

Mansfield Public Library News November 2009

November is Family Literacy Month! Special events are planned in the youth department, and although September was library card month, it isn't too late to make sure all your family members have library cards!

Mark Your Calendar for these November activities:

Wed. Nov. 4: Pajama Time, 6:30 p.m. Stories and rhymes for ages 3 and up.

Wed. Nov. 11: Closed in observance of Veterans Day

Thu. Nov. 12: Duffy's Dilemma, 4:30 p.m. Celebrate Family Literacy Month and honor National Diabetes Month, when local author Mary Montione will share her book, **DUFFY'S DILEMMA: A YOUNG DOG LEARNS TO LIVE HEALTHY AND HAPPY WITH DIABETES**. For ages 5 and up, those who love dogs, and those who have been touched by diabetes.

Mon. Nov. 16: Favorite-Bedtime-Book PJ Time, 6:30 p.m. Celebrate Family Literacy by putting on your pajamas and bringing one of your favorite bedtime books (but not too long!) to the library. Miss Kitty will read a favorite book and then we'll all swap books, find a cozy place in the Youth Room, and read to our little ones. A short craft will follow.

Tue. Nov 17: Adult Book Discussion group, 7 p.m. Our book this month is **LOVING FRANK**, by Nancy Horan.

Tue. Nov 17: Arthritis 101, 7 p.m. in our meeting room. See details below.

Thu. Nov. 19: Tikatok Create-a-Book, 4 p.m. Celebrate family literacy by creating your own book and having it published! See details in the Youth Room. Funded by the Friends. Pre-registration is required, and will begin on Monday, November 16.

Sat. Nov. 21: Holiday Open Craft, between 11 a.m. and 2 p.m. Drop in and make some Thanksgiving crafts. All ages.

Wed. Nov. 25: Thanksgiving Eve. The library is closing at 5 p.m.

Thu. Nov. 26: Thanksgiving. The library is closed.

Details: Join the Arthritis Foundation for a free educational program, Arthritis 101, on the 17th at 7 p.m. The program will be presented by Suzanne Gauthier, Vice President for Health Education at the Arthritis Foundation. Learn strategies to manage pain and take control of the disease. Discuss non-medical approaches like relaxation. Please sign up at the desk or by calling us at 508-261-7380.

We're still asking folks to fill out a survey. Find it online at our website at www.sailsinc.org/mansfield. We promised to address some of your comments in this space. As folks continue to fill out the survey, we'll continue to do so. One of you mentioned long lines and a shortage of librarians. As mentioned previously, we took a big hit in our budget this year, and lost two staff members. Staff members who aren't part of the desk staff have been pulled away from other duties to fill in that's why you are seeing the library's director, youth librarian, and reference librarian checking out

books. Actually, we kind of love to see long lines because it shows us how much you are using our resources! Please be assured, though, we're doing what we can to move lines along. Often we have huge piles of materials to be checked in which ties up one of the staff members at the desk, and there are usually only two. We surely do appreciate your patience.

So many of you have mentioned Sundays. See above for staff and budget cutbacks. We don't have the money or the staff at this point to support Sunday openings. Maybe in the future, when the economy recovers! We've also had to cut back on programs due to budget issues.



Need a recipe?

We received the bad news that Gourmet Magazine is ceasing publication, but we still have Bon Appetit and A Taste of Home. Many of the other family magazines fill their pages this time of year with recipes for luscious looking dishes. Check Better Homes and Gardens, Woman's Day, Ladies Home Journal, Good Housekeeping, etc for new holiday recipes. It is always fun to add some new dishes to old family favorites! Our reference librarian, Mary, also recommends new cookbook titles for your reading/cooking pleasure. How about THE SUNDAY NIGHT FOOTBALL COOKBOOK? It includes 10 great family recipes from professional chefs and NFL players! If you are not interested in turkey, check out THE VEGAN TABLE, which has 200 recipes for entertaining every guest at every occasion. Being a locavore is in how about the FARM TO TABLE COOKBOOK: THE ART OF EATING LOCALLY. here's the world of eating fresh. How about dessert? THE GOLDEN BOOK OF CHOCOLATE has over 300 great recipes for every treat you can think of for the holidays or any other day.

Book Displays and Staff Picks



October was Breast Cancer Awareness Month, and we are still featuring a display of books. The Pink Ribbon Foundation provided us with funds a couple of years ago, and we are able to update our titles regularly with those funds. Our collection is very extensive and up-to-date. We also still have some reading group choices on display, but look later this month for some holiday stories.

November's Book Discussion

LOVING FRANK by Nancy Horan is our pick this month. This title is also available in large print and on audio. We'll be meeting at 7 p.m. in our historical room.

Book Box Returns

Our Circulation Librarian asked me to remind you that there is now a box out front for the return of DVDs, videos, and audio books. You can ignore the "do not put in book drop" sticker on the items if you put them in our specially designated box. We're astonished every Monday (and the day after holidays) on the number of items returned in the book drop on days we are not open. Library materials are never due on holidays or Sundays. Remember, too, that you can renew on-line (www.sailsinc.org) or give us a call, and we'll do it for you!



Statistics, Statistics

Every fall we fill out two forms for the Massachusetts Board of Library Commissioners, which is a state agency. One surveys staffing, salaries, services provided, hours open, and collection statistics—what we own and what was borrowed. We always like to include some of these for your reading pleasure! All figures are as of 6/30/2009. We have:

90,979 books which went out 166,821 times in fiscal year 2009 (July 1, 08 ó June 30, 09).

5,091 videos and DVDs which went out 37,567 times

1,580 downloadable audio which went out 814 times (by the way, we have one of the highest circulations in the Sails Library Network for downloadables!)

706 e-books which went out 352 times

4,937 audio cassettes and compact discs, both music and books, which went out 17,843 times

Our circulation (not all of which is listed above) totaled 230,861 in fiscal year 2009. Figures also include items borrowed from other libraries, of which there were 31,206. We lent 28,809 items to other libraries.

We were open 2779 hours in FY09, including 50 Saturdays and 29 Sundays. We answered over 5000 reference questions, had 292 programs and 7969 people enjoyed these programs! We had 11 volunteers.

Have a High School Senior?

Check out our reference department for current guides to colleges. We've got regional and scholarship guides, and more! 2010 guides on our shelf include: FOUR YEAR COLLEGES 2010, GRADUATE SCHOOLS IN THE U.S. 2010, FINANCIAL AID, COLLEGES IN THE MIDDLE ATLANTIC STATES, COLLEGES IN NEW

ENGLAND, and COLLEGES IN NEW YORK. Older editions of these and similar titles are found in our circulating collection. Need help? Just ask!

As always, we ask for your email address so we can send you our newsletter electronically! help save a tree!

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