

## Over a century of service to the Valley Community

September - October 2010  
VOL. 3 ISSUE 5



# DERBY NECK LIBRARY

## Staff Profile

### AZRA MULAIMOVIC

As the saying goes, "When one door closes, another one opens." That is just what my life has come to be. My name is Azra Mulaimovic. I am a graduate from high school, and continuing my studies at the University of Connecticut. I finished the chapter of my life that began with preschool and ended with senior year. Once the chapter was finishing I felt a sudden grief come over me. Was this truly the day that I have been waiting for, for all my life? How can I wait for such a painful



AZRA MULAIMOVIC

moment? However I soon realized the friends I made during High School aren't the final friends I will have. I am moving on to better and brighter chapters. My "door opened" once the first day of vacation began. I was packing to embark on a long journey across the seas to Europe. Once I arrived in Germany I had an epiphany. I was standing in a city full of thousands of people who had no idea who I was or where I came from. I realized that no matter what your life was before that point it will not matter. I am an individual among billions of people, and my future is starting August 30<sup>th</sup>, the first day of college. From then on, I will define myself.

Privately Funded  
Regional Library

(203) 734-1492  
(203) 732-2913 FAX

307 Hawthorne Avenue  
Derby, Connecticut 06418

[www.derbynecklibrary.org](http://www.derbynecklibrary.org)  
email: [derbynecklibrary@biblio.org](mailto: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)

## KILL YOUR DARLINGS

"Kill your darlings" is a well-known maxim—or cliché—about writing with which the Derby Neck Library Productions film crew has become intimately familiar over the past few months. We're currently in the midst of principal photography on our ambitious movie *Morons in America*, and the inherently collaborative nature of film as a medium has acquainted each of us with the pain of "killing our darlings."

Now "kill your darlings" doesn't necessarily mean that you must put your loved ones (fictional or otherwise) to death—although, let me assure you, there's plenty of that going on in *Morons*. What it means is that sometimes an artist's initial vision improves when it's pared down. And, incidentally, making a movie involves so many people—all with their own mutually exclusive ideas (and schedules)—that logistically it's simply impossible to fit everything (and everybody) in. Justin Quinn and I have written well over a dozen drafts of the film, sometimes taking our inspiration from the voluminous "spec scripts" submitted by other crew members; and with each successive revision we've simplified—removed characters (goodbye, Pedro the Peddler—we hardly knew ye), scenes (we'll never get to see Police Chief Andreas Stephanides meet his elaborately choreographed demise), and even entire subplots (looks like the F.B.I. isn't involved in Tony Salami's scheme after all). Yet, despite such disappointments, I'm certain that all the editing has resulted in a leaner, meaner, superior product: the movie knows what it's really about, and the heart of the story becomes more apparent with each draft.

But how do we decide what stays and what goes, whose "darlings" bite the dust and whose go on to achieve immortality in the final product? Well, it's a process to be sure. Often enough pragmatic concerns dictate what must be cut. And I won't pretend that I don't get a pretty big say in the matter (I am the Producer, after all, with a capital "P"). But, to paraphrase Frank Capra, you can't make art by committee—and ultimately it's the director who's the *auteur* of any particular film project. And we're lucky to have as talented and visionary (and ruthless) a killer of darlings as Justin Quinn at the helm of *Morons in America*.



## ANDREW'S 21 BEST BOOKS OF THE 2000s

As promised way back in the January-February 2010 newsletter, here is my personal list of the best books of the 2000s, along with three honorable mentions that just missed the cut. I only considered fiction: thus the omission of (*inter alia*) the hilarious memoir/instruction manual *On Writing* by Stephen King—in my opinion his best best book since *The Stand*. Also, I only looked at stories published completely before 2010, so Hiromu Arakawa's magnificent ongoing manga *Fullmetal Alchemist* and Connie Willis's two-parter *Blackout & All-Clear* were also not considered—though both probably would have made the list. It's not "ranked," as it were, but merely organized by author's last name—which relieves me of having to go out on a limb and choose the single best book of the decade. (Though if you really must know, there's a special place in my heart for the works of Atwood, Chabon, Diaz, Eugenides, Ishiguro, and McCarthy. Not that that narrows it down much!) Enjoy.



### Honorable Mentions:

KHALED HOSSEINI—*The Kite Runner*  
KAZUO ISHIGURO—*Nocturnes*  
BRIAN SELZNICK—*The Invention of Hugo Cabret*

### The List

MARGARET ATWOOD—*The Blind Assassin*  
MICHAEL CHABON—*The Amazing Adventures of Kavalier & Clay*  
MICHAEL CHABON—*The Yiddish Policemen's Union*  
JUNOT DIAZ—*The Brief Wondrous Life of Oscar Wao*  
JEFFREY EUGENIDES—*Middlesex*  
NEIL GAIMAN—*American Gods*  
NEIL GAIMAN—*Anansi Boys*  
NEIL GAIMAN—*Coraline*  
RON HANSEN—*Exiles*  
KAZUO ISHIGURO—*Never Let Me Go*  
KAZUO ISHIGURO—*When We Were Orphans*  
CORMAC MCCARTHY—*No Country for Old Men*  
CORMAC MCCARTHY—*The Road*  
IAN McEWAN—*Atonement*  
IAN McEWAN—*Saturday*  
J.K. ROWLING—*Harry Potter (series)*  
JOHN UPDIKE—*The Widows of Eastwick*  
NAOKI URASAWA—*Monster*  
MICHAEL WHITE—*The Garden of Martyrs*  
CONNIE WILLIS—*Passage*  
DAVID WROBLEWSKI—*The Story of Edgar Sawtelle*



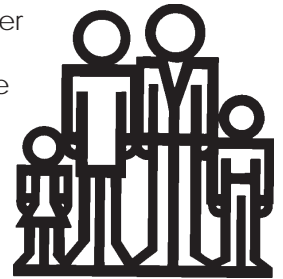
### Coming up in November . . .

Wednesday, November 3<sup>rd</sup> at 6:30 p.m.—Dowsing with President of CT Golden Rods, Terese Brennan  
Tuesday, November 9<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 p.m. – P.T. Barnum and The Greatest Show on Earth – Marian O'Keefe, Barnum Museum Docent  
Tuesday, November 16<sup>th</sup> – Make a Ceramic Holiday Ornament with Barbara Hodges (fee)  
Tai Chi New Series starts Monday, November 8<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 (\$20 fee for six classes)

## JAIME AULET OFFERS A FALL SERIES ON

### TRACING YOUR FAMILY ROOTS

Jaime Aulet will offer a series of four Genealogy presentations in October, all beginning at 6:30 p.m. On October 5<sup>th</sup>, she will discuss "Exploring Census Records," including U.S. Federal Census Records from 1790-1930 and State Census Records (usually conducted between Federal counts). On October 19<sup>th</sup>, her topic will be "Tracing Our Immigrants." October 26<sup>th</sup> will feature "Discovering Military Records." The series will conclude on October 27<sup>th</sup> with "Using the Internet for Genealogical Research." Jaime has many websites to aid your research.



Jaime has been researching her own family tree for eleven years, and presented a series of classes last year to enthusiastic audiences. Call the Library at 203-734-1492 to register for any or all of these programs.

## SOMETHING NEW HAS BEEN ADDED!

Peek into the Community Room and see what is attached to the wall – a new, sixty-inch flatscreen television with Blu-Ray and regular DVD player and cables to hitch everything together. This system will enable us to play movies, games, Wii games, and PowerPoint presentations by our program speakers, as well as live sports, news, and other television programs.



Staff members are thrilled that we no longer will have to set up our heavy and cumbersome screen and move the A-V cart around to find the best projection angle, and teens are already putting in their requests for videogames. This set-up was possible through the determination and effort of youth services librarian Kathi Gordon with advice from technical advisor Bob Carmona. And special thanks go to our foresighted Board of Directors, who saw what an important tool this TV could be for speakers, game playing, and live sports and news shows.

#### STAFF:

Judith Augusta, *Interim Head Librarian*  
Kathleen Gordon, *Assistant Head Librarian/Youth Services*  
Patricia Sweeney, *Reference & Cataloging*  
Roberto Carmona, *Circulation & IT*  
Brad Anello, Andrew Bisaccia, Rita McEvoy, Linda Ribas, Carol Senfield, Joan Wheeler

**SUPPORT STAFF:** Bonnie Chevarella, Azra Mulaimovic, Victoria Smey, Kim Turiano

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## Waldo S. Kellogg's Architectural Career

By Patricia E. Sweeney

Library founder Frances Osborne Kellogg's husband had an interesting and diverse career in architecture before he remodeled her home at 500 Hawthorne Ave. in the neo-colonial style (now the Osborne Homestead Museum). These renovations took place from 1919, the year of their marriage, to approximately 1925.

Prior to that major project, Mr. Kellogg had traveled in France, Italy, and Spain in 1899-1900 as a graduate student at Cornell University, also his undergraduate college. This was one of the best and sometimes the only way for architects to get a complete technical training one hundred years ago.

A highlight of his career occurred in New York City where he supervised the construction of the Carnegie Branch Libraries from 1903-1910. He was the on-site manager, troubleshooting any complications in the erection of these buildings—including labor union strikes. He also drew detailed designs of the new electric lighting lamps these libraries were using and presented them to audiences interested in using such new fixtures in their own buildings.



A little later in his working life, Mr. Kellogg was a manager for the Austral Window Co. in New York City, where he patented a "balanced window" which tilted open for easy ventilation. These windows seem to have been sold primarily to schools. Just prior to his marriage, Mr. Kellogg was the Supervisor of Construction for the current West Haven Veteran's Hospital, a position he held from 1914-1918. At that time he had a residence in New Haven.

### HOLIDAY CLOSING

The Library will be closed Monday, September 6<sup>th</sup> in honor of Labor Day. Materials may be returned at any time in the book and DVD drops on the McEvoy Place side of the building. We will be open on Saturday, September 4<sup>th</sup> and Sunday, September 5<sup>th</sup> from 1-5 p.m. After the holiday we will reopen on Tuesday, September 7<sup>th</sup> at 10 am with our regular hours. Enjoy the holiday!



## Children's Corner

### Fall Children's Programs!

Registration will begin on Tuesday, September 7<sup>th</sup> at 10am. Please call the library to register for each of the programs.



Due to a large number of requests for these programs, I am limiting everyone to two programs a week. Please understand that I need to do this so that there are spaces available for new participants. Also notice that when you sign up it will be for two sessions (8 weeks) with a two week break in between. The final 3 week session for the year will be drop-in and anyone may attend. I hope this works out well for everyone and their children. I appreciate all the support and enthusiasm I have been shown over the last 5 years (yes it has been that long!) for my programs. I am glad to

see that families are realizing not only how important story time and music times for young children are, but that everyone can have fun and enjoy dancing and singing with their children. Looking forward to seeing all of you this Fall.

-- Miss Kathi

### TAI CHI BRINGS LIFE FORCE TO LIBRARY PATRONS

With the help of instructor Kathleen Brennan, our weekly Qigong and Tai Chi program has become very popular, with over twenty men and women showing up after a long day to learn to relax, stretch and become more physically fit. The mood is set by tranquil Chinese melodies accompanying the motions we have learned. As we begin the fourth series, the students in the class have moved beyond acquaintance to friendship, and many laughs are shared as we try to make our bodies conform to Kathy's gentle instructions. The next series of six classes will begin on Monday, September 13<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 pm. It will end on November 1<sup>st</sup>, with a two-week break during our semi-annual book sale. The cost for the series is \$20, payable at the first class. This offering has become so popular that we must require advance registration to keep the class from becoming too crowded. Just give us a call at 203-734-1492 to sign up.

# Calendar of Events

## September

Phone registration required for children's programs on September 7<sup>th</sup> (203) 734-1492

Sept 13, 20 & 27	Pre-Threes classes for children	10 and 11 am
Sept 14, 21 & 28	Been There Done That classes for children	10 am
Sept 14, 21 & 28	Little's classes for children	1 pm
Sept 16, 23 & 30	Music and Movement classes for children	10 & 11 am
Sept 15, 22 & 29	Crochet Club for ages 8 and up	3:30 pm
Sept 14, 21 & 28	Teen Film Club	3:30 pm
Sept 7, 14, 21 & 28	Computer classes for Adults (Call if interested)	10:30 am
Sept 1, 8, 15, 22 & 29		10:30 am
Sept 13, 20 & 27		6 pm
Sept 4, 11, 18 & 25	Needlers Club for Adults	1:30-3:30 pm
Sept 2	Scrabble	6:15 pm
Sept 6	LIBRARY CLOSED FOR LABOR DAY	
Sept 8	Bedtime Music & Movement for children	6:30 p.m.
Sept 13	Tai Chi Series #4 Begins	6:30-7:30 pm
Sept 14	Poets' Corner	7-8 pm
Sept 15	Friends of the Library Meeting	6 pm
Sept 16	Adult Scrabble	6:15 pm
Sept 20	Culture Club	12:30 pm
Sept 20	Tai Chi	6:30-7:30 pm
Sept 23	Current Events Club	6:30 pm
Sept 27	Tai Chi	6:30 pm
Sept. 29	Reading to Sandy (for children)	6-7 pm



## October

Oct 4 & 25	Pre-Threes classes for children	10 & 11 am
Oct 7 & 28	Music & Movement classes for children	10 & 11 am
Oct 5 & 26	Been There Done That classes for children	10 am
Oct 5 & 26	Little's Classes for children	1 pm
Oct 5 & 26	Teen Film Club	3:30 pm
Oct 6, 13, 20 & 27	Crochet Club	3:30 pm
(Mondays) Oct 4, 11, 18, 25 (Call if interested)	Computer classes for Adults	6-7 pm
(Tuesdays) Oct 5, 12, 19, 26		10:30 am
(Wednesdays) Oct 6, 13, 20, 27		10:30 am
Oct 2, 9, 16, 23, & 30	Needlers Club for Adults	1:30-3:30 pm
Oct 4	Tai Chi	6:30 pm
Oct 5	Genealogy: Exploring Census Records	6:30 pm
Oct 6	Bedtime Music & Movement in children's room	6:30 pm
Oct 7	Scrabble	6:15 pm
Oct 9-24	FALL BOOK SALE	Library Hours
Oct 11	Columbus Day (Library is open)	
Oct 11	Buddy program (for children)	10:30 am
Oct 12	Poets' Corner	7-8 pm
Oct 18	Culture Club	12:30 pm
Oct 19	Genealogy: Tracing Our Immigrants	6:30 pm
Oct 21	Adult Scrabble	6:15 pm
Oct 25	Tai Chi	6:30 pm
Oct 26	Genealogy: Discovering Military Records	6:30 pm
Oct 27	Genealogy: Using the Internet for Genealogical Research	6:30 pm
Oct 28	Current Events	6:30 pm
Oct 31	HALLOWE'EN (Library is open)	

