

Enriching, Informing, & Empowering Our Local Communities Since 1901

Thrall Library Times

What's New & Interesting at Middletown Thrall Library!

Winter 2019 Edition

"If Winter comes, can Spring be far behind?" –Percy Bysshe Shelly, *Ode to the West Wind*

From Our Library Director
Matt Pfisterer

Adult Programming at Middletown Thrall Library

In August of 2018, we wished Middletown Thrall Library **adult programming Librarian Gail Myker** a happy retirement after many years of service to the Library.

For the past several years she was responsible for planning and scheduling many of the adult programs we have presented.

Specifically, she hosted movies at the Library, scheduled programs on important topics like elder law, estate planning, tenants' rights, and health care.

She also helped to manage several community-focused events, like our tri-yearly New York Blood Center blood drives, and she helped with materials selection for our local homebound population.

Some of these programs are on a brief hiatus right now as we are in the process of hiring a new Adult Programming Librarian to serve our community.

We expect to resume a full schedule of quality adult programming as soon as we have a new adult programming librarian in place to continue our tradition of providing great adult programs and to introduce you to some great new programs.

If you have a suggestion for a program you would like to see at the Library please contact the library director's office via telephone **845-341-5485** or e-mail (thrall7@warwick.net).

Middletown Thrall Library

11 - 19 Depot Street, Middletown, New York 10940

Winter Library Hours

Mon.-Thurs.: 9 AM-8 PM Fri.: 9 AM-6 PM Sat.: 10 AM - 5 PM Sun.: 1 - 5 PM

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

Youth Services: 341-5470 Local History: 341-5454, ext. 5479

For *more library news and free services*,
please visit www.thrall.org

From Our Head of Reference Services
Mary Susan Flannery Climes

MORE: Popular Magazines in OverDrive!

www.thrall.org/emags

A number of new popular periodicals are now freely available through the RCLS/OverDrive ebooks system!

Digital titles you can check out include: *Automobile, Black Enterprise, Bloomberg Markets, Cardmaking and Papercraft, Crochet World, Essence, Forbes, Good Housekeeping, Good Organic Gardening, Health & Fitness, History Revealed, Home Business Magazine, Home Design, How It Works, Kiplinger's Personal Finance, Men's Fitness, Men's Health, National Geographic Traveller, Poets & Writers Magazine, Prevention, Quilter's World, Road & Track, Smart Photography, The Family Handyman, This Old House Magazine, Top Gear, Us Weekly, and Women's Health.*

For even more popular titles (such as *Car & Driver, Country Woman, ESPN, Field & Stream, Newsweek, O - the Oprah Magazine, Popular Mechanics, Popular Science, Reader's Digest, and Yoga Journal*) please visit the above web address.

UPDATE: *LightSwitch Search Tools*

www.thrall.org/lis

Did you know there are *many* excellent **search engines** out there, on the Web, well beyond **Google.com** or **Bing.com**?

To empower you to explore the wider world of potential sources and search options, and to promote *more specific* searching, we released **LightSwitch Search Tools** back in August 2010.

In *LightSwitch*, you can **select a topic** (which instantly *switches* search engine options for you), **add keywords** (yours and/or addable ones from subject lists), **select an engine**, and experience potentially *more* relevant and useful results.

After searching, you can return to *LightSwitch*, easily select a *different* topic and/or search engine, modify your search, if you wish, and examine *different* results in *other* search engines.

Since 2010, the Web has changed and grown. Many search engines have come and gone. What *still* exists are good opportunities for searchers to locate new resources and services.

We recently updated *LightSwitch* so you can continue discovering new sites where your online inquiries might be *better* served than in larger yet *less specific* general search engines.

As before, you can instantly **switch subject modes** and make use of **thematic keywords, phrases, titles, names, and more**, all within a few simple clicks or taps!

Now, since **librarians** are pretty much the *original* (and, dare we say the *best*) search engines, we always encourage you to reach out to us when you have a question. You can call us at **341-5461** or go online (www.thrall.org/ask). We're always *happy to help!*

From Our *Head of Reference Services* (continued)

NOW AVAILABLE ONLINE: **CQ Researcher**
www.thrall.org/databases

CQ Researcher is now electronically available both *in* the library *and* at home (to members of Thrall, who can log in with their **library card number**).

What is CQ Researcher? Good question! The publisher states, "CQ Researcher is noted for its in-depth, unbiased coverage of health, social trends, criminal justice, international affairs, education, the environment, technology and the economy. Reports are published online 44 times a year by CQ Press, an imprint of SAGE Publications. Each single-themed, 12,000-word report is researched and written by a seasoned journalist. The consistent, reader-friendly organization provides researchers with an introductory overview, which includes three pro/con debates; background and chronology on the topic; an assessment of the current situation; tables; maps; a pro/con debate by representatives of opposing positions; and bibliographies of key sources."

What topics can you find articles on? Here's just a **small sampling**: AIDS, Alternative Energy, Alternative Medicine, Alzheimer's, Animal Rights, Artificial Intelligence, Arms, Arts, Automobiles, Banking, Campaign Finance, China, Cloning, Colleges, Computers, the Constitution, Consumer Protection, Education, Elections, Environment, Food Safety, Foreign Trade, Genetics, Government, the Holocaust, Hospitals, Housing, Human Rights, Immigration, Islam, Journalism, Law Enforcement, LGBTQ, Lobbying, Media, Mental Health, Military, Middle East, National Debt, Natural Resources, Nutrition & Health, Pharmaceuticals, Politics, Pollution, Poverty, Privacy, Protests, Racism, Refugees, Religion, Science, Senior Citizens, Smoking & the Tobacco Industry, Space Exploration, Sports, Taxation, Stock Market, Supreme Court, Urban Planning, Vaccines, Votings, Wildlife & Endangered Species, Women's Rights, and much more.

You can find CQ at the [link above](#) under **General Research**.

Local History Digital Documents Update www.thrall.org/dhi

You can now search two of our most popular online local history documents: **Middletown: Retrospect of the Years** and **Middletown Firsts**. Both contain many names and facts!

From Our Government Information Librarian

Healthy resolutions in such areas as diet, exercise, and smoking cessation, often accompany the beginning of a New Year. Let government documents and websites support you in reaching your New Year's Goals! Besides providing nutritional tools, delicious recipes, and customized eating plans designed to assist you in making healthy and enjoyable food choices, the U.S. Department of Agriculture's website **ChooseMyPlate.Gov** (choosemyplate.gov) also includes interactive exercise tools to help you build weekly activity plans. Videos on the website also provide motivational tips on becoming more active, and even how to fit more movement into your day if you're simply too busy to exercise.

Smokefree.Gov (smokefree.gov) and **BeTobaccoFree.Gov** (betobaccofree.hhs.gov) are part of the U.S. Dept. of Health and Human Services' efforts to reduce smoking in the United States. Here you will find helpful apps, smoke free texting programs, and social media designed to support your journey while trying to quit smoking. The programs also assist in helping to understand personal smoking patterns, and acquire the necessary skills needed to stay smoke free for good.

Our library's in-house resources in these areas include the **Dietary Guidelines for Americans**, **Physical Activity Guidelines for Americans**, the Surgeon General's **The Health Consequences of Smoking: 50 Years of Progress**, as well as helpful tip sheets for quitting smoking. Stop by or go online and let government information transform your life!

Children's Events

To register for certain events
or for more information, please visit
our **Children's Dept.** or call us at **341-5470**.

ALL EVENTS ARE FREE!

Arctic Animal Workshop

Friday, Feb. 15, 2019, 3:30 – 4:45 PM

Build your very own arctic plush toy with *its own birth certificate!*

For ages 5 to 13 years old. **Registration required.**

Due to popular demand for this workshop, we are asking anyone interested in this event, who also attended our Dec. 7, 2018 Winter Wonderland Workshop, to please register first to be on our wait list. As space becomes available, wait list persons will be called. In doing so, it is our hope our Children's Department can provide as many children as possible the opportunity to make their very own plush toy. Thank you very much for your interest, support, and understanding!

Winter Story Time 2019

Registration: **Monday January 28, 2019**

Story Time begins **Wed., Feb. 13, 2019**

and concludes **Wed., March 27, 2019**.

We will meet on **Wednesdays** in our Story Time Room:

"**First Step Growing Time**" (9:30 - 10 am; no registration)

"**Explorers**" **Story Time & Craft** (10:15 - 10:45 am; please register)

Teen Book Club

We'll meet in our **Story Time Room**

on **Friday, February 8, 2019, 4:30 pm - 5:45 pm,**

to discuss the book **Code Name Verity** by Elizabeth Wein.

Registration required. For students in grades 6 - 12.

2019 Homework Help

Available on **Tuesdays, Wednesdays,**

& Thursdays 4 PM to 7 PM:

For students in grades 1 to 6. No registration required.

PLEASE NOTE: No Homework Help when either the Middletown School District is CLOSED or when after-school activities are cancelled.

Learn to Knit Cables

We will work on how to knit a **Cabled Hat**, **Cabled Scarf**, or a **Cabled Cowl**. You can **choose your pattern** (hat, scarf, or cowl)! **Registration required.** Participants must be able to cast on, knit, purl, and bind off. We will provide the pattern and light refreshments. **Registration begins on Tue., Feb. 19, 2019.** When you register, you can select your **FREE** pattern. Based on your pattern selection, we will explain what you will need to complete your project. The workshop will be held on **Mon., March 4, 2019, 6 - 7:45 PM.**

Also available...

1. Afternoon Knit & Crochet Workshops

Thursdays, 2 - 4 PM in the Story Time Room. Dates:
Feb. 28, March 14 & 28, April 11 & 25, and May 16

2. One-on-one Knit & Crochet for "Beginners"

Come see us in the Children's Dept. to set up an appointment so you can learn basic stitches!