A monthly guide to your community library, its programs and services

Issue No. 250, January 2010

January holidays
The library will be closed on Friday, January 1. On January 18, we’ll be open from 1 to 5 p.m. in observance of Martin Luther King Jr. Day.

Thanks, Garden Club
The gorgeous greens and festive flora that brightened the building during the holiday season were courtesy of the Garden Club. Thank you!

We’re a 5-Star Library
Of the 7,268 public libraries surveyed in Library Journal’s national rating of public libraries, 258 were identified as “star” libraries and received 3, 4 or 5 stars. We earned 5 stars — one of just 85 libraries nationwide to receive this honor.

Returning to work?
Registration begins January 12 for a 2-part workshop that begins January 27. If you are a stay-at-home mom or dad ready to return to the workforce, career coach Diane Reynolds can help. See the calendar of events for details.

Think spring!
We’ll be Brooklyn Bound on Wednesday, May 19. Mark your calendar — registration begins March 16. Complete details in next month’s issue.

Corinthian Trio
As top prize-winners of some of the most prestigious international competitions for their instruments, pianist Adam Neiman, violinist Stefan Milenkovich and cellist Ani Navaroorian join together as the Corinthian Trio, unifying their individual strengths to create an extraordinary ensemble. The group takes our stage with selections from Arensky and Piazzoli on Sunday, January 24 at 3 p.m., sponsored by the Music Advisory Council.

Neiman, Milenkovich and Navaroorian have individually performed recitals in over 30 countries throughout the world. They have played at premiere venues, including engagements with the symphony orchestras of Chicago, San Francisco, Saint Louis, Dallas, Houston, Cincinnati, Minnesota, Indianapolis, and the Boston Pops, as well as the National Symphony Orchestra of Washington D.C., Orpheus Chamber Orchestra, Moscow State Symphony, Bolshoi Theatre Orchestra, Tokyo Philharmonic, Berlin Symphony and continued on page 2
Our favorite books of 2009
... in no particular order

*When you Reach Me* by Rebecca Stead. As her mother prepares to be a contestant on a 1980s television game show, a 12-year-old New York City girl tries to make sense of a series of mysterious notes received from an anonymous source that seems to defy the laws of time and space. Rachel Fox, Children’s Services

*The Unfinished Angel* by Sharon Creech. In a small village in the Swiss Alps, an angel is discovered by the free-spirited Zola, and the commotion begins. They bring good deeds and acts of kindness to the villagers including a cranky old widow, a barking dog and a ragtag bunch of orphans. Filled with memorable characters and good-natured nonsense, this magical tale is a great read for children ages 8 to 12. Joni Simon, Children’s Services

*Weekends at Bellevue: Nine years on the night shift at the psych ER* by Julie Holland. A fast-paced read that chronicles Holland’s years at the nation’s oldest public hospital. As the book jacket states, “Julie Holland thought she knew what crazy was. Then she came to Bellevue.” Jackie Kelly, Community Relations

*Wintergirls* by Laurie Halse Anderson. Eighteen-year-old Lia comes to terms with her best friend’s death from anorexia as she struggles with the same disorder. With naked emotion, brutal honesty and a narrative that’s both captivating and claustrophobic, *Wintergirls* gives readers a haunting window into the disordered thinking behind eating disorders. Laurie Halse Anderson’s best book to date! Suzanne Fonzini, TeenSpace

*Lark and Termite* by Jayne Anne Phillips grows on you slowly and stays with you for days. It’s the story of a family — dysfunctional, of war, separation, disabilities and nature. Set in the 1950s during the Korean war, the story is timeless, poignant, multifaceted and a good read. Lee Ferrituta, Adult Services

*Universal Studios Monsters: A Legacy of Horror* by Michael Mallory. A coffee table book featuring rare photographs of the Phantom of the Opera, Dracula, Frankenstein Monster, the Mummy, the Wolf Man, the Creature from the Black Lagoon and many more. Jonathan Guildroy, Media Services

*Cutting for Stone: a novel* by Abraham Verghese. It’s Addis Ababa, 1954, and identical twin boys are born under very unusual circumstances. This first novel by an M.D. has everything — mystery, coming-of-age, political turmoil, love and the practice of medicine. Patti Paris, Reference

The Friends of the Library welcomed hundreds of patrons to free events it sponsored as part of its annual Friends & Family Day on Saturday, November 7. In the morning, a jam-packed audience enjoyed the comedic and mysterious talents of Magic Al in a performance for school-age children. In the afternoon, a paperback swap attracted well over 200 book lovers and thousands of books — fiction, nonfiction, adult, children’s — were won by Sophie and Julian White. In addition, the FOL conducted a free raffle for a backpack of children’s books, which was won by Sophie and Julian White. For more information on the FOL and its programming, fundraising and advocacy, see pwpl.org/fol.

The FOL is currently conducting its annual appeal and you can give online at pwpl.org/donate or via donation envelopes in the library.

*Corinthian Trio*

A collaboration born in 1998 at the Juilliard School, the Corinthian Trio gave their professional debut at Miami’s Lincoln Theater. Other notable venues included Merkin Hall in New York, the Jupiter Chamber Players, the Rachmaninoff Society Festival in Westchester County, Cosmos Club in Washington, D.C., and the Civic Center in Des Moines, Iowa.

Music Advisory Council concerts are privately funded by donations to the Port Washington Library Foundation.

*Jane Breskin Zalben offers writing series*

Registration begins Monday, January 4 for a series of two 1 1/2 hour workshops facilitated by local author Jane Breskin Zalben which will be an overview of the publishing marketplace.

The sessions are Tuesdays, January 19 and 26 at 7 p.m. Payment of $20 for the series is due at registration.

The workshops include discussion of the process of rewrites, drafts, editing and limited readings of works to set a foundation so that each person can then try and do it on their own.

Jane Breskin Zalben was chair last year of the largest exhibition of original art in the industry, including all of the picture book/graphic novel genres. She is the author/artist of over 50 children’s books, including seven novels. Her new books for 2010 will be a spring picture book, *Baby Shower* (a Neal Porter Book/Roaring Brook/Macmillan) and *Four Seasons* (Knopf/Random House), a young adult novel.

This program is funded, in part, by Poets & Writers, Inc. with public funds from the New York State Council on the Arts, a state agency.
In the Photography Gallery

An Eclectic Look at Long Island Aviation

Marty Schmidt exhibits An Eclectic Look at Long Island Aviation, January 6 through February 28 in the Photography Gallery.

Though he photographs many subjects, Marty Schmidt is a long-time aviation enthusiast. Some of his work is intended to offer a one-of-a-kind look at the line and symmetry of our physical aviation heritage through a combination of innovative color techniques and individual exploration and expression.

His most recent shoots include the Smithsonian’s Udvar-Hazy Museum, the Garber Facility in Maryland, the American Air Museum at Republic Airport in Farmingdale, and the 106th Rescue Wing of the NY Air National Guard in West Hampton. In 2009, he displayed a variety of his photographs at the Bentley Gallery in Lawrence. A set of his aviation work is currently on exhibit at the Cradle of Aviation Museum in Garden City.

Marty is a member of the International Society for Aviation Photography, the Long Island Center of Photography and the US Naval Institute. He is a former member of the 423rd MP’s USAR headquartered on Long Island. Look for a PowerPoint talk with Marty Schmidt on Monday, February 8 at 7:30 p.m.

Meet author Joseph Kanon

On Friday, January 29 at 12:10 p.m., meet Joseph Kanon, author of Stardust. Kanon has published a gift for probing relevant themes in the context of pivotal episodes in history. Now he recreates star-studded post-World War II Hollywood, with all its glorious dreams and illusions, in Stardust (Atria Books, 2009), an evocative thriller that seamlessly blends fact and fiction in his most absorbing novel to date. Books will be available for purchase and signing following his talk. Sponsored by the Friends of the Library.

Spencer Tracy . . . on DVD, VHS and in print

This month we screen Captains Courageous, which stars Spencer Tracy (1900-1967). Here are some of our other Tracy holdings:

- DVD: Adam’s Rib (1949) • Bad Day at Black Rock (1955) • Boon Town (1940) • Broken Lance (1954) • Desk Set (1957) • Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde (1941) • Father of the Bride (1950) • Father’s Little Dividend (1951) • Fury (1936) • George Stevens: A Filmmaker’s Journey (1985) • Guess Who’s Coming to Dinner (1967) • How the West Was Won (1962) • Inherit the Wind (1960) • It’s a Mad, Mad, Mad, Mad World (1963) • Judgment at Nuremberg (1961) • Libeled Lady (1936) • Malaya (1949) • Marie Galante (1954) • Men of Boys Town (1941) • Northwest Passage (1940) • The Old Man and the Sea (1958) • Pat and Mike (1952) • San Francisco (1936) • The Spencer Tracy Legacy: A Tribute by Katharine Hepburn (1989) • State of the Union (1945) • Thirty Seconds Over Tokyo (1944) • Up the River (1930) • Without Love (1943) • Woman of the Year (1942) • Young America (1932) • VHS: Edison the Man (1940) • A Guy Named Joe (1943) • Keeper of the Flame (1942) • The Last Hurrah (1958) • Mannequin (1938) • Plymouth Adventure (1942) • The Seventh Cross (1944) • Tortilla Flat (1942)

Print: Christopher P. Anderson’s An Affair to Remember: The Remarkable Love Story of Katharine Hepburn & Spencer Tracy • Bill Davidson’s Spencer Tracy: Tragic Idol • Donald Deschner’s The Complete Films of Spencer Tracy • James Fisher’s Spencer Tracy: A Bio-Bibliography • Garson Kanin’s Tracy and Hepburn: An Intimate Memoir

Under Their Thumb

Join Tony Traguardo on Friday, January 22 at 7:30 p.m. for a SoundSwap program on the legendary Rolling Stones, from the unique perspective of author Bill German. Mr. German will relay stories from his book Under Their Thumb: How a Nice Boy From Brooklyn Got Mixed Up With the Rolling Stones (and Lived to Tell About It).

Bill German’s life was turned upside down when, at age 10, he first heard the Rolling Stones album Get Yer Ya Ya’s Out, a live chronicle of the group’s 1969 tour. By 16, he launched the fanzine Beggars Banquet. The band took notice and eventually declared Beggars Banquet their official newsletter.

German traveled the world with the Stones, and was welcomed into their homes and recording sessions. He co-authored the book The Works with Ron Wood, and has written about the group for Spin and Rolling Stone magazines. He has been profiled on MTV and VHI, and has done reporting on the Stones for the top rock and roll radio stations across the United States. German was a journalism student at New York University until that fateful day that he dropped out to follow the Stones. He now resides in Manhattan, where he refers to his studio apartment as “the House the Stones Built.”
January Library Kids

Welcome to the page for Children’s Services. Look here for upcoming exhibits, programs and articles relating to Children’s Services and the Parenting Information Center. Parents: Please comply with the age guidelines for these programs and be prepared to show proof of local residency.

Early Childhood

To register and/or inquire about availability for the following programs, please call Children’s Services at 883-4400, Ext.150.

Mother Goose Rhyme Time

For children ages birth to 17 months with an adult – siblings welcome. Three Thursdays at 10:30 a.m. Session I – February 4, 11, 18; Session II – March 4, 11, 18; Session III – April 8, 15, 22. Registration begins January 8.

Parent Child Workshop

January 6, 13, 20, 27 and February 3 from 11:15 a.m. to 12:15 p.m. For children ages 18 to 29 months with an adult. Registration began December 18 – call for availability. Co-sponsored by the Port Washington Public Library Family Place and funded with private donations to the Port Washington Library Foundation, the Judith C. White Foundation and United Way.

A Time for Kids

Mondays, January 11, 25 and February 1. Educational activities combine preschool concepts and fun. Registrants sign up for a series of 3 dates at 10:30 a.m., 12 noon or 1:15 p.m. For ages 18 months to 5 years with an adult. Registration began December 28 – call for availability.

Toddler Story Time

For children ages 2½ to 3½ with an adult. Two groups: Fridays from 10:30 a.m. or 1:30 p.m. Groups begin January 22 and end March 26. Registration begins January 8.

Pajama Story Time

Tuesday, January 19 at 7 p.m. Come in pajamas and listen to bedtime stories. For children ages 2½ to 5 with an adult. Family members welcome. Registration not required.

Pajama Story Time in English and Spanish

Tuesday, January 12 at 7 p.m. Come in pajamas and join us for stories, songs and fun activities. For children ages 2½ to 6 with an adult. Family members welcome. Registration not required.

Preschool Story Time

For children ages 3½ to 5 without an adult. Two groups: Fridays from 10:30 a.m. or 1:30 p.m. Groups begin January 22 and end March 26. Registration begins January 8.

Kindergarten through Sixth Grade

To register and/or inquire about availability for the following programs, please call Children’s Services at 883-4400, Ext.150.


Book Bunch – Thursday, January 21 at 4 p.m.
Book discussion for children in third and fourth grade. Call for availability.

Page Turners – Tuesday, January 26 at 7:15 p.m.
Book discussion for children in fifth and sixth grade. Call for availability.

Tweens’ Night Out – Friday, January 22 from 8 to 9:30 p.m.
Students in grades 5 and 6 are invited for an evening get-together at the library. Join local resident Susanne Traub and have fun with Paper Bag Dramatics. Groups of 3 and 4 will use objects from a paper bag to create a play and act it out. Registration begins January 15. Each participant is asked to bring a fun object that will fit in a paper bag.

New Parents Support Group

Wednesdays at 2:30 p.m.
The Port Washington Public Library has offered this wonderful program for the past few years. Our objective is to provide a place for new parents to be able to talk with other new parents, share concerns and gain support in your most important role. Each registrant can participate in the group for 2 years or until their child is 2½ years old, whichever comes first. For availability call Children’s Services at 883-4400, Ext.150.

Born To Read

Congratulations new parents! The Port Washington Public Library is proud to be a part of Born To Read, a nationwide program that promotes early literacy. Born To Read was created to reach out to new parents and their babies in an effort to encourage the sharing of books together. This special bond between parents and children can begin from the time a child is born.

We invite Port Washington families with babies born anytime in the year 2009 to participate. Please visit the Children’s Room to receive the Born To Read welcome gift. Co-sponsored by the Friends of the Library.
Peri Schwartz will exhibit her paintings and works on paper from January 2 to 31 in the Main Gallery. On January 8, Barbara Applegate, the director of the Hillwood Art Museum, will interview the artist at Sandwiched In at 12:10 p.m. They will discuss the Old Masters and how they influenced her work.

Schwartz is a New York artist, whose powerful paintings, prints and drawings blend realism and abstraction. Her work is in many museum collections including the British Museum, the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston, the Corcoran Gallery of Art in Washington, D.C., and the Library of Congress. She has a MFA from Queens College and a BA from Boston University. Her work is represented by Cynthia Reeves in New York, the Midday Gallery in Englewood, N.J. and the Page Bond Gallery in Richmond, VA. Her subject matter includes self-portraits, studio interiors and still lifes. Working with objects and light as geometric components, Schwartz develops paintings and prints that are characterized by vivid color balanced by tones in black and grey. The precision of the drawing is essential to her. In her artist’s statement she says, “Just as a musician or dancer uses the structure of the notes, I believe that the discipline of getting the proportions right brings harmony to the work.” She likes to quote Willa Cather: “Every artist knows there is no such thing as ‘freedom’ in art. The first thing an artist does when he begins a new work is to lay down the barriers and limitations; he decides upon a certain composition, a certain key, a certain relation of creatures or objects to each other. He is never free, and the more splendid his imagination, the more intense his feelings, the farther he goes from general truth and general emotion.”

Peri Schwartz: Working with the Grid

Ode to Joy

Take a journey through the world of harp music from the Renaissance to the Romantic period with Jasmin Cowin on Friday, January 15 at 7:30 p.m. Performing on the Celtic and pedal harps, she creates music which serenades the spirit, soothes the soul and enthralls the senses. Ms. Cowin earned master’s and doctorate degrees in education from Columbia University Teachers College.

Music Council looks ahead

Sunday, February 21 at 3 p.m.
Apollo Trio with violist Misha Amory
Selections from Haydn, Beethoven, Brahms

Sunday, March 21 at 3 p.m.
Pianist Jennifer Tao
Selections from Schumann and Chopin

Sunday, April 11 at 3 p.m.
Dave Sear with Peter Pickow
Jean Ritchie Folk Concert

Sunday, May 2 at 3 p.m.
Pianist Daria Rabotkina
Selections from Schumann and Beethoven

All Music Advisory Council concerts are privately funded by donations to the Library Foundation.

PWEF students meet photographer

The Port Washington Education Foundation’s Education Support Center group had a chance meeting recently with photographer Lou Levitt. The group of third graders meets at the library on Tuesdays afternoons to get help with their homework and help in developing strategies for completing assignments.

On the afternoon the photo was taken, students were engaged in a scavenger hunt that asked them to identify various objects in the photographs taken by Mr. Levitt on exhibit in our gallery. The photographer happened to be in the library during their quest and graciously took the time to talk to the students about his work.

Now in its fifth year, the Support Center is funded by donations to the Port Washington Education Foundation, and is staffed by adult and high school volunteers. The library is pleased to partner with the PWEF for this very successful program.
What’s new in TeenSpace for grades 7 - 12?

American Red Cross CPR Certification for Teens
Saturday, January 23 / 12 to 4 p.m.
Being a babysitter is a huge responsibility and CPR certification can be a real help. This course will teach you how to reduce the risk of injury to infants and children, respond to emergency situations, care for an infant or child who stops breathing, and perform cardiopulmonary resuscitation on infants and children. Presenter Ildiko Catuogno, a certified Red Cross CPR/AED/First Aid instructor, has taught health education in the Great Neck Public Schools for 26 years and is the associate director of the Peer AIDS Education Program at North Shore University Hospital in Manhasset.

Did you know . . .
that TeenSpace has a great assortment of magazines for teens? Some of the titles are Seventeen, J14, Teen Vogue, PC Gamer, MAD Magazine, The New York Times Upfront, Electronic Gaming Monthly, Transworld Skateboarding and AP (Alternative Press). In addition, we have the manga magazine Shonen Jump.

Top Picks for 2009
Here is a recommended reading list compiled by the Young Adult Services Staff.

Wintergirls by Laurie Halse Anderson. Eighteen-year-old Lia comes to terms with her best friend’s death from anorexia as she struggles with the same disorder.

Going Bovine by Libba Bray. Cameron Smith, a disaffected 16-year-old who, after being diagnosed with Creutzfeld Jakob’s (aka mad cow) disease, sets off on a road trip with a death-obsessed video gaming dwarf in an attempt to find a cure.

All the Broken Pieces by Ann E. Burg. Two years after being airlifted out of Vietnam in 1975, Matt Pin is haunted by the terrible secret he left behind.

Along for the Ride by Sarah Dessen. When Auden impulsively goes to stay with her father, stepmother and new baby sister the summer before she starts college, the trauma of her parents’ divorce is revived.

If I Stay by Gayle Forman. While in a coma following a car accident that killed her parents and brother, Mia weighs whether to live with her grief or join her family in death.

Charles and Emma: The Darwins’ Leap of Faith by Deborah Heiligman. Charles Darwin and his wife were deeply in love, but their opinions often clashed.

Soldier’s Secret: The Story of Deborah Sampson by Sheila Solomon Klass. During the Revolutionary War, a young woman named Deborah Sampson disguises herself as a man to serve in the Continental Army.

Purple Heart by Patricia McCormick. While recuperating in a Baghdad hospital, 18-year-old soldier Matt Duffy struggles to recall what happened to him and how it relates to his 10-year-old friend, Ali.

The Fetch by Laura Whitcomb. After 350 years as a death escort, Calder breaks his vows and enters the body of Rasputin, while Calder struggles to convey Ana and Alexis to Heaven.

This Full House by Virginia Euwer Wolff. High school senior La Vaughn’s perceptions and expectations of her life begin to change as she learns about the many unexpected connections between the people she loves best.