



Volume 5  
Issue 1  
March, 2012

# THE BOOKMARK

*Oradell Public Library*

*Spring 2012 Newsletter*



## Adult Programs

**Just a reminder that all adult programs are FREE, and are sponsored by the Friends of the Library.**

### “The Triangle Shirtwaist Factory Fire”

Monday, March 12 at 7:00 PM

This program, presented by Lulu Lolo, is part of our Women’s History Month celebration, and covers in monologues the Triangle Shirtwaist Factory fire. *This program has been generously underwritten by the firm of Butzel, Karadimas, Carrabba, & Testin*

### “The A Cappella Renaissance Choir”

Friday, March 23 at 1:00 pm

The choir is called the Elizabethans, and is from Williams College. With 8-15 members, the Elizabethans sing sacred and secular choral music from the Middle Ages to the present. A large portion of their repertoire comes from the Renaissance, but they also sing folk songs, spirituals, jazz standards, and more.

*This program has been generously underwritten by Mr. Cupcake of Kinderkamack Road.*

### “Ashes”

April 9 or 23, firm date to be announced later

Susanna Rich, who has visited the Oradell Library before, will present her outstanding poetry program about the Holocaust. This program has already been presented at numerous sites, and has always been enthusiastically received.

### “Explore your Genealogy”

May, date to be announced

This presentation is a continuation of the program first presented at the Mormon Family Life Center. It will prove interesting and informative for all persons who want to learn how to trace their genealogy.

### “Spring Gardening”

Saturday, April 21 at 11:00 am

Master Gardener, Joanne Chack will visit the library again to help anyone who attends to understand the importance of spring gardening, the time when important preparations are made for a successful summer garden.

### “Professional Football”

Tuesday, May 8, 7:00 pm

Harry Carson, famous New York Giants line backer, Captain of the team, and inductee into the Pro Football Hall of Fame, will speak about his experiences as a professional football player. Mr. Carson will gladly sign copies of his new book, “Captain for Life”, which will be available for purchase from the Friends.

### “Unpregnancy”

Monday, May 14, 7:00 pm

Julia Roberts, the "GR8 Mom, Life Coach, Author, and Radio Host" will be presenting her quirky and engaging book “Unpregnancy” in recognition of Mother’s Day.

### “Focus on Cameras”

Mr. Burt Goldstein will provide a special artist’s presentation which focuses on cameras and how they are used to photograph flowers, birds and other aspects of nature. ■

## Youth Department Programs

All programs require registration unless otherwise noted. Programs are for Oradell residents only.

### TEEN ADVISORY BOARD IS BACK!

Planning meetings are held on the first Tuesdays of each month at 7:30 PM.

Students in grades 7-12 learn under the direction of Mrs. Suzanne Vierling how to plan activities for younger children. For more information, call the Junior Room.

### SPRING STORY TIME

April 16 – June 1

Registration begins March 26

Monday and Thursday 10:30 – 11 ages 2 – 3 ½

Thursday 1:30 – 2 ages 3 ½ - 5

Enjoy stories, flannel board tales, crafts and songs

### BABY AND ME

April 18 – May 30

Wednesday 10:30 – 11 ages 9 – 24 months

Drop-in program – Registration not required

Enjoy stories, songs, dancing and rhymes.



### FUN AT THE END OF THE RAINBOW

Saturday March 17 2 – 4:00 grades 1 – 3

Take part in a trivia contest, scavenger hunt and games.

Refreshments and prizes.

Limited to 20 children.

Sponsored by the Teen Advisory Board

### MAD SCIENCE WORKSHOP : LIGHTS – COLOR – ACTION!

Saturday March 24 2:30 Grades 3 – 5

Learn about white and black light, electricity and more. Thrill at an indoor fireworks display.

*This program has been generously underwritten by Kindersmiles Pediatric Dentistry & Orthodontics on Kinderkamack Road. ■*

# Local History Room

The work of transcribing the historic Chapin Letter Collection goes on, but we have finally reached a milestone. The first volume of the letters has been completed, thanks to untiring transcribers and diligent proofreaders.

In order that you may have an opportunity to enjoy these letters, we have printed a second copy of Volume I, which you will find by asking our Information Services Librarian. Please handle it carefully, and enjoy the varied stories it contains.

We have been fascinated by the number of letters in the Chapin Letter Collection that have been written in verse. Two family members use this as their primary way to communicate. There is one particularly sad letter about a family not having enough money to afford shoes for their children. You will find a long and very touching letter about the passing of an aunt, detailing her illness and demise on practically an hourly basis. And many more.

The letters cover the gamut of human experience and emotion, starting with a medical report from 1792, 102 years before Oradell became a town, and continuing irregularly through the Civil War.

When you read some of these letters, you will find this symbol occasionally [ ? ], which indicates that the best efforts of all of us working on this collection failed to decipher the word. But I sincerely believe that those omissions will not take away from the enjoyment of reading these historical writings.

It is very important to me to see that the work of our many volunteers is recognized. First, I would like to introduce Stephanie Diorio who is a recent graduate of Gettysburg



College, where she majored in history and minored in Civil War Era Studies. She plans to study archiving in the near future in graduate school.

When she's not volunteering at the library in the local history room, she's drawing cartoons and sportswriting. She is also an expert Old English Sheepdog babysitter.

Another lady who has given unstintingly of her time is Mary Khan. Mary worked for many years as an indexer/editor on the *Library and Information Science Index of the Wilson Co.* She has brought her cataloging skills to help finish the work on seven albums of pictures taken by our former Library Director, Lori Barnes. The photos cover all kinds of



library programs and events, and are an important part of our library's history.

Mary has been immensely helpful indexing the photos, scanning them, and then linking them to the database.

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I have one other thing to report, and that is that our Borough Historian, Mr. Frank Vierling, has decided to retire. Frank was born right here in Oradell when his family lived on the northeast corner of Ridgewood Road and Maple Avenue. He has lived most of his life in Oradell, and has a phenomenal memory of people who lived here and events that occurred here.



Many historians merely collect "things", i.e., artifacts, photographs, newspapers, etc. of the past. Frank has gone way beyond that, filling many binders with the history of Oradell. Frank writes about what he knows, and if he doesn't have the knowledge he needs, he has gone out to find that bit of missing information, which has taken him all the way from Maine to Florida. His books, numbering over 45 at the time of this Newsletter, fill nearly two full shelves in the Local History Room, and cover such subjects as Ellsworth Kelly (famous painter), Walter Schirra (famous astronaut), Kimball Atwood (noted grapefruit grower and builder of the Blauvelt Mansion), and much more. [You can come to see them the First Friday of the month.](#)

The town of Oradell will be forever richer in its recorded history because of the efforts of Frank Vierling. He has been a walking encyclopedia of the history of Oradell, and all of us are the richer because he took the time to record much of this knowledge in writing.

At the request of the Mayor and Council, I have agreed to serve as interim Borough Historian for the remainder of this year. Now I don't know if that makes me an Historical Archivist, an Archival Historian, or what, but I will try very hard to fill the shoes that Frank has vacated. ■

George Carter, Borough Archivist/Historian

## Director's Corner

[Lights. Camera. Action...](#) Oradell Public Library Film Series Continues on a New Day – Fourth Fridays at 2 p. m.

Starting on Friday, January 27, 2012 Oradell Public Library continued its film series on a new day – Fourth Fridays - with *Far From Heaven* (2003), the story of race relations and family secrets in 1950s Hartford, Connecticut, standing in for America as a whole. We asked viewers to see if they could spot the northern New Jersey locations where the film was largely shot.

We invite the public to join us for a brief lecture on the featured film by a film expert, the viewing on our 58" flat screen TV, and a brief question and answer period following the film. This series is sponsored by the Friends of the Library, who provide popcorn and soft drinks. The public is encouraged to relax and enjoy this offering in our Meeting Room on the lower level of the Library.

We will continue with classic, contemporary classic, independent, foreign, and off-beat films to fit the season. Note the upcoming features:

- *The Miracle Worker* (1962) or *Vera Drake* (2004) on Friday, March 30, 2012
- *Easter Parade* (1948), *The Unsinkable Molly Brown* (1964), or *A Night to Remember* (1958) – the latter two for the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the sinking of the Titanic on April 15, 2011 – on Friday, April 27, 2012
- *The Godfather* (1972) on Friday, May 25, 2012

[eReaders coming soon...](#)

Thanks to a generous donation from the Oradell Public Library Foundation we have purchased our first set of Nooks and Sony eReaders for use by the public for downloading the ever popular eBooks (electronic downloadable books). For those who already have eReaders, whether they are Kindles, Nooks, or Sony eReaders, the library already makes available eBooks for downloading right from the BCCLS catalog ([www.bccls.org](http://www.bccls.org)) using a valid library card and a PIN (Personal Identification Number).

We hope to see you at the Library for all the other materials, programs, displays, and services we offer you for FREE! ■

John J. Trause, Library Director

## Information Services Librarian

Regular visitors to the Oradell Public Library witness numerous conversations taking place at the circulation desk, in the North Reading Room (where tutors and ESL instructors talk to their students), the reference desk area, and the Junior Room. What they may not know is how many of those conversations lead to book recommendations, new programming, displays, and more. We consider it “conversation theory” at work!

There are numerous, exciting examples of how conversations promote learning and a sense of community. The most recent one concerned railroad photographs in the small display case near the circulation desk. They were found at a 2011 tag sale and displayed with the hopes of attracting the attention of an organization that might archive them for railroading enthusiasts. The find was advertised on the Oradell Public Library Website ([oradell.bccls.org](http://oradell.bccls.org)) and through other means, and the library’s circulation staff “talked up” the 100 photographs. Visitors made their way to the library to view them and it came to our attention that one person identified a family member in one of the images. Within a month’s time, we found a home for the album at the New York Society of Model Engineers in Carlstadt, N. J..


Another example concerns a conversation which took place between Information Services Librarian, Gabriella Radujko, and several library users, who, coincidentally, were writers of poetry, short stories and a children’s picture book. The result was the inaugural “Meet and Greet for Writers (published or not)” on February 1, 2011, which attracted 8 writers. The group now meets on the first Wednesday night of each month at 7 p. m. to listen to a presentation by a group member and exchange success stories and tips about writing and the publishing industry.

The most rewarding example took place when a random conversation with a collector of radios and crystal sets and radio advertising display signs resulted in 20 radio related artifacts for our large and small display cases as well as his offer to conduct a Q + A about radio culture on February 29th and March 10th at the library.

There are many conversations taking place at the library. We look forward to talking to you! ■

Gabriella Radujko, Information Services Librarian

## Items for Sale



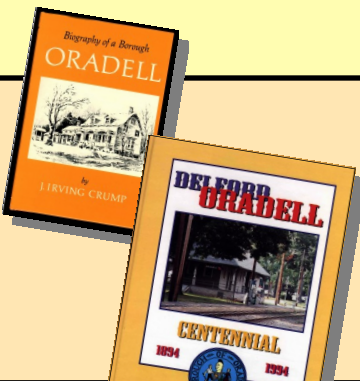
Oradell History Books:

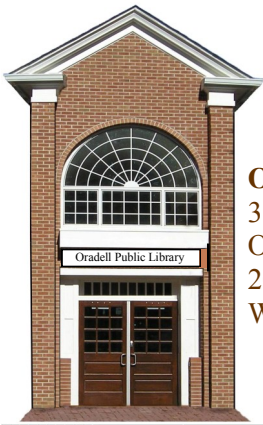
- 75th Anniversary ..... \$5.00
- 100th Anniversary ..... \$15.00

Illustrated Note Cards ..... \$10.00

Our Library Book Bag ..... \$10.00

*Sale items are available at the front desk.*





**Oradell Public Library**  
 375 Kinderkamack Road  
 Oradell, NJ 07649  
 201-262-2613  
 Website: oradell.bccls.org

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**U.S. Postage**  
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 John J. Trause

**Library Board of Trustees:**  
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 Stephanie Rudman, 1st Vice President  
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 Claire Beslow, Secretary  
 Anne Sullivan, Treasurer  
 Larry Steiner  
 Eileen Gabriele  
 Donna Alonso, Council Liaison  
 Carol Blakeslee, School Liaison

**Friends Officers:**  
 Elaine Franek-Materon, President  
 Tony Aurigemma, Vice President  
 George Carter, Secretary/Treasurer

**Library Hours:**

Monday – Wednesday	10 a.m. to 9 p.m.
Thursday – Saturday	10 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Sunday	Closed

## The Friends of the Library

As the new year begins, it is important to introduce you to the two new people serving as officers of the Friends of the Library. Our President is Elaine Franek-Materon, who has worked on behalf of the Friends for many years. Elaine is also an employee of the Library, and as such, has an intimate knowledge of the wants and needs of the institution.

The new Vice-President is Tony Aurigemma, who serves Oradell in many ways. Tony, a retired school administrator, is affectionately known as “Mr. Tony” to the students and staff of OPS where he is a very active volunteer. We are pleased to have him involved with the Friends of the Library

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Two weeks ago the Friends sent out their spring solicitation letters asking for support for the coming year. We stuffed and sealed the envelopes in the Meeting Room on the lower level, and I am pleased to report that practically every available chair around the table was occupied. It was a wonderful turn-out of volunteers, who got ten trays of envelopes filled in just under three hours. **Thank you! Thank you!! Thank you!!!**

Now, of course, we need you to respond with your pledge of support. We just can't do it without you. ■

George Carter, Secretary/Treasurer



**Library Meetings are held in the Lower Level Meeting Room:**  
**Board of Trustee Meetings, Second Wednesday of each month at 7:30 p.m.**  
**Friends of the Library Meetings, First Tuesday of every month at 7:00 p.m.**