

# Thrall Library Times

What's New & Interesting at Middletown Thrall Library!

## Summer 2012 Issue

"We must cultivate our garden." – Voltaire

### From Matt Pfisterer

Director of Middletown Thrall Library

#### "Hot Fun in the Summer-Time"

We are pleased to be able to provide the community with some great information and entertainment resources to help make this an enjoyable and productive summer for one and all.

Families are encouraged to take advantage of our Summer Reading Program, where we have scheduled some wonderful programs for children and Teens.

Adults will enjoy our afternoon movies and foreign film programs. The Library is also the place to find all of the hot new summer releases in books, audio-books, e-books and DVD movies.

You can access the Internet at one of our public Internet workstations or connect to the Library's WiFi network. I think you will find that these resources will make for a cool way to spend some hot days at the Library this summer.

*Some Friendly Reminders...*

Summer is here, and we are enjoying a large community attendance and participation in our annual Summer Reading program. Please take note of the following Library policies:

- No loitering in the building or on Library grounds.
- Cell phone use is prohibited in the Library.
- Please do not leave minor children unattended.
- Adults with infants or children in strollers are requested to use the computers in the children's room on the Library's second floor.

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### MIDDLETOWN THRALL LIBRARY

11 - 19 Depot Street, Middletown, New York 10940

Matt Pfisterer, Library Director

**Summer Hours:** Monday – Thursday: 9 AM – 8 PM  
Fri: 9 AM - 6 PM Sat: 10 AM – 2 PM Sun: CLOSED

**Main Desk:** (845) 341-5454 **Reference Librarians:** 341-5461

**Youth Services:** 341-5470 **Local History:** 341-5483

**Adult Programs and Book Discussions:** 341-5485

For more news and free services, please visit [www.thrall.org](http://www.thrall.org)

(From the Director – continued)

- Short-term Internet computers are available on a first come first served basis. If you need extended Internet access, consider obtaining a Library card and using one of the Library's one hour Internet terminals.
- Please be quiet in the Library's reading room.

Your compliance with these policies will help to ensure a pleasant and productive library experience for everyone.

### From Our Head of Reference Mary Susan Flannery Climes

#### eBooks Update

A truly frequently asked question is, "Why aren't there more eBooks available?" It's a very good question!

Among other reasons, it's in great part due to major publishers *refusing* to license eBooks to libraries.

For all the details, please visit our **Reference Services blog** at [www.thrall.org/refblog](http://www.thrall.org/refblog)

#### Using the Library Catalog: A "Tips & Tricks" Guide

We created a handy two-page guide to "Enterprise," the library system catalog. Our guide shows you how to perform advanced searches. You will also learn about some of the catalog's newest features.

Free printed copies are available at Reference and by the catalog computers. You can also download a copy online at [www.thrall.org/docs](http://www.thrall.org/docs) (under **Library Catalog**).

#### New Language Materials Browser

You can now browse **language-learning materials** and **language-specific books and videos** at Thrall and throughout the library system catalog.

Please go to our **home page**, click the "more" link next to **Library Catalog**, and select **Languages**. You can also reach the new browser at [thrall.org/catalogs](http://thrall.org/catalogs)

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(From Our Head of Reference continued)

## SirsiDynix / Library System Update

In early June, SirsiDynix, the company which provides "Enterprise" through our library system (RCLS), updated the online catalog to a new version. This update caused some of our patrons to encounter partial or entirely blank pages in their Web browsers.

The quickest remedy has been for people to press the **F5 key** on the computer keyboard if blank pages appear in a Web browser such as **Firefox** or **Internet Explorer**. If that doesn't help, we have additional steps listed in our **Reference Services blog** at [www.thrall.org/blogs](http://www.thrall.org/blogs)

## Online Travel Guides

Our **Virtual Reference Library** ([www.thrall.org/vrl](http://www.thrall.org/vrl)) now offers members of Thrall online access to "Eyewitness Travel Guides" and "Rough Guides" to various countries and cities/states such as Africa, Barcelona, Chile, China, England, Greece, Hawaii, India, Ireland, Italy, Los Angeles, New York City, Paris, and many other popular destinations.

## From Government Information Librarian Karen A. Heil

Whether you are checking Facebook or catching up on your e-mail, one of the new hot things seems to be the online petition. Everyone has a chance to champion a cause or right a wrong. In a democracy, this is one way each individual has an opportunity to make his or her voice heard and really make a difference. In the land of Government Information, draconian budget cuts and new priorities have created some important issues that need to be addressed as well.

In early May, the House of Representatives voted to eliminate the funding for the American Community Survey (ACS) and the Economic Census, both of which they believe to be too intrusive. Over the last 150 years, the questions on the ACS have traditionally been asked on the long form during the decennial census.

In order to make information more current and valuable, the ACS is now released in full every five years, based on a sampling of the population. The Economic Census profiling the U.S. national and local economies is conducted every five years as well. Both of these surveys measure the social and economic health of the nation and help determine the GDP.

The statistics gathered are vital to small business, city planners, government agencies and those who invest or provide services. Information highlighting trends in housing, income, transportation, health insurance, education, veterans and more is crucial in decision making

The following is from a Washington Post article; "As James Madison argued around the time of the first census, collecting information on the socio-economic status of the population is one of those basic things that government is uniquely suited to do, and it benefits everyone."

If someone sends you an online petition in support of these two surveys, please make your voice heard and vote. To find out more, be sure to visit the Census Bureau homepage at [www.census.gov](http://www.census.gov)! If you would like to create your own petition, visit The White House website at this link: [www.whitehouse.gov/petitions](http://www.whitehouse.gov/petitions)

## Upcoming Film Series Dates...

**Afternoon Movies** (2 PM): July 18<sup>th</sup>, Aug. 15<sup>th</sup>, Sept. 19<sup>th</sup>

**Reel Eclectic** (7 PM): July 5<sup>th</sup>, Aug. 2<sup>nd</sup>, Sept. 6<sup>th</sup>

Please call 341-5461 for titles. All movies are free!

## Youth Services Events

*Kids, this summer...*

# Dream Big!

### New York State 2012 Summer Reading Events at Middletown Thrall Library

"Dream Big" starts Monday, July 2<sup>nd</sup> and concludes Monday, July 30<sup>th</sup>. Registration runs June 11<sup>th</sup> to June 30<sup>th</sup>.

For more details on either reading program, please visit our Youth Services Department for call 341-5470.

## Volunteers Needed

for the 2012 Summer Reading Program

Volunteers must have completed the 6th grade. Applications and interviews will be conducted on:

- Wednesday, June 20, from 3 to 5 PM
- Monday, June 25, from 5:30 to 7:30 PM

You must schedule an appointment for an interview on either of these two dates. Please see Bridget Manigo, Youth Services Librarian or call (845) 341-5604 for more information.

## Teen Summer Reading Program "Own. The. Night."

Teens, spend some of your free summertime at Thrall! Our teen reading program starts Monday, July 2<sup>nd</sup> and ends Monday, July 30<sup>th</sup>. Registration runs June 25<sup>th</sup> to June 29<sup>th</sup>.

For more details on either reading program, please visit our Youth Services Department for call 341-5470.

## We are also preparing for the "Battle of the Books"

Join Thrall as we compete with other libraries in coming months for prizes! For students in grades 6-12. Please visit our Children's Department or call 341-5470 for all the details.

## "Come Draw with Me!"

**Saturdays** for ages 7 to 12. Limit of 15 members of Thrall Library. **Registration required.** Upcoming events include:

- **July 14, 12 - 1 pm:** "Blue Birds"
- **August 11, 12 - 1 pm:** "Airplane"
- **September 8, 12 - 1 pm:** "Totem Poles"