



New Castle Library Friends

Footnotes

News for enthusiastic supporters of the New Castle Public Library



"Banning books gives us silence when we need speech. It closes our ears when we need to listen. It makes us blind when we need sight."

Stephen Chbosky



Join New Castle Library Friends for our second **Book Sale at Art on the Green!** We'll have a huge selection in lots of different genres, a free book for every kid under 13, and some other very special items.”

We'll have THREE tents this year so come prepared to browse... and maybe bring a reusable bag or two!

Books can be donated at NCPL, Monday thru Friday, during open hours - please see the pinned post on our [Facebook page](#) for full guidelines.

Big thanks to the New Castle Hundred Lions Club for donating space!



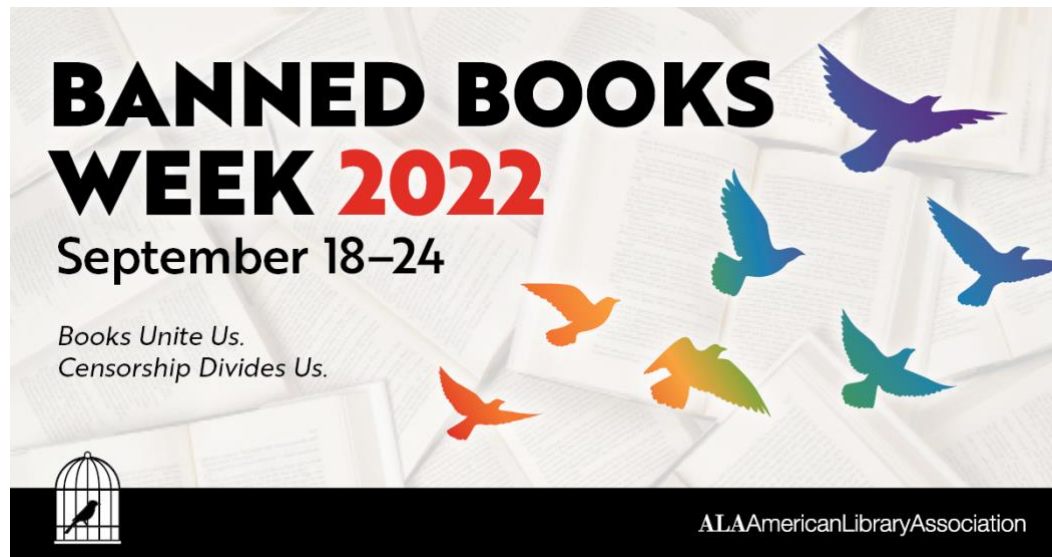
Additionally, we are pleased to announce that as part of Books on the Green, we will again be raffling off a number of fabulous baskets with books and related items. Some of the items are a homemade quilt, a gift certificate to a local restaurant, and items donated by generous local artisans, including a homemade birdhouse by Mike Alfree, and honey products from Thomas Lunt of Fort Casimir Honey Company. If you have an extra basket to donate, please [email](#) us.

Starting on September 6th, the baskets will be on display at the library and raffle tickets will be available for purchase.



The September 24th Art on the Green Book Sale is our biggest off-site book sale of the year. Our first book sale at last year's event was a great fundraiser and we will have an even bigger presence this year. But this takes people-power!

If you - and any friends you can bring - are available on the 24th to have fun as part of the team for Books on the Green, please email Susan Swansburg. We need many hands, a few strong backs and a couple of vehicles starting at 7:30am for set-up, and then again at the end of the event, plus lots of friendly folks who can help visitors throughout the day find the books for them.



Celebrate the right to read this September at the New Castle Public Library

Every September libraries across the country recognize “Banned Book Week”, a week in September that brings attention to book titles that are most commonly challenged/banned. Book banning has become more and more prominent in the United States over the past couple of years, especially in more conservative communities.

2021 and 2022 have made headlines with book banning and challenges, particularly for children and young adult titles. The most popular books to be challenged were LGBTQIA+ titles. The reason for these titles being challenged by parents/guardians and lawmakers is for “pornographic” and “sexual content.” Titles such as “Gender Queer” by Maia Kobabe, “Lawn Boy” by Johnathan Evison, and “All Boys Aren’t Blue” by George M. Johnson top the list for most challenged titles of 2021. These are only the most popular titles to be challenged. More conservative states such as Texas and Florida, have entire lists of books that are banned from school classrooms and libraries. Tennessee lawmakers created a new policy that required teachers to catalog their entire classroom library and have the list approved by the school librarian, the school board, then by the public – making having books in the classroom, increasingly challenging. Read more about what is happening across the country by following this link to a New York Times

article: <https://nyti.ms/3RE3xCz>.

Luckily, the New Castle Public Library relies on the Delaware Libraries collection development policy and the American Library Association (ALA) Library Bill of Rights, which can be read by following this link <http://www.ala.org/advocacy/intfreedom/librarybill>. The Delaware Libraries policy handles challenges as follows: "Patrons who object to titles in the collection may make a request for reconsideration to the library manager/director of the facility which owns the item. The library manager/director will first seek to resolve the complaint informally. Patrons are encouraged to complete the Request for Reconsideration form and share it with the library manager to assist in their discussion. Part of this process may involve sharing information with the concerned patron, such as reviews or holdings in other library systems. Consultation with the local library board may occur as part of the informal reconsideration process."

This year, Banned Book Week is observed during the week of September 18th. We will have a special display, in the front lobby display window, with information about the Library Bill of Rights, intellectual freedom, censorship, and advocacy. Some of the most commonly challenged titles, within the last year, will be available for checkout. Stop by and check out one of the titles to see what all the hype is about!

Nicole Worth
Teen Services Specialist

News from the New Castle Public Library

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Join us this month as we watch the landmark American documentary from 1968, *Salesman*, which follows four dogged door-to-door Bible salesmen as they travel from Boston to Florida on a seemingly futile quest to sell luxury editions of the Good Book to working-class Catholics.

Attendees will receive the link for this online screening on the afternoon of the program. Those who do not wish to participate in the discussion are invited to just drop in and enjoy the screening.

Registration is required



Join us for the triumphant return of the dynamic duo in the library's rear garden! Jeff and Glenn are back on the bass and keys with their program, "The New Broadway," a revue of beloved songs from such classic productions as A Chorus Line, Evita, Cats, Phantom of the Opera, and Chicago. This program is free, open to the public, and suitable for all ages. Bring a chair, a blanket, or just your favorite beverage of choice and join us for a fun evening outdoors.



Meet Kristin Peterson Administrative Aide

We extend a warm welcome to Kristin Peterson, an Administrative Aide, who joined the staff at New Castle Public Library this past May. In this position, Kristin works closely with Director Julie Kirk, especially in project support. She also staffs the Tech Desk two evenings a week, helping patrons navigate their technical needs. During the day, Kristin is also training in the circulation and reference areas.

Kristin moved to Delaware five years ago to join the Office of Development for the Delaware Symphony Orchestra. During the COVID pandemic, like many other endeavors, the Orchestra experienced staff reduction. Raised in a family whose parents held PhD degrees in English, Kristin appreciated the value of the library as a community life source, and shy of the post-pandemic arts' culture, she sought employment here at our library.

When asked what she liked best about her position, she quickly responded, "The staff, and working with people from diverse backgrounds."

It is easy to guess Kristin has a love for music, but she also revealed she is a former member of the Wilmington Rowing Club, and she loves cooking and knitting. Her favorite genre to read is mystery.

Kristin lives in New Castle and shares her home with her two cats. She is a welcome addition to our staff.



Book Clubs... Read, Reflect, Share

The library now has three ongoing book clubs, which are open to the public, in-person and on Zoom. Please call the library at 302.328.1995 to express your interest in joining any or all these groups.

Litty Urban Fiction, the library's newest book club, hosted by Naja Wiggins, is held on the **4th Monday of every month**, at 7:00 pm.

- September 26: ***Nervous*** by Zane
- October 24: ***Midnight*** by Sistah Souljah

Summary of ***Nervous*** by Zane

Jonquinette has always been nervous around men, but on the weekends her alter ego, Jude, goes on intense sexual escapades. When Jonquinette seeks the help of Dr. Marcella Spencer, the psychiatrist Zane originated in her bestselling novel *Addicted*, Jude's response is to go on a sexual rampage.

In the meantime, Jonquinette becomes interested in her new neighbor, Mason, but Jude has no intention of letting Jonquinette fall in love -- not when Jude's having so much fun. Based on a short story of the same title from her bestselling collection *The Sex Chronicles*, ***Nervous*** is classic Zane with an edge. So, relax, sit back. You're in for a nerve-tingling read.

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

- September 13: ***The Library Book***, by Susan Orlean
- October 18: ***Nutshell***, by Ian McEwan
- November 15: ***Vanderbilt: The Rise and Fall of an American Dynasty***, by Anderson Cooper
- December 6: ***Barracoon: The Story of the Last "Black Cargo"*** by Zora Neale Hurston

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

- September 15: *Gentlemen and Players* by Joanne Harris
- October 20: *The Ex* by Alafair Burke
- December 1: *The Five: the Untold Lives of the Women Killed by Jack the Ripper* by Hallie Rubenhold



September Book Recommendations

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

Amy Bishop-Ryan

Before We Were Yours by Lisa Wingate
Random House. (2019)

Memphis, Tennessee, 1939. Twelve-year-old Rill Foss and her four younger siblings live a magical life aboard their family's Mississippi River shantyboat. But when their father must rush their mother to the hospital one stormy night, the Foss children are wrenched from all that is familiar and thrown into a Tennessee Children's Home Society orphanage.

Aiken, South Carolina, present day. Born into wealth and privilege, Avery Stafford seems to have it all. But when Avery returns home to help her father weather a health crisis, a chance encounter leaves her with uncomfortable questions and compels her to take a journey through her family's long-hidden history, on a path that will ultimately lead either to devastation or to redemption.

Based on one of America's most notorious real-life scandals—in which Georgia Tann, director of a Memphis-based adoption organization, kidnapped and sold poor children to wealthy families all over the country—Lisa Wingate's riveting tale reminds us how, even though the paths we take can lead to many places, the heart never forgets where we belong.

Eileen Burk

The Keepers of the House by Shirley Ann Grau

Knopf 1964

In our present climate of race discovery, this 1965 Pulitzer Prize winner provides a view of race and rage over seven generations, as experienced by the Howland dynasty. Set in 1964, rural Alabama, the Howland's occupied their plantation while building a community around themselves. Abigail Howland narrates the family lineage as they co-existed with black farm hands and house staff, amongst a racist community resistant to change. This book showcases history from everyday life to politics with its drama and intrigue.

I cannot imagine the uproar this book created when published in 1964. And I am saddened by the lack of progress made in race relations over the past 58 years. While disappointed in humanity, I must acknowledge the persistence and fortitude of the Howland family, whose shield to adversity was respect and love.

Eileen Burk

The Girl with the Louding Voice: A Novel by Abi Dare'

Dutton (2020)

This is a heart-felt coming of age tale of a 14-year-old girl growing up in a rural Nigerian village. Although fictional, it takes place in current times and sheds light on life's reality in Nigeria. Adunni is born into poverty with cultural confines. She tolerates hardships and abuse, including an arranged marriage and domestic trafficking, but her heart is always set on getting an education and developing a "louding voice" to make a difference for other girls. Adunni's strong, positive spirit is an inspiration for all females: those locked in poverty and those privileged who hold the keys to freedom.