

# In the Stacks



September 2019

## A Message from the Director

This is a bitter-sweet letter to you all. My career in libraries began thirty-six years ago when I was asked to work in a Department of Defense K-8 school on the Rhine River between Germany and Holland. As soon as I stepped foot in that little library, I knew I had found my home. After our transfer back state-side, I attended Library School at the University of Oklahoma. It was there I learned I really wanted to be in public libraries. I have never regretted that choice and it has never gotten dull or boring. Still, today, every day is a learning opportunity and vastly interesting.

But, my, libraries have changed since then; and what a ride it has been. I am sometimes asked if I worry about the shift away from the books in libraries. This question most often comes with an edge to it or as a challenge. But yesterday my dad asked me this question. My dad is 93 and he has always been very interested in current events and a sharp thinker. Today he is aging and slowing down in many ways but he is still sharp and interested; and I knew his question was honest and not a challenge. So I really gave it some thought and how I would reply. Here goes:

While libraries are still about books (yes, they are!), they are now much more than books. Libraries are about thinking. We provide opportunities for people to think, to expand their worlds, to learn different things, to explore, to be exposed to alternate ways of looking at things, to experience and enjoy cultural activities, to gather, and to have fun while doing all of this.

And we do this for all people regardless of age, gender, station in life, or status. Libraries are, and have always been, the great equalizer. In today's polarized

political society where anger, angst, and "fake news" reigns supreme, libraries serve (or should serve) as the oasis from it all.

I am so very proud of the Dover Public Library; it is truly the "gem" of Dover. The new, amazing building aside, what makes the Library is its staff. Our staff is talented, skilled, creative, and so dedicated to the services they provide. The diversity of opportunities our staff offers you brings something for everyone. This is by design. Balance is our goal; and the purpose of public library service is our foundation.

If you love this library and all it provides you, speak up about that. It's easy to enjoy something and never tell others how great it is. Make your voice be heard, loudly!

I have so enjoyed serving the people of Dover, all of you, each and every one. I have been proud to lead this Library into its future. And I feel very confident that the Library is well positioned for its new future.

I don't know what my new future looks like yet. Retirement presents opportunities I have not even considered. I think for a start, I'll just sleep later, enjoy my morning coffee on the porch, sip a glass of wine watching the sun set over the ocean, and raise my grandchildren until the spirit moves me in a new direction. Thank you, all, for the opportunity to serve you as your librarian.

*Margie Cyr*

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## Fabulous Fridays

### In Harmony...

#### Category 5

Join Category 5 for a tribute to the 1970s! Category 5 is a classic rock band covering the most challenging rock, blues, R&B and pop music from the 1970s. Category 5 was the WMGK house band in 2017, "Band to Watch" for the Best of Delaware in 2017 and have opened for the classic rock band Boston at the BB&T Pavilion. This concert takes place at **Loockerman Way Plaza** and is part of the First Friday evening events. Please bring a blanket or chair for seating. In the event of inclement weather, the concert will be held at the Dover Library. **Friday, September 6, 6:30 PM**

### Family Fun: *Secret Life of Pets 2* Pajama Party



Max the terrier must cope with some major life changes when his owner gets married and has a baby. When the family takes a trip to the countryside, nervous Max has numerous run-ins with canine-intolerant cows, hostile foxes and a scary turkey. Rated PG. 1:26. Join us for a screening of the movie and

related crafts. For all ages. **Friday, September 13, 6:30 PM**

### Celebrate the Arts

#### Delaware Sampler Mysteries

This month we welcome Cynthia Shank Steinhoff, who along with Gloria Seaman Allen, co-authored *Delaware Discoveries: Girlhood Embroidery, 1750-1850*, published in April 2019 by Chesapeake Book Company and the Biggs Museum of American Art. Schoolgirls in Delaware, as in other states, made samplers as part of their education. Today, museums and collectors value samplers as works of art and for their role in a girl's education. To write the book, Cynthia and Gloria thoroughly researched and wrote about samplers made in the State, the girls who made them, their families, the schools they attended, and the teachers who taught needlework. Despite many hours of research, they were left at the end with some unanswered questions about some samplers that provide us with Delaware sampler mysteries.

**Friday, September 20, 6:30 PM**



### Last Friday: *A Man Called Ove*

*A Man Called Ove* by writer-director Hannes Holm is as delightful and moving as the internationally best-selling novel that inspired it. Holm crafted the script from Fredrik Backman's novel about an angry "old" man who has lost the will to live. In fact, he has secured a noose and is about to step up on the stool beneath it when he hears the arrival of new neighbors who are about to change his life. Played convincingly by Rolf Lassgård, Ove, who has a strict set of principles and a short fuse, spends his days enforcing his housing block association's rules, that only he cares about, and visiting his wife's grave. Ove has given up on life and decides to prepare to join his beloved wife Sonja (Ida Engvall) in death. It's plain that his decision isn't quite as sad and desperate as we might imagine. He simply wants to move on, with finality, on his own terms. But life won't let him. The primary catalyst for change arrives in the form of Parvaneh (Bahar Pars), a pregnant Middle Eastern immigrant who moves in next door to Ove with her husband and two daughters. She slowly chips away at his quiet resolve. A few days after his first attempt at suicide, he rigs a hose from his car exhaust; but Parvaneh knocks on the garage, in need of assistance. Slowly, Ove comes to appreciate that maybe he has a task or two that needs to be completed before he will be granted his wish to be with Sonja. *A Man Called Ove* was Sweden's submission for the Best Foreign Film Oscar and won Sweden's equivalent of our Academy Award for the film and for Rolf Lassgård as Best Actor, an honor he also won at Seattle's Film Festival. *Variety* calls the film "a touching comic crowd-pleaser" and the *Daily Express* (UK) says it's "a lovely charmer of a film." 1:56. Rated PG-13 for raw crankiness. In Swedish with English subtitles

**Friday, September 27, 6:30 PM**

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## Life-Wide Learning

### Poet & Writers' Retreat

Calling all poets & writers! Share your work, listen to others & discuss in an open & supportive environment, facilitated by Hannah, former member of Springfield Poets & Writers. This program is for ages 18+.

**Tuesdays, September 3 & 17, 5:30 PM**

### Diabetes Self-Management Program

In this six week course, participants learn how to self-manage their health condition or diabetes; communicate effectively with health care professionals; prevent or delay complications; make better food choices; exercise; lose weight. Registration is required. Please call 736-7030. **Tuesdays, September 3 & 10, 4:30 PM**

### Supporting Mental Health Needs of Your Community

Topics include general mental health facts; warnings signs, and ways to help; national and local resources including various no-cost services offered statewide by NAMI Delaware. Handouts and other resource materials will be provided. **Thursday, September 5, 10:30 AM**

### Great Decisions Foreign Policy Series: Week 1

*Walled Off: Global Migration*

With millions seeking sanctuary in more stable nations, both Europe and the U.S. have to decide whether migration is something to be curbed or simply better managed. Great Decisions is a national, civic-education program that encourages participants to learn about U.S. foreign policy & global issues; and to discuss multiple view-points in a group setting. Discussions are moderated by Lynn Moore, History Chair at Wilmington Univ. **Thursday, September 5, 6:30 PM**

### Suicide Prevention Awareness

September is National Suicide Prevention Awareness Month. Studies by the Center for Disease Control & Prevention show that suicide rates are increasing. In 2017, 47,173 Americans died by suicide. Suicide is the 10th-leading cause of death in the US & Veteran suicide is a national concern. In 2016, the suicide rate for Veterans was 1.5 times greater than for non-Veteran adults. At this workshop, learn how to recognize & respond to suicide. Just one conversation can change a life.

**Thursday, September 12, 10:30 AM**

### Becoming a Home Owner

Learn how you can become a homeowner! Topics include: working with a financial coach; advantages & disadvantages; the home buying process; why you need a housing counselor; credit, credit, credit; down payment

& settlement assistance programs; and what's the next step? Let us help you on your way to homeownership! This program is presented by the National Council on Agricultural Life & Labor Research Fund, Inc. To register, please call 302-678-9400 or email [info@ncall.org](mailto:info@ncall.org).

**Thursday, September 12, 6:00 PM**

### Great Decisions Foreign Policy Series: Week 2

*Regional Disorder: The Middle East*

As global and regional powers compete for influence in the Middle East, Washington must consider whether America's historical interests in the region are shifting. Great Decisions is a national, civic-education program that encourages participants to learn about U.S. foreign policy and global issues, and to discuss multiple view-points in a group setting. Discussions are moderated by Lynn Moore, History Chair at Wilmington Univ.

**Thursday, September 12, 6:30 PM**

### Local Author: Yah Hughes

Join local author Yah Hughes for a discussion of her recent book *Hello Me*, designed to help women transform their relationship with self & go beyond the "idea" of loving themselves & take action to embrace their authentic self. In this approach to self-acceptance & authenticity, Ms. Hughes shows women how to put a stop to self-limiting & self-defeating behaviors; confront & silence the inner critic; gain Personal Power & feel permission to be happy & free; nourish greater self love & inner strength. **Saturday, September 14, 2:00 PM**

### Great Decisions Foreign Policy Series: Week 3

*Rethinking the Nuclear Framework*

As traditional nuclear powers debate what to do with aging stockpiles, the existing nuclear order faces new challenges from countries such as Iran and North Korea. Great Decisions is a national, civic-education program that encourages participants to learn about U.S. foreign policy & global issues, and to discuss multiple view-points in a group setting. Discussions are moderated by Lynn Moore, History Chair at Wilmington Univ. **Thursday, September 19, 6:30 PM**

### Tuesday Talks: Northern Delaware & Southeastern Pennsylvania's White "Kaolin" Clays

Dovetail Cultural Resource Group was contracted by DNREC to conduct a survey for the White Clay Creek State Park (near Newark) of the former site of the Newark China Clay Co., which mined & refined kaolin clay during the early 1900's. Investigations led to more in-depth research into not only this company but others in the area to better understand the industry & develop research questions for future investigations. This program is presented by Bill Liebeknecht, Regional Mgr at Dovetail Cultural Resource Group. He is

Readers' Corner

Adult Book Group

*A Tree Grows in Brooklyn* by Betty Smith

*A Tree Grows in Brooklyn* is a semi-autobiographical 1943 novel written by Betty Smith. The story focuses on an impoverished but aspirational adolescent girl & her family living in Williamsburg, Brooklyn, NYC, during the first two decades of the 20th century. **Sunday, September 8, 2:00 PM**

Other Worlds Book Group

Join us each month at the Grey Fox Grille for a great book discussion, along with food & drink specials! This month we're reading *Once Upon a River* by Diane Satterfield. For ages 18+. Copies of the book are available at the Library.

**Wednesday, September 18, 6:30 PM**

History Book Club

Please join us for this month's discussion of "Music in American History." Choose your favorite song, band/musician or type of music that is part of American History to share. All are invited to share books, articles & memories as well as to listen, ask questions & participate.

**Thursday, September 19, 4:00 PM**

2sdays, 2:00 PM

**September 3:** *Love, Gilda*. 1:26. Not rated.

**September 10:** *Amazing Grace*. 1:27. Rated G.

**September 17:** *The Bill Murray Stories: Lessons Learned from a Mythical Man*. 1:10. Not rated.

**September 24:** *The Biggest Little Farm*. 1:31. Rated PG.

Fridays: 6:30 PM

**September 13:** *The Secret Life of Pets 2*. 1:26. Rated PG.

**September 27:** *A Man Called Ove*. 1:56. Rated PG-13 for crankiness.

Saturday Matinee: 2:00 PM

**September 7:** *The Bill Murray Stories: Lessons Learned from a Mythical Man*. 1:10. Not rated but contains strong language.

*Delaware libraries are leaders in connecting and inspiring a lifetime of discovery.*

*The Dover Public Library connects people to a variety of resources and services that inform, educate and entertain!*

responsible for directing all phases of archaeological investigations, report production, client coordination & marketing the DE office. He has a BS in Anthropology and a MA in Public History. He has worked at archaeological sites in DE, PA, NJ, NY, VA & WI. This program is sponsored by the Archaeological Society of DE. **Tuesday, September 24, 6:00 PM**

Great Decisions Foreign Policy Series Week 4

*Turning the Tide: Populism in Europe*

In the wake of the 2008 financial crisis & in response to the ongoing wave of global migration, a resurgent tide of nationalism across the continent threatens to pull the E.U. apart. Great Decisions is a national, civic-education program that encourages participants to learn about U.S. foreign policy and global issues, and to discuss multiple view-points in a group setting. Discussions are moderated by Lynn Moore, History Chair at Wilmington Univ.

**Thursday, September 26, 6:30 PM**

