



INFOBYTES

NEWSLETTER OF THE FRIENDS OF THE
WEST CALDWELL PUBLIC LIBRARY

Volume 11, Issue 1

Spring 2009

From Italy with Love: Italian and Neapolitan Songs

Sunday, March 8 at 2:00 pm

Acclaimed Tenor Salvatore Chiarelli will present **“From Italy with Love: Italian and Neapolitan Songs”** on Sunday, March 8 at 2:00 pm in the Community Room.



The concert will include such famous Italian and Neapolitan love songs as *“O Sole Mio,” “Ritorna Me,” “Parlami d’amore,” “Con te Partiro,” “Anima e Core”* and *“Santa Lucia.”*

Mr. Chiarelli was trained vocally in both Italy and New York City for the opera stage. He has had leading roles in such operas as **Madama Butterfly,**

Cavalleria Rusticana, I Pagliacci, Tosca, Otello, and Turandot. In 2006, he recorded his debut CD entitled *“Due Terre, Un Cuore.”* He was a finalist in the New York State regional singing competition in 2006 and 2007 and received the 2008-2009 Distinguished Artist Award from the Town of Oyster Bay on Long Island. He has a Masters degree in Music Education from Hunter College and has taught music in the New York City Public School system at the middle and high school levels.

This concert is free and open to the public, but advance registration is required. For more information or to sign up, call (973) 226-5441.

Girl Talk: A Women’s Poetry Reading

Saturday, March 14 from 1:00 to 4:00 pm

In honor of *Women’s History Month*, 27 female poets will read some of their published poetry dealing with women’s issues on Saturday, March 14 from 1:00-4:00 pm in the Community Room. Some of the local poets include Nicole Cooley, Jessica deKoninck, Laura

Freedgood, Diane Lockward, Charlotte Mendel, Jean Meyers and Marilyn Mohr. An afternoon tea will follow the event and some of the poets will be selling and autographing their poetry collections.

This program is free and open to the public, but advance registration is required. For more information or to sign up, call (973) 226-5441.

Taking Flight with Amelia Earhart

Sunday, March 22 at 2:00 pm

In honor of *Women’s History Month*, actress Pat Jordan will present the one-woman play **“Taking Flight with Amelia Earhart”** on Sunday, March 22 at 2:00 pm in the



Community Room. Learn about the remarkable first woman to fly across the Atlantic alone in 1932 and to attempt to a Round the World flight in 1937. Her mysterious disappearance has sparked numerous investigations and raised many questions.

Ms. Jordan has been working for the American Historical Theatre in Philadelphia for over ten years. She has performed in their productions of **“Victorian Music Hall”** and **“Yankee Doodles”** and has also appeared in one-woman plays about Betsy Ross and Martha Washington. She is an accomplished singer with a BA in Theater from Villanova University and training at Juilliard Opera Workshops. She has appeared for the American Historical Theatre at many venues including the White House Visitors Center, the National Archives, the Smithsonian and Mount Vernon.

This program, sponsored by the Women’s Club of Caldwell, is free and open to the public, but advance registration is required. For more information or to sign up, call (973) 226-5441.

Non-Essential History: or why is it called "The Big Apple"?

Thursday, April 16 at 7:00 pm

Dr. James P. Kane will present an irresistible lecture on Thursday, April 16 at 7:00 pm entitled "Non-Essential History: or why is it called the Big Apple?" This program of absolutely non-essential information is one you will have to share with others. For example, why is the southland called Dixie? And why is New York called "The Big Apple"? What were the last words of Robert E. Lee? Or Stonewall Jackson? And why was he called 'Stonewall'? Why is our football team called the Giants? Why is it bad luck to whistle on the Broadway stage? Where did the expression OK come from? Why do we say "Raising a child?" Why do we say "happy as a clam"? And why do we say someone is "worth his salt"? How old was Jefferson when he wrote The Declaration of Independence? And where did he write it? What is written on his tombstone? Why was the term "cowboy" once a racial slur?



This information and much more has been extracted from Dr. Kane's many lecture topics and is presented in a most entertaining and informative format.

Dr. Kane is an adjunct professor of education at William Paterson University and has enjoyed a distinguished career in education. He is a frequent lecturer and for ten years was associated with Americana Lectures until it was closed in December 2008.

This program is co-sponsored by the Historical Society of West Caldwell and the Friends of the West Caldwell Public Library. It is free and open to the public, but advance registration is required. Light refreshments will be served. For more information or to sign up, call (973) 226-5441.

New Library Hours

The Library began its new hours of operation on Monday, January 5, 2009.

Monday-Thursday 9:00 am - 8:00 pm
Friday, 9:00 am - 6:00 pm
Saturday, 9:00 am - 5:00 pm.

Concert of International Music

Friday, April 17 at 7:00 pm

In honor of *National Library Week*, the dynamic trio **Rosewood and Rhythm** will present a concert of International Music on Friday, April 17 at 7:00 pm in the Community Room. **Rosewood and Rhythm** combines a



rich blend of flamenco guitar, cello and percussion as they present an exotic program of Spanish rumbas, Cuban boleros, Brazilian sambas and Argentine tangos. Some of the highlights of the program include "*Sabor a Mi*," "*Chorra*," "*Cup O' Joe*," "*Teresina*," and "*Whirlwind*."

Jeff Ausfahl, an Argentine/American guitarist and singer, is the leader of the band that has performed in 32 different states and in 7 countries. He has a bachelor's degree in Jazz Guitar from Berklee College of Music, a master's degree in Classical Guitar from Montclair State Univ., and has done extended studies in Spain at the Univ. of Valladolid, Univ. of Leon and in Madrid, where his flamenco guitars were hand made for him.

This program, co-sponsored by the Friends of the Library, is free and open to the public, but advance registration is required. For more information or to sign up, call (973) 226-5441.

Women of Achievement Ceremony

Tuesday, March 17 at 7:00 pm

The West Essex Woman's Club will sponsor the **10th Annual West Essex Women of Achievement Ceremony** on Tuesday, March 17 at 7:00 pm in the Community Room. Eight women from West Essex County will be honored for their outstanding community service including Eva Bouzard-Hui, Mary Davidson, Anne Fildardo, Iva Hemmel, Rebecca Montan, Erma Rostad, Lila Rubin and Elvy Vieira. Author Carol Binkowski will read excerpts from her book **More Than Petticoats: Remarkable New Jersey Women** following the ceremony. She will also autograph and sell copies of her book. This program is free and open to the public, but advance registration is required. For more information or to sign up, call (973) 226-5441.

Do Dead People Walk Their Dogs?

Saturday, April 18 at 1:00 pm

On Saturday, April 18, well-known New Jersey medium Concetta Bertoldi will discuss her new book **Do Dead People Walk Their Dogs?** at 1:00 pm in the Community Room. She will re-



count her more than 50 years of experience receiving messages from the dead and will answer questions about the afterlife. Ms. Bertoldi has consulted and done readings with Sarah Ferguson (Duchess of York), and such actors as Alec Baldwin and Edie Falco. She has also appeared on the "Today" show and has been interviewed by the Star-Ledger. Ms. Bertoldi, who currently lives in Boonton, will sell and autograph copies of her new book.

This program is free and open to the public, but advance registration is required. For more information or to sign up, call (973) 226-5441.

Sixth Annual Poetry Festival

Sunday, May 17 from 1:00 to 5:00 pm

The "Sixth Annual Poetry Festival: A Celebration of New Jersey's Literary Journals" will be held on Sunday, May 17 from 1:00 to 5:00 pm in the Community Room. 24 Poets from primarily New Jersey (with a few from NY and PA) will offer poetry readings throughout the afternoon. Editors from 12 Literary Journals will also be available to answer questions about subscription information and submission guidelines. Poetry anthologies by the 24 represented poets will also be available for sale and signing. For more information about this event, please call (973) 226-5441.

Beginners Genealogy Workshop

Monday, May 18 from 6:30 to 7:30 pm

Professional genealogist, Robert Caruso of Heritage Preservation Associates in Verona, will present an interactive workshop on family history and genealogy research for beginners. This workshop will be held on Monday, May 18 from 6:30 to 7:30 pm. Caruso is a member of the Association of Professional Genealogists with over 13 years of family research experience. His particular specialty is researching families from Connecticut, New York and New Jersey with origins in Italy, Germany, Denmark and Ireland.

Shakespeare's Ghost

Sunday, April 19 at 2:00 pm

At the Alumni Theatre at Caldwell College

The Actors Company, in conjunction with the Library, will present the one-man play "*Shakespeare's Ghost*" featuring actor J.T. Turner on Sunday, April 19 at 2:00 pm in the Alumni Theatre on the campus of Caldwell College. This witty and dramatic play features the Bard himself returning to life to comment on stories about Shakespeare, his works, and productions through the ages. He also recites monologues from many of Shakespeare's famous plays. J.T. Turner is an award-winning actor with credits on the stage, in TV, radio and film. His stage work includes the roles of Dysart in *Equus*, Benjamin Franklin in *1776*, Colonel Jessup in *A Few Good Men*, Henry II in *The Lion in Winter*, and Chauvelin in *The Scarlet Pimpernel*. He has also appeared in many feature films including *Mystic River*, *Meet Joe Black*, *Dan in Real Life*, *The Crucible* and *A Civil Action*. On TV, he appeared in several episodes of *The Sopranos* and had a recurring role in *The Brotherhood* on Showtime.



Admission to this play is \$10 for adults and \$5 for students. Tickets can be purchased by calling the Library at (973) 226-5441. Only cash and checks will be accepted.

Saturday Matinee Book Club

First Saturday of the Month, 2:00-3:00 pm

The West Caldwell Public Library is happy to announce a new book club for local book lovers. The Saturday Matinee Book Club will meet on the first Saturday of the month from 2:00-3:00 pm in the library's Community Meeting Room. Lists of titles for future meetings are also available at the Reference Desk and on the library's website. All are welcome to join these discussions and light refreshments will be served. For additional information, please contact the Reference Department at 973-226-5441.

Spring Schedule of Titles:

March 7 – *Love Medicine* by Louise Erdrich

April 4 – *New England White* by Stephen L. Carter

May 2 – *The Pirate's Daughter*

by Margaret Cezair-Thompson

From the President

In case you haven't noticed, the West Caldwell Public Library is a very busy place these days. Circulation statistics are up, adult and children's programs are seeing increased attendance and there has been a significant rise in the overall membership in the Friends.

For three Saturdays in January, the Friends set up a "recruitment table" in the library to entice patrons to join the Friends and/or to renew their membership. The recruitment table worked out very well and we had 36 new members/families sign up, 3 renewals and one anonymous \$5.00 donation. In addition many visitors to our table took information and membership applications which they returned in the ensuing weeks.



The resulting membership statistics are very encouraging. As of late February, the Friends had 69 new members/families this year. Last year at this time, we only had 17 new members. Of course much of this increase is due to the recruitment effort in January. But our renewal rate is also up so far this year and we have a paid 2009 membership of 244 compared with about 172 members at this time last year. I expect that our membership will approach 300 by the end of the year.

While working the recruitment tables in January, we found that some patrons professed little knowledge about the Friends. This is a little surprising because of what we thought has been a widespread campaign to publicize the Friends. The good news is that many of these people immediately joined the Friends after hearing about our many functions including publicity, fundraising, volunteer activities and funding for programs and special library equipment. To those of you who are already members, please do a little recruiting of your own and spread the good word for the Friends.

Book World Closes

After 40+ years in West Caldwell, our only bookstore, Book World, closed its doors at the end of January citing increasing expenses and declining revenues. Since 2003, members of the Friends have enjoyed a 20% discount at Book World on most books. Many members took advantage of this generous offer and excellent service offered by Book World. We all will miss this long-time member of our business community.

I again want to thank the many members who continue to provide financial and volunteer support to the Friends. You are truly helping to make our library the great place that it is!

- Ron Day

Friends Executive Board Members - 2009

President	Ron Day
Vice President	Audrey Ott
Treasurer	Lila Rubin
Corresponding Secretary	Mary Lindgren
Recording Secretary	Laverne Nelson
Member-at-Large (Hospitality)	Dorie Frey
Member-at-Large (Books-to-go)	Rozz Rusinow
Member-at-Large (Membership)	Phil Hessinger
Member-at-Large	Jane Berisso
Member-at-Large	Ralph Franzese
Immediate Past President	Polly Payne
Library Director	April L. Judge

Savvy Seniors "Chat It Up" Conversation Group

Beginning Friday, May 15 at 3:00 pm, the West Caldwell Public Library will hold an informal book conversation group for seniors in the Art Display sitting area one Friday per month. Bring a book you are currently reading, or your recollections about books you have enjoyed and share your thoughts with library staff, neighbors and friends. All are welcome. Contact the Library for more information.

Did You Renew?

Friends of the West Caldwell Public Library

30 Clinton Road, West Caldwell, NJ 07006

Membership Application

Yes, I want to be a Friend! Enclosed is my annual contribution with a check payable to the Friends of the West Caldwell Public Library and mailed to the above address.

New Member Renewal Date: _____

Name: _____

Address: _____

Telephone: _____ E-mail: _____

Individual/family \$10.00 Library Lover \$25.00

Bookworm \$50.00 Bibliophile \$100.00

Yes, I would like to volunteer my time to help the Friends of the Library.

Yes, my employer has a "matching grant" program. Please complete and return the enclosed employer form.

The Friends of the West Caldwell Public Library is a non-profit 501(c)(3) organization. Your contributions are tax deductible.

Greetings from the Director

During these bad economic times, libraries throughout the county are seeing their usage increase. With the unemployment rate sky rocketing, customers are using libraries for a wide variety of job related services. These



range from asking assistance in filling out employment forms, reading the Want Ad section of the local newspaper, using the library's word processing center to revise a resume and to perform job searches online at the library's Internet terminals. People who once went to the theatre or the ballet or even the movies are now

cutting back on these "expensive" types of entertainment. They are, instead, coming to the "free" programs sponsored by the library or are borrowing that dvd to watch in the comfort of their home. Customers that regularly purchased books at their local bookstore or subscribed to their favorite magazine are now checking out library books for themselves and their children.

As a reflection of these trends, our library saw an increase in the circulation of all materials. In January 2008 our circulation was 14,000 and in January 2009 this figure had jumped to 15,609. We registered 78 new members during January 2009 and only 65 last year. Our number of visitors went up from 9,548 to 10,910. And the attendance at our programs offered by the Reference Department, Friends and Historical Society went from 290 January 2008 to 346 in 2009.

Although I am glad to see that residents and other visitors are using our services, its hard to continually hear about the economic hardships that are facing hundreds of people locally, across the state and throughout the country. And especially at this time of year when cities, towns and townships are trying to develop workable and realistic budgets to provide the level of services necessary to sustain a high quality of life, I know that many libraries in NJ and elsewhere are facing some level of budget cuts and will have to make hard decisions about essential library operations. These library directors and Boards will have to think both creatively and "outside the box" to ensure that the services provided to customers and visitors remains solid in spite of possible reduced hours, less staff, etc.

Libraries do make great differences in the lives of people and have lasting impacts on people in so many ways.

Ever since I became Director in September 1998, the Mayor and Council of West Caldwell have been extremely supportive and generous in provision of funding for the Library. Without this continued support, the

Library would never have evolved into the busy community center that it has become.

The West Caldwell Public Library staff and Board of Trustees wish to thank Mayor Joseph Tempesta and the Council for their role in making the Library, in my opinion and that of many of our customers, one of the BEST small libraries in the United States. So when you see Mayor Tempesta or any of the Council members- especially if you're a library user-please smile and tell them THANK YOU!!!

Happy Spring!!!!

- April L. Judge

READ IT!

A Friendly Reading Group

Come to a lively book discussion. All programs begin at 10:30 am and are held at the Crane's Mill Library. Copies of the books are available at the WCPL Reference Desk. Members of the general public are invited to attend.

Reading Groups at Crane's Mill

Celebrating One Book Programs Across America

Thursday, March 12 – *The Zookeeper's Wife* by Diane Ackerman

Thursday, April 2 – *Saving Fish from Drowning* by Amy Tan

Thursday, May 14 – *Worst Hard Time* by Timothy Egan

Thursday, June 11 – *When the Emperor was Divine* by Julie Otsuka

Thursday, July 9 – *Never Let Me Go* by Kazuo Ishiguro

The Crane's Mill Library is in the Town Square Building at 459 Passaic Avenue in West Caldwell.

YA Non-Fiction Has Moved

The Young Adult (YA) non-fiction collection has a new home in the library. Previously, these books were interfiled within the Adult non-fiction collection. Earlier this year, the decision was made to move these books to a shelving unit that borders the Teen Space in order to make them more visible to teens. This shelving unit now holds the YA audio books and graphic novels. All of these collections have additional space to expand. The Young Adult non-fiction collection offers teens books on a wide variety of subjects including health and beauty, research materials for school reports, poetry, cooking and biographies.



Friends of the West Caldwell Public Library
30 Clinton Road • West Caldwell, NJ 07006
973-226-5441 • <http://westcaldwell.bccls.org>

InfoBytes Editor – Ron Day
Library Hours

Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursday 9:00 am – 8:00 pm
Friday 9:00 am – 6:00 pm
Saturday 9:00 am– 5:00 pm (9:00 am – 1:00 pm in summer)

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Shakespeare’s Ghost

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At the Alumni Theatre at Caldwell College

The Actors Company, in conjunction with the Library, will present the one-man play

“Shakespeare’s Ghost”

featuring award winning actor J.T. Turner.

Admission: \$10 for adults, \$5 for students

See page 3 for details

Friday Afternoon at the Movies

Showtime 1:00 pm

March 6: “The Secret Life of Bees” (PG-13, 2008) 110 min.

March 13: “Nights in Rodanthe” (PG-13, 2008) 97 min.

March 20: “Flash of Genius” (PG-13, 2008) 120 min.

March 27: “The Boy in the Striped Pajamas” (PG-13, 2008) 94 min. (Film Discussion to follow)

April 3: “Appaloosa” (R, 2008) 115 min.

April 17: “Seven Pounds” (PG-13, 2008) 123 min.

April 24: “Changeling” (R, 2008) 142 min. (Film Discussion to follow)

May 1: “Happy-Go-Lucky” (R, 2008) 119 min.

May 8: “Doubt” (PG-13, 2008) 104 min. (Film Discussion to follow)

May 15: “Vicky Cristina Barleona” (PG-13, 2008) 97 min.

May 29: “Miracle at St. Anna” (R, 2008) 160 min.