Welcome to the December 2008 edition of LIBRARY E-NEWS. This monthly newsletter includes several features containing information about the library. If you would like to join other subscribers in receiving the Library E-News in your e-mail every month, please fill out the following form online or complete a paper registration form at the circulation desk.

For a complete calendar of events at Stow-Munroe Falls Public Library go to www.smfpl.org

Go directly to the following features by clicking on the name of the feature you want to read, or scroll down this page to read all of LIBRARY E-NEWS.

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Notices

Library Closings
The library will open one hour late at 10:00 a.m. on Thursday, December 18. The library will be closed Wednesday, December 24 and Thursday, December 25 for Christmas and will close at 5:00 p.m. on Wednesday, December 31 and be closed all day on Thursday, January 1 for the New Years' holiday.

Coffee With the Editor
The next Coffee with the Editor will be Wednesday, January 7 at 9:00 a.m.

Jazz Band
The next concert of the community jazz band will be Wednesday, January 7 at 7:00 p.m. Registration is not required.

Tax help available
Sign up for a free tax service, available to older residents and residents with low to middle incomes. This tax help is available at Stow-Munroe Falls Public Library on Fridays from February 6 through April 10, 2009. This annual program is sponsored by the American Association of Retired Persons, who work in cooperation with the Internal Revenue Service Tax Counseling for the Elderly Program to assure that the volunteers are knowledgeable about the special tax provisions for older people. The service will be available from noon to 4 p.m. One-hour appointments may be scheduled by contacting the library at 330-688-3295.

Bring with you a copy of last year’s tax return, social security card and picture ID. If you have lost your social security card, bring a copy of last year’s return. If a child is claimed as an exemption, you must show his or her social security card. Also bring any forms showing income you earned or pensions or social security paid to you, 1099 forms showing interest or dividends that your investments have earned and receipts or cancelled checks for income or property taxes you have paid or any contributions you have made to charities. Bring with you documentation of medical expenses.

Please be aware that library staff are not permitted to give tax advice, answer questions on your taxes or fill out your form for you. However, they will help you locate books and the appropriate forms and publications to help you complete your tax return.
Bridge Club
Come to the library for cards and conversation. The Bridge Club will meet on the second Monday of the month from 12:45 until 3:30 p.m. Players should arrive at 12:45 p.m. and Bridge will begin promptly at 1:00 p.m. The next meeting is December 8. Bridge Club meets in the Stow-Munroe Falls meeting room at the library. Bridge Club is co-sponsored by Stow-Munroe Falls Public Library and the Stow Woman’s Club.

Christmas with The Moss Stanley Trio
Join The Moss Stanley Trio for a special Christmas Jazz Concert on Monday, December 8 from 7:00 to 8:00 p.m. at the library. Call 330-688-3295 or stop by the Adult Information Desk to register.

Caroling
Come to the library on Tuesday, December 16 from 6:00 to 6:30 p.m. for festive holiday carols performed by The Bulldog Pup Singers from Echo Hills Elementary School. This group of third and fourth grade children perform under the direction of their Music Instructor, Gloria E. Gassner. The children will sing in the front magazine lounge. Registration is not required.

Red Cross Blood Drive
There will be a Red Cross Blood Drive at the library on Tuesday, December 23 from 9:00 to 2:00 p.m.

Antique Appraisals
Bring your favorite antique to the library and have it appraised by Susan Marocchino during this popular program on Monday, January 5 at 11:00 a.m. Registration begins December 1. Register by stopping by the Information Desk or by calling 330-688-3295. Please call if you need to cancel your reservation. Limit one item per person. Spectators are welcome. Registration is limited but is not required for spectators. The program will be held in the Stow-Munroe Falls Room.

Family Folklore
Every family has stories to tell. Join writing instructor Sandy Slevinski as she guides participants in writing a journal of memorable events that can be enjoyed for generations to come. The class takes place on Mondays in January, February and March from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Dates are January 19 and 26; February 2, 9, 16 and 23; March 2 and 9. Record family history, childhood memories, and holiday celebrations. Registration begins December 22 and is limited. Stop by the Adult Information Desk or call 330-688-3295 to register. Participants should be mature adults ages 40 and older. January and February classes will be held in the Stow meeting room on the second floor of the library. March classes will be held in the Local History Room. Food and beverages are not permitted in the Local History Room.

Jennifer Hanselman and "The Return of the Party of Nine"
Local author Jennifer Hanselman, mother of Ohio's first set of sextuplets, returns to Stow-Munroe Falls Public Library on Wednesday, January 21 at 7:00 p.m. Hanselman will again look at life with sextuplets Alex, Logan, Kyle, Sophia, Lucy, Isabella and their older brother Connor. Reservations begin December 22. Stop by the Adult Information Desk or call 330-688-3295.

Recent Library Happenings
Teen author Ellen Schreiber visited the library on October 31 to talk about her books, sign autographs and help judge a costume contest. Schreiber (left) is pictured with library staff member Brittany Wilson.

Staff members Debbie Turner (left) and Jason Calvert (right) help check out materials to seniors at a recent visit to one of the many senior residences served by the library's outreach department.

New Titles
New titles are arriving daily at Stow-Munroe Falls Public Library. Some of the new titles are:

- **Fiction**: *Cross Country* by James Patterson, *The Archbishop in Andalusia* by Andrew Greeley, *Just After Sunset* by Stephen King
**New printing options at the library**

Stow-Munroe Falls Public Library patrons can now send print jobs to the library from their home computers, laptops with Internet connection and other devices such as PDAs and blackberries. Click on the link from the library website and follow the instructions to send a print job. Patrons must come to the Adult Computer Lab to pay for their copies. Black and white copies are 10 cents per page, color copies are 75 cents per page. For more information, contact the Information Department at 330-688-3295.

**Equipment upgrades improve connectivity, allows SuperSearch feature**

Due to recent upgrades, patrons’ connections to the Internet at the library are now faster and more reliable. The library’s wireless service can now handle more laptop users and connectivity is improved on the second floor and in the meeting rooms. The new SuperSearch feature allows patrons to search the online catalog and the subscription databases simultaneously. For more information on these upgrades, contact the Information Department at 330-688-3295.

**Digital eBooks, Audio Books, OverDrive Music and OverDrive Video**

The Ohio eBook Project is proud to announce the arrival of digital eBooks, Audio Books, OverDrive Music and OverDrive Video for your enjoyment. Customers from Stow-Munroe Falls Public Library and other member libraries can now browse and search hundreds of great titles and download them to computers, transfer them to portable devices, or burn them onto CDs for reading, listening, and viewing anywhere, anytime. Want more information? Ask at the Information Desk!

At this time, OverDrive Audio Books, Music and Video are not compatible with the Macintosh operating system or iPod players. Mobipocket eBooks are not compatible with the Macintosh operating system but can be used on Windows PCs and a range of portable devices.

The following types of materials can be checked out and downloaded from the Ohio ebook project website:

- eBooks in the Adobe® Reader®/Adobe Digital Editions PDF format (eBooks optimized for on-screen reading)
- eBooks in the Mobipocket Reader format (eBooks optimized for on-screen reading & transfer to an array of portable devices)
- WMA Audiobooks in the OverDrive Media Console™ format.
- Music in the OverDrive Media Console™ format
- Video in the OverDrive Media Console™ format (note that OverDrive Video is supported as a high-speed Internet-only product) (Videos are mostly documentaries)

**To access digital materials at Ohio eBook Project, you will need:**

- A valid Stow-Munroe Falls Public Library card
- A personal computer at home with access to the Internet
- An email address
- The free software for the computer and/or device on which you wish to use the material you download from this site.

Please note that digital downloads can be enjoyed at home, at work, or when you travel, but are not for use on the computers in the library.

**Need to Use a Computer? Call ahead and reserve one!**

Computers with Internet Access, located in Computer lab at the library are always in great demand. If you are planning a trip to the library to use the computer, please call ahead and make a reservation. There may NOT be one available if you don't make a reservation! Computer time can be reserved up to one week in advance. You are limited to one appointment per day. Staff in the Computer Lab can schedule you for up to two hours of time, Monday through Saturday and up to one hour of time on Sunday. Remember, you now need to bring your Stow-Munroe Falls Public Library card to use a computer. Don't be disappointed! Call ahead! To make an appointment, call the Adult Information Desk at 330-688-3295.

**Evening Book Discussion with Amy**

The evening book discussion group with Amy Garrett meets the fourth Thursday of the month from September through April. Discussions are on Thursday evenings at 7:00 p.m.

The group will meet again beginning on September 25, 2008. Books will be available at the Information Desk prior to discussion.

**Reading List for the 2008-2009 Evening Discussion Group**

- December 11 - The Road by Cormac McCarthy
Monday Evening Book Discussion
The evening book discussion group with Barbara Nelson meets through June 2009. Discussions will be on the first Monday of the month at 7:00 p.m. Copies of the book will again be available at the Information Desk prior to the discussion date.

Reading List for the 2008-2009 Evening Discussion Group
- January 5 - Mrs. Palfrey at the Claremont by Elizabeth Taylor
- March 2 - Walking Across Egypt by Clyde Edgerton
- April 6 - Garden Spells by Sara Addison Allen
- May 5 - First Mothers: The Women Who Shaped the Presidents by Bonnie Angelo
- June 2 - Three Cups of Tea: One Man’s Mission to Promote Peace One School at a Time by Greg Mortenson and David Oliver Relin

Daytime Book Discussions
The daytime book discussion groups with Chris Caccamo will meet the second Friday of the month from October through May at either 10:00 a.m. or 2:00 p.m. Books will be available at the Reference Desk prior to the discussion date. The first meeting will be Friday, October 10.

Reading List for the 2008-2009 Morning Discussion Groups
- December 12 - Pick a favorite book to share with the group—short story, Christmas book or any book that reminds you of the holiday season!
- January 9 - The Double Bind by Chris Bohjalian
- February 13 - The Notebook by Nicholas Sparks
- March 13 - Little Heathens: Hard Times and High Spirits on an Iowa Farm during the Depression by Mildred Armstrong Kalish
- April 10 - We Were the Mulvaneys by Joyce Carol Oates
- May 8 - The Lost Painting by Jonathan Harr

Computer Training
The library offers classes for beginning computer users and more advanced users. They include Introduction to Computers, Introduction to the Internet, and training in Microsoft Word and Microsoft Excel. Classes are offered both day and evening at no charge. The class calendar can be viewed at www.smfpl.org/calendar.htm.

No classes in December
Due to the holidays, there will be no computer classes taught in December. The calendar of classes for January will be available the last week of December.

New Computer Class Signup Procedure
You no longer have to sign up for computer classes weeks ahead of time! Instead, stop by the Reference Desk one half hour before class time and sign up. Be sure to have your Stow-Munroe Falls Public Library card with you! It is that easy!

Teens
Lifesize Monopoly
Spend your holiday break on Boardwalk on Tuesday, December 30. You can become the hat, the car, or token of your choice, as you walk around our room-size playing “board.” Roll giant dice and buy properties, land in Jail, do everything as in the regular game, only lifesize! Sign up with a friend to play on a team of 2 players, or be randomly assigned to a team. Ages 9 to 11 play from 1:00 to 2:30 p.m. and ages 12 to 17 play from 3:00 to 4:30 p.m. Space is limited. Registration begins December 5, at the Adult Information Desk or call 330-688-3295.

Rotating Video Game Collection
The Northeast Ohio Regional Library System is now providing a rotating selection of video games for adult, teen and juvenile patrons. The collection is available in the Teen department and consists of 10 Xbox-360 games, 5 Playstation 3 games and 5 Nintendo Wii games. There are a mix of titles ranging in ratings from E (everyone) to M (mature). A signed video game permission form must be on file for all patrons under 18 wishing to check out video games. A parent or guardian must be present to sign this form. The collection is a first-come, first-served collection. Holds cannot be placed on video games. For more information, contact the Information Department at 330-688-3295.

Teen Newsletter
The Teen Services Department is seeking submissions by teen patrons for the next issue of the Teen Newsletter. Submit stories, artwork or reviews. To view a sample issue, follow the link on the Teen Services page. Items can be turned in at the Reference Desk or E-Mailed to the Teen Librarian at the following address:
Children's

Lifesize Candyland
Join us for a life-size game of Candyland on Saturday, December 20. Drop by anytime between 10:00 a.m. and noon or between 2:00 p.m. and 4:00 p.m. and play a quick round of life-size Candyland, filled with fun and treats. One round should take around 15-20 minutes. Families play together. Registration is not required.

Caldecott Club
Help us pick the next Caldecott winner! This club will meet six times before the American Library Association's announcement of the winner. Each week a special guest will read four books, then the group will vote on a favorite. A reception will be held after the real winner is announced. This program is for current second and third grade students. Meeting dates on Saturdays from 10:30 to 11:30 a.m., December 13, 20 and January 3, 10, 17 and 24. Reception date will be January 31 at 10:30 a.m. Contact the Children's Department to register.

Please call 330-688-3295 or go to the Children's Department web page at www.smfpl.org/CS.htm for further information about Children's activities and programs.

Circulation

Drive-Up Window
Don't forget about the Drive-Up Window service at Stow-Munroe Falls Public Library. This is an especially helpful service during inclement weather! The drive-up window is open during regular library hours and closes 15 minutes before library closing.

Pick 5 Bestsellers Club
Join the Bestsellers Club online by selecting up to five of your favorite authors. Your name will automatically be placed on the reserve list for these popular authors. Although we can't guarantee how near the top of the list you'll be, it's one less thing you have to think about! After completing this form, we'll add your name to the waiting list and let you know when your book is ready to check out. Your membership in the Bestsellers club will be effective with next month's new releases. It's that easy. Don't have a computer or are you too busy to get to your computer? Our staff would be happy to help. Fill out a form, turn it in and become a member. Are you already a member, but would like to change an author or two? Ask for an "add/delete" form at the circulation desk. It's just that easy!

Did you get a new card?
Did you get a new library card and still want to be in the Bestseller Club? Be sure to tell a circulation desk assistant to update your registration so you will continue to be placed on hold for all of your favorites!

Here's a few authors whose new books could be waiting for you!

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 is dedicated to ensuring a great library system by raising, managing and allocating funds to expand and improve the library. Why a Foundation? Maintaining Stow and Munroe Falls' top-notch library isn't possible with public funding alone. The Foundation's mission is to stabilize the library in times of reduced public funding and secure the ongoing excellence of the library. There will be no Foundation meeting in December.

Click www.smfpl.org/paypal.htm to learn more about the Foundation or to make a donation.

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 activities. Friends meet the third Tuesday of every month (except December and July) at 2:00 p.m. in the upstairs meeting room.

New officers for the Friends for 2008 are (left to right): Peg Niemeyer, Corresponding Secretary; Barb Beiling, President; Peggy Shaffer, Secretary; and Hermine Meyer, Treasurer. Nicole Welsh, the new Vice-President, is not pictured.

If you are interested in joining the Friends of the Stow-Munroe Falls Public Library, you may call the library at 330-688-3295 for further information, or you may go to the Friends page on the library website (www.smfpl.org/friends.htm) for an online application.

Quilt on Display

This month’s quilt is by Jane Weaver of Uniontown. It is called Stars Surrounding and was an award-winning quilt in the library’s 2008 Needlework Show.

Art Displays

Artwork of Stephanie Coviak is now on display in the Corner Gallery. Handmade purses by Rima Elissa are on display in the display cases. Both exhibits may be viewed during regular library hours.

Book Picks

December’s book pick is A Cedar Cove Christmas by Debbie Macomber

From Amazon.com:

Mother-to-be Mary Jo Wyse arrives in Cedar Cove on Christmas Eve, searching for her baby's father. David Rhodes had said he'd be in town. But he isn't. Which leaves Mary Jo stranded, pregnant and alone. And there’s no room at the local inn…. So Grace Harding brings Mary Jo home to her nearby ranch. She and her husband, Cliff, have a houseful of guests, but they offer her a room over their stable (currently sheltering the animals—including a donkey and a camel—for Cedar Cove's Nativity pageant!). When Mary Jo goes into labor that night, a young man named Mack McAfee, a paramedic, comes to her rescue, just as her brothers—the three Wyse men—show up in town. The people of Cedar Cove join them in celebrating the birth of baby Noel. But no one has more to celebrate than Mack. Because this Christmas brings him faith, hope and love…
What Do I Watch?

We have classic holiday films such as It's a Wonderful Life, Miracle on 34th Street and A Christmas Story. We also have some lesser known but equally entertaining holiday films. Here are a few:

- The Polar Express
- Joyeux Noel
- Elf
- The Family Man
- Fred Claus
- Deck the Halls
- Love Actually
- The Perfect Holiday
- This Christmas
- The Family Stone
- Christmas in the Clouds

Website of the Month

The website for this month is Northpole.com at http://www.northpole.com/

This website is full of holiday fun for kids, parents and teachers. It includes free things to do at holiday time, fun recipes, a disco dancing Santa, mazes, puzzles, connect-the-dots, links to toy websites, Santa's mailroom (email him and he will write back!) and much more!

Library Green Tips

Enjoy these Green Tips courtesy of Stow-Munroe Falls Public Library! Let's make a better planet for all of us! Look for new green tips each month!

- Create a compost pile, recycling your kitchen waste and making an excellent fertilizer in the process!
- Call your waste disposal company and ask for recycling bins so you can recycle your aluminum, glass, and paper products.
- Turn off the lights when you leave the room!
- Bring canvas bags with you to the store rather than taking several plastic bags to hold your goods.
- Support local businesses and local farmers. You save on gas, pollute less, and the entire community benefits.

E-Mail Your Comments