



## MPL Newsletter ~ Autumn 2008

### Mahopac Public Library

#### Summer Reading Programs – Enormous Success!

The Mahopac Public Library was buzzing with activities this summer. This year's theme "Catch the Reading Bug!" had hundreds of children caught in its web of fun & learning! We are happy to report that 489 children (preschool through grades 5) successfully participated in MPL's Summer Reading Club. These children read a total of 4,402 hours – an impressive achievement. The teens had a wonderful summer of reading as well – 117 teens read 241 books – outstanding work! And Book Buddies were back for the summer. A wonderful group of teen volunteers met weekly with younger children to read and participate in reading related activities...this partnership was a winning combination!

MPL offered a wide variety of programming for youth of all ages. There were programs for every age group and for every interest. We even got to observe the metamorphosis of Monarch Butterflies 'up close and personal' and were awed when they took flight in the Children's Garden. MPL definitely went buggy this summer with Food Gone Buggy, Crafts Gone Buggy, Bugs Around the World, Catch the Creative Bug – a Workshop for Young Artists & Bookmakers, Big Bug Movie Afternoon and Night, Gardening-The Good, Bad & Ugly and Life-styles of the Crawly & Squishy. The teens enjoyed Game Night, Japanese Gothic Tales, Origami, Japanese Brush Calligraphy, Weekly RuneScape Fest, plus fashions were created out of recycled materials and modeled at MPL's Project Runway Fashion Show. The MPL Teen Players put on a fabulous musical performance of "Goin' Buggy" enjoyed by all ages. If that wasn't enough, teams of fearless, daring teens participated in MPL's Real Bug Fear Factor and yes, actual bugs were consumed...eek!

MPL's summer reading program has proven to be a great motivator to get families coming to the library on a regular basis and reading. The library provided an interesting array of books, magazines, videos, CDs, programs, crafts, performers and fun for people of all ages. Summer library programs take advantage of children's natural curiosity to introduce new subjects and different genres. When children read what they enjoy, they learn to love reading and become better readers. The summer reading program plays an important role in accomplishing this. Studies have repeatedly shown that children who continue to read during the summer months perform better when school resumes in the fall. — *Joan Rose*

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GET YOUR MPL NEWS ONLINE! SUBSCRIBE TO THE LIBRARY'S MONTHLY E-NEWSLETTER FOR FREE. GO TO THE HOME PAGE OF OUR WEB SITE, [www.mahopaclibrary.org](http://www.mahopaclibrary.org). AND ADD YOUR E-MAIL ADDRESS IN THE BOX MARKED E-NEWSLETTER SIGN-UP. YOU'LL START GETTING ALL THE LATEST NEWS ABOUT THE LIBRARY EVERY MONTH. SEND US YOUR E-MAIL ADDRESS, AND WE'LL SEND YOU THE NEWS. IT'S THAT SIMPLE!

#### NEW FINE STRUCTURE FOR OVERDUE MATERIALS

As of October 1st, Mahopac Public Library has changed its structure of fines for overdue materials. This change, the first in many years, is to bring us more into line with other Mid-Hudson Libraries and to also reflect the changing cost of materials. For materials borrowed on or after October 1st the fines on non-print materials will be 50 cents a day with a maximum fine of \$5. For print materials the daily fines will remain at 10 cents but the maximum fine will be \$5. Please call the library at (845)628-2009 x100 if you have any questions about this change.



#### Halloween at MPL

Halloween will be celebrated in all story time classes beginning October 27 through 31st during regularly scheduled classes.

#### Halloween Party for Children in grades 1-5

Thursday, October 30 @ 5 p.m.  
Celebrate Halloween at Mahopac Public Library!

\* Dress in Costume \* Play Spooky Games \*  
Win Candy \* PLUS \* Enjoy a special Halloween performance presented by the MPL Teen Players.

## Notes from the Director

*You won't believe this, but at one time I actually paid money for books and movie rentals. I know. I can't believe it either. But now I know better....I've seen the light, and it's called the library.*

---Mason Adams, Roanoke Times (VA)

July 1, 2007, through June 30, 2008, was a challenging year. For the first time, we saw our annual budget vote go down in defeat. We were forced to cut hours and several programs, including story times. On June 4, 2008, voters approved our budget for fiscal year ending June 30, 2009, and we were able to restore both hours and programs.

On January 12, 2008, the arrest of a man charged with downloading child pornography on one of our computers led to the creation of a task force composed of library trustees and representatives from the Carmel Police Department, the Putnam County Youth Bureau, and the Mahopac Central School District. The task force set three goals for itself:

- To review the revised draft of the Mahopac Public Library Internet use policy and make recommendations to the library's Board of Trustees;
- To look at solutions, information, opinions, and definitions, including presentations, additional research, and recommendations; and
- To help design public programs which are educational for parents and children.

The task force began meeting at the end of January, presented several recommendations to the trustees, and will be developing public education programs.

Although attendance, circulation and programs were down for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2008, because of the service cuts, people still used the library. (In fact, our numbers for attendance and circulation in July 2008 were the highest we ever recorded!) More than 100 different groups met here.

The gallery walls were alive with exhibits by both talented children and adults. An interpretation of Van Gogh's painting of sunflowers by first and second grade students at Lakeview Elementary School made the front page of *The Putnam County Courier* (May 15, 2008). And one of the winning posters in a library-sponsored poster contest for area school children that illustrated the reasons they loved the library appeared in the *Putnam Express* (May 15, 2008).

Popular library based programs included the anime/manga group, art programs for children and teens, book discussion groups for adults and children, chess, computer workshops, Early Literacy Parenting Training workshops, gardening workshops, SAT preparation courses, the Teen Players, and yoga.

A new statistic for 2008 called Holds Filled (items requested by patrons in other libraries, which do not count in our circulation statistics) is a testament to the excellence of our collection and the incredible customer service ethic of our staff. Between holds filled and circulating materials, MPL staff handles more than 2000 items per day!

This fiscal year ending June 30, 2008, saw the introduction of our monthly e-newsletter. Wireless access was installed. Telephone notification of reserved materials was introduced. Our Web site was streamlined. And several grants came our way that enabled us to expand or enhance our services.

So just what is Mr. Adams talking about? The accompanying table illustrates the "Top 10 Ways Your Library Saves You Money." Public libraries pride themselves for providing materials, services, and programs for "free" but free isn't really free. Quality library services come at a price. But because everyone contributes to the total, the value per person exceeds the individual cost. Let us hope that the residents of our community also "see the light." — *Patricia Kaufman*

### TOP 10 WAYS YOUR LIBRARY SAVES YOU MONEY

LIBRARY SERVICE	USE PER MONTH	UNIT COST	ANNUAL COST
Books Borrowed	2	15.00	360.00
Movies Borrowed	2	5.00	120.00
Music CDs Borrowed	2	15.00	360.00
Book CDs or Tapes Borrowed	2	45.00	1,080.00
Magazines Read or Borrowed	2	4.00	96.00
Newspapers Read	8	1.50	144.00
Internet Use (Comcast Bundle)	8	30.00	2,880.00
Reference Questions (Simple)	2	0.50	12.00
Reference Questions (Complex)	2	15.00	360.00
Programs Attended	1	10.00	120.00

**THIS YEAR, YOUR LIBRARY  
SAVED YOU**

**\$5,532.00**



## 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 MPL

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. — *Helen LiMarzi*

### Sunday Afternoons with Hitchcock

November 23 at 2:00: *I Confess*

December 14 at 2:00: *Rope*

January 25 at 2:00: *Young & Innocent*

*Refreshments with every screening!*  
*Registration requested.*

### New Moms Group

The New Moms Group continues to meet weekly at the Mahopac Public Library. The Putnam County Department of Health in cooperation with Mahopac Public Library is offering a FREE Parenting Group for moms of children ages birth through 1 year old. This group, hosted by Maternal Child Health Nurse, Diane Liscia, RN, MS, meets every Friday in the Lake View Activity Room from 1:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m. Learn about growth & development patterns, breastfeeding, sleeping patterns, managing colic, immunizations, nutrition, parenting skills, coping techniques & more. Siblings are welcome! Please call to register at 845.278.6558 ext. 2119. — *Joan Rose*

### Friends of Mahopac Library Support a Number of Programs and Events Offered at the Library

For those wanting to learn a foreign language, the Friends will be funding the library's acquisition of **Mango Languages**. This online program offers instruction in several languages, including Mandarin, and can be accessed remotely from home as well as in the library.

To learn more about this language program, visit [www.mahopaclibrary.org](http://www.mahopaclibrary.org), and click on the "Mango" link on the home page of the Web site.

Want to learn how to use Excel or another computer program? Or perhaps you want to sell some items on eBay? The Friends are sponsoring a series of **computer classes** at the library for patrons at all levels of computer expertise.

The Friends are able to fund these and other programs through proceeds from the Book Barn, membership dues, and other fund raising events.

### Friends Elect Board Officers

At their annual membership meeting held on September 16, the Friends elected **Kathi Heiber** - President, **Bonnie Snyder** - Vice-President, **Kristi Kral** - Treasurer, **Mary Ellen DiRaffaele** - Recording Secretary, and **JoAnn Bronschidle** - Corresponding Secretary.

You too can help our library by joining the Friends and taking part in their activities. Membership forms are available at the Information Desk.

### WHAT'S NEW IN REFERENCE?

#### AUTISM RESOURCES AT MPL

The Mahopac Public Library now has a diverse collection of books, DVDs, and other publications containing a wealth of information about Autism Spectrum Disorders in adults, teens, and children. These materials are available at the library as an extension of the Autism Resource Center established by PARC (Putnam Associated Resource Center) of Putnam County. They may be checked out with either a Mahopac Public Library card or a card from any of the other libraries in the MidHudson Library System.

For further information about the Autism Resource Center at PARC, please visit their Web site at [www.putnamarc.org](http://www.putnamarc.org), or call 845-278-PARC. — *Mary De Bellis*

### High Definition DVDs are Here

With the withdrawal of HD-DVD from the field, Blu-ray DVDs are now the only high definition DVDs being released. The Mahopac Library has recently added several Blu-ray titles to our collection. Please note that Blu-ray discs **require one of the following** in order to play: a Blu-ray player, a computer with a Blu-ray drive, or a Playstation 3. These discs will not play on a standard DVD player. These discs are shelved near the standard DVDs, but they have several different stickers to distinguish them from the others. If you would like to search the catalog for Blu-ray movies, click on Material Type, which is found under the Search Help tab. In the dialog box, put an asterisk. Then select Blu-ray DVD from the Material Type drop down menu. If you would like to see a list of all Blu-ray movies available in the Mid-Hudson Library System, leave the location as All Libraries. If you would like to find titles owned by Mahopac Library specifically, select Mahopac from the Location drop down menu.

— *Jennifer Boyer*

## **New For Fall!**

### **First Grade Book Club**

**Thursdays – 4:30-5:15 p.m.**

Come Join Us!

Share your love of books!

Meet new friends!

Have fun with book-related games & activities!

All reading & activities will be done during meetings.

No home work required!

Registration required – online [www.mahopaclibrary.org](http://www.mahopaclibrary.org)

or call 845.628.2009 ext. 100

### **Ramona Readers**

Third-, fourth-, and fifth-graders meet monthly to talk about girls in books over tea and snacks. They will be discussing Pippi Longstocking on Thursday, November 20 at 4 pm.

### **Creative Crafts with Regina**

**Saturdays - Monthly through June**

**Next Class: Saturday, October 25 – 10-11 a.m.**

**For Grades 1-5**

Explore, Investigate & Inspire Your Creative Side

While Learning a Variety of Art Techniques

Don't forget to bring your imagination!

See MPL calendar for future dates & times.

Registration required – online [www.mahopaclibrary.org](http://www.mahopaclibrary.org)

or call 845.628.2009 ext. 100

## **Halloween at MPL**

Halloween will be celebrated in all story time classes beginning October 27 through 31 during regularly scheduled classes.

If you're in grades 1-5, don't miss Mahopac Public Library's annual **Halloween Party** on October 30 at 5 p.m. Children are encouraged to dress in costume and will be treated to a performance by the MPL Teen Players...plus there will be frighteningly fun games to challenge the 'costumed creatures' with yummy prizes for all.

Registration is required – online at [www.mahopaclibrary.org](http://www.mahopaclibrary.org) or call 845.628.2009 ext. 100.

## **American Girl Program**

Beverly Barker will use American Girl dolls and books to explore American history on Veterans Day, November 11 at 10 am. This one-hour program for grades 1 through 5 will focus on *Molly* and we'll learn about America's role in World War II and how it affected every aspect of life. The children will make a design square in Counted Cross Stitch on gingham. Great fun and a learning experience too! Registration is required – in person.

## **Back by Popular Demand!**

### **Artist Workshop**

**Meets Monthly through June**

**Next Class: Wednesday, October 15 – 4:30-5:30 p.m.**

**For Grades 1-5**

Explore multimedia projects involving design, drawing and color exercises.

See MPL calendar for future dates & times.

Registration required – online [www.mahopaclibrary.org](http://www.mahopaclibrary.org)

or call 845.628.2009 ext. 100

### **Teen Artist Workshop**

**Meets Monthly through June**

**Next Class: Wednesday, October 15 – 2:30-3:30 p.m.**

**For Grades 6 and up**

Explore multimedia projects involving design, drawing and color exercises.

May take Mahopac School Bus #291 to the library.

See MPL calendar for future dates & times.

Registration required – online [www.mahopaclibrary.org](http://www.mahopaclibrary.org)

or call 845.628.2009 ext. 100

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## **Mahopac Public Library Teen Players**

The Mahopac Public Library Teen Players are back for their fifth year. We'd like to welcome back last year's Teen Players, and we're very excited to be working with new talented teens as well. We're happy to announce the addition of our new Student Director, Justin Clark. Last year the Teen Players dazzled the crowds with fabulous performances here in the library as well as special shows in the community. This year they're starting off with a frighteningly funny Halloween show to be performed at the annual Halloween Party on October 30. There will be many more memorable shows to follow. Please visit our website [www.mahopaclibrary.org](http://www.mahopaclibrary.org) regularly so you don't miss out on any of the fun! This program is open to young adults in grades 6-12 and meets once a week to rehearse and create their sets & costumes.

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## **A.R.F. (Animal Reading Friends) is Back for the Fall!**

Our favorite reading dogs have returned to the library this fall. We all know that children improve their literacy skills through reading and the more practice they have, the more proficient they become. This program – reading one-on-one to our reading dogs – has increased children's self-confidence and enhanced their motivation to read. Reading to an animal is less stressful than reading to an adult, plus it's simply 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 questions, call Joan at 845-628-2009 ext. 135.

## Local Authors Visit

Meet sports writer and Mahopac High School Alumni  
**JEFF PEARLMAN** at the Mahopac Public Library on  
**Saturday, November 1 @ 2 pm**

Jeff will be here to talk about, and autograph, his newest book -  
*BOYS WILL BE BOYS - The Glory Days and Party Nights of the  
Dallas Cowboy Dynasty*. A *New York Times* best seller.  
Registration requested. Register online at [www.mahopaclibrary.org](http://www.mahopaclibrary.org), or call  
845-628-2009, ext 100.

Meet physician, author, knight,  
and former New York Congressional candidate  
**RICHARD S. KLEIN, M.D.**

Dr. Klein will be speaking about his new book,  
*From Anecdote to Antidote: Redefining the Relationship  
Between Doctor and Patient*  
**Wednesday, November 5, 7 pm**

Dr. Klein, a practicing physician in Yorktown, NY,  
specializes in internal medicine and infectious diseases. His health-  
care stories and experiences are both entertaining and illuminating!  
**From Anecdote to Antidote** uses humor, science, and real-life  
examples to show that the solution to good healthcare is to establish a  
genuine connection with your physician.  
Registration for this program is requested. Register online at [www.mahopaclibrary.org](http://www.mahopaclibrary.org), or call 845-628-2009, ext 100.

**From Founders to Farmers: An Archaeologist's View of 19th  
Century Homes in the Hudson Valley**  
presented by **Dr. Eugene Boesch**  
Senior Archaeologist, Historic Preservation and Archaeology

**Sunday, November 9, 2008, 2:00 pm**  
The 19th century was a time of rapid change that set the stage for  
20th century culture and our contemporary experiences. The archae-  
ology of domestic sites help place them in a historic context.  
Sites discussed include residences of elites, dwellings of lower status  
landholders, and farmsteads in Putnam County. The presentation will  
also discuss the process by which the National Register of Historic  
Places eligibility of historic house sites may be evaluated.

*This program, which is free and open to the general public, is funded by the New York  
Council for the Humanities, a state affiliate of the National Endowment for the  
Humanities.*

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### PAPER CLIPS

The true story of how a rural Tennessee middle school came to  
understand the meaning of the Holocaust.

**Sunday, November 2, 2008, 2:00 pm**  
Free admission; registration requested. Register online at  
[www.mahopaclibrary.org](http://www.mahopaclibrary.org), or call 845-628-2009, ext 100.

Struggling to grasp the concept of 6 million Holocaust victims, the students at Whitwell Middle School in rural Tennessee decided to collect 6 million paper clips to better understand the extent of this crime against humanity. Because Norwegians invented the paper clip and used it as a symbol of solidarity against the Nazis, students started collecting them to help visualize such vast numbers of victims. As word spread online and in the media, paper clips poured in from around the world, 11 million of which are enshrined in an authentic German railcar standing in the schoolyard. This film is being shown to commemorate the 70th Anniversary of Kristallnacht or the Night of Broken Glass which took place in Nazi Germany on November 9-10, 1938.  
*For further information, please call 845-628-2009, ext 100.*

### AUTISM SPECTRUM: Sensory Integration and Inflammation

A talk presented by Dr. James Fitzpatrick, DC  
**Saturday, November 1, 10:00 am**  
This talk will take place at the monthly SEPTA (Special Education PTA) meeting which is open to the public.  
Inflammation and neurologic disturbances contribute to numerous health problems. In children, symptoms often appear as changes in the central nervous system, and are expressed through struggles with learning and behavior. A question & answer session with Dr. Fitzpatrick will follow the talk.  
Registration requested. Register online at [www.mahopaclibrary.org](http://www.mahopaclibrary.org), or call 845-628-2009, ext 100.

### The Conigliaro Quartet in Concert

**Sunday, October 26, 2:00 pm**  
Featuring Brian Conigliaro on guitar, Mike Goetz on bass, Chris Parker on drums and Kenny Venezia on saxophone. Join us for an afternoon of jazz and blues from the 1920's through the 1980's including selections from the quartet's live album, *The Economics of Love*.  
Registration requested; walk-ins welcome.  
This program is appropriate for ages 10 and up.

*This free performance is part of the BAMB (books, art, music in Mahopac) project at Mahopac Public Library. BAMB is made possible with support from Mahopac National Bank and the Friends of Mahopac Public Library. Additional support is provided, with public funds, from the New York State Council on the Arts Decentralization program. In Putnam County, the Decentralization program is managed by the Putnam Arts Council.*

### Make Connections & BOOST YOUR BUSINESS! Sales Training Seminar featuring dynamic speaker NICK SIALMAS

**Wednesday, October 22, 7-8 pm**  
Learn how to create a successful marketing strategy and increase your business contacts!  
This seminar will help you initiate your own prospecting "process" that you can use to develop new opportunities. This seminar is intended for new or seasoned owners of home based network marketing businesses.  
Space is limited for this free program.

*Registration is requested. Register online at [www.mahopaclibrary.org](http://www.mahopaclibrary.org), or call 845.628.2009, ext 100.*



# 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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10610

## Postal Customer

### Gingerbread House Creations

Back by popular demand – Join us on December 10th to create your own gingerbread house at the Mahopac Public Library. This annual event is fun for the entire family. You bring the icing and any decorations you want and we'll provide the graham crackers & hot cocoa. *TIP: Please bring a small, empty & cleaned juice or milk carton to help you construct your gingerbread house.* Registration is required [www.mahopaclibrary.org](http://www.mahopaclibrary.org). — *Joan Rose*



### TEEN ZONE TIDBITS —

Check us out at [mahopaclibrary.org](http://mahopaclibrary.org) in the TeenZone

## MPL Book Club News

Mahopac Public Library is pleased to offer a service for book clubs in the community. To make it easier for members of local groups to get enough copies of the books they are reading, MPL, in cooperation with other Mid-Hudson libraries, now offers **Book Club in a Bag**. 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. 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 email [circulation@mahopaclibrary.org](mailto:circulation@mahopaclibrary.org). Labels will be added to some of our previous discussion titles so that they are easier to find in our collection.

*The library's three book groups 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 *Young Stalin* by Simon Montefiore on November 7<sup>th</sup> and *Final Salute* by Jim Sheeler on December 19<sup>th</sup>.

**The Light Bite Book Club** meets on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of the month at 1 pm. Their November choice is *Lucia, Lucia* by Adriana Trigiani on the 19<sup>th</sup>. December's book is *The Fig Eater* by Jody Shields, to be discussed on the 17<sup>th</sup>, and the choice for January 21<sup>st</sup> is *A Thousand Splendid Sons* by Khaled Hossini.

**The Monday Evening Book Group** will discuss *The Other Boleyn Girl* by Philippa Gregory on November 3<sup>rd</sup>, *The House of*

*Seven Gables* by Nathaniel Hawthorne on December 1<sup>st</sup>, and *Deafening* by Frances Itani on January 5<sup>th</sup>. 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.

— *Sheelagh Kaplan*



### The Memoir Workshop

meets the 2nd and 4th Tuesday of every month in the Land Use Center. Ask for details at the Information Desk if you would like to join this lively group of writers.