



MPL NEWS

October 2021

Library CLOSED
Sunday, October 10th and Monday, October 11th
in observance of



Events and Happenings at Middletown Public Library

From the Director's Laptop

Are you a Friend? What I'm asking is – Are you a member of the Friends of the Library? If not, please join the Friends. Let me tell you why. The Friends are a group of dedicated folks, just like you, who make a huge, positive impact on the library – on YOUR library. I'm a life member in Middletown and also in my home town. I made the decision to join, not for employment reasons, but because I believe that public libraries matter and we all need the public library.

I like history. If you do, too, let me give you a brief history of how the Friends came to be. To begin with, the origin of Friends of the Library groups is attributed to England all the way back to the Elizabethan period. Across the channel in France, the first named Friends group was founded in 1913. Its purpose was to support the French National Library. Its official name was La Societe de Amis de la Bibliotheque Nationale des Grandes Biblioteques de France. A merger with the Amis de la Bibliotheque de France in 1995 created the Association des amis de la Bibliotheque Nationale de France. (I knew someday the French I studied in high school would pay off!)

Here in the USA, the first group that named itself "Friends of the Library" was founded in 1922 in Glen Ellyn, Illinois. Later that same year another group was formed in Syracuse, New York. The movement grew to 400 groups by 1959, then to 1,000 by 1973. In 1979, the Friends of Libraries U.S.A. (FOLUSA) was founded to encourage and develop more Friends groups around the country. The Middletown Friends of the Library was founded in 1988 by Norman and Jillian Hall. In 2009, FOLUSA joined with the Association for Library Trustees and Advocates (ALTA) to form United for Libraries USA.

In October, we honor our Friends during [National Friends of Libraries Week](#). Now in its 16th year, this annual event will take place October 17-23, 2021. This year we're making that week really special with an art sale of maritime prints by Joe Matose. They are spectacular.

Let me leave you with this thought: If you believe that public libraries are an important community resource, then I urge you to visit us, make time to see what the Friends Bookstore has to offer, and more importantly, join the Friends.

See you at the MPL.

Theresa

Theresa Coish is the Director of Middletown Public Library

She is currently reading, *Zero Fail: The Rise and Fall of the Secret Service*, by Carol Leonnig

NATIONAL FRIENDS OF LIBRARIES WEEK

Oct. 17-23, 2021



www.ala.org/united/events_conferences/folweek



Children's Spotlight



Baby and Toddler Storytime

Tuesdays at 10:30am

Join us for stories, songs, and movement outside on the back lawn of the library! Walk around the back of the library to find where we will be located at the stone picnic bench. Please bring a blanket or something to sit on to make yourself comfortable. No registration is required. Best for ages 0-3.

*In the event of inclement weather, storytime will be cancelled for the day.
Please check the [website](#) and [Facebook](#) the morning of the program in case of cancellation.*



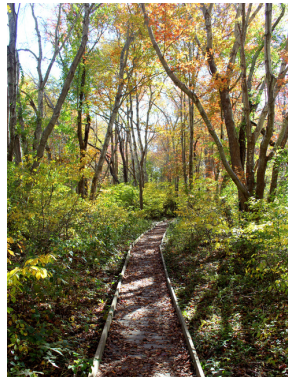
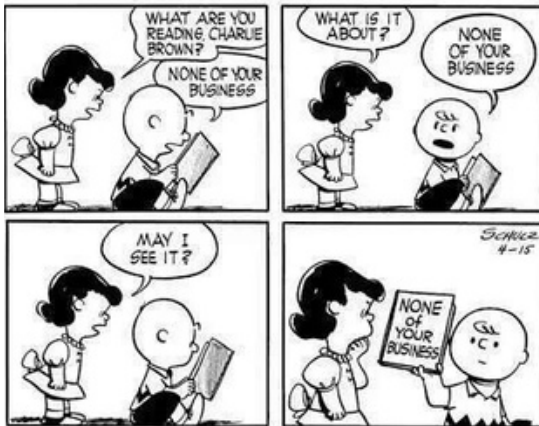
HALLOWEEN SAFETY TIPS

for parents, children and motorists

Happy Halloween!

courtesy of
**SAFE
KIDS**
WORLDWIDE™

"Laughing in the Stacks"



Explore for free!

Guided trail and
bird walks



LIBRARY OF CONGRESS NATIONAL BOOK FESTIVAL



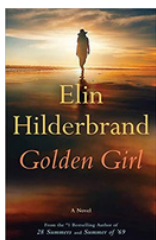
"Open a Book, Open the World
- The Library of Congress
National Book Festival"

Watch the hour-long PBS special that delivers highlights from this year's National Book Festival and celebrates a sense of renewal and hope that we're all yearning for.



PLAY

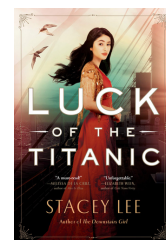
What's New at the Library



New Adult Books



New Children's Books



New Teen Books

FREE MICRO:BIT PROGRAM FOR TEENS



Thursdays, October 7th to November 18th
3:45pm – 4:45pm

- make and create a pet
- learn to keep score and code a game
- make a "fidget cube"



Registration is required. Space is limited. Zoom participation will also be available.

CLICK TO UPLOAD MORE DATA



Every family has a story.

We are pleased to announce that **Ancestry.com remote access** from outside of the library has been EXTENDED until December 31, 2021.

A popular genealogy resource. Provides access to census data, vital records, directories, photos, and other key genealogical research tools.

The Friends Corner

Art Sale

The Friends of the Middletown Public Library will be holding an art sale of the framed and unframed prints of Middletown native, **Joseph Matose**. His pen and ink prints will be on sale in the library meeting room from October 18th -23rd, Monday - Wednesday: 10:30am to 4:30pm and Thursday - Saturday: 10:30am to 2:30pm. Stop in to buy some of these fine scenes of our local area.

National Friends of Libraries Week is celebrated in October from the 17th to the 23rd. This is a good time to celebrate the Friends who support Libraries nationwide and to join the Middletown Friends. For information about the Friends or an application, e-mail FriendsofMiddletownRILibrary@gmail.com or pick up an application in the library.



(just a taste of the selection!)

Connect with us!



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Middletown, RI 02842
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middletownpubliclibrary@gmail.com
middletownpubliclibraryri.org

Library Hours:

Monday – Thursday 10 am – 7 pm
Friday – 10 am – 5 pm
Saturday – 10 am – 5 pm
Sunday* – 10 am – 5 pm

*Sunday hours begin on the Sunday following Labor Day and end on the Sunday before Memorial Day
Library closed on Sundays preceding Monday Holidays