



The Bookworm

THE BI-MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF THE MIDDLETON PUBLIC LIBRARY

A Message From the Library Director



Middleton Public Library Ranked #4 in the Nation!

Hennen's 2005 American Public Library Ratings (HAPLR) have recently been announced, and the Middleton Public Library ranks 4th among libraries with a service area population of 25,000 to 49,999. The rankings for the ten top libraries in each of the ten population categories were published in the October 2005 issue of American Libraries.

Tom Hennen, Director of the Waukesha County Federated Library System, loves to crunch numbers. Each year he reviews the data collected by the Federal-State Cooperative Service from 9,000 U.S. libraries. The latest (2003) public library statistics, on which the 2005 HAPLR ratings are

based, were published by the National Center for Educational Statistics in July of this year.

All libraries are compared on a total of 15 measures related to annual circulation, staffing levels, number of books and other materials owned, and local funding. Each measurement category is weighted and these numbers are then added together to produce a total HAPLR score. Most libraries earn scores ranging between 250 and 750. The Middleton Public Library scored 877. Some examples of the specific criteria used includes total library expenditures per capita, fulltime-equivalent staff members per 1,000 population, periodicals per 1000 residents, and cost per circulation (low to high).

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Our Community Readers

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This month we meet with **Ellen Lindgren, Middleton-Cross Plains School District Board member.**

What are you reading these days?

Books about other countries such as *Nervous Conditions* by Tsitsi Dangaremba, *The Sari Shop* by Rupa Bajwa, and *Don't Let's Go To The Dogs Tonight* by Alexandra Fuller; books about religion & spirituality such as *Wherever You Go, There You Are* by Jon Kabat-Zin, *Lovingkindness* by Sharon Salzberg, and *Traveling Mercies* by Anne Lamott, and some books on homes including *The New Ecological Home* by Daniel Chiras, *The Not So Big House* by Sarah Susanka, and

Cohousing by McCamant and Durrett.

Who are a few of your all-time favorite authors? Is there a quality or aspect of their writing that they share in common?

Anne Tyler, Sue Monk Kidd, Jane Smiley, Ann Lamott...they are all great reads!

What is your favorite place and/or time of the day to read?

Mostly at night, in bed.

If you could select one title for a community-wide reading experience (a la Chicago's To Kill a Mockingbird or Madison's Bel Canto) what would you choose?

I just finished *The Kite Runner* by Khaled Hosseini--a great story that spans both Afghanistan and the US, with clashes of class, family members, friends, and cultures. It's a heart breaking story, very real and compelling to read. Perhaps if we read more widely, it would open our minds and hearts to the rest of the world.

...Message From the Director Continued from Page 1

“Although I appreciate the beauty and power of numbers, I know that they cannot alone define greatness in American public libraries,” Hennen asserts. “Still, numbers matter, and I continue to advocate their use.”

As director of the Middleton Public Library, I feel strongly that there are qualitative as well as quantitative factors that make a great library. Foremost among these is the excep-

tional value a community like Middleton places in its local library and the unwavering philosophy of positive public service put into daily practice by library staff.

For more information on the HAPLR ratings, visit Hennen’s website at www.haplr-index.com.

- Paul Nelson, Library Director

BUY BOOKS as Holiday GIFTS

at the NOVEMBER and DECEMBER MONTHLY FRIENDS BOOK SALE

Now is a good time to pick up all those books and audiovisual items that you or a friend might enjoy over the holidays. Stretch your dollar by selecting items at our “low” selling prices. Make a gift box for the whole family, and add items that appeal to all, including children and grandchildren. My family looks forward to this box every year. Last year I decided not to do it, as they all had so many books, but did I hear the groans! Now I start collecting all through the year.

It’s not too late to put a gift like this together at our next Friends book sales. We get so many donations of books, and they cover virtually every subject. We probably have the biggest sale room in the entire South Central Library System. We even have the fiction separated under the letter of the alphabet corresponding to the first letter of the author’s last name.

The library continues to weed its collection to make room for the latest items, so we always have many popular books and videos. We also have been receiving a lot of music and

books-on-tape cassettes from the public. We so appreciate all the great donations!

Whether you are looking for fiction, non-fiction, history, politics, hobbies, travel, religion, self-help, family & medicine, biography, classics, poetry, sports, science, foreign language, or reference information...we have it here.

So come early...shop from 10:00 a.m. -1:30 p.m. if you are a Friend of the Library member, or shop 11:00 a.m. – 1:30 p.m. for everyone else on **Saturday, November 12, and Saturday, December 10.**

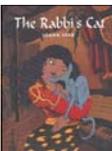
We will be having a special \$2.00/item sale in the main library, near the tall elevator, on the Saturday of November 12 beginning at 9:00 a.m. So stop there first, and then head for the monthly sale in the lower level.

Friends memberships can be purchased at the sale or at the library Circulation Desk.

- Kate Zimmerman, Administrative Assistant

Adult Graphic Novel Review

Have you discovered graphic novels yet? An exciting blend of words and art, the format’s diversity ensures that there is a graphic novel for everyone. Each newsletter we will review some of the best. Check one out today!



The Rabbi’s Cat by Joann Sfar

Irritated by a parrot’s constant squawking, an Algerian rabbi’s pet cat gains the ability to speak after eating the bird in Joann Sfar’s *The Rabbi’s Cat*. Seeing the blood and feathers, the rabbi demands to know what happened. The cat replies, “He left. An urgent errand. He said not to wait for him for dinner.” Horrified at the lie, the rabbi decides to teach the cat the Torah. The cat insists on a Bar Mitzvah and wants to study the Kabbalah instead, and the two begin a series of humorous reli-

gious and philosophical debates. This award-winning book is considered by many to be Sfar’s most exceptional work.

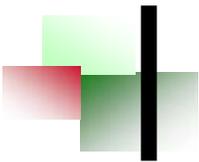


Epileptic by David B.

David B. (born Pierre-Francois Beauchard) chronicles his life from age five to the present in *Epileptic*. This autobiography centers on older brother Jean-Christophe’s incurable epilepsy and his family’s struggle to cope with the disease. As his parents consult a seemingly endless parade of doctors, alternative healers, and even exorcists, young Pierre-Francois loses himself in books and gains protection by drawing scenes of war. Symbolic black and white art accompanies this heartfelt, moving story.

- Sarah Hartman, Reference Assistant

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	<h1>NOVEMBER 2005</h1> <p>Events at the Middleton Public Library</p>				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ = Youth Event ■ = Tween Event ■ = Teen Event ■ = Adult Event ■ = Friends Event 	
		1	2	3	4	5
		<p>9:30 Storytime 10:30 Storytime 4:00 Book Bunch</p>	<p>9:30 Storytime 10:00 Introduction to Computers 10:30 Storytime</p>	<p>9:30 Baby Storytime 10:30 Drop-In Storytime 7:00 Effective Job Hunting</p>		
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
	<p>10:00 Friends Book Sorting 1:30 Baby Storytime 3:30 Teen Advisory Committee</p>	<p>9:30 Storytime 10:30 Storytime 4:00 Book Bunch</p>	<p>9:30 Storytime 10:00 Finding Stuff Online 10:30 Storytime</p>	<p>9:30 Baby Storytime 10:30 Drop-In Storytime 2:00 Online Photo Albums 7:00 Self Defense for Teens</p>	<p>2:00 Short Film Festival</p>	<p>SALE 10:00-1:30 Friends Book Sale (Special Value Sale at 9:00)</p>
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
	<p>1:30 Baby Storytime 6:30 Story 'N Motion 6:30 Friends Book Sorting</p>	<p>9:30 Storytime 10:30 Storytime 4:00 Krafty Kids</p>	<p>9:30 Storytime 10:30 Storytime 4:00 Teen Books & Bagels</p>	<p>9:30 Baby Storytime 10:30 Drop-In Storytime 2:00 Introduction to PowerPoint 4:00 Tween's Harry Potter Trivia Challenge 7:00 Adult Book Discussion</p>		
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
	<p>1:30 Baby Storytime</p>		<p>Library Closing Early at 6:00 pm</p>	<p> Thanksgiving Library Closed</p>		
27	28	29	30			
			<p>6:30 Friends Book Sorting</p>			

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
 <h1 style="color: red; margin: 0;">DECEMBER 2005</h1> <p style="color: green; margin: 0;">Events at the Middleton Public Library</p> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: flex-end; gap: 10px;"> ■ = Youth Event ■ = Tween Event ■ = Teen Event ■ = Adult Event ■ = Friends Event </div>						
				1	2	3
4 3:30 Holiday Storytime (Middleton Tree Lighting at 4:30)	5 10:00 Friends Book Sorting 3:30 Teen Advisory Committee	6	7	8 7:00 Teen Chocolate Night	9	10  10:00-1:30 Friends Book Sale
11	12 4:00 Teen Books & Bagels 6:30 Friends Book Sorting	13 10:00 Adult Book Discussion	14	15 4:00 Krafty Kids 7:00 Adult Book Discussion	16	17
18	19	20	21  Winter Solstice	22	23	24 Christmas Eve Library Closed 
25 Christmas Day Library Closed 	26 Library Open Regular Hours 9am-9pm	27	28 2:00 Winter Movie Break: "Madagascar"	29	30	31 Library Open Regular Hours 9:00am-5:00pm <hr/> Library Closed on New Year's Day Sunday, January 1

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.midlibrary.org>

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



Special Late Fall & Winter Programs for Children

Short Film Festival

If your school is out for the day, join us for our short film festival as we watch some of the most beloved children's books and stories come to life.

Friday, Nov. 11th, 2-4 p.m. Ages 5 and up.

Children' Book Week Celebration: Story 'N Motion

Celebrate Children's Book Week through Bharatanatyam. The Natyarpana Dance Company will present ancient Indian mythological stories through music and dance.

Monday, Nov. 14th, 6:30 p.m. All Ages.

Holiday Storytime

Join us for a special holiday storytime filled with stories and fun.

Sunday, Dec. 4th, 3:30-4:15 p.m. All Ages.

(The Middleton Tree Lighting Ceremony will follow at 4:30 p.m. at City Hall.)

Winter Break @ The Middleton Public Library

Join us for a special movie presentation of Madagascar, rated PG. Refreshments will be provided.

Wednesday, Dec. 28, 2-4 p.m. Ages 5 & up.

Please pre-register for all children's programs by stopping by or calling the youth services desk at (608)827-7402.

The Library Sincerely Thanks...



Deb Nelson and the flowers of her labor

The library is grateful to **Deb Nelson** for the beautiful job she has done on the library's gardens this year. The public also appreciates Deb's hard work and creativity—several people have written notes of praise and more have stopped by the Circulation Desk to mention how much they enjoy the lovely job she's done.

Thank you to the talented volunteers from our 'Tweens Only Club: Mystery Night!: **Kimmie, Nita, Jan, Heidi, Elizabeth, Ariana, Natasha, Megan, Kathy,** and **Rebecca.** You helped make the program a huge success - we couldn't have done it without you!



The repaired bear back in service

Many thanks to **Therese Bennett** for her handiness with needle and thread. Therese, a member of our Friends group, graciously sewed up one of our well-loved butterfly puff chairs & our giant teddy bear's nose. (one hopes he will avoid such scuffles in the future.) Thanks Therese!

Teen Advisory Committee's "Books We're Reading"

The Teen Advisory Committee is a group of dedicated teens (ages 12-19) who support the library by sharing ideas and helping with library programs. We will try to include more of their book reviews in upcoming newsletters.



I really love the book **White is for Magic** by **Laurie Faria Stolarz.** It is the sequel to *Blue is for Nightmares* and continues the story of Stacey Brown, although this time

Stacey is in her Senior year at Hillcrest Preparatory School. Just like in *Blue*, when Stacey was having premonitions about the death of her roommate, Stacey is having premonitions again, but there is something different with her predictions this time. She's dreaming about herself. Now Stacey must use her magic, brains, and bravery to escape her fate. Thrilling, frightening, and very well-written, this book is a must read for teens.



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Friday 9 am-6 pm
Saturday 9 am-5 pm
Sunday (Sept-May) 1 pm-5 pm



'Tween Read



Ranger's Apprentice - Book One: The Ruins of Gorlan by John Flanagan

It's choosing day for the Wards at Castle Redmount, and Will fears his small size will prevent him from being accepted into the Battleschool to be trained as a warrior. He's right. If no Master accepts him as an apprentice, he'll be sent to the fields to be a day laborer on a farm. When the mysterious Ranger, Halt, agrees to accept him as his apprentice, Will doesn't know whether to be grateful or terrified. As Will's training progresses and he learns the

skills of a ranger, he discovers that being a ranger involves much more than shooting arrows or riding a horse. When danger unexpectedly appears, Will must put his new skills to use much sooner than anyone had anticipated. To save the kingdom, to save Halt, and to save himself, Will must rise above his young years and become a true Ranger. This is the first book in an exciting new Adventure/Fantasy series. Highly recommended for ages 8 and up.

- Lori Bell,
Youth Services Assistant

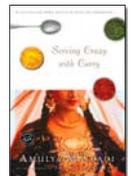
December Adult Book Discussion

In December we will be discussing the well-reviewed novel *Serving Crazy with Curry* by Amulya Malladi.

The book tells the story of Devi who is recovering from a suicide attempt. Devi stops talking, but starts cooking non-stop. Her East Indian-American family supports her during her recovery. This is an interesting look at family dynamics and Indian American culture.

Two book discussions for this:

Tuesday, December 13th at 10:00 am,
and **Thursday, December 15th at 7:00 pm.** Both discussions will be held in the Kenneth J. Mack Reading Room on the main floor of the library.



Welcome New Staff

The following staff members began in September. We are pleased to welcome:



Heidi Bartling is a junior at Middleton High School. Heidi enjoys reading, loves the cook-book collection at the library, and is a member of the high school band.



Anne Cupelli, a sophomore at Middleton High School, is the youngest of four children & she is surrounded by three dogs and a cat. She likes Monty Python and the Holy Grail ("Shrubbery"), the Red Hot Chili Peppers, Jerry Seinfeld, and Orlando Bloom. Anne spent time with Mickey Mouse at Disney World this summer and will be "skipping Christmas" in the Bahamas in December. Anne would like to attend college and major in graphic arts and design.



Joe Good is a junior at Middleton High School & the youngest of three children. He has a pet kitten, likes graphic novels, anime, the movie The Seven Samurai, and is a fan of director Akira Kurosawa. Joe has done the ultimate hike down the Grand Canyon, and hopes to attend college and major in film.



Jill Maidenber loves to read. Some of her favorites are *Ellen Foster* by Kaye Gibbons and *House of the Spirits* by Isabel Allende. Jill, who has two children, works during the day and finds the library to be a busy, vibrant place with lots of good reading material!



Peter Matiash joins us during the day shifts. Peter is father of three, grandfather of three, and owner of a calico cat. He loves to read & has just retired after 30 years. With this extra time he is learning to play the violin.



Elizabeth Nelson is a sophomore in high school. The youngest of eleven children, Elizabeth has nineteen nieces and nephews, spends a week every summer up north on a lake, and likes the singer Hilary Duff, the actress Julia Roberts and comedian Bob Hope.