The BEST!

Inside this issue:
2 The Best (con’t.)
3 Meet Sara Drew
4 Outreach Spotlight
5 Databases
6 New Movies
6 Questions
7 Library News
8 Calendar
9 Timesaving Conveniences

The results are in! Stow-Munroe Falls Public Library Reference Staff have picked the best books of the year. How many have you read? Click on the titles to place any of the books on reserve or instantly download the eBook. Many are available as audiobooks too – click the links on the following page to see what’s available.
—continued on page 2

Self-Checkout
Giving Patrons Another Option

In 2013 the library will install a self-checkout kiosk. This will let patrons check out quickly and easily if they don’t want to wait for library staff to check out their books. A simple, touch-screen interface will make it a fast, simple alternative for people who would like another checkout option.

We’re proud of our new technology, but our friendly Circulation Department personnel will still be manning the front desk, because customer service never goes out of style!
—read about more timesaving conveniences on page 9
Favorite Fiction:
Defending Jacob, by William Landay
Bring Up the Bodies, by Hilary Mantel
The Song of Achilles, by Madeline Miller
The Casual Vacancy, by J.K. Rowling
Where’d You Go, Bernadette, by Maria Semple
The Age of Miracles, by Karen Thompson Walker
I’ve Got Your Number, by Sophie Kinsella
A Game of Thrones series, by George R.R. Martin
The Last Nude, by Ellis Avery
Gone Girl, by Gillian Flynn

Best of Romance:
How to Romance a Rake, by Manda Collins
Hell on Wheels: Black Knights Inc., by Julie Ann Walker
Run the Risk, by Lori Foster
Last Man Standing, by Cindy Gerard

Non-Fiction:
Arguably, by Christopher Hitchens
Why Nations Fail: The Origins of Power, Prosperity, and Poverty, by Daron and James Acemoglu

History:
Destiny of the Republic: A Tale of Madness, Medicine and the Murder of a President, by Candace Millard
The Civil War: The Second Year Told by Those Who Lived It, by Stephen Sears
After Camelot: An Intimate History of the Kennedy Family – 1968 to the Present, by J. Randy Taraborrelli

Memoir, Biography & Autobiography:
Wild: From Lost to Found of the Pacific Crest Trail, by Cheryl Strayed
Constance: The Tragic and Scandalous Life of Mrs. Oscar Wilde, by Franny Moyle
The Richard Burton Diaries, by Richard Burton
In Search of Cleo: How I Found My Pussy and Lost My Mind, by Gina Gerson
What books are on your nightstand—what are you reading now?

Is there a book that has special meaning for you?
I read and re-read all of the Little House on the Prairie books when I was little and still have the entire collection on my bookshelf. I loved Laura Ingalls Wilder’s descriptions of her family, all the adventures she had and all her big dreams. She and all her books were very inspiring to me!

What brings you to the library on a regular basis?
Both my daughter and I really like to explore the library and what is on the shelf. My favorite thing about the library is that you can discover books and perspectives that you didn’t even know you were looking for.

Is there a book (or books) that you always mean to read, but never quite get to?
I’ve never really tackled the great Russian classics. I took a Russian history class in college and think it’s a fascinating place with a very compelling history. I know reading the literature from that country would be interesting, but I’ve never put the effort into doing so. One day I intend to do so!

Do you have a favorite memory of a library?
I have many library memories—my Mom is a retired librarian, so I’ve been in libraries my entire life! However, something that is important to me happened this fall at the Medina County Library (I grew up in Medina and most of my family lives there). When my father died earlier this year, our family asked for memorial contributions to be given to the Medina Library. Because of the generosity of donors in honor of my father, the Medina Library was able to purchase and install an original Don Drumm outdoor sculpture at the main branch on the Square in Medina. It is the first piece of outdoor art anywhere in the Medina County Library system. I know my father would have been very happy and now I get to be reminded of him every time I visit the Medina Library.

If you could give everyone you know one book, what would it be?
That’s a toss-up between The Diary of Anne Frank and 1776 by David McCulloch. Anne Frank because it truly shows both the most hopeful and the most dangerous parts of humanity and 1776 because it gives an excellent perspective of arguably our country’s most important year.

What do you like most about our library community?
That the library is a great equalizer. Everyone who comes through the door has the same opportunity to learn, explore, share and discover—at no cost. I can’t imagine a better asset to any community than a great library.

Meet our newest Library Board Member

Sara Drew
Each month the Outreach Services team brings materials to various Retirement Communities and Senior Buildings in Stow and Munroe Falls. Additionally, they provide a drop off service to several area nursing facilities. For those who cannot come to the library due to age, illness or injury, the library also provides Homebound Delivery Services. For more information, contact Outreach Librarian Jess Alloggia at 330-688-3295, ext. 129.

Since its inception in 2001, Outreach Services have circulated over 100,000 items to its participants! In addition, nearly 15,000 patrons have been served over the years. When the program made its debut, it served only one building. Today, we deliver to sixteen buildings in addition to our Homebound patrons at their individual residences.

This month, our recommendations come from some people who are very special to Outreach Services. Barbara Nelson worked with Keys Towers to start services in 2001 and Beth Daugherty assisted her as the program progressed. Vickie Evans was the Outreach Librarian for many years and is responsible for much of the success the program continues to have. We wouldn't be where we are today without the hard work and dedication of these individuals. There have been many staff members and volunteers who were a big part of this program, and we want to thank them as well!

Wild is the memoir of a twenty-six year old woman's emotional and physical journey on the Pacific Crest Trail. The author made the decision to hike the PCT alone as a way to overcome her grief over loss of her mother and the downward spiral her life was then taking. Totally unprepared for the physical reality of her endeavor, Strayed persevered through encounters with rattlesnakes, bears, heat, snow, loneliness, and unsavory characters.

“This is a brutally honest and ultimately uplifting story of physical and emotional endurance.” — Beth Daugherty, Local History Librarian

The Casual Vacancy by J.K. Rowling

The Casual Vacancy is about the sudden death of Barry Fairbrother, a member of the town council, and what occurs when the vacancy on the council must be filled. The story is about rich vs. poor, teenagers vs. their parents, and wives vs. husbands. It is about people going through life with all of its complications and many disappointments.

“Fans of the Harry Potter series will be delighted to discover that J.K. Rowling can write a very good adult book!” — Barbara Nelson, Assistant Head of Reference Services

Roll Me Up and Smoke Me When I Die: Musings from the Road by Willie Nelson

Willie Nelson muses about his greatest influences, things that are most important to him, and celebrates the family, friends, and colleagues who have blessed his remarkable journey. Willie takes you on the tour bus and, through candid observations and vivid recollections, gives you a front-row seat to his remarkable world. Willie Nelson has touched millions and none more deeply than his family, friends, and band mates, several of whom share, for the first time, intimate stories about the Red Headed Stranger.

“It is short, sweet and poignant; he drops in jokes and funny stories, song lyrics and things his family told him to say. I read aloud bits of it to various people and we all had a good laugh!” — Vickie Evans, Retired Outreach Librarian
Optimal Resume

...just one of our popular databases

By Chris Caccamo, Adult Services Associate

OptimalResume is an online resume database provided free-of-charge to Stow-Munroe Falls Public Library patrons. You may access it by clicking here or by going to the library website, www.smfpl.org, going to the drop down box labeled “Adults”, clicking on “Databases/Resources” and “Jobs, Careers & Testing.” You will need to create an account.

This amazing database helps job seekers create, present, and manage resumes. It provides sample resumes for you to see and can help you create chronological resumes, functional resumes, or combination resumes. It is extremely easy to use with convenient resume previewing, forward/backward navigation, drag/drop reordering of sections, and the ability to delete/add sections at any time, ideal for first time resume writers.

Resumes are automatically generated in several formats, including Rich Text, Plain Text, PDF, and HTML, and users can edit, download, rename, clone, or delete resumes at any time.

The database also includes OptimalLetter. This is an online letter builder that makes it easy for job seekers to create almost any kind of business or professional letter. Job seekers can select from a variety of letter types, including cover letters, application letters, networking letters, acceptance letters, follow-up letters and more.

OptimalInterview helps job seekers hone their interviewing skills online with real-to-life, multi-media interview scenarios that were developed by seasoned employment professionals. With OptimalInterview, job seekers can easily practice a number of different interview scenarios, including screening interviews, initial face-to-face interviews, final interviews and much more.

If you plan to job hunt in the new year, investigate this useful database! •
The NHL strike has left me without any professional hockey to watch this season. Can the library give me some suggestions?

Yes. Northeast Ohio has a long hockey history. Try checking out the Lake Erie Monsters. They are part of the American Hockey League (AHL), are affiliated with the Colorado Avalanche (NHL), and play at the Q Arena (http://www.lakeeriemonsters.com/). For something closer to home, check out the Kent State Ice Arena. They have adult amateur leagues and offer a variety of programs such as various lessons and pick up leagues. See http://www.kent.edu/icearena/hockey.cfm for more information.

In which movie does Bing Crosby sing White Christmas?

While Bing Crosby does sing White Christmas in the 1954 movie of the same name, also starring Danny Kaye and Rosemary Clooney, he originally sang it in the 1942 movie Holiday Inn, costarring with Fred Astaire. For more information about movies old and new, check out imdb.com, or peruse Leonard Maltin’s Movie Guide, available here at the library. To reserve or request a movie through the library, please call 688-3295x4. You can also put an item on hold from the library catalog.

I can use the computer fairly well, but I’m a terrible typist. Does anyone teach typing these days?

If you can get yourself online, check out the many free websites available, such as Peter’s Online Typing Course, www.typing-lessons.org, Mavis Beacon’s Typing Tutor, www.mavisbeacon.com, or try www.sense-lang.org/typing/.
Community Jazz Band

Presents $1,000 Donation

On December 5th, The Community Jazz Band presented a $1,000 check to Library Director Doug Dotterer for the Stow-Munroe Falls Public Library.

The Community Jazz Band has been putting on free concerts at the library for more than 30 years. In addition to their regular performances, the band has also headlined at the Library’s Annual Pride in Library Day.

We are tremendously grateful to have such gifted and generous musicians as part of our library family.

Free One-on-One Help with eReaders!

The Stow-Munroe Falls Public Library is offering free, one-on-one instruction on downloading eBooks from the library catalog for users of eReaders, tablet computers and laptops this season. Patrons can call (330) 688-3295 ext. 4 to set up a 45 minute appointment for help with their device. This is perfect for people who might receive new iPads, iPad minis, laptops, Nooks, Kindles, Kobos or similar electronics over the holidays.

There is no charge for this service, but patrons must have a valid Stow-Munroe Falls Public Library card. Patrons must also have a valid email address and know how to get their email. Because many electronic devices have different requirements, patrons should make sure to ask exactly what to bring with them when they make their appointment.

Free Tax Service

Free tax services are available on Fridays (February 1 - April 12; Noon - 4 PM) to older residents and residents with low incomes. This annual program is sponsored by the American Association of Retired Persons, which works in cooperation with the Internal Revenue Service Tax Counseling for the Elderly Program. One-hour appointments may be scheduled by contacting the library at 330-688-3295x 3 after December 25.
Don’t miss these great programs at your library!

- Register online or call 330-688-3295 ext. 4 to register. There will be no computer classes in January.
FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY

The Friends of the Library is a citizen support group for Library services and activities. They sponsor book sales as well as the annual Needlework Show and other programming. Friends meet the third Tuesday of every month (except July and December) at 2:00 PM in the Stow Room.

LIBRARY FOUNDATION

The Stow-Munroe Falls Public Library Foundation was incorporated in 1994 as a non-profit, tax-exempt 501(c)(3) organization. The Foundation’s mission is to provide funds for significant projects that enhance the mission of the library and to build an endowment that will carry on the legacy of the library.

Pictured above are Library Foundation Board Members (left to right): Linda Trevorrow, Treasurer; Cindy Pribonic, President; and Kelley Cerroni, Vice President.

For more information on the Fine Print Newsletter or to unsubscribe, email Ann Malthaner at: amalthaner@smfpl.org

Drive-Through Library

Zip through our Drive-Through!

Did you know we offer a convenient drive-through service? You can reserve materials for pick up, then zip through our drive-through & head home with the books, movies or CDs of your choice.

To reserve items on our website, go to www.smfpl.org. Once you’ve chosen an item you’d like to pick up, just click the button that says “Place a Hold” and select “Drive up Window” as your pick-up-option. Please allow 24 hours for your online order to be processed.

You can also reserve items quickly and easily over the phone. Call our Reference Department at (330) 688-3295 ext. 4 or our Children’s Department at ext. 5 (depending on the sort of materials you want) to see if what you’d like is available, and ask to pick it up at the drive-up window.

This service is great for parents on the go, for people in a hurry, or for days when wet or chilly weather make us reluctant to leave the cozy warmth of our cars. We’re always happy to see you here at The Stow-Munroe Falls Public Library, whether you’re on foot or motoring.

Did you know…

We can notify you by text or email when you have items ready for pickup, when items are on hold, or when your items are coming due? Ask one of our staff members at the Circulation Desk for details.

CONVENIENCE

Parents love our timesaving Drive-Through convenience!