



# Violet's Porch

The Newsletter of the Jefferson Township Public Library



## December Events for the children

December 4, 6 PM

Santa visits the Library

\*

December 6, 1 PM

Christmas in the Village

library craft

\*

December 7, 11 AM

Holiday Bingo

\*

December 18, 4 PM

Cookie Swap and Story Time

\*

December 28, 2 PM

Touch the Music presents

*The Nutcracker*

\*

December 29

Lego Free Play, 11 AM

and

Pottery with Ms. Mary

(ages 7 & up) 2 PM

\*

Registration is required for all events  
[www.jeffersonlibrary.net](http://www.jeffersonlibrary.net)

## *From the Director's Desk:*

### Peace and the Public Library

Before embarking upon a career in librarianship, I studied American History, particularly the presidencies of Theodore Roosevelt, William Howard Taft, and Woodrow Wilson.

The achievements of each of these presidents are debated among historians. Each man made significant contributions to America. Each also, in their words and actions, demonstrated prejudices against other races. The pain inflicted upon others through their prejudice must be balanced against the good born of their actions.

Recently a group of students at Princeton University protested to have portraits of Woodrow Wilson removed from the school, and to have his name removed from the University college bearing his name. All at Princeton, and elsewhere, are struggling to reconcile the racism in our history with the best parts of our nation's past.

What does any of this have to do with a public library in Jefferson Township? The public library is a place where you can go to become informed when trying to make peace with the best and worst of our history. Here you will find books that detail the significance of Woodrow Wilson's domestic and international policies, as well as exploring the tragedy of his mistreatment of other races.

Read, research and learn at the public library. Then you'll be able to make an informed decision about the worth of historical figures such as Woodrow Wilson.



*Our happiest holiday wishes to all, from the staff of the Jefferson Township Public Library. Have the merriest Christmas, the brightest Hanukkah, and the best Kwanzaa. However you celebrate, enjoy a festive and delightful holiday season.*

*We wish you a happy and healthy 2015, with many good books and the time to read (or listen) to them.*

*Thank you for your continued patronage and support of the library. We look forward to serving you in the new year!*

## New Computer Classes



### Excel 2016 : Step by Step

\*\*\*\*\*

8-week program

Mondays, 7:30 to 8:30 PM

*Begins on January 11, 2016*

### Windows 10 for Beginners

\*\*\*\*\*

8-week program

Fridays, 9:30 to 10:30 AM

*Begins on January 8, 2016*



## The Coming of Light — by Mark Strand (1934-2014)

Even this late it happens:  
the coming of love, the coming of light.  
You wake and the candles are lit as if by themselves,  
stars gather, dreams pour into your pillows,  
sending up warm bouquets of air.  
Even this late the bones of the body shine  
and tomorrow's dust flares into breath.



## Science Sundays: Our Extraordinary Earth

Come to the library each month for a beautifully filmed movie about our planet and its wonders. This is great family entertainment for all ages...and the popcorn's free!

### **January 17, 2 PM—Monkey Kingdom**

*Monkey Kingdom* is a spectacular tale set among ancient ruins in the jungles of South Asia. Maya, a clever and resourceful monkey, finds her world forever changed when she welcomes her son Kip into her colorful extended family. (2015, rated PG, 81 min.)





## Holiday JAZZ @ the library



**Narrow Escape Duo** performs popular standards and the best swingin' holiday music!

**Sunday, December 13, 2 PM**

## This is Elvis!

Make a date with *The King* and celebrate Elvis's 80th birthday with this rarely-seen film, and birthday cake!

**Fri., January 8,  
6:30 PM**



## Library Story Times

Six week sessions run throughout the year for...

- Lapsit (Ages 2 1/2 and under)
  - Ages 3 and up
- Pajama Story Time
- Drop-in Crafts
- Magic Tree House (for independent readers)



Winter Story Time runs from  
January 4—March 22, 2016

Register at  
[www.jeffersonlibrary.net](http://www.jeffersonlibrary.net)



## Library Holiday Hours

December 24  
—closed—

December 25  
—closed—

December 31  
—open until 1 PM—

January 1  
—closed—

**Jefferson Township Public Library**

1031 Weldon Road  
Oak Ridge, NJ 07438  
973-208-6244  
www.jeffersonlibrary.net

**Library Director**

Seth Stephens  
seth.stephens@jeffersonlibrary.net

**Newsletter Editor**

Christine O'Brien  
chris.obrien@jeffersonlibrary.net

**Hours**

Monday-Friday 9:30 to 9  
Saturday 9:30 to 6  
Sunday 1 to 5

**Board of Trustees**

Michael Stewart, President  
Christine Williams, Vice President  
Bill Craig, Mayor's Rep., Secretary  
Frank Bagnati, Treasurer  
Rosemarie Lange  
Anne Augustyn  
Margaret Holbrook  
Donna DeGennaro  
Joseph Kraemer, Supt. of Schools

**OUR  
MISSION**

*The Jefferson Township Public Library is a haven for the investigation of life skills and interests, connecting a diverse community socially, culturally and intellectually.*



For your convenience,  
please continue to use the

**PATHMARK  
BOOKDROP**



— until further notice —



**Editor's Picks: 2015**



***Favorite books I've read during the last year, in no particular order...***

**At the Water's Edge** by Sara Gruen (A love story set in the Scottish Highlands during WWII.)

**Let Me Be Frank With You** by Richard Ford (Frank Bascombe confronts his cranky, funny, and often inappropriate self, post-Sandy.)

**M Train** by Patti Smith (A perceptive and poetic memoir that Smith has called "a roadmap to my life.")

**Sweet Caress** by William Boyd (A evocative story which brings passionate photographer and risk-taker, Amory Clay, wondrously to life.)

**A History of Loneliness** by John Boyne (An astounding and powerful novel which explores the difficult subject of child sexual abuse by Catholic priests.)

**All My Puny Sorrows** by Mariam Toews ("...tears and laughter are ground into some magical elixir that seems like the essence of life" in this story about two sisters.)

**Miss Emily** by Nuala O'Connor (reimagines the private life of Emily Dickinson through her own voice and through the eyes of her family's Irish maid)

**The Harder They Come** by T. C. Boyle (A powerful novel exploring the roots of violence in the American character.)

**Purity** by Jonathan Franzen ("Purity is a dark-hued comedy of youthful idealism, extreme fidelity, and murder.")

**Unforgettable: A Son, A Mother and the Lessons of a Lifetime** by Scott Simon (A tribute to the ex-showgirl who taught her only son to be honest, kind, and entertaining.)

