



New Castle Library Friends

Footnotes

News for enthusiastic supporters of the New Castle Public Library



Alone we can do little; together we can do so much.

Helen Keller



Dear Friends,

Of all the pandemic related words used so often in 2021, my favorite is “resilience”. It denotes an ability to overcome hardship, leaves you with a sense of hope, and implies more good news than bad.

After being closed for more than a year, the New Castle Public Library finally opened to the public on April 12th, allowing us to browse, compute, and inquire again.

Even though our two traditional fundraising events, A Day in Old New Castle and Separation Day, were cancelled for the second year, our hardworking Book Sale Committee, and their volunteers, held four successful book sales between May and December.

Please join us for another successful year by renewing your membership today.

You can renew your membership for as little as \$10 per year, but I sincerely hope you will consider increasing your membership donation level. As a member of the New Castle Library Friends, you receive a regular newsletter, information about upcoming events, and most importantly, satisfaction in knowing you are supporting a great organization, the New Castle Public Library.

Wishing you all health and happiness in the New Year,

Amy Bishop-Ryan
NCLF President

News from the New Castle Public Library

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Featured Event

Library After Hours

Kickstart your creativity in the new year with the New Castle Public Library! Join us Friday, January 14th at 7pm for a BYOB happy hour and junk journaling night hosted by local paper crafter and University of Delaware librarian Alison Wessel.

Come ready to make your own mixed-media art journal with recycled materials, found objects, etc. The library will provide blank notebooks, some scrap paper, and crafting tools - bring your own ephemera/decorative elements and adult beverages if desired!

Registration required. <https://delawarelibraries.libcal.com/event/8560513>. THIS IS A 21+ EVENT.

Featured Resource

Looking for traditional recipes? Explore different cultural and festive foods using the **World Trade Press A to Z Food** databases.

World Trade Press is a database available for free on our library computers or at home through the library website with your library card that provides information about American and world culture, travel, language, and food. Get the research information you need and become a global citizen today!

Featured Programs

Lego Club - Tuesday, 1/4 & 1/18 @ 6:00 PM

Rhythm & Rhyme Storytime - Friday, 1/7 & 1/28 @ 10:30 AM

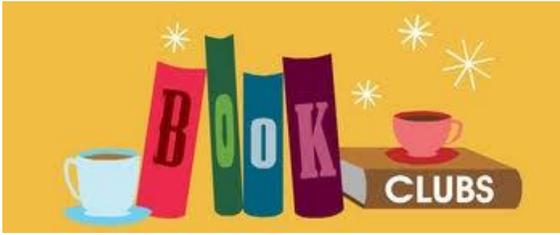
PAWS for Reading - Monday, 1/10 @ 6:00 PM

Sew Happy Group - Tuesday, 1/11 @ 10:00 AM

Taste of Mexico - Saturday, 1/15 @ 2:00 PM

Monday Multicultural Movie: Queen Bees - Monday, 1/24 @ 3:00 PM

Family Craft Night - Monday, 1/24 @ 4:30 PM



Book Clubs... Read, Reflect, Share

The library currently has two ongoing book clubs, which are open to the public. Please call the library at 302-328-1995 to express your interest in joining one or both groups.

Adult Book Discussion, Hosted by Tyler Antoine, is held on the third Tuesday of every month, at 6:30 pm.

- Tuesday, January 18: ***When the Stars Go Dark*** by Paula McClain
- Tuesday, February 15: ***The Library of Lost and Found*** by Phaedra Patrick
- Tuesday, March 15: ***The Songs of Trees: Stories from Nature's Great Connectors*** by David George Haskell
- Tuesday, April 19: ***This Tender Land*** by William Kent Krueger
- Tuesday, May 17: ***We Have Always Lived in the Castle*** by Shirley Jackson
- Tuesday, June 21: ***Hamnet: A Novel of the Plague*** by Maggie O'Farrell

The Usual Suspects, Hosted by Julie Kirk, is held on the third Thursday of every month, at 5:30 pm.

- Thursday, January 20: ***A Study in Scarlet Women*** by Sherry Thompson
- Thursday, February 17: ***The Alienist*** by Caleb Carr
- Thursday, March 17: ***Bad Boy*** by Peter Robinson
- Thursday, April 21: ***The Thursday Murder Club*** by Richard Osman
- Thursday May 19: ***The Various Haunts of Men*** by Susan Hill



Meet Taylor Garbowski

I recently had the pleasure of interviewing Taylor Garbowski, a new NCLP staff member. Taylor joined the library team as Library Administrative Aide back in September.

Taylor grew up in Wilmington and is a product of the University of Delaware. It was her undergraduate work in the field of Environment and Resource Economics, and an internship at the Lab School that drew her to a career in library services. While at the Lab School, Taylor created a resource guide for edible forest sustenance, with the help of library resources. Through this engagement with information resources, Taylor recognized her passion for community involvement and the importance of providing resources. Her current graduate work at UD is in a program entitled, Minerals, Materials, and Society. It is an interdisciplinary degree focused on information, global communication, and the evolution of cooperation.

With this background, Taylor is well suited for the duties of an Administrative Aide. In this position, she assists other staff with organizing library needs and projects. She also fortifies library communications through bulletin boards, displays, and table-top prisms. Taylor has also jump started the Library Newsletter-a rich go-to source of updates and news of library events and programs.

In her free time, Taylor loves the outdoors, including hiking and foraging. She also volunteers as a Delaware Tree Steward. Taylor enjoys art and music, which include collaging and playing with audio equipment to discover the structure of sounds. Time spent with her rescue dog Piper and reading also fill time away from work and school.

Taylor's favorite genre is poetry, but she also enjoys graphic novels and general non-fiction. She loves learning about the world. Due to Taylor's emotional connection to nature, her favorite book is *Braiding Sweetgrass* by Robin Wall Kimmerer. (Included in this month's Book Recommendations)

In closing, Taylor expressed her love of engaging with people to help them be happy and successful, and her joy working as part of the library team.

It was my pleasure to meet Taylor, and introduce her to you, our library family.

Eileen Burk

Community Shows Up for Winter Market & Festival

The New Castle Public Library would like to extend a huge, heartfelt thank you to everyone who stopped by on Saturday, December 11 for our first annual Winter Market and Festival. Both floors of the library were completely transformed for the holiday season, with vendors selling their wares and our staff providing programming throughout the day. Over 600 people dropped in.

Our sincere gratitude also goes out to our tireless friends and volunteers, who continue to show up for our little library, time and time again. Thanks to them, nearly \$700 was raised for the library through our bake sale and the Friends book sale. This money goes directly to funding the programming and materials that our community can continue to expect from the New Castle Public Library. We'd also like to thank the Mercury Café and Teahouse for providing samples of their coffee for attendees to enjoy!)

Finally, we would be remiss if we didn't give a shout-out to our Library Specialist, Nicole Worth, whose dedicated leadership and singular vision for our first Winter Market and Festival are largely why the event was such a success. Nicole worked unwaveringly in coordinating the vendors, programs, and community buy-in that an event of this magnitude required. We are so very lucky to have someone like Nicole in our corner, and we can't wait to see how much bigger and brighter next year's Winter Market and Festival will be.

Tyler Antoine



***Friend's Book Sale and raffled wreath
created by Arasapha***



January Book Recommendations

If there is a book you would like to recommend, email us at nclibraryfriends@gmail.com.

Taylor Garbowski

Braiding Sweetgrass by Robin Wall Kimmerer
Milkweed Editions (2013)

This winner of the 2014 Sigurd F. Olson Nature Writing Award is a beautiful mixture of indigenous wisdom and scientific knowledge. Kimmerer is a botanist, a professor, and member of the Citizen Potawatomi Nation. Drawing on her life experiences as an indigenous woman and scientist, she braids her personal reflections with nature, recognizing plants and animals as our oldest teachers. This non-fiction reads like poetry. Each chapter tells a story from Kimmerer's life, that celebrates her reciprocal relationship with the rest of the living world.

Eileen Burk

The Sweetness of Water by Nathan Harris
Little, Brown and Company (2021)

Many books have addressed the horrific plight of American slaves. This riveting book gives insight into the experiences of slaves following their emancipation, and the seething resentment of the white society following this devastating change.

The novel opens at the conclusion of the Civil War in the rural Georgia town of Old Ox. The characters are beautifully developed, focusing on two freed brothers and a sympathetic white couple, willing to hire these men, at a fair wage, to help work their fields.

The tensions between neighbors exemplify the greater unrest in the American South at that time, and although Union soldiers occupied the streets of the town, the old racial hierarchy and vigilante justice prevailed.

It is in the crafting of these individuals that the author reveals the depth of despair, the force of love, and the tenacity of humanity.

Recommendation and review by Roberta Yarker Smith

Cold Mountain by Charles Frazier
Atlantic Monthly Press (1997)

I recently re-read this novel for an online course I am taking and admired it even more that I had originally in 1997 when it was first published. At the time, the novel was awarded several distinctions, including the National Book Award.

The structure of the book has been compared with the Odyssey in that the protagonist, a Confederate soldier named W. P. Inman, having been wounded towards the end of the Civil War, decides to desert, and return to Cold Mountain and the woman he loves, Ada Monroe. He walks for months meeting with a variety of characters, both helpful and harmful, on his way. As a deserter, he is in constant danger of being caught by the Confederate Home Guard, who receive payment for all the men they recapture. Frazier has said that he based the character of Inman on his great-grand uncle, who lived near Cold Mountain, which is now a part of the Pisgah National Forest in North Carolina.

As Inman struggles homeward, Ada, now alone due to her father's death, is saved from destitution by Ruby, who is resourceful, but homeless. Together, amid violence and hardship, they manage to survive through sheer determination.

Ada's story is told in alternative sequences with Inman's adventures, with their brief history together before the war being revealed in flashbacks.

The novel received mixed reviews when first published, but has held its own over twenty years and is recognized for the remarkable achievement that it is. The "prose filled with grace notes and trenchant asides" as one reviewer commented, compels the reader's attention throughout until the narrative reaches its ultimate dramatic conclusion.

NOTE: In 2003, a film version of the novel was produced, starring Jude Law, Nicole Kidman and Renee Zellweger and directed by Anthony Minghella. Although the movie does make significant changes to the story, it is an absorbing film.