



The Bookworm

THE BI-MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF THE MIDDLETON PUBLIC LIBRARY

Our Community Reader...Jennifer Peters



Jennifer will be presenting the Adult Summer Reading Program finale, "An Evening in Paris," on Wednesday, July 30, 7pm. In the fall she will be offering a free two-session course at this library called "Survival French!" A language teacher for over twenty years, we asked Jennifer what she reads when she's not teaching kids and/or leading overseas tours.

What are you reading these days?

I like reading more than one book at a time. While I'm teaching I like to escape with Nora Roberts' novels. Right now I am reading the very special and moving **Three Cups of Tea** by Greg Mortenson & David Oliver Relin. I highly recommend this exceptional book about one man's journey to promote peace in Pakistan and Afghanistan by building schools for girls.

What are some of your favorite authors and favorite books?

One of my favorite books is **The Female** by Paul Wellman.

It is about Theodora, a courtesan in 6th century Constantinople. She rose from being a courtesan to being Prince Justinian's empress. It's an old book, but a fascinating one. I also love Anne Rice's **The Mummy**. In addition, one of my most beloved books is **L'etranger** by Albert Camus, the famous existential French author.

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

In the summer, during my days off, I have a ritual to sit on my comfortable chair in my sunny screened porch and read in the mornings as the sun rises. A delicious cup of coffee, a good book, and the sound of the birds outside is something I will cherish forever.

During the school year you teach French and Spanish to middle schoolers; what do you do for fun during summer break?

Summer vacation is a time for introspection, creativity, and traveling. I love playing Chopin on my baby grand and composing music when I'm not traveling. This year my travels take me to Spain and next summer I'm looking forward to trips to Venice, Croatia and the Greek Isles.



Congratulations to **Clara Lebow** (left), recipient of the 2008 Friends of the Middleton Public Library Scholarship! The scholarship was awarded to Clara at the May 14 Senior Scholarship Awards Program at Middleton High School. Clara volunteered at the Library her junior year and has worked as a page at the Library during her senior year. She is active in several school activities, including Dance Dance Revolution Club and Art Club, and is co-leader of the Gay Straight Alliance. She has also served as a volunteer for Dane County Parks.

We hope to welcome Clara back to the Library in future years - as a patron, of course - but perhaps her work will be featured as well, because her plans are to become an illustrator. As she states in her scholarship application ... "I want to combine two of my greatest loves: books and art. I want to be able to use my art to capture the spirit of a book so others can share my experience from it. I hope to do this by creating illustrations for authors or designing book covers."

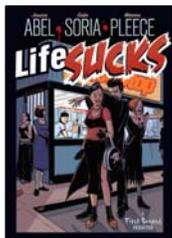
This is the second year the Friends of the Library has offered a scholarship. It is awarded to a Middleton High School student who has worked or volunteered at the Library and who meets academic criteria. The scholarship selection is administered by the Local Scholarship Program of Middleton High School.

Our congratulations to Clara!

- Pauline Harrop, President of the Friends of the Middleton Public Library

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. Check one out today!



Life Sucks by Jessica Abel, Gabe Soria & Warren Pleece

Dave plans to pay for college by working nights, so he's thrilled to be offered a job at a 24-hour convenience store just minutes after seeing the "help wanted" sign in the window. He's not so thrilled, however, when his new boss turns him into a

vampire slave, making Dave the store's new night manager for all eternity. It's tough being a former-vegetarian vampire looking at a never-ending future of rotating hot dogs and restocking beer, but maybe Dave's luck is about to change when he meets Rosa, a beautiful goth girl who kind of has a thing for vampires. With a bit of everything—humor, romance, and drama—and attractive, full-color artwork, this book is an entertaining and unique take on the modern-day vampire tale.

- Sarah Hartman, Adult Services Librarian

A Message From the Library Director

In 1986, Middleton Public Library Board of Trustees put their confidence in me to provide a vision and leadership during a critical period of the library's growth. I am deeply grateful to have been given this opportunity – and to have earned their confidence.

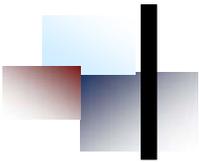
Being Director here has been the perfect career fit for me. Although I am responsible for the library's behind-the-scenes administrative operations, I have always been able to remain in the public eye, primarily by working at the reference service desk, and have direct contact with the people who use the library. In a uniquely rewarding way, I have enjoyed two careers at Middleton: one as Director and the other as a Public Services Librarian.

As you can see from the table below, the Library has made tremendous progress in its service program and financial support during the past 22 years. But these accomplishments have not been achieved single-handedly. Middleton's successes, including its designation as the Wisconsin Library Association 2007 Library of the Year, are the result of a long-standing team effort.

| Library Service Data | 1986 | 2008 | 1986-2008 % increase |
|---------------------------|-----------------|-----------------|----------------------|
| Annual circulation | 163,130 | 750,000 | 360% |
| Books | 37,500 | 93,500 | 150% |
| Audiovisual materials | 2,000 | 17,000 | 750% |
| Magazines & newspapers | 138 | 295 | 115% |
| Internet access computers | 0 | 36 | ↑ |
| Fulltime-equivalent staff | 6.75 | 20.125 | 200% |
| Annual hours of operation | 2,704 | 3,528 | 30% |
| Annual budget | \$243,961 | \$1,512,207 | 520% |
| City of Middleton share | \$203,340 (83%) | \$959,439 (64%) | 370% |
| Dane County share | \$40,621 (17%) | \$552,768 (36%) | 1260% |

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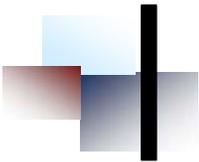
| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|--|---|---|--|---|---|--|
|  <h1 style="text-align: center;">JULY 2008</h1> <p style="text-align: center;">Events at the Middleton Public Library</p> | | | | | | |
| | | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4  | 5 |
| | | 9:30 Drop-in Storytime 2-3yo 10:30 Drop-in Storytime 4-5yo | 9:30 Drop-in Storytime: all ages 10:30 Drop-in Storytime: all ages 2:00 Bee Movie | 9:30 Drop-in Baby Storytime 10:30 Drop-n Storytime: all ages 2:00 'Tween Book Discussion | Independence Day Library Closed | Independence Day Weekend Library Closed |
| 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 |
| | 10:00 Friends Book Sorting 6:30 Drop-in Evening Storytime: all ages | 9:30 Drop-in Storytime 2-3yo 10:30 Drop-in Storytime 4-5yo 2:00 'Tweens Drama Club | 9:30 Drop-in Storytime: all ages 10:30 Drop-in Storytime: all ages 12:30 Book Bunch & Lunch 4:00 Teen Salsa Squared | 9:30 Drop-in Baby Storytime 10:30 Drop-n Storytime: all ages 2:00 'Tweens Drama Club Performance 7:00 Introduction to Word | 10:00 Genealogy Online I 2:00 Parent-Child Book Discussion |  10:00-1:30 Friends Book Sale (1st hour - Friends Only) |
| 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 |
| | 2:00 "Krafty" Kids 4:00 Teen Advisory Committee 6:30 Friends Book Sorting 6:30 "Krafty" Kids | 9:30 Drop-in Storytime 2-3yo 10:30 Drop-in Storytime 4-5yo 2:00 'Tweens Drama Club 7:00 "Weird Wisconsin" | 9:30 Drop-in Storytime: all ages 10:30 Drop-in Storytime: all ages 12:30 Book Bunch & Lunch | 9:30 Drop-in Baby Storytime 10:30 Drop-n Storytime: all ages 2:00 'Tweens Drama Club 7:00 Intermediate Word 7:00 Teen Battle of the Sexes | 2:00 Traveling Lantern Theater Company: The Caterpillar Hunter | |
| 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 |
| | 6:30 Drop-in Evening Storytime: all ages | 9:30 Drop-in Storytime 2-3yo 10:30 Drop-in Storytime 4-5yo 2:00 'Tweens Drama Club | 9:30 Drop-in Storytime: all ages 10:30 Drop-in Storytime: all ages 12:30 Book Bunch & Lunch 4:00 Teen Pizza Taste Off 6:30 Friends Sorting | 9:30 Drop-in Baby Storytime 10:30 Drop-n Storytime: all ages 2:00 'Tweens Drama Club 6:30 Summer Potluck | 10:00 Genealogy Online II 11:00 'Tween Jeopardy | |
| 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 | 31 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ = Youth Event ■ = 'Tween Event ■ = Teen Event ■ = Adult Event ■ = Friends Event | |
| | 6:30 Parent-Child Book Discussion | 9:30 Drop-in Storytime 2-3yo 10:30 Drop-in Storytime 4-5yo 2:00 'Tweens Drama Club 4:00 Teen Culture Clash | 9:30 Drop-in Storytime: all ages 10:30 Drop-in Storytime: all ages 12:30 Book Bunch & Lunch 7:00 "Evening in Paris" | 9:30 Drop-in Baby Storytime 10:30 Drop-n Storytime: all ages 2:00 'Tweens Drama Club Performance 7:00 Advanced Word | | |

Middleton Public Library
7425 Hubbard Avenue
Middleton, WI 53562

Phone: (608) 831-5564
Fax: (608) 836-5724
Email: mid@scsls.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>AUGUST 2008</h1> <p>Events at the Middleton Public Library</p> | | | | 1 2:00 Summer Reading Program Finale: Mr. Billy Returns! | 2 12:00 Teen Summer Reading Picnic |
| 3 | 4 10:00 Friends Book Sorting | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 SALE 10:00-1:30 Friends Book Sale (1st hour - Friends Only) |
| 10 | 11 6:30 Friends Book Sorting | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 |
| 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 6:30 Friends Book Sorting | 21 | 22 | 23 |
| 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 Staff Inservice Library Closed until 1 pm (open 1pm-9pm) | 29 | 30 |
| 31 | | | | | | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ = Youth Event ■ = Tween Event ■ = Teen Event ■ = Adult Event ■ = Friends Event |

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...A Message From the Library Director - *continued from page 3*



First and foremost, I have been fortunate to work with staff members who truly enjoy what they do and place customer services as their top priority. The welcoming and friendly environment they create is a major factor in why Middleton has become one of the busiest libraries in the state. Probably more than anything else in my retirement, I will miss the staff camaraderie. Corny as it may sound, I always experience a sense of anticipation as I approach the library each morning – just because it’s a wonderful place to be.

You might find this next statement surprising, but I have worked for 40 bosses during my tenure – the volunteers who serve as members of the Middleton Public Library Board of Trustees. No matter what the configuration, it has always been a group that puts the best interests of the library and the community as its top priority. After 267 board meetings since 1986, I’m going to wonder what to do with myself on the second Tuesday of every month.

It has been a privilege to work with city officials – the Mayor, the City Administrator, the members of the Council, other department heads – who all understand the value that a well-supported library brings to the community. Prior to my arrival, a decision had been made to site a new library downtown. Its role was to be similar to that of an anchor store in a shopping mall. The city certainly achieved its goal in this regard; the library now attracts nearly 500,000 visitors per year.



If you were ask me to name my best and proudest memories from the past 22 years, here’s what would make the list.

- The groundbreaking ceremony for a new library in April 1989.
- The grand opening and subsequent dedication ceremony in March and April 1990.

- The library staff and board nominating me for the Wisconsin Library Association “Librarian of the Year” award, which I received in October 1991.
- The successful implementation of a systemwide online public catalog in August 1994.
- Having the Library chosen as a worksite by dozens of practicum students from the UW-Madison School of Library & Information Studies through the years. (A vow I made to myself in library school.)
- Library Assistant Sheila Johnson honored as the recipient of the Wisconsin Library Association’s “Special Services Award” in November 1997.
- Serving as President of the Wisconsin Library Association in 1999 and continuing to be active in the legislative side of association activities.
- Working our way through a reinvigorating expansion and remodeling project in late 2003 and early 2004.
- Middleton Public Library honored as the Wisconsin Library Association “Library of the Year” in 2007.



Serving as Director of the Middleton Public Library has been full of rewards, and I will have many proud and happy moments on which to reflect in my retirement.

I sincerely appreciate your great support throughout these past 22 years. And I know you’ll join me in giving Pamela Westby, our new Library Director, a typically warm “Good Neighbor Community” welcome. (She’ll obviously be featured on these pages in the September – October newsletter.)

- Paul Nelson, Library Director



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Sunday (Sept-May) 1 pm-5 pm



The public is invited
to a retirement party
for Library Director
Paul Nelson
on **Sunday, August 3, 4pm-6pm,**
on the library's upper level.

Teen Dancing, Clashing, and Defending your Gender

Are you wondering why there are so many saris-clad, pizza smeared teens salsa dancing out of the library? They are just taking full advantage of our teen summer programs... On **July 9 at 4 pm**, teens are invited to **Salsa Squared**, where they can make their own salsa (to eat) and learn some salsa dancing steps. **On July 17 at 7 pm.**, we will have a **Battle of the Sexes**, where boys and girls will compete to see who really is smarter... (bragging rights awarded to the winning team!) And if you'd like to be a world traveler, you won't want to miss **Culture Clash** on **July 29 at**

4 pm. Participants sign up for a country at the Youth Services Desk and bring a dish to pass from their adopted country. If you've traveled to the country and have souvenirs/costumes/photos to share, we'd love to see them! Don't forget our **End of Summer Reading Picnic on August 2 (12-2 pm)**—we will be choosing our 5 grand prize winners at the picnic as well as having lots of games and free food. Questions or comments? Please contact Rebecca at (608)827-7402 or rvandan@scsls.lib.wi.us.

