



Violet's Porch

The Newsletter of the Jefferson Township Public Library

From the Director's Desk: *Kindles, e-books, & the library*

If you received a Kindle, a Nook, or any other brand of e-reader this Holiday season, you are probably wondering if you are able to borrow e-books from the library. Even though many major publishers will not sell new e-books to public libraries, you can borrow e-books from your library, and read them with your new device.

Many publishers fear that allowing public libraries to add bestselling e-books to their collection will lead to a plethora of illegally copied e-books that will eat into their profit margins. However, many small and independent publishers see this as an opportunity to increase readership of their books. These smaller publishers are developing innovative sales models that

protect their interests, but also make it easy for public libraries to purchase their e-books .

So even though you may not be able to borrow the latest blockbusters and best-sellers, there are many lesser known e-books from small and independent publishers available at the library. Many of these books are as good as, or better than, more popular e-books.

The library's e-book collection contains not only fiction, but also travel books, computer books, and how-to books. And because small and independent publishers are eager to deal with public libraries, the depth and breadth of this collection of e-books will be constantly expanding.



You CAN borrow e-books from your library

These e-books are available for any type of e-reader that can read an e-pub format.

If you need help borrowing e-books from the library, we will be glad to help you. We will also be offering training on using your e-reader to borrow books from the library. These classes will take place on Friday mornings in February from 9:30-10:30 AM, and on Monday evenings from 7:30-8:30 PM.

Here it comes again...

2011...By the Numbers



- 11,647 Number of people who visited the library in JULY
- 128 Number of people who got their library card in SEPTEMBER
- 589 Number of new books added to the library's collection in MARCH
- 12,750 Number of items that people borrowed in AUGUST
- 136 Number of adults who attended library programs in APRIL
- 1,192 Number of items borrowed through Interlibrary Loan in JANUARY
- 30 Number of DVDs added to the library collection in MARCH
- 1,538 Number of people who visited the library's web site in OCTOBER
- 80 Number of stories read to children in MAY

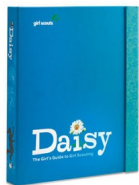
FREE help with TAX RETURNS

This year AARP Tax-Aide volunteers will be at the library on Wednesdays, from February 1 to April 11, to help you prepare your tax return. They can answer most of the tax questions faced by low- and middle-income taxpayers, with special attention to those age 60+.

Appointments may be scheduled from 9:30 AM to 1 PM. Please call the library at 973-208-6244 to schedule your appointment.



Books for Scouts



Six beautiful new colored binders have recently been added to the library's reference section, ready for use by scout leaders and girl scouts of all ages.

Generously donated to the library by the Girl Scouts of Jefferson Township, there are separate binders for Daisy, Brownie, Junior, Senior, Cadette and Ambassador Scouts.

Each colorful binder contains a handbook and a section with information about National Proficiency badges for the six levels of scouting. Guidelines for choosing a badge are accompanied by detailed steps to follow while working on and completing the selected badge.

The books are for use in the library. However, the binder format allows pages to be easily removed for photocopying. All binders are located at 369.463 in the reference area.

What We Read in 2011

The library book group for adults, Cover to Cover, finished up the year reading *The Art of Racing in the Rain* by Garth Stein. This unusual story combined the subject of auto racing with Enzo, a philosophical canine narrator. We all agreed that we won't ever look at dogs in the same way again!

Below is the list of what we read in 2011, along with our ratings. (We rate on a scale of 1 to 10, 10 being the highest rating.)

- *My Antonia* by Willa Cather 8.9
- *Little Bee* by Chris Cleave 8.8
- *Olive Kitteridge* by Elizabeth Strout 8

- *The Art of Racing in the Rain* by Garth Stein 7.6
- *Ghost Riders* by Sharyn McCrumb 7.6
- *The 19th Wife* by David Ebershoff 7.5
- *A Farewell to Arms* by Ernest Hemingway 6.6
- *Charity Girl* by Michael Lowenthal 6.4
- *Dark Places* by Gillian Flynn 6.1
- *Lavinia* by Ursula K. LeGuin 5.5
- *Land of Marvels* by Barry Unsworth 5.1
- *The Coral Thief* by Rebecca Stott 4.4

The Cover to Cover Book Group meets on the fourth Thursday of each month at 10:30 AM.

Classic Corner: *Animal Farm*

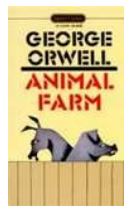
More a fable than a novel, this simply written tale is accessible to adults and younger readers alike.

The revolution in Mr. Jones's barnyard mirrors the changing world order after World War II, and exposes Stalin's overthrow of the Russian regime as a totalitarian, rather than a socialist or pro-

gressive event. The barnyard setting also evokes visions of England's simpler agricultural age, and of a utopian rural existence in which families could support themselves on the land.

With this work, Orwell realized his goal "to make political writing into an art."

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



love is a place

love is a place
& through this place of
love move
(with brightness of peace)
all places

yes is a world
& in this world of
yes live
(skillfully curled)
all worlds

e. e. cummings



E-book Open House

This February, learn how to use a Kindle, Nook, or any other type of e-reader to borrow books from the library's e-book collection.

Training will be available Monday evenings from 7:30 to 8:30 PM, and also on Friday mornings from 9:30 to 10:30 AM.

All you need to do is bring your Kindle, Nook, or other device to the library during the training hour, and we will help you learn how to borrow books from the library's e-book collection.

What's Happening @ the Library

Wellness & Stress Reduction the Natural Way—Wed. February 8 at 7 PM

Make better choices that nourish and support you — meditation, yoga, acupuncture, whole foods and herbs and breathing techniques. Come learn some simple things you can do to increase your well-being.

Women in History: Martha Washington—Sunday, February 19 at 2 PM

This living biography presented by the Traveling Stage Company features Annette Winter as the wife of the first President. Enjoy stories of Colonial social life, schooling, young widowhood and remarriage, as well as tales of living through the Revolutionary War.

Emergency Preparedness—Tuesday, February 21 at 7 PM

In light of recent storms and power outages in town, maybe it's time to learn about preparing for disasters and emergencies. Township O.E.M. personnel discuss what items should be in a family emergency kit, how to prepare an emergency plan, what about the pets, etc.

Lady Liberty—Wed. February 22 at 7 PM

A regional history program featuring Lady Liberty — the 20 years of planning, fundraising and construc-

tion, how she was built and what she symbolizes, and some of the people involved in her creation including sculptor Frederic Bartholdi, engineer Gustave Eiffel, architect Richard Morris Hunt and newspaper publisher Joseph Pulitzer.

Piece by Piece: Quilting—Wednesday, March 7 at 7 PM

An all-inclusive intro to quilting by quilter, teacher and lecturer Kathleen Davies. Learn about different styles of quilts, how they're designed and constructed, techniques, and how you can get started. A Variety of quilts will be on display.

A Friendship That Changed the World: Elizabeth Cady Stanton and Susan B. Anthony—Sunday, March 11 at 2 PM

A book talk and signing by author Penny Colman. Her new book portrays the legendary friendship between Stanton and Anthony, a friendship that fueled and sustained the 19th century fight for woman's rights — a fight they waged despite fierce opposition, daunting conditions, scandalous entanglements and betrayal by their friends and allies.



Coming Up for Kids

The library continually offers a variety of storytime sessions for children. These half hour groups meet on various days and times during the week to insure that you'll find one convenient for yourself and your child.

We offer sessions for 2 1/2 year olds and younger; 3 year olds; 4 & 5 year olds; early readers; and a drop in pajama story time on Thursday evening. To view all dates and times, please visit the library web site at www.jeffersonlibrary.net. You may register online, or call the library at 973-208-6244.

The Chess Club for all ages meets on Thursday evenings from 6 to 8 PM. Registration is required, and all skill levels are welcome.

Ongoing Programs

Wordsmiths Writing Workshop Second Saturday of each month 10 AM to noon

This relaxed, leader-directed group uses writing prompts to fuel your creativity.

Library Knitting Circle

First and Third Saturday of each month
11 AM to 1 PM

A casual, fun group that welcomes all skill levels. Bring your current project, or start a new one.

A Taste of Poetry

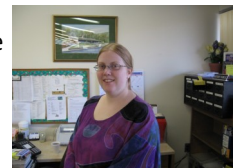
Second Wednesday of each month
1 to 2 PM

Bring your lunch and your appetite for poetry. The poems of Emily Dickinson will be featured in February; the poems of Billy Collins will be featured in March.

Goodbye...and Good Luck!

With mixed emotions we say goodbye to our friend and colleague Heather Nilsen. Heather has been working at the library part time for six years, during which time she earned her Master's degree in Library Science from Rutgers University.

Heather has accepted a new full time position at the Lodi Public Library as a Youth Services Librarian. Our loss — of her talents, her expertise, her kindness — will be Lodi's gain. We wish her all the best of luck in her new position!



Jefferson Township Public Library

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Hours

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

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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.



Sharpen Your Computer Skills—

Fridays in February and March

This year, take some time to sharpen your computer skills at the library. If you've ever wondered when to click or double click your mouse, how to open up that picture someone emailed to you, or how to unclutter your desktop, these classes are for you. Each week will focus on developing a specific skill that you can apply when using a computer.

Sharpen your skills by signing up at www.jeffersonlibrary.net, calling the library at 973-208-6244, or visiting the library in person. You may register for all sessions, or individual sessions.

Please note: no meeting on February 24 or March 30, 2012

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1031 Weldon Road

Oak Ridge, New Jersey 07438