

July/August 2009

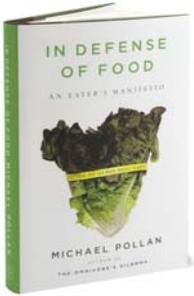
Volume 8, Issue 6



The Bookworm

THE BI-MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF THE MIDDLETON PUBLIC LIBRARY

Go Big Read!



Please join us to discuss *In Defense of Food: An Eater's Manifesto* by Michael Pollan—the first title in the UW-Madison's new “one book, one community” program: “Go Big Read!” The UW invites the larger community to participate in a shared, focused reading experience. Pollan's book examines the modern American food landscape where the deceptively simple question of

what to eat has been muddled by the numerous and often conflicting claims of food producers, marketers, and nutrition experts. The book is informative, provocative, and, at times, darkly humorous. The library will be holding two book discussions on this title: **Thursday, August 13, 10am & Thursday, August 27, 7pm.** Please email mid@scls.lib.wi.us or call 827-7403 if you have questions or would like to attend one or both of the discussions.

Introduction to eBay Classes in August



Time to buy & sell? The library will be offering special hands-on computer classes on eBay in August. 3 sessions: **August 5, August 12, and August 19, 2-3:15 pm.** Participants are expected to attend all 3 sessions; registration is required. Email mid@scls.lib.wi.us or call 827-7403 to register.

Our Community Reader



Community Reader **Cecile Druzba**, Membership Services Coordinator for the Middleton Chamber of Commerce, shares her current reading interests...

What are you reading these days? Do you have some books picked out you hope to read over the summer?

Part of my reading time every day is spent with my soon to be third grader. We are going through Paula Danzinger's **Amber Brown** series. They are really funny and we came to find out that Amber is a Jersey girl like me. With my 11 year old we went through the **Diary of a Wimpy Kid** series and those are really laugh-out-loud hysterical. Sharon Creech, E.L. Konigsburg, Lois Lowery, Jerry Spinelli, Christopher Paul Curtis; kids have amazing literature to read. I have read and will read anything from these authors. I did just finish Peter Mayle's latest book **The Vintage Caper.** Food and humor: two really great things to read about.

My next summer reads will come from the upstairs sales shelves of the library and more than likely include some titles for young readers.

What were your favorite books and who were your favorite authors while you were growing up?

Judy Blume, Carol Keene, I read all of the Nancy Drew mysteries. I did not discover all of these other amazing authors until I spent a few months working at Elm Lawn Elementary School.

We understand you're a big library user; what do you enjoy about the Middleton Public Library?

I love going into the library a couple of times a week to shop the on-going Friends of the Library Sale. I make most of the monthly book sales and grab books for myself, gifts for friends, and "good as new books" to add to or replace those at the elementary school library. I love that my 8 and 11 year olds can walk there on their own and spend time reading. My 8 year old borrows several books a week. If I ever have some spare time, I go downstairs and read all of my favorite magazines.

What's the best part of working for the Middleton Chamber?

The Chamber has allowed me to know the community as a whole: neighbors, businesses, city, state. I work with wonderful leadership from the Executive Director to the Chamber Board. The Chamber has given me many opportunities to work with and serve Middleton--it is such a privilege.

A Message From the Library Director

Why We Read

It was cause for a celebration, at least in my mind. March 2009 marked my 20th year in public library service. I considered a small party to commemorate this milestone, nothing elaborate, just a few performers, maybe a couple of clowns on roller skates to throw a bucket of confetti on my head, a large decorated sheet cake for the entire community to enjoy, party hats for everyone, and big bunches of flowers to adorn the library. Instead, I opted for a quiet evening musing about "why we read" (a clever disguise for 'what is the meaning of my life').

As I spent that blissful evening contemplating the reason for my existence, I thought about all the library patrons I had met in my work and a smile came over my face. Working the service desk and serving as a *personal librarian* over the last two decades, I have met and helped countless people find the information or the *good read* they were seeking. In the process, we shared one of the most intimate details of our lives: "what we read and why we read."

From these experiences and other reading observations (in airports, coffee shops and universities), I believe that the reading culture consists of four guiding principles: to self-educate, to gain a better understanding of who we are as humans, to escape, and to socially connect with others.

Reading improves language skills, vocabulary and spelling. It is a tool for information gathering, to learn about complex topics and to challenge our thinking. Whether studying a building design manual or getting directions from the street signs while traveling in an unfamiliar city, reading is a necessary skill to finding our way through life and to explore our world.

The second reason is to fulfill our desire to learn more about ourselves and those around us. By this, I mean using stories to gain a greater understanding of our society, other cultures and the human experience. We relate to the characters in a novel and their life situations. It can lead to solutions when dealing with tragedy, conflict and daily struggles. Reading is a way to gain a broader view of the world, a deeper sense of who we are, as individuals, and a better perspective of how we fit into society as a whole.

We also read for pleasure or to escape. It transports us to another place or time and affords the mind a break from daily tasks and responsibilities. Escapism through reading helps to relieve stress by providing mind space from our immediate world.

Lastly, reading serves as a conduit for socializing by giving us a jumping off point for discussion, with friends, relatives and neighbors. People are reading more novels in tandem as a way to exchange personal experiences and make social connections. Columnist Allen Pierleoni for *The Sacramento Bee* reported impassioned emails from his readers regarding their book clubs. One wrote "While books were the focus in the beginning, we bonded, watched our children grow up. Book clubs are the modern version of the old-fashioned quilting groups."

I invite you to explore your own reasons for reading, post to our new "Middleton Reads" blog, register for the adult summer reading program or attend one of our book discussions.

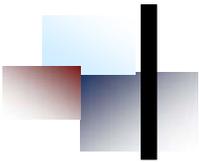
- Pamela Westby, Library Director

Peter & Lou Berryman at the Library!



The final event of the adult summer reading program is a special one. The library is delighted to have Wisconsin's beloved music & comedy duo, **Peter & Lou Berryman**, performing here on **Wednesday, July 29, 7:00 p.m.** They are so quintes-

entially "Wisconsin" that Senators Feingold & Kohl chose them to represent our state at the Kennedy Center in both 1999 and 2001. For more information or to register for the event email mid@scls.lib.wi.us or call 827-7403.

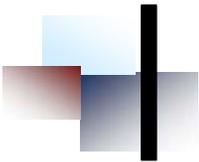
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
 <h1 style="text-align: center;">JULY 2009</h1> <p style="text-align: center;">Events at the Middleton Public Library</p>						
			1	2	3	4 
			9:30 Toddler Storytime 10:30 All Ages Storytime 4:00 Teen Trash to Treasure	9:30 Baby Storytime 10:30 All Ages Storytime 3:00 Tween Games Galore	10:00 Bilingual Storytime 2:00 Concert: Hootinany	Independence Day Library Closed
5	6	7	8	9	10	11 
	9:30 Friends Book Sorting 2:00 Movie Matinee	9:30 Toddler Storytime 10:30 Big Kids Storytime 2:00 Scrapbook Style Photo Collage 6:30 Summer Scrapbooks	9:30 Toddler Storytime 10:30 All Ages Storytime 2:00 Book & Tech	9:30 Baby Storytime 10:30 All Ages Storytime	10:00 Bilingual Storytime 2:00 Concert: Traveling Lantern	10:00-1:30 Friends Book Sale (1st hour - Friends Only)
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
	6:30 Friends Book Sorting	9:30 Toddler Storytime 10:30 Big Kids Storytime 12:00 Book Bunch & Lunch 6:30 Book Discussion & Summer Supper	9:30 Toddler Storytime 10:30 All Ages Storytime 2:00 Book & Tech	9:30 Baby Storytime 10:30 All Ages Storytime 3:00 Tween Games Galore 6:00 Teen Mehndi	10:00 All About OverDrive 10:00 Bilingual Storytime 2:00 Concert: Fox & Branch	1:30 Sock Monkey Making
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
	4:00 Teen Advisory Committee 6:30 All Ages Storytime	9:30 Toddler Storytime 10:30 Big Kids Storytime 1:00 Theater Games	9:30 Toddler Storytime 10:30 All Ages Storytime 2:00 Genealogy Online I 3:00 Fencing 6:30 Gallery Night 6:30 Friends Sorting	9:30 Baby Storytime 10:30 All Ages Storytime 2:00 Krafty Kids	10:00 Bilingual Storytime 2:00 Concert: Ramblin' Sailors	
26	27	28	29	30	31	
	6:30 All Ages Storytime	9:30 Toddler Storytime 10:30 Big Kids Storytime 12:00 Parent-Child Book Discussion	9:30 Friends Sorting 9:30 Toddler Storytime 10:30 All Ages Storytime 11:30 Jeopardy 2:00 Genealogy Online II 7:00 Peter & Lou Berryman	9:30 Baby Storytime 10:30 All Ages Storytime 4:00 Ice Sculpting	10:00 Bilingual Storytime 2:00 Kids' Only Book & Bake Sale	■ = Youth Event ■ = Tween Event ■ = Teen Event ■ = Adult Event ■ = Friends Event

Middleton Public Library
 7425 Hubbard Avenue
 Middleton, WI 53562

Phone: (608) 831-5564
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 (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>AUGUST 2009</h1> <p>Events at the Middleton Public Library</p>					<p>1</p> <p>12:00 Teen Summer Reading Picnic</p>
2	3 9:30 Friends Book Sorting 3:00 Dance Dance Revolution	4 2:00 'Tween Improv Games	5 2:00 eBay pt. 1 (registration required) 3:00 Magic Tree House Party	6 1:00 Sock Monkey Making	7 4:00 Stuffed Animal Sleepover Storytime	8  10:00-1:30 Friends Book Sale (1st hour - Friends Only)
9	10 10:00 "Go Big Read" Book Discussion 3:00 Scaventures 6:30 Friends Book Sorting	11 2:00 'Tween Games Galore	12 2:00 eBay pt. 2 (registration required) 3:00 Fancy Nancy Tea Party	13 2:00 Eco-Crafts	14	15
16	17 3:00 Dance Dance Revolution	18 2:00 Pressed Flower Cards	19 2:00 eBay pt. 3 (registration required) 6:30 Friends Book Sorting	20	21	22
23	24	25 2:00 'Tween Games Galore	26 9:30 Friends Book Sorting	27 2:00 Eco-Crafts 7:00 "Go Big Read" Book Discussion	28	29 2:30 Expectant Families Screen Printing
30	31 3:00 Scaventures					<p> = Youth Event</p> <p> = 'Tween Event</p> <p> = Teen Event</p> <p> = Adult Event</p> <p> = Friends Event</p>

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Recycled Treasures, Ice Carving, & the Grand Finale: Teen Programs in July & August

Whether you are interested in art, the environment, or just food & prizes, the Middleton Public Library is offering some unusual programs this summer that teens might want to take note of. On **July 1st**, we will have a "**Trash to Treasure**" program where we will make disco balls out of old CDs, secret hiding places in books, and a contest to see who can make the most interesting/useful item out of the library's recycled materials. On **July 30**, we will have **Ice Sculpting**, where an ice carver demonstrates how he carves a shape out of a giant block of ice (with guesses on how long it will withstand the heat!). This will take place near the library entrance and everyone

is welcome to watch. Our popular teen **Fencing** and **Mehndi** programs also take place in July, and if you have been counting your hours for our Teen Summer Reading Program, you will not want to miss our **End of the Summer Reading Picnic** on **August 1st**. There will be games and food at the Picnic, we will announce the winners of our Writing & Art Contests, and we will draw the 5 Grand Prize winners for an iPod touch, gift certificates, and other prizes. Check our teen Summer Reading brochures for more details!

-Rebecca Van Dan, Head of Young Adult Services

Go Green Ideas for the Yard & Garden

- **Try organic gardening techniques that build soil health and prevent plant stress, while saving energy and water.**
- **Mow your lawn at 2-3 inches to shade the soil and prevent water loss in hot weather. This also keeps your lawn healthier and limits weed growth.**
- **Water your lawn less frequently to promote deeper grass roots. In summer, let your lawn go naturally dormant and don't water.**
- **Mulch your garden to retain moisture, suppress weeds, and cool the soil.**
- **Weed your garden regularly. The weeds compete with your garden plants for water.**

- from *EnAct: Steps to Greener Living* by Sonya Newenhouse



Teen Book Review



Absolutely Maybe by Lisa Yee

Maybelline (or Maybe) has two amazing male friends, Ted and Hollywood. When life with her alcoholic mother turns unbearable, the three of them decide to take off for California, where Hollywood has been accepted into a film school. Maybe hopes to track down her father, though she does not know his name or

much of anything about him. Homeless and jobless, Maybe begins to despair, but a series of strange adventures involving a famous movie star, a taco truck, and Hollywood's debut film imbue Maybe's very realistic struggles with a touch of hope and humor. Best for older teens, Maybe's spunky personality and killer sense of humor is irresistible.

-Rebecca Van Dan, Head of Young Adult Services

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Library Page I **Adam Schneider** is the 2009 recipient of the Friends of the Middleton Public Library Scholarship. Adam has been an excellent employee at the library for the past 3 years. Another example of his outstanding leadership skills, Adam enthusiastically volunteered to serve on the library's Go Green Committee this past year. We are confident that Adam will do great things, and will change the world for the better!

Award Winner of the Friends of
the Middleton Public Library
Scholarship
Congratulations, Adam!



Some of our staff have reached important anniversary dates for their years of service at the Middleton Public Library!

We thank them all for their hard work & dedication!



15 Years: Eileen Jones

**10 Years: Rebecca Van Dan
Dick Wiringa**

**5 Years: Sarah Hartman
Svetha Hetzler
Vijaya Raman
Kathy Rausch
Cindy Zellers**



The Library Then (2000)...



...and Now (2009)

Rebecca Van Dan reflects back on what's changed in the last 10 years:

Back when I started working here:

- There was no Lower Level
- We only had 4 Internet computers (and I once had to stop a fistfight over whose turn it was)
- Miss Eve and I were the only Youth Services staff
- The Teen section had no walls, no DVDs, no music CDs, no video games (I was the first Young Adult Librarian here, before that the Children's Librarian had to order materials for ages 0-18.)
- There were very few books (or other materials) in Spanish except for learning the language.