



MPL Newsletter ~ Autumn 2006

Mahopac Public Library

DRUMS...DANCE...STORYTELLING... HISTORY...CRAFTS NATIVE AMERICAN FESTIVAL AT MAHOPAC PUBLIC LIBRARY

On Saturday, November 4 and Sunday, November 5, the Mahopac Public Library will host a Native American Festival which will offer the community a look at the culture, traditions and rich history of this region. The festival was inspired by Frank San Marco, a Mahopac resident and former Environmental Science teacher, who came to the library seeking space for his presentation, "A People the White Man Never Knew". Using his presentation as a focal point, the library invited dancers, drummers, craftspeople and historians to participate in this spirited and educational weekend.

San Marco creates an authentic woodland setting for the story of "True Son", the main character in the novel "A Light in the Forest" by Conrad Richter. True Son tells the story of his capture, by the Leni Lanapé people, from his white family when he was a young boy. Raised by the Lenapé, his life was transformed into something more beautiful and fulfilling than he could have ever imagined.

Authentic demonstrations of Native American skills are woven through this presentation as True Son demonstrates his native skills with the bow and arrow, tomahawk, and fire-making without matches.

The festival weekend will include special performances by David Little Eagle as well as The Nimham Mountain Singers Drum and Dance Troop. Workshops in Candle Making, Story Telling Dolls, Dream Catcher Jewelry, Beaded Hair Ornaments, Leather Crafting, and Native American Plants and Their Uses will be offered. Rounding out the weekend will be historical presentations by Eugene Boesch and by William Pisani, author of "The Call of Distant Drums."

Books and resources related to Native Americans will be available throughout the library. This is an event for all ages! A complete schedule, with dates and times of each program, is available at Mahopac Public Library, and online at: www.mahopaclibrary.org.

The Native American Festival is sponsored by the Friends of Mahopac Public Library. For additional information, please contact Debra Feiman at the Mahopac Public Library, 845.628.2009, ext 108, or via email: dfeiman@mahopaclibrary.org.



Frank San Marco pictured in costume on his set.

KID STUFF AT MPL

by Joan Rose

MPL Has Gone to the Dogs!

Animal Reading Friends (A.R.F.) Return to Mahopac Public Library

Our favorite reading dogs had a lovely summer vacation, and are scheduled to return to the library this fall. We all know that children improve their literacy skills with reading and the more practice they have, the more proficient they become. Children who never enjoyed reading very much have found self-confidence and are motivated to read more than ever before when they're reading one-on-one to our reading dogs. Reading to an animal is less stressful than reading to an adult, plus it's just more fun! Our goal is to provide children with a positive reading experience. Many children have benefited from this wonderful reading program and if you'd like to participate (by appointment only) or have any questions, call Joan at 845-628-2009 ext. 135.

Mahopac Public Library Teen Players

The Mahopac Public Library Teen Players are back for the third year. We'll have our first meeting on September 21 at 2:30 pm in the Community Room. The Teen Players meet every Thursday from 2:30 pm to 4:00 pm here at the library. Last year the Teen Players put on a fabulous performance of ***Grease Remix***. We've planned three separate shows this year: the Halloween show on October 26; the Winter Show on December 7; and a musical production in June. There is a \$25 materials fee which includes a MPL Teen Players' shirt, plus snacks & drinks at every rehearsal.

(more kid stuff inside)

NOTES FROM THE DIRECTOR

*A library is not a luxury
but one of the necessities of life.*

----Henry Ward Beecher

At the end of June 2006, Mahopac Public Library finally completed one full year of operation in its new facility—no fires, or floods, or plagues. As we had hoped, this building has become a center of community activity. We lent over a quarter of a million items, more than 200,000 people visited the library, there were 1,652 programs for people of all ages, and we answered more than 120,000 reference questions.

We continue to add new services and opportunities including first floor gallery space featuring the artwork of local school-children; online registration for all of our programs; a functioning computer lab for both scheduled workshops and drop-in practice sessions; downloadable audio books; wireless access; and, through the generosity of Reed Memorial Library, the *Putnam County Courier* on microfilm from 1849 to 1999.

The addition of two new staff members has resulted in the expansion of programs to young adults (Teen Library Council, AnimeMangaGaming Club, movie screenings) and adults (a variety of themed lecture series, yoga, author signings).

1950's JAZZ PERFORMANCE

BY MICHELLE LEBLANC

COMES TO

MAHOPAC PUBLIC LIBRARY
ON OCTOBER 22

Michelle LeBlanc, jazz vocalist and American history buff, brings to the Mahopac Public Library a show that celebrates jazz and uses music as a way of telling the story of America. The community is invited to this free concert which takes place on Sunday, October 22 from 2-3 pm.



Ms. LeBlanc's show, entitled **1950's Jazz: Bop, Cool, R & B**, actually begins in the late 1940's with the GI bill helping to fuel prosperity in the suburbs. Many Americans sought relief from the anxieties of living with the cold war, the atom bomb, Joseph McCarthy and the moral pressure of the civil rights movement. This post-war turbulence was reflected in the popular music and art of the day as Avant-guard Modernism was suddenly 'in'. Although musicians like Nat King Cole continued to keep the American songbook alive, innovative bebop jazz musicians such as Charlie Parker, Thelonious Monk, Miles Davis and Dave Brubeck helped create an intellectual musical scene that departed radically from the fading big band swing era.

Jazz and music lovers alike will enjoy this special concert performed by Michelle and her four piece band on October 22. A display of library resources including books and audio-visual material, will accompany this performance. Registration for this program is requested. Register online at: www.mahopaclibrary.org, or call 845.628.2009, ext 100.

This jazz concert is made possible, in part, with public funds from the New York State Council on the Arts (NYSCA) Decentralization Program. In Putnam County, the Decentralization program is administered by the Putnam Arts Council. Michelle LeBlanc has received support from NYSCA since 1999. Additional support for this concert has been provided by the Friends of Mahopac Public Library.

We continue to provide places for people to meet—school children doing their homework and studying at the library tables and at the study carrels; LVA tutors and their students; small groups at the café tables; large groups in the community room. To get a sense of the number and kinds of groups using our meeting spaces, take a look at the room reservation program schedule on the library's Web site, which is mahopaclibrary.org. By clicking on Room Reservations or on the word "Director" in the upper right corner of the homepage, you'll see the layout for our programs for the next few months.

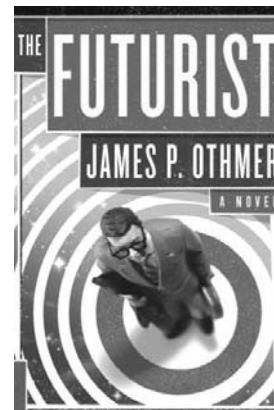
Although there are still things on our building to-do list, we were recognized by the Public Library Section of the New York Library Association as the 2005 Public Library Building of the Year. And, although we were not selected as one of the 80 buildings to be profiled in Berkshire Publishing Group's *Heart of the Community: The Libraries We Love*, we did receive a Certificate of Distinction and we will be listed in the book along with a photograph.

Funding is a challenge as the quest for both grants and private funds becomes more competitive and local government funding becomes tighter. Yet a recent survey of public libraries indicates that most people think that libraries are critical to their communities' health (92%) and that losing their library would hurt everyone in their community (78%).

It seems that most people still would agree with Rev. Beecher. — *Patricia Kaufman, Director*

"The Futurist"

We were delighted to welcome James P. Othmer to the Mahopac Public Library for a reading and book signing event. His first novel, "The Futurist", has received rave reviews and we congratulate him on his success. Copies of "The Futurist" are on sale for \$20 and can be signed by the author; proceeds benefit the Friends of Mahopac Public Library.



MPL PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

Flower Arranging with Michael Bothe and Billy Fitzgerald of Mahopac Flower Shop

Tuesday, September 26, 7:00 pm
Bring an 8-inch bubble bowl or similar item and take home your own beautiful arrangement. \$20 fee for flowers and materials. Registration required.

Self-Defense for Women

Presented by Yasuragi Center, Mahopac Adam Mitchell, Licensed Safety Tactics Instructor

Saturday, October 21, 2:00 pm

Learn how to protect yourself using non-deadly force and minimizing injury to others.

This free program is appropriate for ages 14 through adult.

October is Domestic Violence Awareness Month.

Identity Theft

Presented by Al Weissmann, Postal Inspector, USPS

Thursday, November 2, 7:00 pm

How to avoid it, what to do when it happens to you!

Free program. Registration required.

Local Author Series

Meet two former Mahopac High School graduates:

Jeff Pearlman & Kris A. Hansen

Sportswriter Jeff Pearlman

Thursday, September 28, 7:00 pm

Pearlman is the author of *The Bad Guys Won (The Biography of the Mets)* and *Love Me, Hate Me – Barry Bonds & the Making of an Antihero*. He returns to Mahopac to speak about sports writing and to sign copies of *Love Me, Hate Me*, which will be available for sale on September 28, courtesy of the Friends of MPL.

Author Kris A. Hansen

Saturday, October 28, 2:00 pm

The author of *Death Passage on the Hudson: The Wreck of the Henry Clay* will speak about her non-fiction book of events that occurred on July 28, 1852 and what turned out to be the worst steamboat disaster that the Hudson River would ever witness. Find out which celebrities of their day perished, and how this tragedy impacted the history of steam boating.

Registration requested for each author visit

Financial Planning & Safety

“Thursdays on the Lake” – Navigating Your Financial Planning

Presented by Margaret L. Condyles, Financial Planner

4 Thursdays: Sept. 7, 14, 21 & 28.

7-8 pm

Explore the basic elements of sound financial planning; gain insights into investment, risk management and retirement planning.

Registration requested for each seminar. Free program.

CELEBRATE COLUMBUS DAY

Linguine & Lust: Food and Sex in Italian American Culture

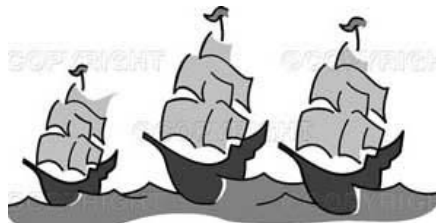
A presentation by Dr. Fred Gardaphe, Director of Italian-American Studies at SUNY/Stony Brook

Saturday, October 7, 3:00 pm

Light refreshments. Registration requested.

Take a closer look at the differences between Italian and American cultures, and how attitudes toward food and sex combine to create Italian-American culture.

“This program, which is free and open to the public, is made possible through the support of the New York Council for the Humanities’ Speakers in the Humanities program.”



Summer Reading Club – A Huge Success

Books are truly a treasure and the library was a magical place this summer. Children had a chance to explore the world through a vast array of books, letting their interests and imaginations take them to delightful places near & far. Summer reading is lots of fun and gives our children the skills they need to do well in school. This year the children who participated in our Summer Reading Club read more than ever before – 523 children read for more than 4,100 hours - congratulations! Keep up the good work!



Upcoming Movies at MPL

Thursday at 6.30 pm, October 15:

Rebecca Directed by Alfred Hitchcock

Sunday at 2.00 pm, November 19:

Home for the Holidays

Sunday at 2.00 pm, December 17:

Christmas in Connecticut

*Refreshments will be served
at every screening!*

HALLOWEEN!



Halloween at MPL

Halloween will be celebrated in all story time classes beginning October 25 through 31 during regularly scheduled classes.

A **Halloween Party** has been planned for all children in Grades 1-5 on Thursday, October 26 at 5 p.m. Children are encouraged to dress in costume and will be treated to a performance by the MPL Teen Players plus they'll make a spooky craft to bring home. Look for details early October.

REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED FOR ALL
MPL PROGRAMS.

Register online at: www.mahopaclibrary.org
Or call: 845.628.2009, ext. 100

MPL Book Club News

Mahopac Library is pleased to announce a new service for book clubs in the community. To make it easier for members of local book groups to get enough copies of the books they are reading, Mahopac Library, in cooperation with other Mid-Hudson libraries, is offering a Book Club in a Bag service. Each bag comes with 10 copies of a title along with sample discussion questions. Bags can be borrowed for 6 weeks and can be reserved in advance. For more information, and to see the range of titles offered and their availability, check out the link on the library's Web site or call the library at 628-2009 x100. Any local book groups looking for help to choose titles for their meetings can stop by the information/readers advisory desk to get suggestions for new titles or they can email the library at circulation@mahopaclibrary.org.

The library's 3 book groups are flourishing but also welcome new members.

The Flo Brandon Book Review Group meets the first Friday of the month at 11 am to discuss the current book selection. Their upcoming choices are *Waiting for Godot* by Samuel Beckett on Friday, October 6th and the *Poetry of John Keats* on Friday, November 3rd.

The Light Bite Book Club meets on the 3rd Wednesday of the month at 1 pm. Their September choice is *The Other Boleyn Girl* by Philippa Gregory on September 20th. October's book is *Middlesex* by Jeffrey Eugenides and the choice for November is *I Don't Know How She Does It* by Allison Pearson on November 15th.

The Monday Evening Book Group will discuss *The Kite Runner* by Khaled Hosseini on October 2nd and *The Scarlet Pimpernel* by Baroness Orczy on November

6th. This group meets on the first Monday evening of the month at 7.30 pm. Copies of all the upcoming titles are available at the circulation desk of the library.

For those patrons who cannot attend the discussion, look for the online book discussion section of our web page that will be debuting soon. This will be a place to give your opinion of the current book and to see what other readers think about it. We will also be adding stickers to the spines of some of our previous discussion titles so that they are easier to find in our collection.

— Sheelagh Kaplan

Upcoming Bestsellers by Sheelagh Kaplan

Did you know that Mahopac Public Library attempts to have every book on The New York Times bestseller list? You can preview a monthly list of upcoming books by bestselling authors at the library on the Readers Advisory page of our Web site and reserve these books prior to publication either through the online catalog or by calling or stopping in at the library.

If you would like to be notified when the library has ordered copies of new books by your favorite authors, you can register for our

new **Author Alert Program** and we will be happy to reserve these titles for you in advance of publication. We also have extra copies of bestselling titles on our popular Eureka! cart. These are copies that are not available for reserves; you may be lucky to find that special title when you come to the library.

As always Readers' Advisory staff at the Information Desk are happy to provide you with suggestions on books and authors.



The Memoir Workshop meets every other week in the Land Use Center. Ask for details at the Information Desk if you would like to join this lively group of writers.

NATIONAL ALLIANCE ON MENTAL ILLNESS

Beginning in October, 2006, the National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI) and Mahopac Public Library will offer the Family-to-Family Education Program, a 12-week course for families of individuals with serious mental illness. There is NO CHARGE and the course is taught by trained NAMI family members. The curriculum includes up-to-date information about illnesses of the brain, medications, evidence-based treatments to promote recovery, coping skills, communication techniques, strategies for handling crises and relapse, local community resources and advocacy to improve services in the mental health system. This program takes place on Monday evenings at Mahopac Public Library. **Pre-registration is required.** Please contact Mental Health Association in Putnam County, Inc. at 845/278-7600, ext. 246 for further information or to register.

Pedal Cars at the Library

If you visited the library this summer, you may have noticed an amazing collection of pedal cars on display in the children's area. We are all grateful to Joe Schiavone for sharing his wonderful collection of cars with us. And if that weren't enough, he generously donated a classic yellow Corvette pedal car to the Friends of MPL which was used for a raffle. The proceeds of this raffle will be used to benefit the children's wing and that makes us all winners! A very deserving winner was selected on September 5. Congratulations Jerry Ravnitzky!

Century of Children's Fire Trucks

To help celebrate & honor Fire Prevention Week – October 8-14 – Joe Schiavone will once again share some of his amazing pedal car collection by displaying fire trucks from the early 1900's through the present. And once again, he has generously donated one of his fire trucks to the Friends of the MPL to be raffled off to a lucky winner. Look for more details early October.

The Job/Education Information Corner

Are you unemployed?

Are you unhappy in your current job?

Are you re-entering the job market after a long absence?

Are you a recent college graduate looking for your first job?

The Job/Education Information Center at Mahopac Public Library can provide the assistance you need to help you through this transition period in your life.

Call (845) 628-8139 to make an appointment to speak to a trained career counselor who can assist you with skill identification, creative job hunting techniques, resume and cover letter development, networking and interviewing skills. This professional service is available at no cost to our patrons.

Coming Soon to the Job/Education Information Center...

A series of Fred Pryor/Career Track business seminars on video-cassettes, containing high quality, effective information on business management and professional skill development in such areas as: employee motivation and supervision, customer service, team

building, self esteem, job stress, leadership and communication skills. Thanks to a generous donation, these topics and many others in this special collection will be available at the library by the end of September.

Have you seen what's available to you through Mahopac Library's "Home Access"?

Log into www.mahopaclibrary.org and click on "Home Access". Put in your Mahopac Library card number and a password of your choosing and to find a selection of specialized data bases accessible from home. Click on "Learn A Test", the leading source for interactive practice exams and test preparation materials for ACT, SAT, Elementary, Middle and High School skill improvement. Practice tests for Advanced Placement and Civil Service Career exams, as well as many other subject areas are also available. —Helen LiMarzi



TEEN ZONE TIDBITS... by Rita Covelli

- Our Summer Programs for teens were wildly successful! In addition to our "Teen Pirate Reading Challenge," we offered 22 programs for grades 6-12 and had over 290 participants! These programs included fencing, henna tattoos, clue detection, astronomy, anime marathons, book discussions, poetry workshops, babysitting certification, scrapbooking, baseball statistics and more!
- Keep a lookout for the first issue of the "Teen Zone News" at the end of September. This issue will include short stories and poems written by our teens over the summer. Any teen interested in becoming a part of our newsletter committee should join us at our next Teen Library Council meeting.
- The Teen Library Council (TLC) meets on the second Wednesday of each month. The next scheduled meeting is October 11th at 2:30 pm. All middle and high school age students are welcome to come and help plan activities, parties and programs for the upcoming year.
- The Anime Manga Gaming Club (AMGC) meets every Monday throughout the year at 2:30 pm. This is a "by teens, for teens" program! Once a month, the group invites other teens to join them for Anime Movie Screenings up in the third floor community room. Join them on October 16th for *Negima! Magic 101* or on November 13th for *YuYu Hakusho: Dark Tournament*.
- A "Halloween Anime Cosplay Party" is planned for Monday, October 30th from 2:30-5:30 pm. Come dressed as your favorite anime character and play games, DDR, answer trivia, snack and win prizes! Registration is required.
- Participate in the "WWE Wrestlemania Reading Challenge" between October and January for an opportunity to win prizes and tickets to a WWE show. Details will be available at the library in October.
- Mark your calendars: National (Non-Electronic) Games Week is November 19th – 25th and there will be games available throughout the library as well as specific tournaments in chess and cards. Check the MPL calendar for the program times.
- Thanks to the time and effort of one of our TLC members, Cara Gilroy, the Teen Zone web page is up and functioning! Get to it from the "TeenZone" button on our library homepage at www.mahopaclibrary.org and be sure to check it regularly for information about upcoming programs, the TLC, the AMGC and the Teen Players.



MONOPOLY TOURNAMENT **Pass Go and Collect \$100 Grand Bars!**

On July 24, 2006, twenty young adults participated in Mahopac Public Library's first Monopoly tournament. After battling their real estate trading skills, the four winners (Brittany Ilardi, Ryan Shea, Emily Vaughters and Nicola Winogradoff) were awarded Monopoly mugs filled with 100 Grand bars. The next Monopoly Tournament will be held on Monday, February 19, 2007 at 3 p.m. in the Community room in the library. Come help make it a success! Registration date to be announced soon.

— Frances Harrison



Mahopac Public Library

668 Route Six
Mahopac, NY 10541

Phone: 845-628-2009
Fax: 845-628-0672
Web site: mahopaclibrary.org
E-mail: library@mahopaclibrary.org

Library Hours:

Monday ~ Thursday:
9:30 am to 9:00 pm
Friday & Saturday:
9:30 am to 5:00 pm
Sunday: 1 to 5:00 pm

Newsletter edited by David Keaton

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Artist Workshop

Artist Workshop returns for children in grades 1 through 5. Explore multimedia projects involving design, drawing & color exercises. First class October 11 - registration is required – online at mahopaclibrary.org & click MPL Calendar or call 628-2009 x. 100.

Yoga with Chun-Kim Levin

Thursday mornings: 9:45-11 am
Sept. 7, 14, 28, Oct. 5, 19, 27
\$25 for 6 classes, or \$5/class
Wednesday evenings: 7:15-8:30 pm
Sept. 13, 20, 27, Oct. 4, 11, 25, Nov. 1 & 8
\$35 for 8 classes, or \$5/class

Nutrition & Weight Loss with Dr. Edward

Covelli, Jr
Wednesday, September 27, 10:00 am
Change your habits; lose the weight.
Free program.

Seniors & Today's Challenges

Presented by Susan Haberin
Tuesday, October 3, 10:30 am
Combat aches & pains; gain energy and stamina!
Free program.



EVENTS FOR THE FALL OF 2006

Children's Optimal Well-Being

Presented by Susan Haberin
Tuesday, October 10, 12:30 pm
Nutrition and natural solutions for your child's health.
Free program.

Eating Disorders in Young Adults

Presented by Allison J. Stowell, MS, RD, CDN.
Thursday, October 12, 7:00 pm
Gain an understanding of anorexia, bulimia, and binge eating disorder.
Free program.

Influenza & Pandemic Flu

Presented by the Putnam County Health Department
Tuesday, October 17, 10:30 am
A guide to safety and prevention in flu season.
Free program.

REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED FOR ALL MPL PROGRAMS.

Register online at: www.mahopaclibrary.org or call: 845.628.2009, ext. 100