

Over a century of service to the Valley Community

January - February 2010
VOL. 3 ISSUE 1



DERBY NECK LIBRARY

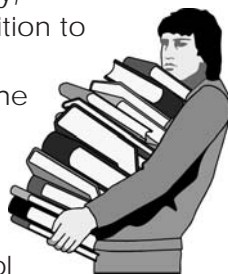
New Faces at Derby Neck Library



You may have noticed pleasant but unfamiliar young faces at the circulation desk on recent weekends. They belong to two new employees hired to fill in on weekends. We are happy to introduce **Marisa Conte**, a high school junior and member of the girls' basketball team. Marisa is a longtime volunteer at the Library, starting back in 2002 when we first reopened. She helped the children's librarian with the younger children and helped keep the children's room neat and inviting. Since then, she has volunteered in a hospital and worked in a restaurant

busing tables. No grass grows under her feet, as she is a member of a dance team, Pep Club, and Diversity Club. She also works at a local deli, does child care, lifts weights and has earned her CPR certification. Marisa is a friendly, enthusiastic addition to our staff.

Also new to the staff but not to the Library is **Matt Bisaccia**, a graduate of Derby High School and a freshman at Fairfield University. Matt has an arduous schedule of classes, but we manage to snag him for an occasional weekend. He was a member of the Teen Advisory Board when we first reopened. Matt comes from a long line of library employees, starting with his grandmother, Rosemary Papeika, who worked at Derby Neck in the 1980s and 1990s bringing materials to Shelton nursing homes.



Privately Funded
Regional Library

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Derby, Connecticut 06418

www.derbynecklibrary.org
email: derbynecklibrary@biblio.org

Hours:

Mon. - Thurs. 10 a.m. - 8 p.m.
Sat. - Sun. 1 p.m. - 5 p.m.
(Open Sat. & Sun. all year)

She proudly introduced her grandsons to staff and patrons, and that early Library experience must have stuck. We now have two grandsons carrying on the tradition as Derby Neck employees. Matt's field of interest focuses on Asian studies, and he is in the pre-med program as well. His prior employment was in a supermarket.

Chris Ochoa, profiled in the May-June 2009 Newsletter, graduated from Derby High School and is now an employee of the

Library, working mainly during the week. Chris is an enormous help at the circulation desk and we are all pleased to have him with us.

Welcome, Marisa, Matt and Chris!!

COMPUTER COACHING AT THE LIBRARY

Stop! Before you pay big bucks for a high-powered computer course that expects you to know how to use a computer, call our staff member Bob Carmona and sign up for his basic computer course here at the Library. Bob is the most patient teacher you could wish for, and he starts with the most basic of basics, like how to turn on the computer, and brings students up to using e-mail and searching the Internet, as well as creating letters and reports. His calm manner and dry wit will banish even the most severe case of computer anxiety. Classes are conveniently scheduled on Mondays from 6-7 pm, Tuesdays at 10:30 am, and Wednesdays at 10:30 am and 6 pm. Here's the perfect opportunity to follow up on your New Year's resolution to get with the computer world, so give Bob a call at 203-734-1492. See you at the computer!



From The Poets' Corner

Once a month on a Tuesday evening the library hosts "Poets' Corner", a table of poets who meet at the library to Share, Enjoy, and Encourage each other in their works. They call themselves the "Poets who S.E.E." If you would like to join us, please call Patricia Sweeney at the library 203-734-1492 for details. Teens and older are welcome. The following is a product of their recent labors, a blended poem of their voices by Olive, Alpha, Sara, Lisa, and Pat:

"Snow"

Oh! No! It looks like snow.
My coat has a tear and my boots have a hole.
My snow shovel broke —

Snowflakes slowly drifting in the beam of light
I see, piling up and drifting.
Winter's beauty for all to see.

Little spirits dancing about,
Clinging to branches,
Blanketing the world with grace and beauty.

Falling like little white angels
Bringing joy and peace to the world.
Covering the earth like a warm blanket
Giving kids and adults a loving feeling
Making adults feel young again,
Making kids not want to grow up.

* Snow wonder—how beautiful it all is!

Derby Neck Productions

The teens are busy every Tuesday afternoon writing scripts, filming movies and editing them. They also work on Website Ads for the library. You can check out a DVD with a collage of different short films written and produced by the teens. New members are always welcome. We are also looking for teens who play musical instruments and may be interested in performing and/or writing songs for our movies. Come by the library on Tuesdays and ask for Kathi or Andrew.



CHINESE AUCTION WINNERS

Derby Neck Library ran a free Chinese Auction outside the entrance to the Friends of the Library's semi-annual book sale. Many people entered the drawings for the many books and DVDs being given away. The lucky winners included: Benay Woodford, Ann Hemenway, Lisa Visentin, Sandra Bush, Phil Brower, Joan LeMay, Gloriann Albini, Mary Ward, George Pudimat, Jason Haushalter, Sara Alvarez, William Barr, Kaylee Staffieri, Karen Aneviva, and Mike Czczot. For those who did not receive a joyful phone call, do not despair. We are collecting a second batch of new materials and will run another auction soon in the new year. You'll have another chance!

Movies:

The 21 Best of the 21st Century (*So Far*)

By Andrew Bisaccia

As I write this in early December, the media is already bombarding us with end-of-the-decade lists. Eager to add my voice to the din, I humbly present for your consideration the following twenty-one films, in alphabetical order: my picks for the best of the 21st century (so far). Will any of these stand one day beside *2001: A Space Odyssey*, *Vertigo*, *The Seven Samurai*, and *Citizen Kane* in the canon of great films? I don't know, and I'm sure I missed plenty of other potential greats, but I would advise you to check these out anyway: most are available at the Derby Neck Library.



ADAPTATION (2002, Spike Jonze)
CHILDREN OF MEN (2006, Alfonso Cuarón)
CROUCHING TIGER, HIDDEN DRAGON (2000, Ang Lee)
THE DARK KNIGHT (2008, Christopher Nolan)
THE DEPARTED (2006, Martin Scorsese)
DOWNFALL (2004, Oliver Hirschbiegel)
EASTERN PROMISES (2007, David Cronenberg)
ETERNAL SUNSHINE OF THE SPOTLESS MIND (2004, Michel Gondry)
GANGS OF NEW YORK (2002, Martin Scorsese)
GOSFORD PARK (2001, Robert Altman)
IN BRUGES (2008, Martin McDonagh)
LETTERS FROM IWO JIMA (2006, Clint Eastwood)
THE LIVES OF OTHERS (2006, Florian Henckel von Donnersmarck)
THE LORD OF THE RINGS (2001, 2002, 2003; Peter Jackson)
LOST IN TRANSLATION (2003, Sofia Coppola)
MUNICH (2005, Steven Spielberg)
NO COUNTRY FOR OLD MEN (2007, Joel & Ethan Coen)
PAN'S LABYRINTH (2006, Guillermo del Toro)
THE PASSION OF THE CHRIST (2004, Mel Gibson)
SPIRITED AWAY (2001, Hayao Miyazaki)
THERE WILL BE BLOOD (2007, Paul Thomas Anderson)

Be sure to check in the next newsletter for my list of the 21 best books of the decade!

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Frances Kellogg's

Famous Contacts

By Patricia E. Sweeney

Frances Osborne Kellogg had the pleasure of meeting several famous people during her lifetime. Most were speakers or artists who performed for the Ansonia, Derby, Shelton Women's Club, of which she was President for decades.

Among her most illustrious guest speakers was one of the first female war photographers (in World War II), Margaret Bourke-White. The poet Edna St. Vincent Millay also made a guest appearance.

Famous opera stars and the talented pianist Jose Iturbi also appear on the club's guest list. Of course, the most noted guest that Mrs. Kellogg had to the Sterling Opera House was Aviatrix (a 1930's word) Amelia Earhart, who appeared in March of 1936. The library owns most of the guest books and press clippings from these appearances; however, one of these books does remain in private hands.

My recent research has disclosed a more personal friendship that Mrs. Kellogg enjoyed with Lady Augusta Gregory, the preeminent woman of Irish arts. Lady Gregory sponsored the poet William Butler Yeats, and also founded the Dublin National Theater. Mrs. Kellogg has personally inscribed books and a portrait from her friend, as well as an original poem about World War One copied out in Mrs. Gregory's own hand.



STOWE-TWAIN MUSEUMS SNOWED OUT

Our program for patrons and teens, *Stowe and Twain: Effecting Social Change*, scheduled for Wednesday, December 9th, was postponed because of the unexpected snowstorm.

This program will be rescheduled for Wednesday, February 24th. Sonya Green Noble, Program Coordinator at the Harriet Beecher Stowe Center and Craig Hotchkiss of the Mark Twain House & Museum will present this multimedia program on events leading up to the Civil War, with an emphasis on Stowe's *Uncle Tom's Cabin* and Twain's *Huckleberry Finn* and how these books shaped attitudes that resulted in the Civil War. The reschedule will allow people who could not make the original date to sign up for the new date. Pizza will be served at 11:30 a.m., with the program scheduled from noon to 1:15 p.m. Call the Library at 203-734-1492 to reserve a space, as registration will be required. This program is presented with the collaboration of the Derby High School History Department chaired by Mrs. Linda Romano.

INCLEMENT WEATHER ALERT

At this writing, we have already had one delayed opening and a program cancellation because of the weather. When we have snow and ice, the Library sometimes closes. In general, if the Derby schools are closed, we will at least start the day closed. If the snow stops early enough, and our plow service and the City can get our grounds and McEvoy Place cleared, we may open later in the day. We suggest you phone the library (203-734-1492) before coming in – if we answer, we're open! Closing announcements will also be posted on WICC radio – 600 on the AM dial, and on WICC's weather website at www.wicc600.com, click on Weather—Cancellations.



Children's Corner

Come in and warm up your babies and toddlers with Miss Kathi's Music and Movement programs this winter. A variety of programs are offered each week for ages birth to five years. Start babies off right with a great bonding experience with you. They love to be held and rocked to the music and listen to your voice as you share songs and rhymes with them. Even if your child already attends preschool, the Littles program on Tuesdays at 1 p.m. will add to their school experience with music, dancing and good books. Every week there is a new theme with matching name tags and activities. Begin to teach your baby or young child how to communicate with the Baby Sign class on Tuesdays. If your child is already reading, bring her in to read to Sandy or Zoe, our Therapy dogs, on Wednesday evenings. The second Wednesday of each month, Miss Kathi will present a Bedtime Music and Movement program for families. Check out the web page for all scheduled programs.



SNAPSHOT DAY IS THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 18TH

On Thursday, February 18th, 2010, libraries all over Connecticut will be taking a "snapshot" by collecting information to show what an impact Connecticut libraries have on their communities on a typical day. We will be holding our popular Music and Movement sessions for pre-



schoolers in the morning. In the afternoon, we will hold an ongoing Presidents' Reception with cake and punch

for drop-in patrons. We hope to have a gallery of photographs of our presidents to identify. In the evening, we will present David Koch, assistant professor of history at Housatonic Community College, speaking on Abraham Lincoln. Professor Koch gave a fascinating program last fall on Charles Darwin sponsored by the Friends of the Derby Neck Library. Professor Koch has worked for national historical and natural sites promoting the nation's physical and historical heritage, and has lectured for organizations in the United States and Europe on Civil War battles, politics in the Civil War, slavery and the American experience, and several topics around Abraham Lincoln's life and political activities.

As part of the day, we will be taking photographs of our events and asking patrons for permission to post them on Flickr. Our Teen film crew will be filming events during the day. We will be collecting quotes from patrons reflecting how important they think libraries are to the life of their community. Put us on your calendar now to come in and join the fun!

This project is sponsored by the Connecticut Library Association, the Connecticut State Library, and the Connecticut Library Consortium. "Snapshot" is based on a project created by the New Jersey State Library and the New Jersey Library Association. Its goals are to heighten awareness of what happens during a typical day in Connecticut's libraries and to capture some valuable statistics, stories and photos.

Calendar of Events

January

January 1	NEW YEAR'S DAY – Library is closed. Reopens on January 2 at	1 pm
January 2, 9, 16, 23, 30	Needlers Club	1:30-3:30 pm
January 4	For children: Pre Threes	10 & 11 am
January 4,11,18,25	For adults: Computer Class	6-7 pm
January 5,12,19,26	For adults: Computer Class	10:30 am
January 5	For children: Been There Done That	10 am
	For children: Baby Sign	11 am
	For children: Littles	1 pm
	For teens: Dave Skowronski, Film Producer	4 pm
January 5, 12, 19, 26	For adults: Beginning Spanish 6 pm; Intermediate Spanish	7 pm
January 6, 13, 20, 27	For 8 yrs. & Up: Crochet Club	3:30 pm
January 6, 13, 20, 27	For adults: Computer Class	10:30 am & 6 pm
January 7	Music & Movement	10 & 11 am
	For teens and adults: Scrabble	6:15 pm
January 11	For children: Pre Threes	10 & 11 am
January 12	For children: Been There Done That	10 am
	For children: Baby Sign	11 am
	For children: Littles	1 pm
	For Teens: Theatrical Makeup with Maria	3:30 pm
January 13	For children: Bedtime Music & Movement	6:30 pm
January 14	For children: Music & Movement	10 & 11 am
January 18	MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. DAY – Library is OPEN	
	For children: Pre Threes	10 & 11 am
	For adults: Culture Club (short stories discussed)	12:30 pm
January 19	For children: Been There Done That	10 am
	For children: Baby Sign	11 am
	For children: Littles	1 pm
January 20	Friends of the Derby Neck Library	6 pm
January 21	For children: Music & Movement	10 & 11 am
	For adults only: Scrabble	6:15 pm
	For adults: Current Events Club	6:30 pm
January 25	For children: Pre Threes	10 & 11 am
January 26	For children: Been There Done That	10 am
	For children: Baby Sign	11 am
	For children: Littles	1:00 pm
January 28	For children: Music & Movement	10 & 11 am



February

February 1	For children: Pre Threes	10 & 11 am
February 1, 8, 15, 22	For adults: Computer Class	6-7 pm
February 2	For children: Been There Done That	10 am
February 2, 9, 16, 23	For adults: Computer Class	10:30 am
February 2	For children: Baby Sign	11 am
	For children: Littles	1 pm
February 2, 9, 16, 23	For adults: Beginning Spanish—6 pm; Intermediate Spanish	7 pm
February 3, 10, 17, 24	For 8 yrs. & Up: Crochet Club	3:30 pm
February 3,10,17,24	For adults: Computer Class	10:30 am & 6 pm
February 4	For children: Music & Movement	10 & 11 am
February 6, 13, 20, 27	The Needlers Club	1:30-3:30 pm
February 8	For children: Pre Threes	10 & 11 am
February 9	For children: Been There Done That	10 am
	For children: Baby Sign	11 am
	For children: Littles	1 pm
	Music & Movement	10 & 11 am
February 11	PRESIDENTS' DAY – Library is open.	
February 15	Friends of the Derby Neck Library	6 pm
February 17	CONNECTICUT LIBRARIES SNAPSHOT DAY	
	For children: Music & Movement	10 & 11 am
	For all ages: Drop-in Presidents' Reception (with cake)	afternoon
	For teens & adults: Trial by Fire: Lincoln's Presidency	6:30 pm
February 22	For children: Pre Threes	10 & 11 am
February 23	For children: Been There Done That	10 am
	For children: Baby Sign	11 am
	For children: Littles	1 pm
February 24	For teens & adults: Stowe-Twain Program— Pizza 11:30; program 12-1:15 pm	
February 25	For children: Music & Movement	10 & 11 am

