

May/June 2007

Volume 6, Issue 5



The Bookworm

THE BI-MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF THE MIDDLETON PUBLIC LIBRARY

Get a Clue! 2007 Summer Reading Program for Children & 'Tweens June 11th – August 3rd



Weekly Reading Prize Game: Sign up in person at the Treasure Chest beginning **Monday, June 11th**. Read at least 1 hour each week to earn a prize. Earn Milestone

Prizes at 5, 10, 20 & 30 hours. Weekly Reading Prize Game lasts 8 weeks and ends Friday, August 3rd.

Special Children's and 'Tweens Programs: This summer kids can participate in a wide variety of fun & educational programs at the library. Weekly programs include Book Bunch & Lunch,

Dungeons & Dragons, and a 'Tween Mystery Writers Group. At our special event programs kids can meet Sgt. Reynolds from the Middleton Police Department, see a live performance of Sherlock Holmes by the Traveling Lantern Theatre Company, experience hands-on forensic science at a CSI Camp, and rock out at the SRP finale with Mr. Billy. For full details on these and many other programs, pick up a brochure at the Youth Services Desk or visit our Children's page on our website: www.midlibrary.org.



Getting to Know New Staff Member Jeremy Cusker



Jeremy is the newest member of the Reference team; you will see him working at the lower level Reference desk.

How did you get interested in working in libraries and what are your future goals in this field?

I finished my MLS in May 2006. My interest in libraries goes back a couple of years. In 2001 I did a full-time undergraduate internship for six months in New York City working for a place called The Door (www.door.org). It's a huge youth center & I did work for their legal clinic. I discovered while working there that I didn't like the idea of being an attorney, but I loved helping people find and organize information. Becoming a librarian seemed a natural choice.

Most librarians like to talk about books! Who are some of your favorite authors and what are you reading now?

I'm a pretty voracious reader. My absolute favorite book of all time is *The Decameron* by Giovanni Boccaccio, one of the first really important books ever written in vernacular Italian. Most people compare it to *The Canterbury Tales*. I have contemporary favorites, too. I just read two mysteries by Blue Balliet for younger teenagers called *Chasing Vermeer* and *The Wright Tree*. I liked them because they take place around real locations in Hyde Park, Chicago.

Are you from the Middleton/Madison area originally? If not, what brings you to our part of the country?

I was born in Exeter, New Hampshire, which is the town John Irving based the setting for *A Prayer for Owen Meany* on, but spent most of my life in Boston and Buffalo, New York. I moved to Madison four years ago because my wife TJ is working on a graduate degree in materials chemistry.

Aside from reading and working in libraries, what other things do you enjoy?

Two things: first, I love swimming outdoors in bodies of water like seas, lakes, ponds, rivers, and streams. Luckily my front door is about 20 yards from the Yahara River. Second, I'm an avid martial artist. I spent several years doing chungdokwan ("Great Wave") taekwondo and even won some regional championships. Then a couple of years ago I stopped doing that and got into Capoeira Angola—a Brazilian martial art that's usually performed to music.

A Message From the Library Director

Middleton Public Library “Tenth Anniversary” Focus Group Discussions

In 1997 the Middleton Public Library held a series of focus group discussions to gather your assessment of the Library and to find out what future directions you wanted us to take. Based on that input, we added Sunday hours, by far the highest priority request, and expanded our services to teens with the hiring of a Young Adult Services Librarian, both of these service enhancements occurring in 1999. In late 2003 and early 2004, we carried out an expansion and remodeling project, which created more inviting spaces for users and divided active and quiet areas to accommodate differing types of library use.

Having accomplished what was asked of us ten years ago, we again turned to you to assess what you thought of the changes and what new challenges should be addressed. In early March of this year, we sponsored a follow-up series of six focus group discussions, which were conducted by Library Consultant Ethel Himmel, who provided the same services for us in 1997. The general responses were very positive and confirm the fact that we are indeed moving in the right direction. Unlike 1997, we uncovered no “big ticket” items; the most common responses pointed to the need for us to do more of what we already do.

What follows is a list of four questions used by Ms. Himmel to elicit responses about current library services and future directions. Each question is followed by a summary response.

1. What do you think the Middleton Public Library does really well? What is really outstanding about this library?

You especially appreciate the friendly and knowledgeable staff, the absence of fines, and Sunday hours. In addition, you give high praise to our programs for adults, teens, and children –and provide strong encouragement for us to do more. (And we certainly are trying. During the past four years, we have greatly expanded our program offerings. As a result, we’ve experienced a three-fold increase in attendance during this time.)

2. What suggestions do you have for improving the library? Are there changes that would make the library better for you?

In addition to more programs, you asked for larger browsing collections, particularly for audiovisual materials. Year-round Sunday hours is a request we hear quite frequently at this time of year, as we prepare to move into our summer schedule. A few of you would like us to remain open later on Friday evenings.

3. I’ve heard some discussion about a branch for the Middleton Public Library. Do you think that’s a good idea?

Many of you expressed surprise at this question, as the expansion and remodeling project has given the library a renewed sense of spaciousness. You like the idea of a full-service facility, which is not likely to be the scope of a branch library. The general feeling is that you’d rather see additional support go toward more materials, programs, and staff.

4. Since the last time we held these types of sessions, the library facility has undergone a transformation. What do you think of the layout, the organization, and building features

You give the expansion and remodeling project rave reviews. “Absolutely beautiful” was offered more than once. You particularly like the lower level quiet area. In fact, some families feel more comfortable using the children’s area on the main level because of this design feature.

Ethel Himmel will present a final report to the Library Board on May 8th. Shortly thereafter, we’ll have copies available for distribution.

In the next edition of The Bookworm, I’ll provide a summary of our web survey that took place from March 12-24.

In closing, I thank those of you who participated in our recent information-gathering activities, and I thank all of you for your continued strong support of what we do. It’s you who make this library such a valuable community asset.

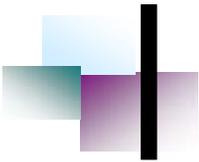
- Paul Nelson, Library Director

Summer Volunteer Opportunities

The Youth Services Department is looking for adult and teen volunteers (ages 12 and up) to help with our very busy 8-week Summer Reading Program. Volunteers register patrons for the Summer Reading Program, keep track of hours patrons read, and distribute weekly and milestone prizes.

Typically volunteers sign up for a regular two-hour desk shift per week.

If you’d like to learn more about our summer reading program volunteer opportunities, please call Svetha Hetzler, Head of Youth Services, at 827-7411.

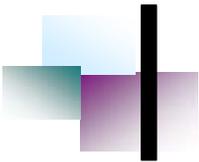
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	<h1>MAY 2007</h1> <p>Events at the Middleton Public Library</p>					<p>■ = Youth Event ■ = Tween Event ■ = Teen Event ■ = Adult Event ■ = Friends Event</p>
			1 4:00 Tween D&D 5:00 Teen D&D	2 7:00 Pajama Party Storytime	3 7:00 How to Apply for a Summer Job for Teens	4
6	7 10:00 Friends Book Sorting	8	9 7:00 Introduction to Word	10 2:00 Introduction to Excel	11	12  10:00-1:30 Friends Book Sale (1st hour - Friends Only)
13 Mother's Day	14 4:00 Teen Advisory Committee 6:30 Friends Book Sorting	15	16 4:00 Teen Books & Bagels 7:00 Intermediate Word	17 2:00 Intermediate Excel	18	19
20	21	22	23 6:30 Friends Book Sorting 7:00 Advanced Word	24 2:00 Advanced Excel	25	26
27 <u>Library Closed</u> Sunday Hours Resume September 9th	28 <u>Memorial Day</u> <u>Library Closed</u>	29	30	31		

Middleton Public Library
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 Middleton, WI 53562

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 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

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
 <h1 style="text-align: center;">JUNE 2007</h1> <p style="text-align: center;">Events at the Middleton Public Library</p> <div style="text-align: right;"> <p>■ = Youth Event ■ = 'Tween Event ■ = Teen Event ■ = Adult Event ■ = Friends Event</p> </div>						
					1	2
3	4 10:00 Friends Book Sorting 1:00 Baby Storytime	5 9:30 Storytime 10:30 Storytime	6 9:30 Storytime 10:00 Book Discussion for Adults 10:30 Storytime	7 9:30 Baby Storytime 10:30 Drop-n Storytime 7:00 Book Discussion for Adults	8	9 SALE 9:00-2:30 Friends Book Sale (first 2 hours - Friends Only)
10	11 Summer Reading Program Begins! 1:00 Baby Storytime 6:30 Friends Book Sorting	12 9:30 Storytime 10:30 Storytime 1:00 'Tween D&D 4:00 Teen D&D	13 9:30 Storytime 10:30 Storytime 12:30 Book Bunch & Lunch 2:00 'Tween Mystery Writers Group 7:00 ASRP Kickoff Event	14 9:30 Baby Storytime 10:30 Drop-n Storytime 7:00 Teen Dance Dance Revolution	15 2:00 Sgt. Reynolds: A Day in the life of a Middleton Police Officer	16
17 Father's Day	18 1:00 Baby Storytime	19 9:30 Storytime 10:30 Storytime 1:00 'Tween D&D 4:00 Teen D&D	20 9:30 Storytime 10:30 Storytime 12:30 Book Bunch & Lunch 2:00 'Tween Mystery Writers Group 6:30 Friends Book Sorting 3:30 Fencing for Teens	21 9:30 Baby Storytime 10:30 Drop-n Storytime 2:00 "Krafty" Kids	22 2:00 'Twins Only: Solve the Mystery!	23
24	25 1:00 Baby Storytime	26 9:30 Storytime 10:30 Storytime 1:00 'Tween D&D 4:00 Teen D&D	27 9:30 Storytime 10:30 Storytime 12:30 Book Bunch & Lunch 2:00 'Tween Mystery Writers Group	28 9:30 Baby Storytime 10:30 Drop-n Storytime 7:00 Animal Chiropractor Julie Kaufman	29 2:00 Parent/Child Book Discussion 4:00 Teen CD Swap/ Ice Cream Social	30

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Friends of the Middleton Public Library Annual Meeting

The public is cordially invited to attend the Friends of the Middleton Public Library Annual Meeting on **Saturday, May 12, 2007 at 11:00** a.m. The Annual Meeting will take place during The Friends of the Library monthly book sale. At the meeting there will be a “State of the Library” report by Library Director Paul Nelson and election of new officers.

The Friends of the Library raise funds in support of library programs and services for children, teens and adults. All current members of the Friends and anyone interested in learning more about this community resource are invited to attend. Refreshments will be served.



Cheese, Cheese, Cheese!



What says “Wisconsin” more than great cheese? **The kick-off event for the 2007 adult summer reading program** will be a delectable evening of cheese sampling under the guidance of cheese expert and connoisseur, Bill Schlinsog. Bill is a certified judge of state and county cheese contests and has judged international cheese contests in Europe. He will be bringing with

him many delicious samples and this special event will offer the opportunity to compare the flavor, body, and texture of some of Wisconsin’s finest cheeses!

This program on **Wednesday, June 13 at 7:00 p.m.** is free. Pre-registration—which begins **Monday, May 14**—is required. Please call 827-7403, email mid@scls.lib.wi.us, or stop by the library’s Reference Desk to register on or after May 14.

Fencing, Dancing, Swapping & Ice Cream

Teens—are you wondering what to do all summer? Take a peek at all the teen programs we have lined up this summer. In addition to our Summer Reading Program where you can get prizes for reading, we have programs like a dance competition, fencing instruction, and a CD Swap!

DDR (Dance Dance Revolution) will be on **Thursday, June 14, 7-8 p.m.** & we will be competing to see who will be our champion dancer. If you are curious about fencing, come see a demonstration by the UW

fencing team on **Wednesday, June 20th at 3:30 p.m.**—they will even let you suit up & try a few moves. (permission slips required.) Or if you would rather just hang out & eat ice cream, you won't want to miss our CD Swap & Ice Cream Social on Friday, **June 29th at 3:30 p.m.**—be sure to bring some CD's to trade! All teen programs are free and open to teens ages 12-19. Questions or comments about any upcoming teen programs? Please contact Rebecca at (608)827-7402.



New Adult Anime DVD Suggestions

The library’s collection of anime (Japanese animation) DVDs for adults is now a year old and still growing! If you’re looking for something new to watch, make sure to check out these recent acquisitions:



Voices of a Distant Star— This short film explores how relationships are affected by distance. In it, a young couple is separated by war when she goes into space to fight and he stays behind, with her text messages their only form of communication. Honest, emotional, and gorgeously animated, this one shouldn't be missed.

Carried by the Wind, Tsukikage Ran— This humorous, action-filled series set in feudal Japan stars two



women: Ran, a wandering samurai with a weakness for sake, and Lady Meow, a hyper-active Chinese martial arts expert. This series is worth watching for the beautifully choreographed fight scenes alone, as Ran and Meow fight the bad guys to save the day.



Hare + Goo— Hare is a normal boy living a normal life in his small jungle village—until his mother brings home a girl named Goo to live with them. Goo is definitely not a normal girl, and Hare’s life turns upside down in this incredibly wacky series filled with an assortment of bizarre characters and situations.

- Sarah Hartman, Adult Services Librarian

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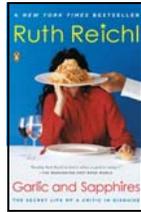
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June Book Discussion for Adults



Garlic and Sapphires by Ruth Reichl

Ruth Reichl, editor in chief of *Gourmet Magazine*, world renowned food critic, editor of several cookbooks, and author of *Tender at the Bone* and *Comfort Me with Apples* entertains readers with her recent title about being a food critic – *Garlic and Sapphires: The Secret Life of a Food Critic in Disguise*.

When reviewing restaurant fare, the food critic must remain anonymous to the owners and staff, and Reichl amuses us by sharing her tales of her disguises, stories of life in the epicurean world, and including sample reviews and a few favorite recipes.

Join us **Wednesday, June 6th at 10:00 a.m.** and/or **Thursday, June 7th at 7:00 p.m.**, in the Kenneth J. Mack Reading Room for discussions of this light hearted and delightful look at food critics and restaurant life. Food from one of the book's wonderful recipes will be available to sample!

Please register for library book discussions by stopping at the library's Reference Desk, emailing the library at mid@scls.lib.wi.us, or calling 827-7403.

Bon Appetit! - Elizabeth I. Bauer, Head of Circulation Services

A Special Opportunity for Friends of the Library

Every month members of the Friends of the Library line up for the 10:00 opening of the book sale. The group that meets early -- all book fans -- have become friends of one another as they wait. It is a familiar group that takes advantage of their Friends of the Library privileges. New book fans are welcome to this early entry line! Please join us for the **May 12th** book sale, from **10:00 -11:00 a.m.**, "Friends only." The sale then opens to the general public from **11:00 - 1:30**.

On June 9th, Friends have a special opportunity to "get" and to "give":

The book sale, which includes a large bag sale, opens from **9:00 - 11:00 a.m.** for Friends with a current membership. You can also buy a membership at the door. Please remember this earlier opening and extra hour of shopping. The sale ends at **3:00 p.m.** and Friends are invited to return to the bag sale room to select *free* books:

- to send to **U.S. troops who have been deployed anywhere in the world**; or
- to give to **local non-profit organizations**

To qualify for these free books, please contact Anna Biermeier, at bierhan@tds.net, by May 18th. The Friends will review requests and send "invites" which can be used as passes to enter the bag sale room at 3:00 p.m.

Spring housecleaning? Discovering books you don't need any longer? If they are in good shape, please consider donating them to the Middleton Public Library! The library may add them to the collection or they will give them to the Friends group to be put out in the monthly book sales. The Friends book sales raise money to support the libraries programs, collections, and events. Thank you!

Ten Reasons to Encourage your Child to READ over Summer Break

1. Summer reading loss is a key factor contributing to the achievement gap between struggling and successful students.
2. Children who don't read over the summer lose 3 months of reading comprehension.
3. The loss is accumulative – by the end of 6th grade these kids are 2 school years behind their peers.
4. Middle school is too late; even with the best remedial classes, these students will remain behind their peers.
5. Reading as few as 4 books keeps kids at their current reading levels
6. Lower-achieving students are less likely to read out of school
7. Having access to books, and having books in the home, is essential to building strong readers.
8. Those comfortable reading are more likely to choose recreational reading as a summer activity.
9. Freedom to select reading materials of their choice results in strengthening reading skills.
10. Public libraries can break these cycles and get materials into the homes of children who do not have their own books.



Find out more at www.readingrockets.org and www.summerlearning.org.