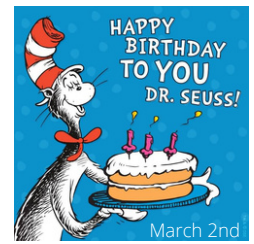




MPL NEWS

March 2022

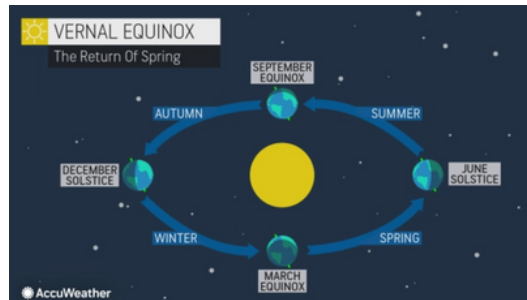


Events and Happenings at Middletown Public Library

From the Director's Laptop

What does March mean to you? As a female librarian/gardener with Scotch/Irish family ties, I think of:

- Women's History Month
- Helen Anthony, Middletown Librarian for 50+ years
- March 2nd, Dr. Seuss's birthday, celebrated as Read Across America Day
- March 17th, St. Patrick's Day
- March 20th, the first day of spring



The 2022 theme of Women's History Month is Providing Healing, Promoting Hope. It reminds me of the Greek myths about strong women that I enjoyed reading in my early years, specifically the myth of Demeter and Persephone, the mother/daughter goddesses of agriculture. When the beautiful Persephone was kidnapped by her uncle Hades and brought to the underworld, Demeter plunged the world into cold and darkness. Nothing grew, people starved. Finally, Persephone was allowed by Zeus, the big honcho, to return to her mother for part of the year but had to return to Hades for the remainder. According to the myth, that is how the seasons came about. As a young reader, I was intrigued how ancient civilizations interpreted their world through mythology.

Speaking of intrigue, my current read is fiction and a real page turner. There are three main characters: a sitting Florida judge who is a serial killer, and two, very strong, intelligent women. One is the daughter of his second victim. The other is a public official whose job is to investigate judicial misconduct. The judge has been killing for 20 years. He leaves behind no forensic evidence and so the police are clueless.

There are many stories about women who have left their mark. Have you seen the highly recommended movie, *On the Basis of Sex*? It's the story of Ruth Bader Ginsburg's law school years. We have a copy in our circulating collection. Another dvd in our collection I recommend is, *Our Town Middletown*, a RI PBS production. There is a lot of information about Middletown's history and the women responsible for places we enjoy today such as the Norman Bird Sanctuary. I recently completed a quick search on two MPL streaming services, *Kanopy* and *Hoopla*, using "women" as a search term. Great titles come up in video/audio/e-books/music that you can borrow with your MPL library card.

Prior to the Covid-19 pandemic, we borrowed the magnificent, multi-media exhibit, "Extraordinary Women of the East Bay". If you missed it, take a trip to its home base, the archives at Roger Williams University. It's important to know and remember what these local women achieved.

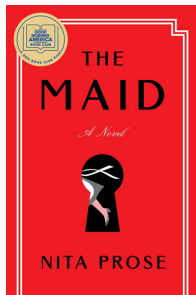
Lastly, I will leave you with this question that I heard while watching PBS – Who are the strong women in your family?

See you at the MPL.
Theresa

Theresa Coish is the Director of Middletown Public Library
She is currently reading, *The Judge's List*, by John Grisham.



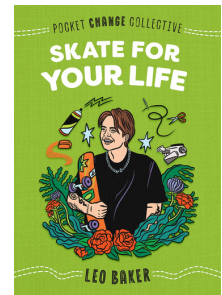
What's New at the Library



New Adult Books



New Children's Books



New Teen Books

Children's Spotlight

Early Literacy Kits!



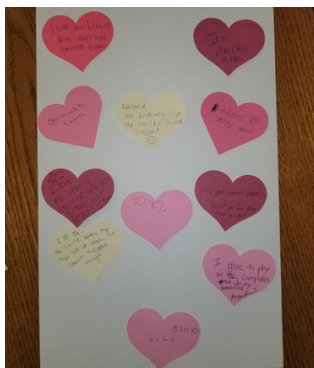
Shapes! Farm! Math! Songs and music!
Colors! Alphabet! Things that go!
Food! Feelings! My body!
Dinosaurs! Outer space!

Infants, toddlers and preschool+



This project was made possible in part by a grant from the RI Office of Library & Information Services using funds from the Institute of Museum and Library Services.

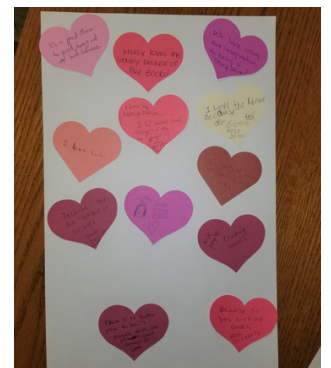
Take me to all of the kits and details!



We **LOVED** reading why our patrons of all ages



during Library Lover's Month!



CELEBRATE



March is
National
**Reading
Month**

Ideas on how to celebrate:

- Choose a book to read aloud with the whole family for at least 15 minutes a day
- Visit the Library
- Try something new - find a book about dance, arts & crafts, gardening, or cooking and try it at home!
- Listen to an audiobook
- Read an eBook (Mar.6-12 is also Read an eBook Week!)

MPL now offers Rokus to borrow with your all access Ocean State Library card!



Turn your home TV into a smart TV

VUDU

FOR FREE!

Roku TV

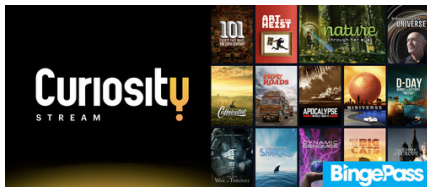
- 21 day borrowing period
- Connect to the Library's VUDU digital movie account **consisting of hundreds of movies** available for streaming
- Connect to ROKU TV already loaded onto the device

Learn more about Roku Lending!



With your MPL library card, access 7 days of unlimited usage of the titles in each BingePass collection and only use one of your monthly Hoopla Instant Borrows!

GO TO the BingePass collection!

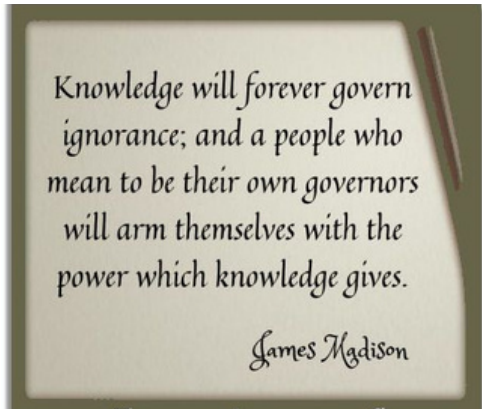


Celebrate Women's History Month

The Library of Congress, National Archives and Records Administration, National Endowment for the Humanities, National Gallery of Art, National Park Service, Smithsonian Institution and United States Holocaust Memorial Museum join in commemorating and encouraging the study, observance and celebration of the vital role of women in American history.

Enjoy their Exhibits and Collections, Audio and Video, Images and Virtual Events!

Browse the women's history collection at MPL



National Freedom of Information Day

March 16, 2022

Freedom of Information (FOI) Day is an annual event on or near March 16, the birthday of James Madison, who is widely regarded as the Father of the Constitution and the foremost advocate for openness in government.

Since 1967, the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) has provided the public the right to request access to records from any federal agency. It is often described as the law that keeps citizens in the know about their government.

Learn more about the FOIA and how to make a request

Interested in learning how to do Book Art like our staff?

Click [HERE](#) to make a vase like this one made by Loraine



March 6-12, 2022 is NATIONAL RETURN BORROWED BOOKS week and the perfect time to gather up the books piled up around the house and return them to your friend, your co-worker, your father-in-law, your LIBRARY . . .

The Friends Corner

Women's History Month



March is Women's History Month when we celebrate the contributions that women have made to history. The Friends Bookstore has a number of books by women authors and others about famous and outstanding women, so stop in and see what we have. We will reopen on March 1.

Reminder to current and potential FRIENDS members . . . Our Annual Meeting will be held on March 8, 2022 at 2:30 p.m. As there is so much uncertainty in trying to safely hold in-person gatherings just now, this year's meeting is a ZOOM meeting. All are welcome to attend and find out about the past year's activities, what we have planned for 2023, and to hear from Library Director Theresa Coish about what's going on in the library this year.

To register to attend our virtual Annual Meeting, email FriendsofMiddletownRILibrary@gmail.com and a link to the meeting will be emailed to you the day of the meeting.



Connect with us!



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Middletown, RI 02842
401-846-1573

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