



# MPL NEWS

## August 2022

Library will be CLOSED on  
Monday, August 8th, 2022  
in observance of Victory Day

### Events and Happenings at Middletown Public Library

#### From the Director's Laptop

How do you stay cool in a heat wave? I discovered a trick several years back that never fails. I read, or listen to, a book set in a cold climate. Believe me, it works. I spent last week's heat wave listening to two audio books by Ragnar Jonasson, *Blackout* and *Nightblind*. Jonasson is an Icelandic author of crime fiction. The setting of his books is Iceland. The cold landscape is vividly described. I did not feel overheated while listening to these two digital audio books borrowed from the library's e-zone collection even though the temperature outside was quite high and I was not in an air conditioned room. After a while I even spent a little time in my garden while still listening to the audio book. I learned this trick about 20 years ago on a really hot Saturday in July. It was one of those days when you could fry an egg on the sidewalk, as the saying goes, although I have never tried it. There was no walking the dog and it was too hot to do anything so instead I turned on the TV, and watched the movie, *Vertical Limit*. It's about three mountain climbers who become trapped in an ice cave near the summit of K2, the world's second highest, and deadliest, mountain. As I recall the movie held my attention but the more interesting part about watching it was that I cooled down and actually felt comfortable. I'm sure it's psychological yet I find time and again that it works. I'm happy to share this with you as well as my informal review of *Blackout* and *Nightblind*. In my opinion, both books are well written. The characters have depth and the plots are plausible. In general I like mysteries, including crime fiction if it's not too gory. Right up to the last chapter, these two books kept me thinking about who did it and why. So I recommend them. I am also going to investigate (no pun intended!) other books by this author since it's probably going to be a long, hot August. Heat wave aside, I have found that works by Scandinavian authors are very good. Take for example Stieg Larsson's, *The Girl with the Dragon Tattoo* series, or Henning Mankell's, Kurt Wallander novels. Fortunately, many works by foreign authors have been translated into English and are available for loan either through the library's e-zone account or Hoopla.

By the way, I hope you filled out our online survey about how you use the library and your vision of services the library should or should not offer in the coming years. If you didn't, it's not too late to have your voice heard. We are planning a series of public forums. The first will be in person at the library on **Tuesday, 9/20/2022, at 6pm**.

The other two will be virtual/hybrid forums that you can attend from home or at the library.

**Thursday, 9/22/2022 at 6pm** [Click here for link to zoom virtual forum](#)

Meeting ID: 849 0967 4921 Passcode: 252470

**Sunday, 9/25/2022 at 1pm** [Click here for link to zoom virtual forum](#)

Meeting ID: 820 5853 3410 Passcode: 513881

Lastly, have you seen **Beyond books: The 21st century public library** on CBS News? It's a short clip - 8 minutes long - and well worth watching. You can find more information on how to watch it in another section of this newsletter. So keep cool, and read on.

See you at the MPL!

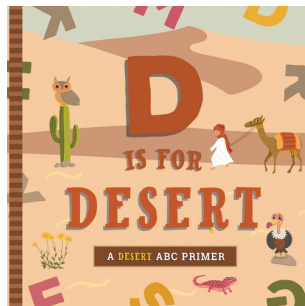
Theresa

Theresa Coish is the Director of Middletown Public Library  
She is currently reading, *The Given Day*, by Dennis Lehane

## What's New at the Library



New Adult Books



New Children's Books



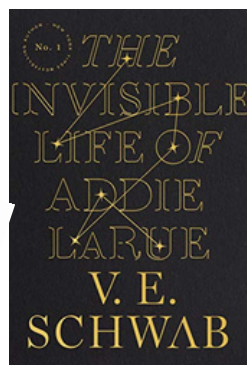
New Teen Books

## MPL'S Adult Book Club

3:30pm in our  
community meeting room

Monday,  
August 15th

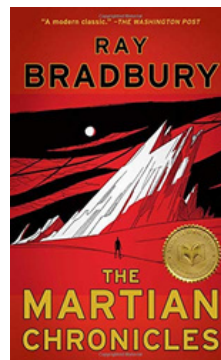
*We'll be  
discussing*



The Invisible Life of  
Addie La Rue

Get your  
copies  
today!

The Martian Chronicles



Monday,  
September 12th

*We'll be  
discussing*

We hope you can join us! Click [HERE](#) to register.

## Congratulations to more of our Summer Reading Challenge WINNERS!

### Week 2

Children: Ari H.  
Teen: Mary Ellen W.  
Adult: Julie T.

### Week 3

Children: Emily B.  
Teen: Tristan C.  
Adult: Linda B.

### Week 4

Children: James W.  
Teen: Samuel H.  
Adult: Rebecca M.

### Week 5

Children: Devin C.  
Teen: Macy M.  
Adult: Trudy S.

### Week 6

Children: Norah L.  
Teen: Grace W.  
Adult: Amy C.

Weekly drawings for local business gift cards for each age group. All age groups for the SRC that complete requirements by August 27th will be automatically entered into the Grand Prize drawing.

***There's still time to win . . .***

**GO TO full details and REGISTRATION**



The statewide Rhode Island Summer Reading Program is supported by the RI Office of Library and Information Services, with funds from the Institute of Museum and Library Services.



## Children's Spotlight



## FAMILY STORYTIMES

**Mondays from 10:30am - 11:00am**

Join us for stories, singing, and fun games and activities!

## BABY STORYTIMES

**Tuesdays from 10:30am - 11:00am**

These are geared toward infants and toddlers ages 0-24 months and will feature short stories, songs, rhymes, lap bounces, and play time.

**No registration required - hope you can drop by and join us in the Children's Room!**



**Drop in  
anytime during  
Lego Club  
hours!  
No registration  
required.**



**Thursdays  
1:30pm - 3:30pm**



**Wednesday, August 10th**

**1:30pm - 2:30pm**

in our community meeting room

**GO TO REGISTRATION**

**Grades  
3-7**







# PATRON PICKS Display and Raffle!

If you have a book or audiobook that you'd like to recommend, stop by and complete a Patron Pick form and leave it in the box located at the Patron Picks display. For every Patron Pick Form you complete, you will be entered into the drawing for a **\$25 Barnes and Noble Gift Card!** Drawing to be held on August 31st.

**Also, be sure to look at the patron picks on display available for check out.**  
**Patron Picks = Great Reads!**

**Come in and join the fun!**



*(Bottom of form containing personal information will be removed prior to displaying and will be used as your raffle ticket!)*



## Celebrate American Artist Appreciation Month

This month is American Artist Appreciation Month, making August the perfect time to celebrate the richness of the American artistic tradition, and to explore the creativity of American dancers, painters, musicians, and poets.



NATIONAL  
ENDOWMENT  
FOR THE  
HUMANITIES

*View "Virtual Bookshelf: American Artist Appreciation Month"*

*Browse the American Artist collection at MPL*



*Allies Day, May 1917, by  
Childe Hassam, 1917*

## Beyond books: The 21st century public library

**©CBS NEWS** shows us how the modern library is more than just a repository of books. Correspondent Conor Knighton checks out how today's libraries are public spaces designed to foster connections while keeping pace with technology and the needs of the community. Press the Play Button to Watch!



### Aquidneck Community Table's

Growers Markets provide easy access to seasonal, regionally-grown food and greater awareness of the benefits of eating fresh local foods for our health, the strength of our local economy, the viability of agricultural life, and the future of our earth.

**NATIONAL  
FARMERS  
MARKET  
WEEK 2022**

**August 7-13**



**MIDDLETOWN**  
Rhode Island

**Go to  
Event Details**

## Ways to vote



### *From Home*

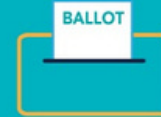
Fill out a mail ballot application and return it by August 23



### *Early In-Person*

**August 24 - September 12**

Contact your city or town hall.



### *On Primary Day*

**September 13**

Go to [vote.ri.gov](https://vote.ri.gov) to find your polling place.

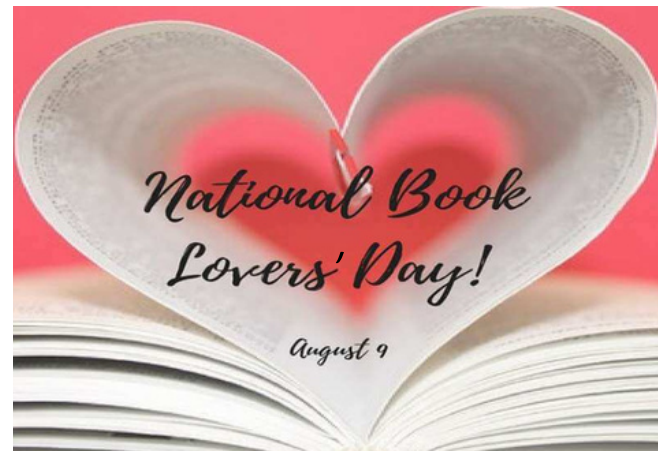
Pick up a mail ballot application at the MPL (lobby table)

**OR**

Click [HERE](#) to request to receive a mail ballot application by mail

### The Friends Corner

Book Lovers' Day is celebrated every year on August 9th. If you want to read a good book, either go to your public library in Middletown or its bookstore where you can purchase fiction, non-fiction, biographies, cook books, and children's books. The bookstore is open Monday-Thursday from 10:30am to 4:30pm and Friday and Saturday from 10:30am to 2:30pm.



The Friends of the Middletown Library is an organization that supports the library. Be a friend and join the Friends of the Middletown Library. Applications are available in the Library or email [FriendsofMiddletownRILibrary@gmail.com](mailto:FriendsofMiddletownRILibrary@gmail.com).

### Connect with us!



**Middletown Public Library**  
700 West Main Road  
Middletown, RI 02842  
401-846-1573

[middletownpubliclibrary@gmail.com](mailto:middletownpubliclibrary@gmail.com)  
[middletownpubliclibraryri.org](http://middletownpubliclibraryri.org)

**Library Hours:**  
Monday - Thursday 10 am - 7 pm  
Friday - 10 am - 5 pm  
Saturday - 10 am - 5 pm  
Sunday\* - 12 pm - 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