



# Violet's Porch

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE JEFFERSON TOWNSHIP PUBLIC LIBRARY

## From the Director's Desk: *The Library and the Election*



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October 16, 2012 is an important day. This is the last day that you can register to vote in the Presidential election on November 6<sup>th</sup>. If you haven't registered to vote, the library has voter registration forms. New Jersey state law requires that every public library make voter registration forms available to the public. The library also has a wide variety of information about the candidates and the issues.

Today it is more important than ever to consider carefully who will be the next President, and to understand the issues they are running upon. This year's election is asking fundamental questions about the economy and the role of government in the life of its citizens.

Be sure to read not only biographies of the candidates, but also to become familiar with the thinking of economists such as Adam Smith and John Maynard Keynes. Although Smith wrote *The Wealth of Nations*, more than 200 years ago, and John Maynard Keynes wrote *The General Theory of Employment, Interest and Money* in 1936, they are directly relevant to this year's election.

One of the Vice-Presidential candidates frequently speaks of his admiration for the writer Ayn Rand. She too is worth reading because of her outspoken views on freedom and the individual. For a contrast consider *The Federalist Papers*, which also explores government and the role of citizens, but comes to a much different conclusion.

Finally, I recommend reading anything by Peter Drucker. One of the essential issues of this election is our economy. Drucker, long before many others, foresaw that manufacturing would decline and "knowledge work" would increase. In my mind this election is very much about whether America will maintain an economy based on manufacturing, or an economy based on knowledge and ideas.

This fall, if you're feeling bewildered by pundits and campaign advertising, take some time to visit the library and consider the issues and the candidates. We're here to help you make your best choice.

## Feel Better Every Day

With the holidays fast approaching, take some time for yourself and tune up your body, mind and spirit at the library!

On Tuesday, October 15 at 7 PM, Emotional Wellness Coach Sue Ann Schierloh offers a **Rethinking Happiness** workshop. Explore the topic of happiness — what it is, why it's important, and why it seems so hard

to achieve — through real life stories of people facing and overcoming adversity.

Author, counselor and life coach Diane Lang presents a workshop on **Living in the Moment** on Saturday, October 27 at 2 PM. If we could all live in the NOW we'd release a lot of our worry, anxiety and fear, and learn how to stop and smell the roses!

"Jollilogist" and Certified Laughter Yoga Leader Diana Perez offers a **Laughter Yoga** program on Wednesday, November 7 at 6:30 PM. Laughter Yoga is a fun form of exercise that helps strengthen the immune system, reduce stress and makes you feel good in the "here and now." Anyone can do it, and everyone can benefit from it!



### BY THE NUMBERS

Number of items borrowed from the library in July 2012

**12,681**

Number of people visiting the library in July 2012

**11,782**

## Violet's Porch



"Autumn,  
the year's last,  
loveliest  
smile."

—William Cullen Bryant

### November

The stripped and shapely  
Maple grieves  
The loss of her  
Departed leaves.

The ground is hard,  
As hard as stone.  
The year is old,  
The birds are flown.

And yet the world,  
Nevertheless,  
Displays a certain  
Loveliness —

The beauty of  
The bone. Tall God  
Must see our souls  
This way, and nod.

Give thanks: we do,  
Each in his place  
Around the table  
During grace.

From *A Child's Calendar*  
by John Updike

### October is *National Arts and Humanities Month*

The arts are fundamental to humanity, have the power to transform lives, connect people from all around the world, and are essential to a thriving community. Here's how you can celebrate:

- Visit a museum.
- Take up a musical instrument, or rekindle your interest in one.
- Take a class in painting, modern dance, or creative writing — whatever appeals to you.
- Read a poem out loud.
- Attend a local play, or outdoor concert.
- Read the arts section of the newspaper first.
- Take a family outing to the library.
- Enjoy the arts with your child: sing, dance, draw, play music, or read a book at home.
- Sing in a choir.
- Support the arts in education.

### Classic Corner: *Tales of Edgar Allan Poe*



E.A. Poe

Although primarily a poet, Poe has achieved greater popularity for his tales of horror and mystery. Since his death in 1849, stories such as *The Tell-Tale Heart*, *The Gold Bug*, *The Pit and the Pendulum*, and *The Purloined Letter* have been included in many anthologies, and have made deep and

haunting impressions on the psyches of generations of readers.

Poe's own life was almost as horrifying as his fictional work. The little praise Poe received as a poet and writer in his own time was far outweighed by the criticism and misfortune he endured. Though it came too

late for Poe to appreciate, the lasting popularity of his work has delivered the final, and affirmative, verdict on his literary talent.

—from *52 Great Books to Read*  
By Lynn Gordon



## October / November 2012

### I'll Take Romance

Presented yearly by the Romance Writers of America, the **RITA Awards** promote excellence in the romance genre by recognizing outstanding romance novels. Each year winners are selected in twelve categories, from over 1,200 submissions. The 2012 awards were announced on July 28:

#### Dragon Bound

By Thea Harrison  
(Paranormal Romance)

#### I Love the Earl

By Caroline Linden  
(Romance Novella)

#### How to Bake a Perfect Life

By Barbara O'Neal  
(Novel with strong Romantic Elements)

#### First Grave on the Right

By Darynda Jones  
(Best First Book)

#### The Black Hawk

By Joanna Bourne  
(Historical Romance)

#### The Measure of Katie Calloway

By Serena Miller  
(Inspirational Romance)

#### Soldier's Last Stand

By Cindy Dees  
(Contemporary Series Romance)

#### Boomerang Bride

By Fiona Lowe  
(Contemporary Single Title Romance)

#### A Night to Surrender

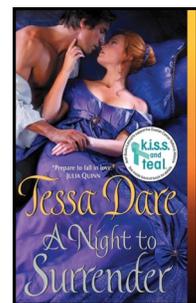
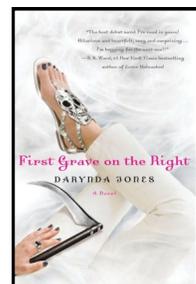
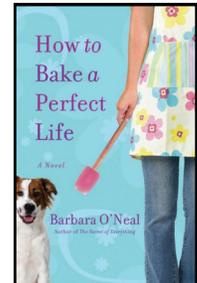
By Tessa Dare  
(Regency Historical Romance)

#### Enclave

By Ann Aguirre  
(Young Adult Romance)

#### Doukakis's Apprentice

By Sarah Morgan  
(Contemporary Series Romance)



Happy Thanksgiving

### The Numbers of Summer

The library was the place to be in the summer of **2012!**

**392** people took part in summer reading programs for children and adults, and a total of **907** books were read!

**80** children completed the reading program by reading **6** books, and they each received free Library Metro Bags.

In all, **87** programs took place during the summer, and **1,297** people attended these events.

This summer there were **7** lucky prize winners. The **3** prizes for adults were won by *Jennifer Wess*, *Debbie Barry*, and *Sandy Chaplin*. They each received a \$10 A&P gift card, a large chocolate bar, and a book.

The **3** prizes for kids were won by *Emma Maynard* (Target), *Michael Rothstein* (Frank's Pizza), *Melanie Balogh* and *Sihkei Correa* (Toys 'r Us.)

The library was open **916.5** hours in June, July and August; **35,111** items were borrowed, and **35,294** people visited the library. During that time, **1,210** new items were added to the library's collection!



## Violet's Porch

### Kid's Corner



It's never too late to register for story time at the library. The fall programs run from September 9 through November 29. Check the library's web site for dates and times.

For those who can't come to the library during the day, a Pajama Story Time will be held on Thursday nights at 6 PM, through November.

If you're looking for something to do with your child on a Tuesday between 11:30 AM and 12:30 PM, visit the library's Drop In Craft sessions and get creative!

Magic, Myth & Monsters, an exciting (but not scary!) Halloween Magic Show, takes place on Thursday, October 25 at 6 PM.

The library's annual Pre-K Halloween Parade with Guitar Bob takes place on Wednesday, October 31 at 10:30 AM.

Visit the library web site at [www.jeffersonlibrary.net](http://www.jeffersonlibrary.net) for more information, or to register.

*Learn marketable computer skills at the library's free computer classes this fall!*



### Build Computer Confidence

Are you in need of computer confidence? The library is offering five *Computer Confidence* classes this fall, on Friday mornings from 9:30 to 11:00 AM on October 12, October 19, October 26, November 2 and November 9.

We may begin by exploring such topics as using a mouse, finding things on the Internet, and creating e-mail addresses, but program content will be driven by the interests and needs of the participants.

This is your class if you know nothing about computers, if you are looking for practice, or if you want to learn more about computers.

Each session will begin with a topic related to beginner level computing, and will conclude with an activity designed to build your computing confidence.

Please register for one or more program by visiting the library's web site at [www.jeffersonlibrary.net](http://www.jeffersonlibrary.net), or by calling the library at 973-208-6245.

### Learn the Basics of Excel

Do you need to know how to use Microsoft Excel? Do you need an Excel refresher? Are you mystified by Excel? If so, consider attending the library's Basics of Excel program. Classes will be held on October 1, October 15, October 22, October 29, November 5 and November 19, from 7:30 PM to approximately 8:45 PM.

While the program will include topics such as navigating Excel, formulas, and charts, the program content will focus on the interests and needs of the participants.

Each program will begin with an introduction to a basic function of Excel, and continue with an activity related to that function.

Please register by visiting the library's web site at [www.jeffersonlibrary.net](http://www.jeffersonlibrary.net), or by calling the library at 973-208-6245.

## October / November 2012

### What's Happening @Your Library: *Programs for Adults*

#### **To Your Health Film Series: Vegucated**

Tuesday, October 2 at 6:30 PM

(2010, 76 minutes, unrated) Follow three meat and cheese-loving New Yorkers who agree to adopt a vegan diet for six weeks. They find out that more than steak is at stake, and that the fate of the world may fall on their plates. Enjoy healthy smoothies and discussion following the movie.

#### **Job Hunting with Social Media and Networking**

Wednesday, October 3 at 7 PM

Learn how to navigate the tough economy and promote yourself using Social Media. Katie DeVito will offer relevant tips and lead you through a hands-on demo on how Social Media can effectively help you land that dream job,

#### **One Stroke Painting: Autumn Leaves**

Tuesday, October 9 at 6:30 PM

Instructor Dawn Davis leads a hands-on class in the art of one stroke painting. Everyone can do it! You'll make a pretty fall project to take home.

#### **Live Music: Peter Biedermann**

Friday, October 12 at 7 PM

An instrumental guitarist whose music covers a number of genres, Peter performs original compositions played on a variety of 6, 8 & 12 string guitars. He embraces the influences of the last 50+ years of fingerstyle acoustic guitar playing by visionary artists such as Davey Graham, John Fahey, and Leo Kottke.

#### **Rethinking Happiness**

Tuesday, October 16 at 7 PM

Happiness: What is it? Why is it important? Why does it seem so hard to achieve for many of us? Come explore the topic of happiness through real-life stories of people facing difficult situations. Learning how people bounce back shows how all people can lead more fulfilling, happier lives!

#### **Hawks: The Wind Masters**

Wednesday, October 17 at 7 PM

Live hawks accompany Ms. Giselle Smisko of the Avian Wildlife Center in Wantage for this slide presentation on hawks and their habits. The Center promotes the welfare of NJ's orphaned and injured birds through rehabilitation and medical care.

#### **Live Music: Kate & Paul**

Friday, October 26 at 7 PM

A passionate and diversely dynamic songwriting team whose sound is driven by melody and emotion. Their music ranges from progressive electric blues-rock to folk-pop/world-beat with a message, and is manifested by powerful vocal harmonies, cutting rhythm and solo guitar.

#### **Living in the Moment**

Saturday, October 27 at 1 PM

When we live in the now, we actually stop and smell the flowers! Learn tips for living in the NOW (and releasing a lot of your worry, anxiety and fear) from therapist, educator and author Diane Lang.

#### **Jefferson Community Players**

Saturday, November 3 at 7 PM

Jefferson's own acting troupe presents a series of one-act plays, followed by refreshments and discussion.

#### **Laughter Yoga Workshop**

Wednesday, November 7 at 6:30 PM

Laughter is nature's most economical and instant stress buster. Experience this fun form of exercise that provides many physical benefits (stress reduction, lowered blood pressure, elevated mood, etc.), and is something that anyone can do—and everyone can benefit from!



Enjoy the vocal harmonies of Kate & Paul on 10/26

#### A note about *Program Registration*

*Please register for library programs.* You may do so at [www.jeffersonlibrary.net](http://www.jeffersonlibrary.net), or you may call the library at 973-208-6244.

Registering helps the library prepare ahead of time to ensure a successful program.

If you register and find you cannot attend the program, PLEASE cancel online, or call the library to let us know. You may be giving another person an opportunity to attend the program.

*Thank you so much for your cooperation!*

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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.

## A hearty congratulations to library summer reading club prize winners!

Debbie Barry  
Melanie Balogh  
Sandy Chaplin  
Sihkei Correa  
Emma Maynard  
Michael Rothstein  
Jennifer Wess



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