

The Port Washington Public Library

A monthly guide to your community library,
its programs and services

Issue No. 247, October 2009

5th Annual Celebration of Long Island Talent

On Sunday, October 25 at 3 p.m., you're invited to join John Platt, host of WFUV's *Sunday Morning Breakfast*, for an afternoon of homegrown, hand picked musical performances.

Blue Detour began collaborating 1996 and plays both traditional and more modern bluegrass done with a Northeastern flavor. George Cannova, Julie Cannova, John Chainey and Dennis Corbett are native Long Islanders who really enjoy playing together.

Steve Robinson, winner of the 2007 Long Island Blues Society's Blues Challenge, is a native Long Islander. He has been a carpenter, high school English teacher, commercial shell fisherman, truck

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Library schedule

The library will be open from 1 to 5 on Monday, October 12 in observance of Columbus Day.

Science 103

Art and Mathematics – How do they influence each other? Art and mathematics have become more interrelated than ever before. Join Philip M. Sherman on October 1 at 4 p.m. for an in-depth exploration of this topic. We'll emphasize how mathematics generates, inspires and abets art. See calendar for details.

FOL University on October 4

Join the Friends of the Library for a unique program of stimulating intellectual fare. Two university professors... two fascinating topics. Story inside.

Attention Book Clubs!

Our Book Club in a Bag selection is expanding! In addition to the titles carried by the PWPL, you may now reserve titles from the 6 other libraries in our system that carry Book Club in a Bag. Check at the Information Desk or on our website for a list of available titles. Contact Lee Fertitta at 883-4400, Ext. 135 for additional information.

Home Care!

The Health Advisory Council presents a program on home care with Patricia Mulholland on Tuesday, October 27 at 7:30 p.m. See the calendar of events for details.

Save the Date!

The FOL hosts Friends & Family Day on Saturday, November 7, featuring a performance for children and a paperback book swap. Plan to join us! Details inside.



MAC welcomes Carducci Quartet

The Music Advisory Council welcomes The Carducci String Quartet — Michelle Fleming (violin), Eoin Schmidt-Martin (viola), Matthew Denton (violin) and Emma Denton (cello) — on Sunday, October 18 at 3 p.m. Music Council programs are privately funded by donations to the Port Washington Library Foundation.

The Carducci Quartet is recognized as one of today's most exciting young string quartets. Based in the UK, the quartet holds residencies at

Trinity College of Music in London, Cardiff University and at the Cork School of Music in Ireland. The 2009-2010 season will see the quartet perform over 90 concerts worldwide, including performances at London's Wigmore Hall and Washington's Library of Congress. European tours include multiple stops in Spain, Portugal, Denmark, France and throughout the UK, including their own festival in Highnam.

Winners of the Concert Artists Guild Competition in New York, the

Kuhmo International Chamber Music Competition and major prizes at the Bordeaux, London and Osaka competitions, the Anglo-Irish Carducci quartet has established an enthusiastic international following. The Quartet was short-listed for the 2008 Royal Philharmonic Society Chamber Music Award and has collaborated with internationally renowned musicians.

A full biography on the quartet will be in the printed program on October 18.



Di Bostoner Klezmer honors Rabbi Zeplovitz

On Thursday, October 22 at 7:30 p.m., the Port Washington Public Library proudly presents an evening of music with *Di Bostoner Klezmer*. The trio will present an exciting program of authentic, dynamic European and American

klezmer music — in styles ranging from 19th century European to 1950s “club date” material — as well as their own compositions written in these traditions.

This program is funded by a donation from an anonymous li-

brary patron who wishes to dedicate the evening’s celebration in honor of community leader Rabbi Irwin Zeplovitz, who has been the senior rabbi at the Community Synagogue in Port Washington since the summer of 2003.



Home Care Assistance and Care Management: What Do We Do Now?

Learn how to:

- Find your way through the maze
- Short-cuts and resources
- Hire a caretaker
- Care management
- Prepare for the future

presented by

Patricia Mulholland, R.N.
Patient advocate and Consultant

October 27 at 7:30 p.m.

Sponsored by the Health Advisory Council



Caroline Doctorow & Friends

The live music and indie recording scenes in the New York area have blossomed. One artist who has helped define both scenes is folksinger and songwriter Caroline Doctorow.

A year after her cameo appearance at our Fourth Annual Celebration of Long Island Talent, Caroline and her band return on Friday, October 2 at 7:30 p.m. for a full session of toe-tappin’, finger

snappin’ tunes. Through seven albums that seamlessly mix originals and covers, Doctorow has become a favorite of folk and college DJ’s across the country. She has been described as having one of those pure clear voices that is captivating no matter what she sings.

This is a joint presentation by the Adult Programming and Media Services Departments.

visit us online at

www.pwpl.org

Stan Brodsky exhibits

“To stand in Stan Brodsky’s studio is to know at once why it is that artists are so important to us. The best do not merely replicate or evoke the world around us but create a distinct reality limited not by the size of the canvas but only by the scope of the imagination. And that is why each of his paintings speaks to us in profound ways of nature’s continual permutations,” says Alicia G. Longwell, Ph.D., Lewis B. and Dorothy Cullman Chief Curator at the Parrish Art Museum in Southampton, NY.

“Brodsky brings no preconceptions to the act of painting; he has said that he is open to what is happening *in the moment*, and we sense this distillation of response throughout the work. Light, color, form — all come into play here and operate in myriad ways to energize the composition. Such mastery does not come easily or quickly. In a practice of five decades, Brodsky has achieved a level of virtuosity impressive for its inventiveness and strikingly original — one that encourages the viewer to savor the

pure pleasure of looking.”

Stan Brodsky will exhibit *The Gesture of Color* in the library’s Main Gallery October 1 through 29. The Art Advisory Council will host a reception for the artist on Saturday, October 3 from 2 to 4 p.m. Stan Brodsky has exhibited in both solo and group exhibitions.



Dance of Summer #2, “38 x 31”, oil on canvas, 2009 / photography by Michael Krasowitz.



Author Don Axinn visits

"Mr. Axinn has created a well-crafted tale in Allan, Burning, filled with plenty of thrills and romance. The story is engaging, and hits the necessary beats. Allan's character is well-fleshed-out, and it becomes very easy for the reader to become attached to him and truly feel for him. At its core, Allan, Burning is a story about remembering one's roots." Alex Tafet, The New York Observer

The Friends of the Library invites you to meet Donald Axinn, author of *Allan, Burning* (Arcade, June 2009) on Friday, October 2 at 3 p.m.

Happily married with two beautiful children, successful architect and avid amateur aviator Allan Daniels finds his life plummeting when his wife suddenly announces that she wants a separation, maybe a divorce. Two days later, as he is piloting a seaplane from Long Island to Key West, the engine sputters, then quits. Daniels's skills as a pilot enable him to land safely in the Everglades, where he is discovered by a disheveled Miccosukee man named Tommy Handley.

While Handley turns out to be from the same tribe as Daniels' mother, he also turns out to be a

fugitive from justice. When Daniels wakes in the middle of the night to find Handley groping for his wallet, Daniels defends himself.

Daniels' explanation of what happened in the swamp doesn't sit well with savvy local lawman Sheriff Haskins, who suspects that Daniels is hiding something — but what?

This fast-paced novel has enough twists and turns to keep you guessing until the final page.

Donald Everett Axinn is the author of twelve books of poetry and the novels *The Ego Makers* and *Spin*, also published by Arcade. He and his wife Joan divide their time between Long Island and Vermont.

Books will be available. Refreshments will be served.

Viral Videos: No Cure in Sight

Join host Tony Traguaro on Thursday, October 29 at 7:30 p.m. for an entertaining and informative look at the Internet phenomenon that has come to be known as "viral videos." The multimedia presentation will feature some of the most popular videos (based on Internet 'hits'), along with anecdotal stories about the origins of the clips, and the effects that some have had on popular culture.

A viral video is a video clip that gains widespread popularity through the process of Internet sharing, typically through e-mail or instant messaging, blogs and other media sharing websites. Often humorous in nature, the videos may be comprised of televised

comedy sketches, amateur clips, 'web-only' productions, eyewitness news accounts or 'leaked' bloopers. Over the years, as the Internet has become part of everyday life for many, the most popular 'viral videos' have seemingly taken on lives of their own, spreading organically, voluntarily, and from peer to peer, rather than by compulsion, predetermined path, or completely automated means. The phenomenon has created unwilling stars, propelled talented people to unprecedented heights of overnight fame, and possibly even had an affect on our political system. Please note that these videos may contain adult themes and language.

Music Council looks forward

November 8 at 3 p.m.

Dill Jones Memorial Concert featuring Dick Smolens & Friends

December 6 at 3 p.m.

Pianist Ran Dank

Music Advisory Council programs are privately funded by donations to the Port Washington Library Foundation.

FOL University

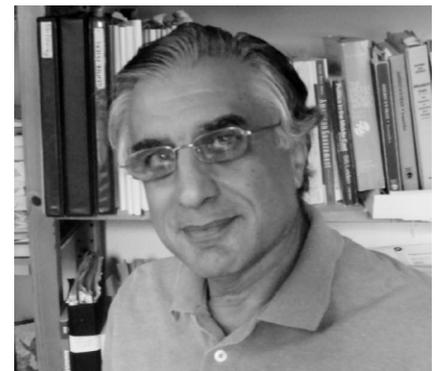
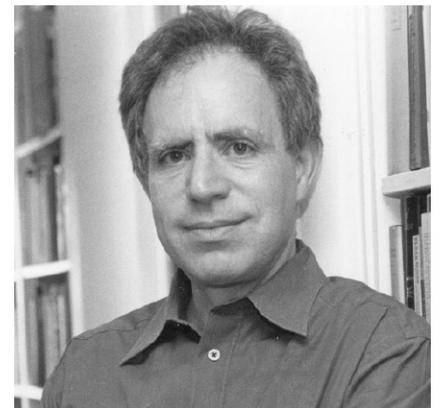
Enroll in the Friends of the Port Washington Public Library's FOL University on Sunday, October 4 from 1:30 to 4:30 p.m.

Dr. Edward Mendelson, Columbia University's Lionel Trilling Professor in the Humanities, will speak on the topic *Why Virginia Woolf Disliked Symbols*.

Dr. Christos P. Ioannides, Director, Center for Byzantine and Modern Greek Studies at Queens College, CUNY, will speak on the topic *Turkey, Islam and the Challenge of the European Union*.

Refreshments will be served. Seating is limited. Registration is in progress. Call the Information Desk at 883-4400, Ext. 136.

FOL University is partially sponsored by the Ronnie Crane Memorial Fund.



SoundSwap on October 20

On Tuesday, October 20 at 8 p.m., Richard Doran Ticho and his band of top New York musicians will present an evening of thought-provoking music culled from his debut album *Mellow Dramatic* and his upcoming CD *Some Antics*. Ticho's band features music industry innovator David Bennett Cohen (Country Joe & The Fish, The Blues Project, 'Rent') on both keyboards and guitar. Mr. Cohen, a highly respected blues and boogie-woogie piano player, will share the spotlight by leading the group through a portion of the evening's program.

The story behind Richard Ticho's music makes his album unique. He began writing *Mellow Dramatic* in Jerusalem at the age of 26 in 1994. While there, he became

a member of the lead news crew for the Israeli Broadcasting Authority, and was on the front lines as the peace process crumbled, a prime minister was assassinated, and suicide bombers struck. Then, at age 30, this peace-loving left-wing American-Israeli was given an M-16, sent into the desert for basic training, and dumped in the middle of a war zone. He returned to the U.S. with over 5 hours of music and 175 pages of related writings and lyrics.

The resulting pieces that Richard Doran Ticho and his band have created promise to make for a very special evening of live music. This event marks Mr. Ticho's first live appearance since his highly praised sold out engagement at New York's Cutting Room.

October Library Kids

Welcome to the page for Children's Services. Be sure to look here for upcoming exhibits, programs and articles relating to Children's Services and the Parenting Information Center. *Parents: Please comply with the age guidelines for these programs and be prepared to show proof of local residency.*

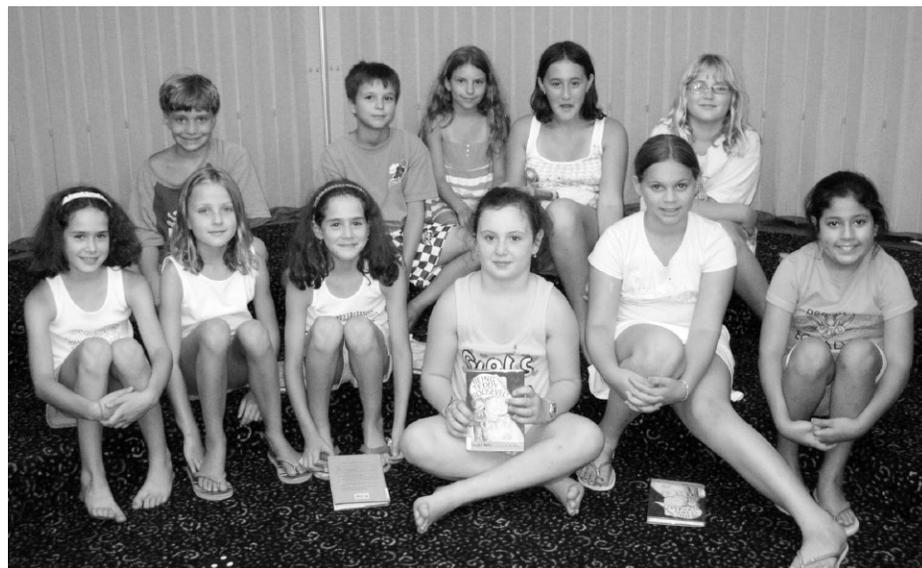
Preschool Specials

PlayHooray — Monday, October 19

A preschool music and movement program. *PlayHooray for Babies* for ages birth to 18 months with an adult at 10 or 10:45 a.m. *PlayHooray for Toddlers* for ages 18 months to 2½ years with an adult at 11:30 a.m. *PlayHooray* for children ages 2½ to 5 with an adult at 12:30 p.m. *Registration begins Friday, October 9 at 9 a.m. in the Children's Room or by calling 883-4400, Ext. 150.*

Halloween Craft — Monday, October 26 at 12 or 1 p.m.

Enjoy a fun craft, stories and fingerplays with presenter Jeanne Hall. For children ages 2½ to 5 with an adult. *Registration begins Monday, October 19 at 9 a.m. in the Children's Room or by calling 883-4400, Ext. 150.*



Book Discussion for 3rd & 4th Graders

Thursday, October 22 at 4 p.m.

Third and fourth grade members in this monthly book group will meet from 4 to 4:45 p.m. *Registration begins Thursday, October 8 at 9 a.m. in the Children's Room or by calling 883-4400, Ext. 150.* Books will be available at the time of registration.

Twilight Tuesdays

Pajama Story Time in English and Spanish Tuesday, October 13 at 7 p.m.

Takes place the second Tuesday of every month. Come in pajamas and enjoy stories, songs and fun activities from 7 to 7:30 p.m. For children ages 3½ to 6 accompanied by an adult. Family members welcome. *No registration required.*

Pajama Story Time — Tuesday, October 20 at 7 p.m.

Takes place the third Tuesday of every month. Come in pajamas and listen to bedtime stories from 7 to 7:30 p.m. For children ages 2½ to 5 accompanied by an adult. Family members welcome. *No registration required.*

Page Turners — Tuesday, October 27 at 7:15 p.m.

Fifth and sixth grade members in this monthly book group will meet from 7:15 to 8:15 p.m. *For availability call 883-4400, Ext. 150.*

Intergenerational Chess Workshop

Sundays, November 1, 8, 15 & 22 from 1:30 to 2:30 p.m.

Join Long Island Chess Nuts and learn to play chess or improve your skills. Children ages 8 to 12 are invited to enjoy the game with a parent, grandparent or favorite adult. *Registration begins Monday, October 26 at 9 a.m. in the Children's Room or by calling 883-4400, Ext. 150.* Co-sponsored by the Blumenfeld Family Fund in memory of Lawrence Kamisher.

School-Age Specials

Launching and Lunar Landing — Friday, October 16 at 4 p.m.

Celebrate the 40th anniversary of Apollo 11 with the Cradle of Aviation! You'll be guided through the journey of Apollo 11 from the launch of the Saturn V Rocket to the first steps on the moon. Explore the Lunar Lander, a rocket launch and learn how astronauts survive in space. For children in grades 4 and up with an adult. *Tickets required and will be available beginning Friday, October 9 at 9 a.m. in the Children's Room.* Co-sponsored by the Children's Advisory Council, which is privately funded by donations to the Port Washington Library Foundation.

Closet Monster — Friday, October 23 at 5 p.m.

Children in grades K to 4 are invited to celebrate the season with presenter Doris Benter. Create a 3D mixed media craft based on the book *Wanda's Monster* by Eileen Spinelli. *Registration is limited and begins Friday, October 16 at 9 a.m. in the Children's Room or by calling 883-4400, Ext. 150.*

Parenting Program

CPR for Infants and Children

Saturdays, October 24 and 31 from 10 a.m. to 12 noon.

Learn how to reduce the risk of injury to infants and children, how to care for an infant or child who stops breathing and how to perform cardio-pulmonary resuscitation. Presented by Ildiko Catuogno, a certified Red Cross CPR/AED/First Aid instructor and volunteer for the American Red Cross. *In-person registration is limited and begins Saturday, October 17 at 9 a.m. in the Children's Room.* Fee is \$10 per person. *Limit one person per household.*

Please note: This is a non-certified CPR program. Due to the nature of each class, attendance is required for both dates.

Monthly Display

Monster Memorabilia

Jonathan Guildroy will display selections from his collection of monster memorabilia in the Children's Room all month. Jonathan, who has worked in the library for 33 years and is currently director of Media Services, is a lifelong monster movie fan. This exhibit will include vintage monster movie magazines, buttons, photographs, postcards and toys. Frankenstein's Monster, Dracula, the Wolf Man, the Mummy, the Phantom of the Opera and the Creature from the Black Lagoon will make appearances. The show will even include Sculpey monsters modeled by Jonathan.

Story Times

Registration for the following story times began September 17 – for availability call the Children's Room at 883-4400, Ext. 150.

Mother Goose Rhyme Time: For children ages birth to 17 months with an adult – siblings welcome. Three Thursdays at 10:30 a.m.: Session I – October 8, 15 and 22; Session II – November 5, 12 and 19; Session III – December 3, 10 and 17.

Toddler Story Time: For children ages 2½ to 3½ with an adult. Five Tuesdays at 10:30 a.m. or 1:30 pm. Session I begins September 29 and ends October 27. Session II begins November 10; ends December 8.

Preschool Story Time: For children ages 3½ to 5 without an adult. Two groups: Fridays at 10:30 a.m. or 1:30 p.m. Begins October 2 and ends December 4.

After School Story Time: For children in kindergarten through second grade without an adult. Group meets on Wednesdays at 4 p.m. Begins October 7 and ends December 9.



Celebrate LI Talent

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driver, landscape crew foreman, air traffic controller, union rep and computer programmer. The singer, songwriter, guitarist has a style that embraces the blues, country, soul, folk and jazz.

Gathering Time has been winning fans with its spirited blend of folk and acoustic originals, stylistic interpretations of choice covers, and wonderful three-part vocal harmonies. This acoustic vocal trio is Hillary Foxsong, Stuart Markus and Glen Roethel.



Blue Detour, Steve Robinson

Have a Hammer Horror Halloween!

In the late 1950s and early 1960s, the British studio Hammer Film Productions revitalized the horror genre with remakes of such Universal classics as *Frankenstein*, *Dracula*, *The Mummy* and *The Phantom of the Opera*. The new films combined impeccable production values with a soupcon of gore and saucy flashes of cleavage. After a string of monster sequels, psychological thrillers, adventure flicks, sci-fi movies, and even a kung fu vampire story, the company produced its last Hammer horror in 1976. You can enjoy a Hammer Horror Halloween with these selections from our circulating DVD and VHS collections:

The Curse of Frankenstein (1957) (starring Peter Cushing and Christopher Lee) • *The Horror of Dracula* (1958) (with Lee and Cushing) • *The Revenge of Frankenstein* (1958) • *The Man Who Could Cheat Death* (1958) • *The Mummy* (1959) (Lee and Cushing again) • *The Two Faces of Dr. Jekyll* (1960) • *The Brides of Dracula* (1960) • *The Curse of the Werewolf* (1960) (with Oliver Reed) • *The Phantom of the Opera* (1961) (starring Herbert Lom) • *Paranoiac* (1962) • *The Kiss of the Vampire* (1962) • *Nightmare* (1962) • *The Evil of Frankenstein* (1963) • *The Gorgon* (1963) • *The Curse of the Mummy's Tomb* (1964) • *Die! Die! My Darling!* (1964) (with Tallulah Bankhead) • *The Nanny* (1965) (starring Bette Davis) • *Dracula - Prince of Darkness* (1965)

- *The Plague of the Zombies* (1965)
- *The Reptile* (1965) • *The Witches* (1966) (with Joan Fontaine) • *Frankenstein Created Woman* (1966) • *The Mummy's Shroud* (1966) • *The Devil Rides Out* (1967) • *Dracula Has Risen from the Grave* (1968)
- *Frankenstein Must Be Destroyed* (1969) • *Taste the Blood of Dracula* (1969)

- *The Vampire Lovers* (1970) • *Scars of Dracula* (1970) • *Horror of Frankenstein* (1970) • *Countess Dracula* (1970) (Ingrid Pitt as Elizabeth Bathory) • *Blood from the Mummy's Tomb* (1971) • *Dr. Jekyll and Sister Hyde* (1971) (Ralph Bates becomes Martine Beswick)
- *Demons of the Mind* (1971) • *Dracula A.D. 1972* (1971) • *Fear in the Night* (1971) • *Captain Kronos: Vampire Hunter* (1972) • *The Satanic Rites of Dracula* (1972) • *The Legend of the 7 Golden Vampires* (1973) • *To the Devil, a Daughter* (1975)

- *Hammer House of Horror* (omnibus series) (1980) • *The World of Hammer* (a retrospective) (1990) • *Flesh and Blood: The Hammer Heritage of Horror* (1997) (documentary)

Learn more about the company with Tom Johnson & Deborah Del Vecchio's *Hammer Films: An Exhaustive Filmography*, Howard Maxford's *Hammer, House of Horror: Behind the Screams* and Denis Meikle's *A History of Horrors: The Rise and Fall of the House of Hammer*.

The Friends of the Library sponsors

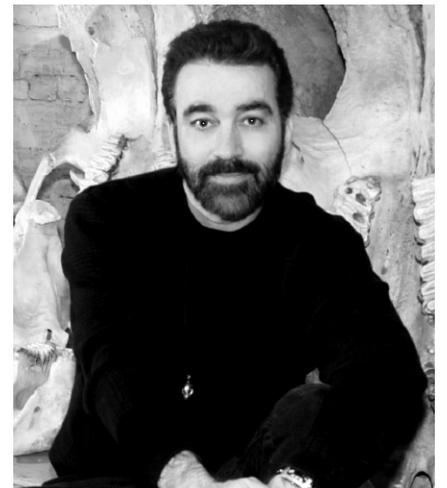
Friends & Family Day: November 7

He will amuse you! He will amaze you! Magic Al will meet and greet children on November 7 in the lobby before his 11 a.m. performance. Al is well known for his special blend of magic and comedy. His performance is geared for children in kindergarten and up, accompanied by a parent or caregiver.

A Paperback Book Swap will take place in the Hagedorn Room from noon to 3 p.m. Bring paperbacks that you've enjoyed to trade for others.

Please limit the number of books you donate to 20, but take as many as you'd like.

Books should be in good condition, please!



FOL welcomes authors Patricia T. O'Conner and Bill Schutt

On Wednesday, October 7 at 2 p.m., the Friends of the Library welcomes Patricia T. O'Conner, author of *Origins of the Specious* and *Woe Is I*.

"Tour de force," "liberating," "vastly amusing and highly informative"—that's just a sampling of the advance praise showered on Patricia T. O'Conner and Stewart Kellerman's *Origins of the Specious: Myths and Misconceptions of the English Language* (Random House, 2009). It will become a must-read for word lovers everywhere, joining O'Conner's bestselling *Woe Is I* (Penguin Group, 3rd edition, 2009).

Patricia T. O'Conner, a former editor at *The New York Times Book Review*, is the author of four books on language and writing including *Woe Is I: The Grammarphobe's Guide to Better English in Plain English*. The author will read from and discuss both books, which will be available for purchase and signing.

On Friday, October 30 at 12:10 p.m., meet Bill Schutt, author of *Dark Banquet*. The *New York*

Times has called the book "a jaunty, instructive and charmingly graphic look at nature's born phlebotomists — creatures from wildly different twigs of the phylogenetic tree that all happen to share a fondness for blood."

In *Dark Banquet*, zoologist Bill Schutt takes readers on an entertaining voyage into the world of some of nature's strangest creatures — the sanguivores. Using a sharp eye and mordant wit, Schutt makes a remarkably persuasive case that vampire bats, leeches, ticks, bed bugs and other vampires are as deserving of our curiosity as are the warmer and fuzzier species.

Enlightening, alarming and appealing to our delight in the bizarre, *Dark Banquet* peers into a part of the natural world to which we are, through our blood, inextricably linked.

Bill Schutt is an associate professor of biology at C.W. Post College and a research associate in mammalogy at the American Museum of Natural History in New York. He will read from and discuss his book, followed by book signing.

What's new in TeenSpace for grades 7 - 12?

TEEN READ WEEK: (Grades 7-12) In conjunction with the American Library Association, we invite you to celebrate "Teen Read Week" (October 18-24). "Read Beyond Reality @ Your Library" is the theme of this year's national initiative to encourage teens to read for the fun of it. *Sponsored by the FOL.*

TEEN FINE FIX: Teens in grades 7-12 can visit TeenSpace during October to have their fines removed from their accounts. Print a coupon at www.pwpl.org/teenspace.

TEEN READ PHOTO BOARD: Pick your favorite book, write down the title, author and (in 25 words or less) why you think it's the best. Bring your book in between October 1 and 13. We'll take your picture and include it on our photo board, which will be displayed during Teen Read Week. Teens who enter will receive a prize, and qualify for a bigger prize.

TEEN READ GUESS JAR: Each teen who ventures a guess about how much stuff is in the jar will receive a small prize, and the winner will receive the contents of the jar!

TEEN BABYSITTING WORKSHOP: A free 4-session series for students in grades 7 through 12. Topics include basic child care, minor first aid, handling emergencies and entertaining children. Registration begins October 1. Sessions on October 22 & 29, and November 5 & 12.

Complete details on the programs listed above are available online.

In conjunction with the Teen Read Week theme, "Read Beyond Reality," pick up an out of this world page-turner to read for the fun of it!

Tenth Grade Bleeds by Heather Brewer. As the evil vampire D'Ablo seeks the ritual that would steal Vlad's powers, Vlad struggles to resist feeding on the people around him. Book 3 of the Chronicles of Vladimir Tod. (YA FIC Brewer)

A Kiss in Time by Alex Flinn. Sixteen-year-old Princess Talia persuades 17-year-old Jack, the modern-day American who kissed her awake after a 300-year sleep, to take her to his Miami home, where she hopes to win his love. (YA FIC Flinn)

Fragile Eternity by Melissa Marr. Aislinn and Seth struggle with the consequences of Aislinn's transformation from mortal girl to faery queen. (YA FIC Marr)

Firebirds Soaring edited by Sharyn November. Original stories by some of today's finest writers of fantasy and science fiction. (YA SS Firebirds)

Starclimber by Kenneth Oppel. As members of the first crew of astronauts, Matt Cruse and Kate De Vries journey into outer space on the Starclimber. (YA FIC Oppel)

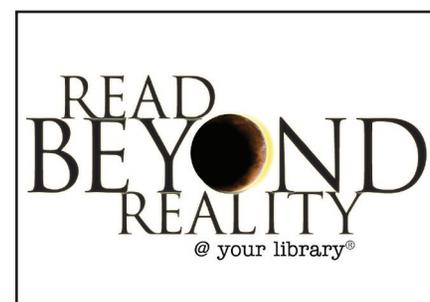
Max by James Patterson. When millions of fish start dying off the coast and something is destroying hundreds of ships, the government enlists the help of a band of genetically modified children. A Maximum Ride Novel. (YA FIC Patterson)

The Forest of Hands and Teeth by Carrie Ryan. Through twists and turns of fate, orphaned Mary seeks knowledge of life, love and what lies beyond her walled village. (YA FIC Ryan)

Test by William Sleator. In the security-obsessed, elitist United States of the near future, a powerful man runs a corrupt empire until 17-year-old Ann and other students take the lead in boycotting the test. (YA FIC Sleator)

Heroes of the Valley by Jonathan Stroud. When young Halli plays a trick on Ragnor, he sets in motion a chain of events that will alter his destiny. (YA FIC Stroud)

The Comet's Curse by Dom Testa. Desperate to save the human race after a comet's deadly particles devastate the adult population, scientists create a ship that will carry a crew of 251 teenagers to a home in a distant solar system. (YA FIC Testa)



Published by the
PORT WASHINGTON PUBLIC LIBRARY
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Port Washington, NY 11050-2794

Phone: 516/883-4400
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Issue No. 247, October 2009

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