

THE
SPRING
STREET



BROWSER

300 Spring Street / Newport, RI 02840 / TEL 847-8720 / FAX 842-0841 / www.newportlibraryri.org / Volume 39 / January/February 2012

Mango Languages

Your Passport to Speaking a New Language

Going on a trip this spring? Want to learn how to speak a new language? Give *Mango Languages* a try. Mango Languages is the FREE, web-based language learning program that focuses on practical conversation and cultural awareness.



Choose from over 30 languages—French, German and Italian to Thai, Urdu and Pirate. You can register, and Mango will keep track of where you leave off, OR jump right in and start learning right away. If you know anyone interested in learning English, Mango has courses to help them.

If you have an Apple mobile device, you can get the free Mango Mobile App.

Mango Languages is on the library's website (www.newportlibraryri.org). Click on **Research** and then slide down to **Online Learning**.

From the Director

I'd like to join the Board of Trustees, and the Friends of the Library in wishing everyone a wonderful New Year. Each New Year brings new opportunities. May 2012 bring opportunities for you to explore even more the services we offer. And may it bring us the knowledge of how best to serve you. Happy New Year to all!

—Regina Slezak

Writing and Publishing Series

Winter is a good time to sit down and write. For anyone who has thought of writing a poem, story or book, the library is offering a series of workshops for you. On alternate Saturdays in January, February, and into March, at 2 p.m. we invite writers to meet, write, discuss, and learn how to get published.

• **Saturday, January 14 at 2 p.m.** Dianne Grinnell, a workshop facilitator with 25 years experience teaching and writing, will lead attendees in discussion of writing technique, exercises, and critiquing. Dianne led a successful series last spring at the library.

• **Saturday, January 28 at 2 p.m.** Rose Pearson of The Writers' Circle, will give a presentation on "Getting Your Work Published." Rose has been working with and guiding writers as executive director of The Writers' Circle for more than 20 years.

• **Saturday, February 11 at 2 p.m.** Reference Librarian Luke Owens, leader of the Tuesday afternoon book discussion

group, has taught an online English course for students. His session will concentrate on revising and critically evaluating work, and will include resources for self-paced help, and becoming part of the online writing community.

• **Saturday, February 25 at 2 p.m.** Michael Grossman from the online "eBook Bakery service" and author of two books, will talk about self-publishing and eBook publishing. He'll address the process and contractual possibilities, and how to market a self-published eBook.

• In March, the series starts with a poetry writing workshop and then follows with a session featuring local authors who have gone through the self-publishing process and produced books. Details are still being arranged, but look for more information about the sessions on Saturdays in March.

No registration is necessary for these workshops. Writers of all levels are welcome. This series is offered by the Reference and Adult Services Department and is appropriate for adults and older teens.

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Workshop Series for Job-Seekers

Presented by the RI Department of Labor and Training, the series starts Friday, **January 20**, with a session on writing resumes and cover letters. DLT coordinator Jane Palmer will guide attendees in sharpening up their resumes and give tips on what to cover in cover letters. On Friday, **February 17** the second session will cover Interviews. The final session on conducting a job search will be held **March 16**. All sessions will be held at 10:30 a.m. Some laptops will be available for use after the main presentation. Registration is not limited, but please call the library, 847-8720 ext. 208, to sign-up for each session so we will know how many handouts to prepare or sign up at the Reference Desk.

children's department news

JANUARY/FEBRUARY PRE-SCHOOL PROGRAMS

- **BOOKS AND BABIES for children birth to 11 months** will be held on Wednesday mornings at 10:30 from January 18 to February 15. This program uses a picture book read aloud and nursery rhymes to help infants learn the rhythms and patterns of speech.
- **LIBRARY LAP TIME for children 12 to 23 months** will be held on Thursday mornings at 10:00 from January 19 to February 16. This program consists of picture books, developmentally appropriate rhymes and songs.
- **TODDLER TIMES for children 2-3 years old** will be held on Tuesday mornings at 10:30 from January 17 through February 14 and on Thursday mornings at 11:00 from January 19 through February 16. This program consists of read alouds, activity rhymes, fingerplays, songs and a simple craft.
- **BOOKS AND CRAFTS CLUB for children 4-6 years old** will meet at 3:30 pm on Thursdays, January 19 through February 16. This program features read alouds, songs, activities and a craft.

All programs are free. All materials are provided. Registration is required and is limited.

Registration begins on Wednesday, January 4. To register, please visit the Children's Desk or call 401-847-8720 ext. 204.

STORYTIMES **STORYTIMES** STORYTIMES

Drop-In Storytimes

A **drop-in storytime for children ages 2 to 4 years** will be held on Tuesday mornings at 11:00 in the John Clarke Children's Program Room. The storytime will feature read alouds, songs and rhymes. No registration is necessary. 🌿

Spanish/English Storytimes

Spanish teacher, Dana Edward Ramey, will provide a bilingual storytime for families with children of all ages on Mondays, January 9, January 30, February 6 and February 27 at 3:30 p.m. in the John Clarke Children's Program Room. This storytime presents Children's books in Spanish and English, uses songs, poems, and provides a related activity. This storytime is excellent for families who speak Spanish as their first language as well as for children who are learning Spanish as a second language. 🌿

Valentine Chocolate Party

Children ages 6 and up are invited to create Valentine craft projects on Tuesday, February 14 at 3:30 p.m. in the John Clarke Children's Program Room in the Children's Area. Children make a variety of Valentine crafts. Hot chocolate and candy treats will be served. All materials will be provided for this program. Registration is required and is limited. Registration will begin January 30. To register, please visit the Children's Desk or call 847-8720 ext. 204. 🌿



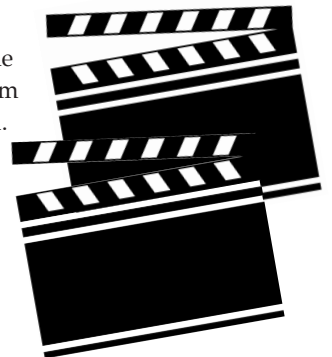
February School Vacation Week Activities

- **CHILDREN'S DRAWING WORKSHOP** Children ages 6 and up will receive individualized art instruction on freehand drawing from professional artist, Denied Pack, on Wednesday, February 22nd at 10:30 a.m. in the John Clarke Children's Program Room. Registration is required and is limited. Registration will begin on Tuesday, February 7th. To register stop by the Children's Desk or call 847-8720 ext. 204.
- **MYSTERY WRITING WITH LUCINDA LANDON** Children 7 to 10 years old are invited to hear Lucinda Landon, author and illustrator of the Meg Mackintosh mystery series, as she presents a slide talk about how she became an artist and children's author on Thursday, February 23 at 10:30 a.m. She will also advise participants on how to write their own mysteries. There is no registration for this free program, just drop in. 🌿

Movie Matinees for Children

Movie matinees are held in the lower level Library Program Room at 2:30. No registration is required.

- **January 21** *The Karate Kid (2010)* Rated PG, this movie is suitable for children ages 6 and up.
- **February 11** Disney's *The Princess and the Frog* rated G.



Book Buddies

The Book Buddies Book Club for children in grades 3, 4, and 5 will meet on Monday, January 23 from 3:30 to 4:30 p.m. in the John Clarke Children's Program Room. At this meeting the group will discuss *The Star Maker* by Laurence Yep.

The February meeting will be held on Monday, February 13 at 3:30 p.m. in the John Clarke Children's Program Room and the group will discuss *Oggie Cooder* by Sarah Weeks.

Copies of *The Star Maker* and *Oggie Cooder* are available at the Children's Desk.

Registration is required for these sessions. To register visit the Children's Department, call 847-8720 ext. 204, or emailing cantonio@newportlibraryri.org. For more information, please visit the Book Buddies Blog at <http://www.nplbookbuddies.blogspot.com>. 🌿

Book Discussion Groups Continue in the New Year

The **Tuesday Afternoon Book Group** will be meeting at 1:00 p.m. on January 10 to discuss *The Appointment* by Herta Muller. Muller's novel is set in Communist Romania and tells the story of a young seamstress caught sewing messages into the lining of suits bound for Italy. Herta Muller won the Nobel Prize for Literature in 2009.

The group will meet again on Tuesday, February 14 to discuss *The Return of Depression-Era Economics and the Financial Crisis of 2008*, by Paul Krugman. Krugman, a well-known columnist for the *New York Times*, won the Nobel Prize for Economics in 2008 and has been called "the most celebrated economist of his generation" by *The Economist* magazine.

The **Thursday Evening Book Group** will continue to meet on the third Thursday (or sometimes the fourth), at 7 p.m. in the Stride Room. On Thursday, January 19 the group will meet to discuss *The Sea Around Us*, the 1952 National Book Award winning classic by Rachel Carson.

On February 16, the group will be discussing the historic tale set in Dejima, Nagasaki, Japan *The Thousand Autumns of Jacob de Zoet* By David Mitchell.

Book groups are free and open to the public; all who read the book are welcome to attend and take part. For more information, contact Pat or Luke at the Reference Desk. 🌿

Black History Month in February

Black History Month this year honors Black Women in American History and Culture and will focus on African American women who have dedicated their lives, labor, leadership, and who through intellectual and artistic expression have enriched both the African American community and the nation at large. In keeping with this theme, the library will host an African American Read-In on Thursday, February 9, at 7 p.m. Readers from the community are being asked to select a favorite African-American woman author and to read a selection from their work. Anyone who would like to participate should contact Pat LaRose at the library (847-8720 ext. 103). Please join us in the celebration in the Program Room. 🌿

ART AND DANCE OF ANCIENT CHINA

Representatives of the Falun Dafa Association of New England will be at the library on Saturday, January 7 at 2 p.m. to present background information relating to "Shen Yun," a performance of ancient Chinese music and dance coming to the Providence Performing Arts Center in January. Discover the glory of China's classical art and culture brought to life through brilliantly choreographed dance, magnificently costumed dancers, and masterful compositions. The presenters at the library will put "Shen Yun" in historical context, enriching your experience, whether you see the actual show or not. 🌿

Computer Workshops

Reference staff will teach a variety of computer workshops this winter. Check at the Reference Desk or on our website, www.newportlibraryri.org, for the new schedule and to sign up.

Like to talk about the books you've read?

BOOKCHATS ARE DESIGNED JUST FOR THAT PURPOSE.

They are informal gatherings of readers who talk about whatever they are currently reading or have recently read. Each month we will have bookchats on the first Wednesday at 7 p.m., and on the last Tuesday at 1 p.m. This is a great way to get ideas of what to read next and to share your thoughts on books you've read. No specific titles, no pressure to finish.

friends news

WINTER CLEARANCE BOOK SALE

Hours: Saturday, Jan. 28: 9:30 a.m. – 5:30 p.m. • Sunday, Jan 29: 1:00 – 5:00 p.m. • Monday, Jan 30: 12:30 – 8:30 p.m.
Tuesday, Jan 31: 9:30 a.m. – 8:30 p.m. • Wednesday, Feb. 1: 9:30 a.m. – 8:00 p.m.

All books are \$1.00 except bundled series and select eBay specials. Wednesday, Feb. 1, is "Bag of Books" day – we'll supply the bags and you fill them at only \$4/bag. Proceeds benefit the Newport Public Library.

Are You a Member of the Friends? It's time to renew your membership in The Friends of the Newport Public Library or become a new member. Memberships are as low as \$10/year. Forms are available at the Friends Bookstore, lower level of the Library or online at: www.newportlibraryri.org/npl/support-your-library/friends-of-the-library/
The Friends support the library through their membership fees, bookstore and book sales.

Friends Bookstore Winter Hours

Monday 1-5 • Tuesday & Wednesday 11-7 • Thursday 11- 5 • Friday & Saturday 11-3 • Sunday 1-3

Donations: We accept donations of books, CDs, DVDs and magazines year-round. They may be left at the Bookstore or contact the Library's at 847-8720 ext. 100 to arrange to leave larger donations at the Library's loading dock.

Volunteers Needed: The Friends need volunteers to help staff the Bookstore, sort and price books, help at special book sales and to work at other library fundraising events. We also could use volunteers with computer skills. Call 847-8720, x100 to sign up.



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WINTER HOURS:

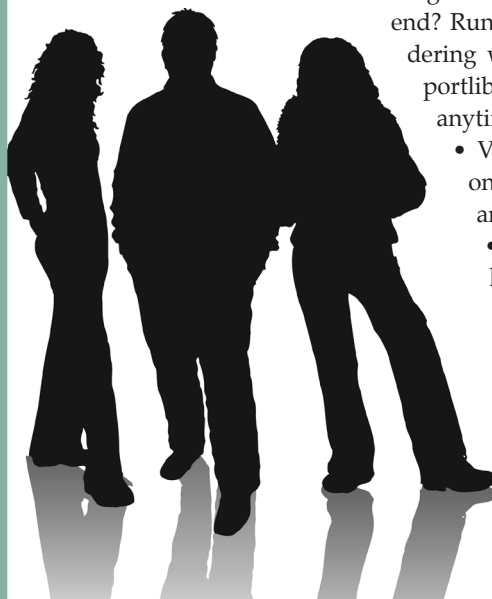
Monday 12:30 – 9:00
Tuesday – Thursday 9:30 – 9:00
Friday – Saturday 9:30 – 6:00
Sunday 1:00 – 5:00

Services Designed for Teens

Teens, and those working with teens, are reminded that the library has a department designed specifically for students in grades 7-12 staffed by two friendly, knowledgeable librarians who are ready to help.

- Drop by and visit the Young Adult Department to see our great collection of new movies on DVD and Blu-Ray, and our selection of fiction, non-fiction, and graphic novels.

- Need an article for school? Looking for something to do in Newport this weekend? Running out of vampire books and wondering what to read next? Go to www.newportlibraryri.org and visit Teens@NPL online anytime. Or stop in and ask.



- Visit the ASKRI page, for free on-line one-on-one tutoring both in the library and at home.

- Use our homework specific computer here in the library. It even has Novanet installed.

- Attend our programs that include opportunities to socialize, take part in a craft activity, or play video games.

- Fan us on Facebook or follow our blog, newportteentalk.blogspot.com, to stay up-to-date with the latest library events. 🌿