

March/April 2009

Volume 8, Issue 4



The Bookworm

THE BI-MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF THE MIDDLETON PUBLIC LIBRARY

Blu-ray is here!

Middleton Public Library is pleased to offer a new video format: Blu-ray Disc. What is Blu-ray? It is a high-capacity optical disc format that supports high-definition video. Simply put, this cutting edge technology offers viewers superior picture and sound quality. Many of our patrons are wondering if their standard DVD player is compatible with Blu-ray Discs. Unfortunately, the answer is no. You must have a Blu-ray player in order to use Blu-ray Discs. However, your Blu-ray player will play a standard DVD.

Our feature film Blu-rays check out for a 7 day loan period. Documentary and other non-fiction Blu-ray titles have a 28 day loan period. Our Blu-

ray titles are searchable in LINKcat and are available for you to place holds. Our Blu-ray collection contains nearly 50 titles at present (currently the most extensive collection in the South Central Library System!). During the coming months we will continue to develop our collection of Blu-ray Discs. In the meantime, we welcome your suggestions, and if you would like more information about Blu-ray technology or title availability in this format for your own DVD collection, visit www.blu-ray.com online for extensive information on all things Blu-ray, including title availability in this format and reviews.



Meet the Library Staff



This month we meet with our new Children's Librarian, **Amanda Struckmeyer**.

Welcome! What brings you to the Middleton Public Library? What were you doing before you got here?

Before coming to the Middleton Public Library, I was a school librarian in Monona for 3 ½ years. While I loved working in a school setting, I was interested in public librarianship because of the diversity of patrons and services. I feel very lucky to be part of the Middleton Public Library!

Who are some of your favorite authors? What kind of books do you enjoy reading?

My favorite adult author is Willa Cather and my favorite author for young people is Judy Blume. I'm really not picky about books; I like almost anything! Lately I have been enjoying books on how to positively impact the environment and the global economy and also reading a variety of novels written for young adults.

What authors and titles are you especially recommending for 'tweens (ages 8-12) these days?

This is a great time of year for young readers who are looking for recommendations because the American Library Association's award-winning books have just been announced! These represent some of the best books published in 2008. 'Tweens will want to check out the Newbery Award winner, ***The Graveyard Book*** by Neil Gaiman, along with this year's four Newbery Honor books: ***Savvy*** by Ingrid Law, ***The Surrender Tree*** by Margarita Engle, ***The Underneath*** by Kathi Appelt, and ***After Tupac and D Foster*** by Jacqueline Woodson.

What do you like to do for fun and relaxation when you're not helping people here at the library?

I love to knit, swim, camp, and cook. Right now I'm training to run the Madison Marathon in May, and my husband and I are taking a stained glass class. I'm looking forward to summertime when I like to windsurf, make jam, and ride my bike!

A Message From the Library Director

A Growing Number of Adults Are Reading Literature

It was good news for librarians when the National Endowment for the Arts (NEA) announced the results of a new study "Reading is on the Rise." According to the survey, it is the first time in more than 25 years that American adults are reading more literature.

The survey showed a seven percent increase in the overall rate of adults reading literature, defined as novels, short stories, plays or poems. Reading novels and short stories has increased while poetry and drama continues to decline. Slightly more than half of all American adults read literature or books in any format. Fifteen percent of U.S. adults read literature online in 2008.

So how do these statistics translate locally? At the Middleton Public Library, adults have been checking out more library materials every year for the past 18 years. Middleton's circulation of the written word has been on a continual rise since 1990, with an increase of hardcover books by 70% and paperback books by 704%. It is worth noting that our total circulation jumped by an amazing 196% during the past 18 years. To learn more about the usage trends of the Middleton Public Library go to our website at www.midlibrary.org. Click on "Information," then "2008 Annual Report."

At the Middleton Public Library readers can find ideas for new titles in a number of ways. Browsers can visit our "Staff Recommends" display and the new book shelves. Literary buffs are encouraged to take a free copy of *The BookPage*, a

publication sponsored by Friends of the Library that highlights books from all genres, or read the reviews from the winter reading program participants.

In addition, monthly book discussions focus on literature that reflects current reading trends or has a connection to our local history or regional interest.

Readers can also discover literature using our online reader's advisory databases. Take, for example, a search for information on the classic novel *The Picture of Dorian Gray* by Oscar Wilde. In only a few minutes, I had the following results:

Novelist: Complete book discussion tools (brief plot summary, short author biography, discussion questions with narratives & suggestions for further reading) and reviews from credible sources, such as *Library Journal*.

eLibrary: 1) The entire book available for electronic checkout and for reading using a computer, and 2) a plethora of books pertaining to the novel and the author (also available for online checkout), such as *Cliff Notes*, *Notable British Novelists* and *Themes in Modern History*.

These and other helpful databases will be covered in a free library computer class, Online Readers' Advisory, on Wednesday, April 15 at 2 p.m. All classes are held in the library's Computer Lab and are drop-in only; no registration is required. Early arrival is recommended to ensure a spot!

- Pamela Westby, Library Director

Free Tax Help at the Library

VITA (Volunteer Income Tax Assistance) representatives will be at the Middleton Public Library on **Saturday, March 7, from 9a.m. to noon**, to assist individuals and families with filing basic State and Federal Income tax forms. Please stop by the Reference Desk to pick up a list of items that need to be brought to the appointment; if items are missing, tax returns cannot be completed. For more information and to schedule an appointment, email mid@scls.lib.wi.us or call 827-7403.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
 <h1 style="text-align: center;">MARCH 2009</h1> <p style="text-align: center;">Events at the Middleton Public Library</p>						
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
	<p>9:30 Friends Book Sorting</p> <p>6:30 Evening Storytime all ages</p>	<p>9:15 Storytime 2-3yo</p> <p>10:00 Storytime 4-5yo</p> <p>11:00 Drop-in Storytime all ages</p> <p>7:00 Celtic Music Concert</p>	<p>9:15 Storytime 2-3yo</p> <p>10:00 Storytime 2-3yo</p> <p>10:45 Drop-in Storytime all ages</p> <p>2:00 Introduction to Word</p>	<p>9:30 Baby Storytime</p> <p>10:00 Book Discussion for Adults</p> <p>10:30 Drop-In Storytime</p>	<p>10:00 Bilingual Storytime: English & Spanish all ages drop in</p>	<p>9:00 VITA Tax Help (appointment required)</p>
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
 <p>Daylight Saving Time Begins</p>	<p>6:30 Music Carousel with Martha Vallon</p> <p>6:30 Friends Book Sorting</p>	<p>12:30 Drop-In Knitting</p> <p>7:00 Travel Program on Ireland</p>	<p>2:00 Intermediate Word</p>	<p>4:00 DNR Presents Beaver Tales</p>		 <p>9:00-2:30 Friends Book Sale (First 2 hours - Friends Only)</p>
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
	<p>6:30 Drop-In Baby Storytime</p>	 <p>7:00 Book Discussion for Adults</p>	<p>2:00 Advanced Word</p> <p>6:30 Friends Book Sorting</p>	<p>4:00 Krafty Kids</p> <p>7:00 Teen Magna / Anime fest</p>	 <p>9:00 One-on-One Computer Help (appointment required)</p>	
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
	<p>2:00 MaGiC Energy</p> <p>4:00 Teen Advisory Committee</p>	<p>4:00 'Tweens Only: Pop-Up Card Workshop</p>	<p>9:30 Friends Book Sorting</p> <p>4:00 Books & Brownies</p>	<p>2:00 Music Works</p>		
29	30	31				
	<p>6:30 Family Pajama Party Storytime</p>	<p>9:15 Toddler Storytime</p> <p>10:00 Storytime 4-5yo</p> <p>11:00 Drop-in Storytime all ages</p> <p>4:00 Teen Dungeons & Dragons</p>				<p>■ = Youth Event</p> <p>■ = 'Tween Event</p> <p>■ = Teen Event</p> <p>■ = Adult Event</p> <p>■ = Friends Event</p>

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	<h1>APRIL 2009</h1> <h2>Events at the Middleton Public Library</h2>					
			1	2	3	4
			9:15 Toddler Storytime 10:00 Toddler Storytime 10:45 Drop-in Storytime all ages	9:30 Baby Storytime 10:00 Book Discussion for Adults 10:30 Drop-in Storytime all ages	10:00 Bilingual Storytime: English & Spanish all ages drop in	2:00 Poetry Workshop
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
	9:30 Friends Book Sorting 6:30 Drop-In Storytime all ages	9:15 Toddler Storytime 10:00 Storytime 4-5yo 11:00 Drop-in Storytime all ages 4:00 Teen D&D 7:00 Author Ingeborg Casey	9:15 Toddler Storytime 10:00 Toddler Storytime 10:45 Drop-in Storytime all ages 4:00 Poetry Picking 7:00 All About OverDrive	9:30 Baby Storytime 10:30 Drop-in Storytime all ages	10:00 Bilingual Storytime: English & Spanish all ages drop in	10:00-1:30 Friends Book Sale (1st hour - Friends Only)
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
Easter Library Closed	6:30 Drop-In Baby Storytime 6:30 Friends Book Sorting	12:30 Drop-In Knitting 9:15 Toddler Storytime 10:00 Storytime 4-5yo 11:00 Drop-in Storytime all ages 4:00 Teen D&D	9:15 Toddler Storytime 10:00 Toddler Storytime 10:45 Drop-in ST all ges 2:00 Online Readers' Advisory 4:00 'Tween Poetry 4:00 Books & Brownies	9:30 Baby Storytime 10:30 Drop-in Storytime all ages	9:00 One-on-One Computer Help (appt. required) 10:00 Bilingual Storytime: English & Spanish all ages drop in	
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
	4:00 Teen Advi- sory Committee 6:30 Drop-In Storytime	9:15 Toddler Storytime 10:00 Storytime 4-5yo 11:00 Drop-in Storytime all ages 4:00 Teen D&D 7:00 Book Discussion for Adults	9:15 Toddler Storytime 10:00 Toddler Storytime 10:00 Finding Stuff Online 10:45 Drop-in Storytime all ages 4:00 Poetry Party 6:30 Friends Sorting	9:30 Baby Storytime 10:30 Drop-in Storytime all ages 6:00 Teen Band Night	10:00 Bilingual Storytime: English & Spanish all ages drop in	
26	27	28	29	30		
	4:00 Poetry Cafe	9:15 Toddler Storytime 10:00 Storytime 4-5yo 11:00 Drop-in Storytime all ages 4:00 'Tween D&D	9:30 Friends Sorting 9:15 Toddler Storytime 10:00 Toddler Storytime 10:45 Drop-in Storytime all ages	9:30 Baby Storytime 10:30 Drop-in Storytime all ages 7:00 Survival Spanish	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ = Youth Event ■ = 'Tween Event ■ = Teen Event ■ = Adult Event ■ = Friends Event 	

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Middleton, WI 53562

Phone: (608) 831-5564
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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

Go Green Tips

It's best to microwave food in glass or ceramic containers. To reduce potential leaching from plastics:

- Choose plastics labeled #1, #2, #4, or #5 for storing food.
- Avoid #3, #6, and #7 for food storage.
- Avoid putting hot fatty foods in #3 PVC plastic containers. They can leach the compounds adipates and phthalates, some of which are carcinogenic.
- Polycarbonates (rigid plastics, used to make Nalgene water bottles) can leach bisphenolA, a suspected hormone disrupter. Coated metal water bottles are safer.
- Plastic trays and containers provided with microwave meals are intended for one-time use and should not be reused.
- Do not let plastic wrap or bags touch food while heating.



Source: GreenGuide (cited in *En Act: Steps to Greener Living* by Sonya Newenhouse, p. 128).

Adult Graphic Novel Review

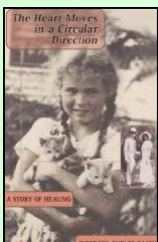
Neil Gaiman, author of the 2009 Newbery Medal-winner *The Graveyard Book* (a great read for adults too!), has written many short stories in addition to novels and comics. Some of his short stories have been adapted into graphic novels, each story enhanced by artwork that adds a new dimension to the storytelling. *Harlequin Valentine* begins with a bizarre Valentine's Day gift that leads to a unique and tragic romance. In *The Facts in the Case of the Departure of Miss Finch*, a group of friends discover that one of their companions is not quite what she seems. *Creatures of the Night* includes two short stories. Both stories, one about a stray cat and the

other about an abandoned baby, explore magic and mystery in a seemingly-ordinary world. If you want to read the original prose stories too, you can find them in Gaiman's short story collections *Smoke and Mirrors* and *Fragile Things*.

- Sarah Hartman, Adult Services Librarian



Special Author Reading with Ingeborg Gubler Casey



Please join us on **Tuesday, April 7 at 7p.m.**, to hear Dr. Casey discuss her moving memoir *The Heart Moves in a Circular Direction : A Story of Healing*.

In her book Dr. Casey weaves insights from her many years of experience as a psychotherapist with recollections of her life-long relationship with her schizophrenic mother. She will discuss how living with someone suffering from a mental illness can affect any of us. Please email mid@scls.lib.wi.us

or call 827-7403 to register or for more information.

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



Manga/Anime Fest and Teen Bands

Did Naruto just pass you in the stairway? Is that Tohru from *Fruits Basket* watching the bearded dragon in the Teen section? It is possible if you're in the library on **Thursday, March 19. From 7-8 p.m.** that evening we will have a **Manga/Anime Fest** for teens.



Cosplay: there will be a prize for the best costume, and bring in any manga that you would like to swap! Join us for

karaoke, Japanese food & to play sumo sushi roll...

On **Thursday, April 23, 6-8 p.m.**, everyone is invited to hear two local teen bands for **Teen Bands Night**. No cover charge, just feel free to follow the noise down to the Archer Rooms-- please excuse us if a little extra noise leaks into the library this night! Questions or comments? Feel free to contact Rebecca at (608)827-7410.



Children's Programs at the Library

Musical March!

The Middleton Public Library is hosting two musical events in March:

Music Carousel with Martha Vallon and **Music Works**.

Sign-up for both programs begins **February 10**.

Go Green at the Middleton Public Library!

Special "green" events exploring nature, the environment and natural resources:

Beaver Tales hosted by the Wisconsin DNR

Krafty Kids: Going Green

MaGicEnergy with Bob Kann

April is National Poetry Month

Help us celebrate poetry in April by creating an original poem to be published in our **2009 Poetry Anthology**.

Find inspiration for your poem by joining any of our after-school poetry events or by visiting our DIY (Do-It-Yourself) Poetry Corner.

Just for 'Tweens (ages 8-12)

'Tweens! Remember to check out the programs especially for you, including **Dungeons & Dragons** and a **Pop-Card Workshop**.

New and Friendly Faces:

Amanda Struckmeyer is our new Youth Services Librarian and is our featured interview on page one.

Jessica Brooks has joined the Youth Services team. You may recognize Jessica from behind the Circulation Desk, as she was recently promoted from Circulation Library Assistant I to Youth Services Library Assistant II. Please stop by and introduce yourselves to Amanda and Jessica.

Feel free to stop by or call the Main Level/Youth Services Help Desk for more information regarding programs. A full listing of all children's programs and storytimes is on the calendar.



Mara Carlson and her daughter Xanthia enjoying the new pop-up books at the library