



The Bookworm

THE BI-MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF THE MIDDLETON PUBLIC LIBRARY

Bel Canto Is This Year's Read It, Share It Book

In March the Middleton Public Library is hosting two book discussions on *Bel Canto* and a program on opera appreciation in anticipation of author Ann Patchett's visit to the area.

Bel Canto is a novel which features several intriguing characters, including the captivating Roxanne Coss, a world-famous soprano, and opera enthusiast and business tycoon, Mr. Hosokawa. How music heals and inspires us is one of the book's themes. The novel also explores the power of language, as well as the transforming element of love.

Please join us either on **Sunday, March 2** at **3:00 pm** or **Tuesday, March 18** at **7:00 pm** when we will share our thoughts on *Bel Canto*

with each other. You can register for these discussions online (mid@scls.lib.wi.us) or call 831-5564.

Madison Opera will present "*A Day in the Life of an Opera Soprano*" here on **Sunday, March 23, 2:00 pm**. Carissa Casbon, soprano, David Hottmann, baritone, and Ann Stanke, the General Director of Madison Opera, will share anecdotes and stories about life in the opera and they will perform some musical pieces for us.

All of these programs are free and open to the public.

- Liz Dannenbaum, Adult Services Librarian



Share It

Meet The Library Staff

This issue we talk with **Eve Robillard, our Children's Librarian**



Miss Eve, Forever Young

How long have you worked at the Middleton Public Library and what have you enjoyed most about working here?

I've been here for eleven years, and I really, really like my job. I enjoy working with children and I love reading children's books—so this is the perfect career for me. The quiet part of me enjoys reading book reviews and purchasing new titles—and doing storytimes is simply a privilege. I also like trying to keep the children's department looking fresh and appealing.

What are your all-time favorite children's book and children's authors?

My favorite author/illustrator is Arnold Lobel; he is a genius. After thirty years, Frog and Toad are still going strong. I also love Charlotte Zolotow and Margaret Wise Brown. Their quiet voices are attuned to a child's sensibility. Natalie Babbitt's *Search for Delicious* and *Tuck Everlasting* are two of the most beautiful books I know. I'm also very fond of our own Kevin Henkes—and anything by Jerry Spinelli is wonderful.

In addition to being a librarian, you are also an artist and a poet. What are you working on now? Do you have any readings coming up?

Right now I'm working on another chapbook of adult poetry—and yes, I do have three readings coming up this spring at Room of One's Own, Canterbury Booksellers, and Avol's Books. I'm also trying to illustrate an ABC book and I have sent off several picture book manuscripts to publishers (which have, alas, found their way back to me). And by the way, writing a picture book is not unlike writing a poem—every word has to count and concrete images work best.

You just got back from Paris; how was your trip?

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A Message from the Library Director Library Plans to Expand Service Space

The Middleton Public Library Board of Trustees has hired Strang, Inc., a Madison architectural firm, to develop schematic designs and a construction budget for a library remodeling project. These two tasks will be completed by the end of April of this year. The actual implementation of the project is yet to be determined and will depend upon a number of factors, primarily the City of Middleton's ability to provide the financing for it.

Approximately 10,000 square feet of space on the library's lower level will be transformed into additional public service space and staff work areas. The general plan is to create an often-requested **quiet area** of the library, which will involve moving reference services, the adult nonfiction collection, and back issues of magazines to the lower level. New features will include a computer lab with 12 workstations, wireless capabilities for patrons using personal laptop computers, four small study rooms, and a variety of seating configurations. Easy access between the two levels will be provided by the construction of an additional elevator and stairwell, to be located in the area where the information desk is currently situated.

The main level will remain the library's popular materials center, where adult fiction, paperbacks, and audiovisual materials are displayed. More space will be provided for an expanded children's area, as well as a much larger and more clearly defined space for teens, the latter featuring many nontraditional library design elements. Enclosing the northeast portico of the library into a cozy reading room, complete with gas fireplace and lots of windows, is also being considered.

Once the design development stage of the remodeling project has been completed, the Library Board and the Friends of the Library Board of Directors will begin working with Boris Frank, a fundraising consultant, to develop an endowment fundraising strategy. If you are interested in working with these groups on this project, please contact Library Director Paul Nelson at 831-5564. Your participation will help to insure the healthy long-term development of the library.

-Paul Nelson, Library Director

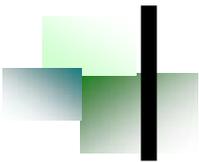
Friends Annual Meeting

The Friends of the Middleton Public Library would like to invite the community to attend the **Annual Meeting of the Friends**, which will be held at **7:00 p.m. Monday, April 14**, in the Archer Room [downstairs in the library].

At the meeting, members of the Board of Directors will be presenting a review of 2002, including the Friends projects in the past year and amounts raised for library programs. Also, at the meeting, there will be an open discussion of

plans for 2003 and beyond, and ideas for fundraising and programs. If you would like to share your ideas, better understand what the Friends do, or see the results of the book sales and other projects, please come to the Annual Meeting. Please join us; we welcome your ideas and participation.

Paul Allen, President, Friends of the Middleton Public Library

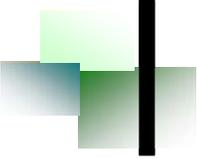
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	<h1>MARCH 2003</h1> <h2>Events at the Middleton Public Library</h2>					1
2 3:00 Adult Book Discussion	3 10:00 Friends Book Sorting	4 9:30 Storytime 10:45 Storytime	5 9:30 Storytime 10:45 Storytime	6	7 9:30 Baby Storytime 10:30 Drop-In Storytime	8  10:00-1:30 Friends Book Sale 10:00 "Basic"
9	10 3:30 Teen Advisory Committee 6:30 Friends	11 Storytime Registration Begins 7:00 WI	12 4:00 Books & Bagels for Teens	13	14 9:30 Baby Storytime 10:30 Drop-In Storytime	15
16	17 	18 9:30 Storytime 10:45 Storytime 7:00 "Bel Canto" Book	19 9:30 Storytime 10:45 Storytime 6:30 Friends Book Sorting	20 7:00 Family Fun Night: Stuart Stotts	21	22
23 3:00 "Bel Canto" Opera Pro-	24	25 9:30 Storytime 10:45 Storytime	26 9:30 Storytime 10:45 Storytime	27 4:00 Kids' Book Club 7:00 Teen Program:	28	29
30 3:00 Adult Book Discussion	31					

Middleton Public Library
7425 Hubbard Avenue
Middleton, WI 53562

Phone: (608) 831-5564
Fax: (608) 836-5724
Email: mid@scls.lib.wi.us

TeleCirc (Harriet):
(608) 261-9851
<http://www.scls.lib.wi.us/middleton>

Monday—Thursday 9am-9pm
Friday 9am-6pm : Saturday 9am-5pm
Sunday (Sept-May) 1pm-5pm

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	<h1>APRIL 2003</h1> <h2>Events at the Middleton Public Library</h2>					
		1 9:30 Storytime 10:45 Storytime	2 9:30 Storytime 10:45 Storytime	3	4 9:30 Baby Storytime 10:30 Drop-In Storytime	5
6 2:00 Jazz Appreciation Program  Daylight Savings	7 3:30 Teen Advisory Committee 10:00 Friends	8 9:30 Storytime 10:45 Storytime 7:00 "Writing Creative Non-	9 9:30 Storytime 10:45 Storytime 4:00 Books & Bagels for Teens	10 6:30 Teen Program: Hemp Jewelry Making	11 9:30 Baby Storytime 10:30 Drop-In Storytime	12  10:00-1:30 Friends Book Sale
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20  Easter Sunday Library	21	22 9:30 Storytime 10:45 Storytime	23 9:30 Storytime 10:45 Storytime	24 4:00 Kids' Book Club	25	26
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Results of the Pizza & Soda Taste Test for Teens

What is the best pizza in Middleton? On Jan. 16, over 20 teens came to the Middleton Public Library to test their favorite pizzas. Five pizzerias were chosen that delivered in Middleton. All pizzas and sodas were put in different containers so labels could not be seen, and participants were given surveys to rate them. According to the teens, the best tasting pizza was from Rosati's on Mineral Point, with Glass Nickel Pizza coming in a very close second. The winning dark soda was Pepsi (although most participants thought they were voting for Coke!), and

winning light soda was Sprite.

In terms of timeliness and cost, Dominoes was both the cheapest (for a large, two-topping pizza without coupons) and the most punctual. Pizza Hut was the least punctual, with a delivery almost 25 minutes before the stated time. The most expensive pizza was Rosati's. Many participants enthusiastically volunteered to do more taste-testing whenever needed!

- Rebecca Van Dan,
Young Adult Librarian



Teen E-Letters

Want to join our teen e-mail list? Members receive notices of upcoming teen events, a highlight of new teen materials as they are added (CD's, movies, video games, books on tape), and other news related to the teen section of the library. To sign up, send an e-mail to rvandan@scls.lib.wi.us or call 831-5564 and ask

for the Young Adult Librarian. (your e-mail address is safe with us; it will never be sold or used for any other purpose than the e-mail list.)

- Rebecca Van Dan,
Young Adult Librarian



Children's Programs for March & April

Baby StoryTimes: Babies enjoy **Baby StoryTimes**, and so do grownups! If your child is under 24 months of age, please join us for these rollicking, sing-along, clap-along, get-togethers. There will be **Baby StoryTimes** at **9:30 a.m.** on the following **Fridays: March 7, March 14, April 4, and April 11.** Older children are not invited to **BabyStorytimes**, but **ALL AGES** are welcome to our **Friday Drop-In Storytimes** at **10:30 a.m.** on the same Fridays.

To register for BabyStorytime, call 831-5564. No registration needed for Drop-In Storytime!

Family Fun Nights: We hope you can join us for these upcoming **Family Fun Nights** on **Thursday, March 20** and **Thursday, April 17.**

Folksinger and storyteller **Stuart Stotts** will en-

ertain us in March and in April **Gloria Hays** will present her **"Musical Menagerie."**

Family Fun Nights begin at **7:00 p.m.** No registration required; bring the whole family!

Kids' Book Club: If you like **Lemony Snicket's** books, you should join the Kids' Book Club at the library! The Book Club is a discussion group for boys and girls ages **9-12 years old.** Sign up & check out a copy of the book (you may need to place a hold on it if all copies are out). Then read the book and come to the library on the following dates to discuss it. Bring a copy of the book with you, if possible.

Thursday, March 27, 4:00 p.m.
THE REPTILE ROOM

Thursday, April 24, 4:00 p.m.
THE WIDE WINDOW

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Stone Field, True Arrow by Kyoko Mori (Book Discussion- Sunday, March 30, 2003 at 3:00 p.m.)

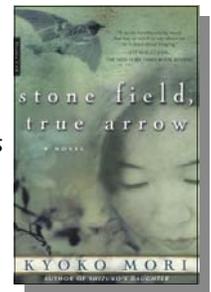
Kyoko Mori, a Japanese-American novelist, poet, and non-fiction writer, was raised in Kobe Japan and wrote in both English and Japanese from an early age. Mori, whose mother's suicide when she was 12 greatly devastated and influenced her life, moved to the United States when she was 16. She received a bachelor's degree from Rockford College and both her Master's and Doctorate degrees from the University of Wisconsin.

Stone Field, True Arrow is Mori's first book of adult fiction. The main character, Maya Ishida, was raised in Japan but moved to Minneapolis when her mother left her father. Maya doesn't really consider all the ways her father, an artist, has affected her life until his death. With her father's death Maya begins to question everything in her life, including her bad marriage, her career, and the strained relation-

ship with her mother. **Stone Field, True Arrow** is a wonderful book exploring the issues of where a person comes from and its effects on where a person is going.

Kyoko Mori's other works include two young adult novels, **Shizuko's Daughter** and **One Bird**, and **Polite Lies**, a book of essays about her life as a Japanese-American woman in the Midwest. She has also written a collection of poetry entitled **Fallout** and a memoir, **The Dream of Water**, about her return to Kobe to make peace with her mother's suicide and visit the family left behind.

Please join us to discuss **Stone Field, True Arrow** on Sunday, March 30, at 3:00. Everyone is welcome!



“How-To” Spring Programs For Adults

Plumbing Program for Beginners Ever wonder what to do when the faucet leaks or the toilet keeps running? Join us on **Saturday, March 8 at 10 a.m.** for a free home plumbing workshop. Mary Kay Brimeyer, home repair specialist, will demonstrate some of the tricks of the trade—and give us a chance to try some our-

selves.

Creative Non-fiction Writing Program

What *is* “creative non-fiction?” How does writing creative non-fiction differ from writing fiction or poetry? Join Laurel Yourke from the UW-Madison on **Tuesday, April 8 at 7:00 p.m.** to explore the elements of the genre.

You can register for these two free programs by stopping by the Information Desk, emailing mid@scls.lib.wi.us, or calling 831-5564.

Friends' Silent Auction in October

This October the Friends of the Middleton Public Library will be raising funds for the library by holding a silent auction. The library is looking to future growth and the funds raised will be used for expanded collections, additional programming, and new furnishings.

The Friends would appreciate donations from the community of **high quality items**. If you

have suggestions about people or businesses to contact for donations-- or if you are willing to assist the Friends in obtaining items for the auction and/or have items to donate—email the library at mid@scls.lib.wi.us or call Liz Dannenbaum at 831-5564.

Your help in this endeavor is greatly appreciated!