the ground,
so colorful and bright,
watching carefully as
the butterflies take flight.

The birds sing and as
they tweeted they flew,
as I see the earth so beautiful
with the morning dew.

The sounds of the crickets and frogs
chirping with delight
makes a lullaby for me
all through the night.

The joys of spring!
How can anything be better?
Just then my heart leaps,
Oh wait...there's summer!



Jefferson Township Public Library
1031 Weldon Road
Oak Ridge, New Jersey 07438