

THE READER

The Newsletter of the Cranford Public Library & The Friends of the Cranford Public Library
January – February 2017

Literary Café

The Literary Café will meet on Saturday, January 7 and February 4, from 10:15 to 11:15 a.m. Bring a few of your favorite books and tell the other group members what you like about them. Books can be new, old, fiction, non-fiction, classic, or contemporary. There is *no* required reading. You will have the opportunity to learn about books recommended by other group members, and refreshments will be served. Registration is *not* required.

“Snow Many Books” – Adult Winter Reading Program



The library is pleased to announce its third annual Adult Winter Reading Program. Adults 18 years and up are eligible. The program will run from January 17 to March 3. There will be weekly random drawings for prizes, and two grand prizes—\$75 gift certificates to the Garlic Rose and Pairings restaurants—at the end of the program, courtesy of the Friends of the Cranford Library. Visit the library, pick up some books to beat the winter blues, and give yourself a chance to win some prizes!

“Snuff Out Smoking”

The library will host a smoking cessation workshop on Wednesday, January 18, at 7:30 p.m. in the Cranford Community Center. The program will be presented by Katherine DiDonato, Ph.D., a clinical psychologist currently working at the Summit Medical Group’s Behavioral Health and Cognitive Therapy Center. Dr. DiDonato has received special training from the American Lung Association and she has been running smoking cessation groups at Summit Medical Group since 2012. Admission to the program is free and all are welcome.

The Readers’ Forum

The Readers’ Forum, the library’s lively book discussion group, will meet to discuss *Kindred* by Octavia E. Butler on January 23, followed by *The Boys in the Boat* by Daniel James Brown on February 27, *In the Time of the Butterflies* by Julia Alvarez on March 27, *Homegoing* by Yaa Gyasi on April 24, and *Nutsell* by Ian McEwan on May 22. Dates are Mondays. Sessions start at 7:00 p.m. in the Fridlington Room. New members are welcome at any time!

From the Children’s Room

iDiscover Coding—Children in grades one to three are invited to learn the basics of coding with Mr. Chris on January 3 and February 7, both Tuesdays, at 7:00 p.m. Children in grades four to six are invited to learn the basics of coding with Mr. Chris on January 31 and February 28, both Tuesdays, at 7:00 p.m. Registration is required. Call or stop by the Children’s Room to reserve a spot. . . . **Therapy Dogs**—Independent readers are invited to hone their skills by reading to certified therapy dogs at 6:30 p.m. on January 10 and February 14, both Tuesdays. *Registration is required*, either in person or by phone, up to two weeks before the event. . . . **Chess Club**—Chess players aged



seven and up are welcome to come and learn the rules and practice against teen volunteers! Thursday, January 12, at 3:30 p.m.; Saturday, January 14, at 1:00 p.m.; Tuesday, February 9, at 3:30 p.m.; and Saturday, February 11, at 3:30 p.m. . . . **Family M.E.S.S.**—Join us for Family Math, Engineering, and Science Saturday on January 14 and February 11 at 10:30 a.m. This STEM-based program gives families an opportunity to learn together through play. *Registration required*. . . . **Lego Club**—Join us on Tuesday, January 17, and Tuesday, February 21, at 6:30 p.m. for our monthly Lego sessions! We will have about 45 minutes to free-build, after which we’ll share our work with our peers. Lego Club is for children entering grades one to six. . . . **Baby Story Time**—Join us for a short, lively story time, followed by free play at 10:15 on Monday or Wednesday mornings (please pick one). Our 10-week session begins on Monday, January 30, at 10:15 a.m. *Ages 3 to 23 months, no registration required*. . . . **“1,000 Books” Celebration featuring Big Jeff**—We’ll be joined by Big Jeff for a special musical performance to celebrate our first year of “1,000 Books Before Kindergarten” on Saturday, January 28, at 10:15 a.m. in the Cranford Community Center, Room 201. *Ages two to five*. . . . **Toddler Story Time**—Our two-year-old friends and their caregivers are invited to join us for some simple stories on Tuesday mornings at 10:15. Our 10-week session begins on Tuesday, January 31 at 10:15 a.m. *No registration required*. . . . **3-4-5 Story Time**—This early literacy story time was created for our preschool-aged friends! Our 10-week session begins on Thursday, February 2 at 10:15 a.m. *Ages three to five, no registration required*. . . . **Family Fort Night**—Bring an old sheet or blanket and a pillow and stay past closing to create a fort to read in! Friday, February 17, at 4:45 p.m. *No registration required*.

From the Teen Zone



Chess Club—Calling all chess playing teens! Help children learn to play chess on January 12, at 3:30 p.m., January 14, at 1:00 p.m., and February 11, at 1:00 p.m. Sessions are 90 minutes long. To volunteer, contact Teen Librarian Elizabeth Ferry (cranfordlibrary@gmail.org). . . **Gaming Sessions**—These fun, open sessions are for all ages. Bring and play your own games or play some of the library's. Thursday, January 12 and 26, February 9 and 23, from 5:00 to 9:00 p.m. in the Cranford Community Center. . .

Make a Snow Globe—January 13, 3:30 to 5:00 p.m. *Register by email:* (cranfordlibrary@gmail.org). . . **Computer Classes for Senior Citizens**—Contact Elizabeth Ferry to be a volunteer tutor (cranfordlibrary@gmail.org). Sessions begin on January 19. . . **High School Study Nights @ Cranford Community Center**—January 24 to 26, 6:00 to 9:00 p.m. . . **Movie Nights**—January 27, 6:00 to 8:00 p.m., and February 21, 5:00 to 7:00 p.m. . . **Take & Make Valentine Craft**—February 7 to 14. . . **Cake-in-a-Mug**—February 17, 2:00 to 4:00 p.m.

News from the Friends of the Cranford Public Library

Join the Friends of the Library!



Help support the library by joining the Friends of the Cranford Public Library or by renewing your membership for 2017. Annual membership costs only \$10.00 (\$5.00 for senior citizens and students). Membership includes mailings of *The Reader*. Applications are available at the main desk of the library and at cranfordlibrary.org/friends.php.

Bargains Abound at the Friends' Used Book Sale!

Choose from thousands of adult and children's books, CDs, DVDs, and recorded books on Wednesday, January 4, 4:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m., Thursday and Friday, January 5 and 6, 10:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., and Saturday, January 7, 10:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m., in the library's Friendly Book Cellar. Most items are priced between \$.25 and \$2.00. On Saturday, fill a bag with books for just \$8.00! The sale is wheelchair accessible. Proceeds benefit the library.

Foreign Films

The Friends' foreign film series continues with *Sweet Bean* (Japan, drama, 2016, 113 minutes) on Monday, January 9, and *Mustang* (Turkey/France, drama, 2015, 97 minutes) on Monday, February 13, at 2:00 p.m. and 7:00 p.m. Films are shown in the Cranford Community Center. Admission is free and all are welcome.

Poetry Readings

The Friends are very pleased to host poetry readings by three very talented local poets, John McDermott, Deborah LaVeglia, and Joe Weil, on Saturday, January 14, at 2:00 p.m. in the Cranford Community Center. John McDermott, a Cranford resident, recently received the Fanwood Arts Council's Carriage House Poetry Prize for his poem, "Census 2016." He has twice read his work at the Geraldine R. Dodge Poetry Festival and serves as a Dodge Poet. He is the author *The Long Way Home*. Deborah LaVeglia, also a Cranford resident, is director of "PoetsWednesday" at the Barron Arts Center in Woodbridge. She has published poetry and essays in many journals and anthologies. Joe Weil grew up in Elizabeth and teaches creative writing at Binghamton University. He has published four poetry collections: *What Remains*, *Painting the Christmas Trees*, *The Plumber's Apprentice*, and *The Great Grandmother Light, New and Selected*. Admission to the program is free and all are welcome.

An Evening of Doo-Wop

The Friends invite you to enjoy an evening of doo-wop music featuring Re-MemberThen on Monday, January 30, at 7:30 p.m. in the Cranford Community Center. The Piscataway based group was formed in 2011 and has twice won Don K. Reed's acapella showdown at the Izod Center (2012 and 2014). As winners, the group went on to open the Nader Doo-Wop Spectacular at the Meadowlands. Admission to the program is free and all are welcome.

Two Presentations on the Music of the Sixties

The Friends are pleased to welcome back rock historian Vincent Bruno, who will present two lectures on the music of the 1960s: "The 60s: The British Invasion" on Wednesday, February 15, and "The 60s: The American Pop/Rock Era" on Thursday, February 23. Both programs will begin at 7:00 pm. in the Cranford Community Center. Each lecture is two-hours long and will include visual material and audio clips. Admission is free and all are welcome.

Library Hours & Closings

Monday to Wednesday, 10:00 a.m. - 9:00 p.m.; Thursday & Friday, 10:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.; Saturday, 10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Closed: Monday, January 2 for the New Year holiday; Monday, January 16, Martin Luther King, Jr. Day;

Monday, February 20, Presidents' Day.

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