Welcome to the **February 2005** 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/calendar.htm](http://www.smfpl.org/calendar.htm)

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**.

**Notices**

**Sunday Computer Use**
Due to high demand, all internet-access patron computers in the Adult Services Department are no longer available on Sunday afternoons for unlimited time on a first-come-first-serve basis. All of these computers are now reservable for one hour. Please call the Adult Information Desk at 330-688-3295 if you wish to reserve a computer or for further information. Computers may be reserved up to one week in advance.

**Community Jazz Band**
The next Jazz Band concert will be at **7:00 p.m. Wednesday, February 2** in the upstairs meeting room.

**Library Board**
The next meeting of the Stow-Munroe Falls Public Library Board of Trustees will be **Tuesday, February 22 at 7:00 p.m.** in the upstairs meeting room. To read minutes from previous board meetings go to [http://www.smfpl.org/trustees.htm](http://www.smfpl.org/trustees.htm).
Coffee With the Editor
Monday, February 7 from 9:00 to 10:00 a.m.
Stow-Munroe Falls Public Library presents coffee with Stow Sentry editor Sean Gerski the first Monday of each month between 9:00 and 10:00 a.m. Sean will be available to answer questions, discuss stories and ideas, or just get acquainted. Coffee and tea supplied by the library.

Tax Forms

By library policy, employees of the library are not permitted to give tax advice or help fill out tax returns.

Black History Month
Look for the display of materials celebrating Black History Month in February and pick up a handout listing Black History websites. To view information about Black History Month go to the history channel website at www.historychannel.com/blackhistory.

Recycle Your Phone Book
Blue recycle bins for phone books are located in the vestibule of Stow-Munroe Falls Public Library.

Wish List
You can help Stow-Munroe Falls Public Library by purchasing an item to add to the collection. Library staff have selected popular books and materials and placed them on the library's Wish List provided by Amazon.com. Simply browse the Wish List and select an item that you would like to purchase for the library. Once you have purchased an item, it will be shipped directly to the library and added to the collection. To access the library’s Wish List go to our website at www.smfpl.org. Click on "Make a Donation" on the left under "Resources." Click on "Take me to Stow-Munroe Falls Public Library Wish List."

Chapter-A-Day Online Book Clubs
Join Stow-Munroe Falls Public Library Online Book Clubs and receive chapters from popular books in your daily e-mail. Each day we'll send you a portion of a chapter. After you've read two or three chapters from a book, we'll start sending you a new one. Sign up by clicking this link www.dearreader.com/library/stow or by going to the Stow-Munroe Falls Public Library website at www.smfpl.org. Click "Adult Services," then click "Informational Websites." Scroll down and click "Bestsellers," then click "Chapter-a-Day." Choose which club you wish to join and follow the directions.

Chapter-A-Day is sponsored by the Friends of Stow-Munroe Falls Public Library.

BACK TO TOP

Upcoming Special Events

This City Reads
Take the pledge! Help make Akron/Summit County the "Reading Capital of the World!" Activities at Stow-Munroe Falls Public Library for both children and adults are Wednesday, February 2, 2005.

10:00 a.m. to Noon - Reading Cafe for Adults.
Stop by the Magazine Lounge and enjoy a cup of freshly brewed Arabica coffee while you read. Read anything - your favorite newspaper, magazine, or a book for just 30 minutes and your time can be counted towards this city-wide goal.
10:30 to 11:00 a.m.- Storyhour with Mayor Karen Fritschel.
Preschoolers (ages 2 to 5) and parents may join Stow Mayor Karen Fritschel for a special Storyhour program in the upstairs meeting room.

Pledge cards must be submitted by 5:00 p.m. on February 2 and are available at the library. If you are unable to stop by the library on February 2, you may read at work or home anytime that day, and call the library at 330-688-3295 with your reading pledge. There are many other ways that you can participate in this city-wide reading challenge. For details, visit www.thiscityreads.org, call 330-643-9099, or watch for details in the Akron Beacon Journal.

Financial Education Workshops
"The Ins and Outs of Reverse Mortgages"
Tuesday, February 8 from 9:30 to 10:30 a.m. in the upstairs meeting room. Learn what a reverse mortgage is and why so many seniors are taking advantage of the program. Registration deadline is Friday, February 4.

"Avoid Mistakes When Withdrawing Your 401K!"
Thursday, February 10 from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. in the upstairs meeting room. Learn how to determine your risk management, financial situation, retirement goals, and examine how to avoid double taxation on withdrawals from retirement plans. Registration deadline for the February 10 class is Monday, February 7.

Tracy Kirk of Milestone Tax Advisory Group (www.milestonetax.com) will be presenting these workshops. Registration is required. Please call 330-688-3295 and ask for the Adult Information Desk to register.

Saving Money on Home Repair Bills
Wednesday, February 16 at 7:00 p.m. in the upstairs meeting room.
Join Handyman Jack Kleinman for a presentation on saving money on home repair bills. A question and answer session will follow the presentation. Participants should be 14 years old and up. Jack's video, The Klutz's Guide to Saving Money on Home Repair Bills will be available for purchase after the program. To register for this free program, contact Cheryl Nelson at 330-688-3295 or e-mail at nelsonch@oplin.org. Registration is limited. To learn more about Jack Kleinman visit his website at www.klutzsguide.com.

Tax Program 2005
Tax Counseling for the Elderly, free assistance for completing income tax forms, will be held Fridays, February 4 through April 15, 2005. One-hour appointments will be scheduled between noon and 4:00 p.m. in the upstairs meeting room. Appointments may be made at the Circulation Desk.

This tax program is designed for the low to middle income elderly (60 and over), but younger people may participate if income is $60,000 or less. The Tax Assistance Program is sponsored by AARP and the IRS. Volunteers are trained "in cooperation" with the IRS.

Each taxpayer must bring:

- a copy of last year's tax forms and social security card
- any forms showing income you earned or pensions or social security paid
- 1099 forms showing interest or dividends that your investments have earned
- receipts or cancelled checks for income or property taxes you have paid or any contributions you have made to charities

Annual Needlework Show
Attention stitchers - the Friends of the Stow Munroe Falls Public Library will hold their annual Spring Needlework Show **Wednesday, March 16 through Sunday, March 20, 2005**. Registration of entries will be Saturday, March 12 from 10:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. and Sunday, March 13 from 1:30 to 4:30 p.m. Judging will be Monday, March 14. For further information, please call the Information Desk at 330-688-3295. Pictured at right are two winners from last year's Needlework Show.

---

**Recent Library Happenings**

**Classical Guitarist**

The talented classical guitarist **Jonathan Gangi** performed music by Bach and several Latin American composers on Thursday, January 13. Over forty people listened with rapt attention as Mr. Gangi played the music that he performed for his senior recital at the University of Akron's Guzetta Hall on January 23. It was especially good to see that the audience consisted of young children, teenagers, college students, and older folks. Mr. Gangi plans to return to Stow-Munroe Falls Public Library with a friend to perform a program of guitar duets. Mr. Gangi’s program was so well received that the library is making plans for future concert programs featuring talented young performers.

---

**New Titles**

New titles are arriving daily at Stow-Munroe Falls Public Library. Check out the growing DVD collection, as well as books on CD. Some of the new titles this month are:

- **Books - Fiction:** *The Problem with Murmur Lee* by Connie May Fowler and *Tell it to the Marines* by Amy J. Fetzer.


- **Books-on-CD:** *To Die For* by Linda Howard, *Metro Girl* by Janet Evanovich, and *Hour Game* by David Baldacci.

- **Videos:** *Collateral*, *Twisted*, *King Arthur*, *Manchurian Candidate*, and *Princess Diaries II*.

- **DVDs:** *Shaun of the Dead*, *Troy*, *Dodgeball*, *Bourne Supremacy*, *I, Robot*, *King Arthur*, *Anchorman*, and *Manchurian Candidate*.
Department News

Adult Services

Evening Book Discussions
The evening book discussion group with Amy Garrett will be meeting the fourth Thursday of the month except in March. The March discussion will take place on the third Thursday. All discussions will begin at 7:00 p.m.

Copies of the books will be available approximately four to five weeks before the date of discussion and will be held at the Information Desk. Books may be checked out for a six-week loan period instead of the standard two-week period.

- February 24: Bury the Lead by David Rosenfelt
- March 17: Rocket Boys/October Sky by Homer Hickam
- April 28: The No. 1 Ladies Detective Agency by Alexander McCall Smith

Alternates (in case we cannot get enough copies of some books) are: Rainbow's End by Bob Adamov, Plain Truth by Jodi Picoult, Hidden Power by Kati Marton, Leaving Home by Art Buckwald, and Two Souls Indivisible by James Hirsch. If you have any questions, please call Amy Garrett at 330-688-3295.

Morning Book Discussions
The morning book discussion group with Chris Caccamo meets the second Friday of the month at 10:00 a.m. from October to May. As always, sign up is not required. If you have any questions, please call Chris Caccamo at 330-688-3295.

- March 11: Running With Scissors: A Memoir by Augusten Burrough
- April 8: Blessings by Anna Quindlen
- May 13: Angry Housewives Eating Bon Bons by Lorna Landvik

Computer Use
Computers for use by adult and teen patrons are in very high demand! This is a reminder that you can reserve a computer ahead of time. Just call the Information Desk at 330-688-3295 to reserve a computer for a one-hour time limit. Computers may be reserved up to one week in advance.

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 computer class schedule for March will be released Monday, February 28 at 9:00 a.m. The class calendar can be viewed at www.smfpl.org/calendar.htm. Please call 330-688-3295 if you have any questions.

Computer Volunteer
Computer volunteer Tom Labbe is available to help patrons with computer questions during the following hours: Monday, Wednesday, and Friday from 1:00 - 2:30.

Local History
The Local History Room is looking for "a few good people." Volunteers are needed to staff the Room on afternoons or evenings once a week. The Local History Room is a unique resource for the community, providing access to Stow's 200-year history via books, maps, news clippings, photo albums and more.
Volunteers will welcome visitors and help them find information, as well as perform tasks to further organize the collection. If you are at least 18 and like to sleuth out the occasional mystery, please call Bridget Hair at 330-688-3295.

**Teens**

**Online Book Discussion**
**Students ages 10 to 17** - Join our online book discussion group by going to the Online Book Discussion page at [www.smfpl.org/bookdiscuss.htm](http://www.smfpl.org/bookdiscuss.htm). Each month a different teen or middle grade fiction book is featured. When you've read the book, stop by this page to post a comment about it, and see what other students have to say about it. You can even comment about another book you're reading. It's like having a book discussion group without having to leave your home. There is no registration necessary.

**Chocolate Fest**
**Monday, February 14 from 7:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.**
Celebrate Valentine's Day with all things chocolate! Chocoate trivia, recipes, chocolate fondue and taste tests, books about chocolate, even make chocolate candy for your valentine. Register at the Information Desk or call 330-688-3295. Ages 11 to 17

**Chess Club**
**Tuesday, February 22 at 6:30 p.m.**

**Yu-Gi-Oh Club**
**Saturday, February 12 from 2:00 to 3:00 p.m.** Bring your cards and prepare to duel or swap for new cards. No sign up is necessary. The program is for ages 6 to 17.

For further information on Teen programs please go to the Teen Services web page at [www.smfpl.org./TS.htm](http://www.smfpl.org./TS.htm).

**Children's**

**Traveling Bears**
We've heard rumors that bears are coming to hang out at the library, but they won't stay long! They are anxious to travel - maybe to go on a trip with you! Watch for them coming to the Children's Department soon.

**Computer Classes for Kids**
Do you need to improve your computer skills? Do you need help with your homework assignments? Join us for computer classes for students in grades three through six. Classes are **Wednesdays from 4:00 to 5:00**.
- February 2 Basic Computers
- February 9 Keyboarding
- February 16 Microsoft Word
- February 23 Basic Internet Use
- March 2 Advanced Internet Searching
- March 9 Microsoft Power Point

**Homework Lab**
Students in grades one through six may use the Children's computer lab **Monday through Thursday between 3:00 and 4:30 p.m.** for homework assignments only. A librarian or volunteer will be on duty during this time to offer basic assistance. Due to limited availability of computers during other time periods, students are encouraged to use this service to complete their assignments. Service may
occasionally be limited due to classes or other library activities. Lab will be open beginning February 1.

**Professor E Rides Again: Science is Fun**
Science Programs for students in third through sixth grades will be held on the following Saturdays from 10:00 to 11:00 a.m. Sign up for each session individually. Space is limited. Call 330-688-3295 to register.
- February 19 Attractions and Reactions
- March 26 Polymers and Chemistry

**Time Machine**
Take a trip through time and visit four fascinating periods in history. Enjoy crafts, games, refreshments and a reading by the librarian. For children in grades 1-4. Registration appreciated but not required. **Tuesdays at 4:00 p.m**
- February 8 Ancient Egypt
- February 15 Ancient China
- February 22 Ancient Rome
- March 1 Vikings

**Snowmen at Night**
**Wednesday, February 23 at 7:00 p.m.** Come join us for stories, a snowman craft, and hot chocolate! For children ages 4-8 and their families. Registration begins February 7.

To see a complete list of Children's programming, please go to the Children's Department web page at [www.smfpl.org/CS.htm](http://www.smfpl.org/CS.htm). For further information please call 330-688-3295.

**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**
How would you like to automatically be placed on the reserve list for five of your favorite popular authors? Join our Bestsellers Club and that's exactly what will happen! Just pick up a form at the Circulation Desk and join over 300 satisfied members. 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!

**Honorees**
Arabica gift certificates have been awarded to the following patrons visiting Stow-Munroe Falls Public Library recently: **Julie White**, the 1,000th window check-out of 2005, **Gertrude Rubenstein**, the first person of 2005 to sign up for the Bestsellers Club, **Amy Schneider** (the tenth Bestsellers Club signup) and **Monica Dunton** (twentieth Bestsellers Club signup).

Cardholders have their privileges at Stow-Munroe Falls Public Library!

[BACK TO TOP](#)
From February 3 to March 1 The Corner Gallery features an exhibition of the Scripts and Scribes Calligraphy Guild of Akron. The Guild is a group committed to the enjoyment and education of the art of calligraphy. Members range from beginners to teachers and professional artists. They meet the first Thursday of the month from fall through spring at the Fairlawn Garden and Civic Center located at 2074 W. Market Street. Programs are given by various members and local artists. For further information about the Guild, please contact Art Show Chairman Joan Stenger at 330-928-8415.

Friends of the Library

The Friends, one of the largest organizations in Stow, 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. Friends membership is currently at 495 members.

If you are interested in joining Stow-Munroe Falls Public Library Friends of the 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

Drunkard's Path is a quilt recently displayed over the Circulation Desk. The quilt was made and quilted by Gloria Wyatt-Smith. Gloria started quilting when she was 12 years old. Her mother and grandmother were also avid quilters. Her first Drunkard's Path was made from grey and brown wool her husband brought home from his job as a clothing cutter. Drunkard's Path was made in 1991 for her son while he was stationed in Germany as a medic during Desert Storm. Gloria has made many quilts and finished some her mother made. Like most quilters, Gloria gave many of the quilts to family members.

Spotlight on Country Information

February’s spotlight shines on Country Information. Does your child have to do a country report for school? Would you like to know more about countries that are currently in the news? Are you planning a trip abroad? Stow-Munroe Falls Public Library has a variety of resources available about individual countries, including history, travel, and geography materials. CultureGrams, located in the Teen Reference Department, is a great place to start for basic country information. CultureGrams World Edition 2005 contains 93 country reports featuring 25 categories. Categories include such things as land and climate, history, general attitudes, gestures, eating, family life, economy, education, and health. The reports are in two large binders and can be removed for easy copying. CultureGrams are not only for students. They are also extremely helpful for international business people and other travelers. Countries and Their Cultures is another resource in the Reference Department which focuses on the social and cultural aspects of 225 individual countries.
Country information is also located in the travel, history, and geography sections in the 900s. **Frommer's**, **Fodor's**, and **Mobil** are popular travel guides found in the 914-919 section. Look for guides on the individual country or the region to which you are traveling. If using the catalog to search for information about a country, enter the country's name as subject or title keyword. If there are no results, try searching by region. **A Brief History of Israel** by Bernard Reich and **Greece: A Primary Source Cultural Guide** by Maura McGinnis are two titles that focus on the history and culture of countries. Look for Videos and DVDs about countries in the 914-919 section of the non-fiction video section, located near the Information Desk. Maps and atlases are available on the shelves near the Biographies.

Travelers will find helpful information on the Department of State website at [www.state.gov](http://www.state.gov). There are links to "travel and living abroad" (travel warnings, passport applications, visa forms) and "countries and regions" (background notes, posts, and U.S. embassies in foreign countries). The **World Fact Book** on the CIA website at [www.cia.gov](http://www.cia.gov) contains basic intelligence (the fundamental and factual reference material) on countries around the world. Select a country or location and learn about the background, geography, people, government, economy, communications, transportation, military, and transnational issues. Both of these U.S. government websites have sections just for young people. View them by clicking on [http://future.state.gov](http://future.state.gov) and [http://www.cia.gov/cia/ciakids/index.shtml](http://www.cia.gov/cia/ciakids/index.shtml).

### Staff Picks

February's staff pick is **The Passion of Artemisia** by Susan Vreeland, recommended by Adult Services Librarian Beth Daugherty. This historical novel tells the life story of Artemisia Gentileschi (1593-1652), a post-Renaissance painter who achieved fame during her own era, and lived the life of a modern woman. Born in Rome, Artemisia depicted women as strong characters in her paintings, a change from the way women were depicted by male artists. She was recognized during her lifetime, but still struggled to reconcile career and family, passion and genius. To view a website devoted to Artemisia and her works go to [www.artemisia-gentileschi.com](http://www.artemisia-gentileschi.com). Other books by Susan Vreeland include **Girl in Hyacinth Blue**, **The Forest Lover**, and **Life Studies: Stories**.

### Website of the Month

February's website is **Epicurious** at [www.epicurious.com](http://www.epicurious.com). This website not only contains thousands of recipes, it offers menus, a food dictionary, technique videos and much more. You can find international recipes, sign up for a recipe of the week, read the latest cooking news, and read restaurant reviews. This is a great site for those who love cooking and eating!