



# The Bookworm

THE BI-MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF THE MIDDLETON PUBLIC LIBRARY

## Greetings From the Director!



There is a high degree of energy in my home right now. August 29th marked my first official day as the library director of the Middleton Public Library. I am pleased and delighted to be a part of the awesome staff here in Middleton. The very first time my husband and I visited the library we were warmly greeted and instantly felt at home.

I relish every opportunity to get the entire Middleton Public Library experience. I love how it stimulates my senses. I enjoy the soft beeps of the wand as staff checks out books; the sound of books gently sliding into the book return; the squeals of delight from toddlers in the children's room; and the soft rustle of pages turning in the quiet reading rooms. I take pleasure in seeing the many rows of book cases filled with carefully placed books (flush with the shelf edges); the grand glass block entrance to the story time room; the wide variety of genres in the music and audio collections; and the live dragon in the Teen Room aquarium.

The day I interviewed, I sat undisturbed for almost an hour by the handsome fireplace and read. Later that evening I found a bench outside the library. I accessed the wireless internet with my laptop and enjoyed the cool breeze, the lovely landscaping and brief encounters with friendly library patrons during their comings and goings. The library serves, in many ways, as a place to think, grow and learn for the entire community. Kareem Abdul-Jabbar once said, "The library has always been my own personal time machine. I could walk through the doors and land in any place, any time period in history. I didn't have to wonder what their worlds were like; I could experience it first-

hand." Public libraries, like the Middleton Public Library, can, and do, change lives. Indeed, the successful library is relevant to its population, empowers individuals and strengthens its community.

### A Few Words About Reading

People read for many reasons. I tend to cycle through reading topics. Sometimes it has to do with my real life experiences; and other times I'm guided by a whim. Typically I prefer nonfiction books. Most recently, I've found myself in the psychology section, fascinated by how people seek information and what influences their decision making.

Likewise, I challenge myself with an occasional novel for the purpose of better understanding the human experience. For example, *White Oleander* by Janet Fitch gave me a glimpse into the life of a foster child who was repeatedly abused and neglected.

On the other hand, I do read just for the purpose of relaxing or as an escape. For those instances, I may choose a humorous book like *Pontoon* by Garrison Keillor, a western like *Cimarron Rose* by James Lee Burke, or a cop book like *Gone* by Lisa Gardner.

Whatever the reason for reading, it is a healthy choice. In fact, a study done in 1990 showed that reading stimulates the brain, which may actually protect you from the effects of Alzheimer's Disease. To learn more read, the book *Aging With Grace* by David Snowdon.

I welcome you to stop in to introduce yourself. I look forward to meeting you and hearing about what you like to read!

Best regards,  
Pamela K. Westby,  
Library Director

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## Summer Success! The Summer Reading Program Shatters All Records!

What an amazing summer we had at the library. Usually, we favor words here at the library, but in this case, I think the numbers tell the story best. Take a look - the dramatic increases in participation and achievement are astounding! Congratulations – we’ll see you next year!

	2007	2008	% Increase
<b>Total # of Participants</b>	1227	1480	+ 21%
<b># of milestone prizes awarded – 5 hours</b>	841	1053	+ 25%
<b># of milestone prizes awarded – 10 hours</b>	657	853	+ 30%
<b># of milestone prizes awarded – 20 hours</b>	407	624	+ 54%
<b># of milestone prizes awarded – 30 hours</b>	274	447	+ 63%
<b># of milestone prizes awarded – 50 hours</b>	N/A	233	
<b>Total # of hours read</b>	20,495	32,069	+ 56%

## Fall Programs for Children

From StoryTimes to Dungeons & Dragons, Book Bunch to Book Bistro, “Krafty” Kids to ‘Tween Book Discussions, Halloween Carnivals to Parent’s Literacy Night – we have something for everyone going on this fall. Pick up a brochure at the Youth Services Desk or visit our Children’s Page online at [www.midlibrary.org/children](http://www.midlibrary.org/children) for more information.



## Teen Summer Reading Program Congratulations



CONGRATULATIONS to the winners of the Teen Summer Reading Program at the Middleton Public Library! Grand prize winners were: Noah Marquardt, Katlyn Tolly, Yvonne Muller, Hayley Sue, and Lisa Figeje. Winners received prizes such as a Nintendo wii, gift certificates to the mall and Barnes & Noble, a magazine subscription of choice and movie passes.

Entries for the Writing Contest and Drawing Contest will be bound and available for check-out at the library. Many thanks to all the avid teen readers, writers, and artists who participated this year!

- Rebecca Van Dan, Head of Young Adult Services

Congratulations as well to Tahkaney Becknell, for winning our 9th Annual Teen Writing Contest, to Clara Lebow for winning the Teen Drawing contest with her kitty-peacock metamorphosing creature, and to Elena Thompson for having the closest guess in our Gobstopper guessing contest!



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
 <h1 style="margin: 0;">SEPTEMBER 2008</h1> <p style="margin: 0;">Events at the Middleton Public Library</p> <div style="float: right; text-align: right;"> <p><span style="color: red;">■</span> = Youth Event</p> <p><span style="color: purple;">■</span> = 'Tween Event</p> <p><span style="color: green;">■</span> = Teen Event</p> <p><span style="color: blue;">■</span> = Adult Event</p> <p><span style="color: orange;">■</span> = Friends Event</p> </div>						
	1 Labor Day Library Closed	2 Children's Fall Program Registration Begins	3	4 2:00 Introduction to Computers	5	6
7 Sunday Hours Resume! Library Open 1-5	8 10:00 Friends Book Sorting 1:30 Baby Storytime	9 9:15 Storytime 2-3yo 10:00 Storytime 4-5yo 11:00 Storytime all ages 4:00 'Tween D&D 5:30 Reception for New Library Director	10 9:15 Storytime 2-3yo 10:00 Storytime 2-3yo 10:45 Drop-in Storytime all ages 4:00 Book Bunch 7:00 Introduction to Excel	11 9:30 Baby Storytime 10:30 Drop-in Storytime all ages 4:00 'Tween D&D 7:00 Survival French	12 10:00 Introduction to PowerPoint	13  9:00-2:30 Friends Book Sale (first 2 hours - Friends Only)
14	15 1:30 Baby Storytime 6:00 Adult Volunteer Appreciation Dinner 6:30 Friends Book Sort 6:30 Evening Storytime all ages drop-in	16 9:15 Storytime 2-3yo 10:00 Storytime 4-5yo 11:00 Storytime all ages 4:00 'Tween D&D	17 9:15 Storytime 2-3yo 10:00 Storytime 2-3yo 10:45 Drop-in Storytime all ages 4:00 Book Bunch 7:00 Intermediate Excel	18 9:30 Baby Storytime 10:30 Drop-in Storytime all ages 2:00 Introduction to the Internet 4:00 'Tween D&D 4:00 Teen Read-a-thon 7:00 Survival French	19 2:00 Book-to- Movie Program for Adults 3:30 Teen D&D	20
21 	22 1:30 Baby Storytime 6:30 Parents' Literacy Night	23 9:15 Storytime 2-3yo 10:00 Storytime 4-5yo 11:00 Storytime all ages 4:00 'Tween D&D	24 9:15 Storytime 2-3yo 10:00 Storytime 2-3yo 10:45 Drop-in Storytime all ages 4:00 Book Bunch 6:30 Friends Book Sorting 7:00 Intermediate Excel	25 9:30 Baby Storytime 10:30 Drop-in Storytime all ages 4:00 'Tween D&D	26 3:30 Teen D&D	27
28	29 1:30 Baby Storytime 4:00 Teen Advisory Committee 6:30 Evening Storytime all ages drop-in	30 9:15 Storytime 2-3yo 10:00 Storytime 4-5yo 11:00 Storytime all ages 4:00 'Tween D&D				

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

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			1	2	3	4						
			9:15 Storytime 2-3yo 10:00 Storytime 2-3yo 10:45 Drop-in Storytime all ages 4:00 Book Bunch	9:30 Baby Storytime 10:30 Drop-in Storytime all ages 4:00 'Tween D&D								
5	6	7	8	9	10	11						
	10:00 Friends Book Sorting 1:30 Baby Storytime 6:30 Book Bistro: Fall Flavors	9:15 Storytime 2-3yo 10:00 Storytime 4-5yo 11:00 Storytime all ages 4:00 'Tween D&D	9:15 Storytime 2-3yo 10:00 Storytime 2-3yo 10:45 Drop-in Storytime all ages 4:00 Teen Books & Brownies 4:00 Book Bunch 7:00 Author Michael Perry	9:30 Baby Storytime 10:30 Drop-in Storytime all ages 4:00 'Tween D&D	3:30 Teen D&D	 10:00-1:30 Friends Book Sale (1st hour - Friends Only)						
12	13	14	15	16	17	18						
	1:30 Baby Storytime 4:00 Teen Advisory Committee 6:30 Evening Storytime all ages drop-in 6:30 Friends Book Sort	9:15 Storytime 2-3yo 10:00 Storytime 4-5yo 11:00 Storytime all ages 4:00 'Tween D&D 7:00 Rebalancing & Refocusing Your Bonus Years	9:15 Storytime 2-3yo 10:00 Storytime 2-3yo 10:45 Drop-in Storytime all ages 4:00 Book Bunch	9:30 Baby Storytime 10:00 Adult Book Discussion 10:30 Drop-in Storytime all ages 4:00 'Tween D&D	3:30 Teen D&D							
19	20	21	22	23	24	25						
	1:30 Baby Storytime 4:00 & 6:00 "Krafty" Kids	9:15 Storytime 2-3yo 10:00 Storytime 4-5yo 11:00 Storytime all ages 7:00 Adult Book Discussion	9:15 Storytime 2-3yo 10:00 Storytime 2-3yo 10:45 Drop-in Storytime all ages 4:00 Book Bunch 6:30 Friends Book Sort	9:30 Baby Storytime 10:30 Drop-in Storytime all ages 4:00 'Tween Book Discussion 7:00 Halloween Program for Adults								
26	27	28	29	30	31							
	1:30 Baby Storytime 6:30 Halloween Evening Storytime	9:15 Storytime 2-3yo 10:00 Storytime 4-5yo 11:00 Storytime all ages	9:15 Storytime 2-3yo 10:00 Storytime 2-3yo 10:45 Drop-in Storytime all ages 3:30 Teen HH setup 4:00 Book Bunch	9:30 Baby Storytime 10:30 Drop-in Storytime all ages 6:00 Teen Haunted House	 1:00 Halloween Carnival & Parade							

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## Our Community Reader



We are excited to introduce our library users to our new **Library Director, Pamela Westby!** We asked her a few questions about her reading interests:

*Welcome to Middleton! What are you reading these days?*

Right now, I'm working on ***The Dive at Clausen's Pier*** by Ann Packer, a novel set in the Madison area. The next book I plan to read is ***Change Your Brain, Change Your Life*** by Daniel G. Amen. After hearing the topic discussed on the Larry King Show, I was curious to learn more about the brain studies done by Amen, a neuroscientist, and how they may relate to dialectical behavior therapy.

*Can you tell us a few of your all time favorite books and authors?*

Authors I can usually count on are: Kathleen Norris, Stephen Covey, Malcolm Gladwell, Thomas Moore, and Anna Quindlen. Authors I read for entertainment are: Thomas Cathcart, Barbara Kingsolver, James Patterson, Tracy Chevalier, Bill Holm, Lisa Gardner, Garrison Keillor, Al Franken, and Louise Erdrich. The books that have made a notable impact on my life are ***Tuesdays with Morrie*** by Mitch Albom, ***Life on the Color Line***

by Gregory Howard Williams, ***Who Moved My Cheese*** by Johnson and Blanchard, and ***The Purpose-Driven Life*** by Rick Warren. My favorite classic is ***To Kill a Mockingbird*** by Harper Lee.

*What were some of your favorite books growing up?*

As a little person: ***The Little Rabbit Who Wanted Red Wings*** and ***The Little Red Hen***. During the middle to older years: The Hardy Boys, ***Caddie Woodlawn***, ***The Time Machine***, ***Go Ask Alice***, ***War of the Worlds*** and ***the Bible***. Side note: Sunday afternoons were usually a reading marathon in our house.

*You have a lot going on these days: moving to a new community; starting a new job as the library's director. During such a busy time, what will you do for fun and to relax?*

I enjoy spending time and keeping in contact with family and friends. We get together and tell stories about places we've been and people we've met. I enjoy travelling, whether it's by train, plane, boat, kayak or automobile! To relax I enjoy reading, organizing things, water sports, baking, running, bike riding and solving Sudoku puzzles.



### FRIENDS SEPTEMBER BOOKSALE!

**September 13th** book sale is the largest sale of the year! It includes shopping in the regular sale room plus a special bag sale across the hall in the Archer Meeting Rooms. Sale times are **9:00 until 2:30**. The first two hours are for Friends of the Library members only. Memberships will be available at the sale.

## Enhancing Your Bonus Years

If you are in your forties, fifties, sixties, or seventies, consider attending a special library program offered by psychologist Jan Fulwiler on **Tuesday, October 14, at 7:00 p.m.** Dr. Fulwiler specializes in helping adults recharge and rebalance their lives "post-retirement." The program will focus

on the possibilities these years offer and finding happiness in midlife and beyond. This hour long presentation will suggest ways to find new dreams and take the steps necessary to implement them. To register for this program email [mid@scls.lib.wi.us](mailto:mid@scls.lib.wi.us) or call 827-7403.





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Sunday (Sept-May) 1 pm-5 pm



## An Invitation to Serve Your Library

The library depends on citizen involvement to ensure that its services are as reflective of community needs as possible.

We currently have a vacancy on the **Middleton Public Library Board of Trustees**. The Library Board is a 9-member board appointed by the mayor. As a policy-making body, it guides the development of library services. Terms on the board are three years. The Board meets on the second Tuesday of each month at 6:30 p.m.

Effective trustees bring to the library a knowledge of the community, a commitment to the rights of citizens to information, and a willingness to continually maintain and strengthen library services in the Middleton area.

If you are interested in serving on the Middleton Public Library Board, please pick up a form at the library or complete the online form on our website ([www.midlibrary.org](http://www.midlibrary.org)). This expression of interest will make your name available for consideration by the mayor, but will not, guarantee appointment. For more information, please contact Library Director Pamela Westby at 827-7425 or [pamela@scls.lib.wi.us](mailto:pamela@scls.lib.wi.us).



## Thank You Paul!

*For 22 years of leadership, vision and support!*

