

ASHAWAY FREE LIBRARY

15 KNIGHT ST., ASHAWAY RI, 401 377-2770, ASHFREELIB.ORG

HOURS: MON & FRI 10-5, TUES & THURS 4-8, WED 1-8, SAT 9-1

Library Team

Head Librarian Heather Field. Staff: Amy Forbes, Josh Fowler, Brenda Laing, Nancy Martell. Substitutes: Peggy Roever, Emily LeMay

Board of Trustees: Donna Bailey, Dave Bettger, Lorna Caulfield, Fran Cohen, Kat Felkner, Judie Freeman, Donna Linskey, Betsy Mercer, Ray Mitchell, Linda Sardone, Jessica Swain, Bob Ward

A New Outlook



Thanks to the Champlin Foundation, the Ashaway Free Library has a new outlook! All windows in the building are being replaced for energy efficiency by WinDor, a local Charlestown RI company. WinDor is kindly doing most of their work when the Library is closed so service will not be interrupted. The first windows to be replaced face the parking lot. Take a look.



SATURDAY MAY 2 WILL BE A BIG DAY IN ASHAWAY

Regardless of the fickle spring weather, things will be hopping in "downtown" Ashaway on Saturday May 2. From 9-1 the **AFL Annual Book and Plant Sale** will feature many unique items, thousands of books in all categories, a good assortment of plants and a bake sale to keep you happy while browsing.

New this year:

*For \$15 get a cloth AFL bag and fill it with any books or media (except books specially priced)

*For \$10 bring the AFL bag you bought last year and fill it with books and media (except books specially priced)

*Credit Cards will be accepted for purchases \$15 and more (Visa, Master Card, Discover)

Volunteers are needed to sort books before the sale during library hours. Please call or stop at the circulation desk.

Donations: Books and other media donations are welcome during library hours. Please drop donated plant materials at the Library on April 30 or May 1. Donations for the bake sale can be dropped off on May 1 (10-5) or May 2 at 8 am.

Also on May 2, rain or shine, enjoy the **2nd Annual "Spring Fling-It" Mega Yard Sale** sponsored by the PTO at Ashaway Elementary School, 12A Hillside Ave. Featuring household goods, toys, bikes, games, multi-family yard sale and baked goods and a lemonade stand. All proceeds will go to benefit JDRF (Juvenile Diabetes).

And May 2 is a good time to stop by Crandall Field to watch the youngsters enjoying the first day for **baseball and tee ball** sponsored by the Hopkinton Recreation Department. Go and see how happy the youngsters are to be able to finally play outside.

Book Review by Linda Sardone

The Storied Life of AJ Fikry by Gabrielle Zevin

AJ Fikry owns a bookstore on a fictional Massachusetts island, and his conversion from lonely curmudgeon to a beloved cornerstone of the community is both overly sentimental in places and laugh-out-loud funny in others. The press for this current bestseller plays it up as a book for book lovers. Certainly the many literary references, including the introduction to each chapter, will connect with those readers that recognize them. You don't have to be widely read to enjoy this tale however, which is a love story on a number of levels that also offers an inside look at the realities of independent book selling and small literary publishers dependent on each other for continued success. I did not like the way the story started, lacking that indefinable combination of elements that draws the reader in and hooks them immediately. Be patient, though, and you will start caring about the characters within a few chapters. I would not rate this as a great read, but there was enough that was unique about the story to make it enjoyable. I've found myself thinking about it a number of times since finishing the book, which to me is always the mark of a story that is worth remembering.

Contest for Newsletter Readers

Here's an easy and fun way to share your book know-how. Submit a list with a minimum of 5 or a maximum of 10 items in a book related category such as the following:

- Favorite books about nature
- Favorite beach books of all time
- Favorite gardening books
- Books set in or related to Rhode Island
- Best non-fiction books you read in the last two years
- Favorite book characters of all time (name of character plus book)
- Favorite books for children to age 6
- Favorite books for children age 6-12
- Favorite young adult books
- Over-rated books
- OR, invent your own book-related category!

Please give us your list(s) **by June 10** with the understanding that the list might appear in a future newsletter or might be shared on the Library's bulletin board (anonymously, if you wish). Lists must include book title and author. Submit your list in person at the library or by email to afl15knightst@hotmail.com and tell us your name and how to contact you (email address or phone number). A modest prize will be offered for the best lists!

Want to Get Involved? How About a Neighbor-to-Neighbor Talent Bank?

Here's a fun project for a volunteer or two to organize. Wouldn't it be great if your library hosted a kind of clearinghouse of community services? It might include a collection of recommended local businesses, contact information for local folks with expertise in crafts or skills who are willing to share their knowledge by meeting you at the library or talking with you by phone.

How might it be organized? Should people register with basic information (e.g., fees, barter, free, references)? Talk to the Librarian or tell us at afl15knightst@hotmail.com



UPCOMING EVENTS

Money Smart Week, April 18-25

During Money Smart Week, the AFL will feature several books on financial literacy which has become an important topic for high schoolers through adults. In addition, you might be interested in requesting the following related titles through the Ocean State Library Services. You can do this online at <http://catalog.oslri.net/> or ask your Librarian for assistance. You will be notified when requested books are ready for pick up at the AFL.

The Monopolists: Obsession, Fury, and the Scandal Behind the World's Favorite Board Game by Mary Pilon

The Opposite of Spoiled: Raising Kids Who are Grounded, Generous, and Smart About Money by Ron Lieber

The Age of Cryptocurrency: How Bitcoin and Digital Money are Challenging the Global Economic Order by Paul Vigna and Michael J. Casey

Money: Master the Game, Seven Simple Steps to Financial Freedom by Tony Robbins

Adult Card Making/Rubber Stamping Program

Call early to sign up for these popular craft classes led by Peggy Roever and Judie Freeman. \$7 covers about 5 projects per class. Wednesday evening classes are 6-8 pm, April 29, May 27 and June 24.



Earth Day, Wednesday April 22, 3 PM

Children ages 4 and up can enjoy an Earth Day themed story and craft program at the Library at 3 pm. Watch your email for more details.

EARLY NOTICE: SUMMER READING 2015 "EVERY HERO HAS A STORY"

Children from preschool to middle school who read 8 books to complete the Summer Reading Program (SRP) qualify for prizes and coupons for each book. To get credit for a book, the child must write or draw something related to the book to bring to the Library. Parents can help the preschoolers and for older kids reading longer books, 100 pages counts as a book. Signup for SRP is **Monday, June 15**. SRP begins on Monday, June 29 and ends on Friday, August 14. Check with your Librarian for details.

The following related programs are open to everyone regardless of SRP sign up.

Friday, July 10, 2pm: Shayna Eisemann, "Dreams Come True"

Come meet Elsa and Anna as they join the Summer Reading program! This program includes a lot of audience participation--singing, dancing, reading stories, and taking time for photos. Every hero has a story and Anna and Elsa can't wait to share their stories with you.

Friday, July 17, 2pm: Eric Fulford

In this interactive performance Eric Fulford will illustrate the origin story of a never-seen-before comic book superhero inspired by your ideas! Eric will incorporate audience suggestions as he tells the tale of a brand new comic book invented on the spot and the audience will have important roles to play as the story comes together. (YA program—Ages 10 and up.)

Friday, July 31, 2pm: Dean Watts, Rising Sun Jiu Jitsu

Rising Sun Academy uses martial arts to teach confidence and respect. This program is a high-energy, fun way for kids to learn how to deal with bullies, defend from strangers and get in great shape. Our program teaches that every child can be a hero.

Free Technology Tutoring

AFL Tech Tutor Marissa Martell is available for one-on-one help sessions on alternating Saturdays between 9 and 1 by appointment. If you need help with computer basics, using computer programs, setting up email, searching the Internet, using new technologies, etc. call 377-2770 to schedule.

Tech Tips for Seniors (and others)

Do you or someone you know need some plain English about technologies? AARP (American Association of Retired People) has a very useful website that explains, in text and videos, the whys and wherefores of various technologies. Their Technology Education Center will tell you all about using things like Ipads, Social Media (Facebook, Texting), Digital Entertainment (Video-streaming, eBooks, Golden Age of Radio), Online Safety (Are your Grandkids Safe Online?), Buyers Guide, Car Safety Technology and more! If you don't have a computer, ask your Librarian for assistance. <http://www.aarp.org/home-family/personal-technology/tek/>



WHAT CAN YOU DO?

Spring Appeal for the Annual Fund

You'll soon be getting some mail from the AFL about our Annual Appeal. This Spring mailing will request your generosity to help us bridge the gap between Town and State funding and the costs of operating the Library. Your tax-deductible gifts will be gratefully accepted and promptly acknowledged. Consider making a gift to the Library to celebrate a birthday or someone who's about to graduate from Kindergarten, High School, or College, or to honor someone special on Mother's Day or Father's Day. We'll be sure the honoree will receive notice of your gift from the Library. Your generosity supports this valuable neighborhood resource, cherished since 1871.

Volunteers are needed to help sort books before the May 2 Book and Plant sale. Ask at the circulation desk or call the Library.

Donations: Books and other media donations for the Annual Book and Plant Sale are welcome anytime during library hours. If you have donations of plant materials, please them off at the Library on April 30 or May 1. Donations for the bake sale can be dropped off on May 1 (10-5) or May 2 at 8 am.

Create a Neighbor-to-Neighbor Talent Bank — see page 2 of this newsletter.



I have always imagined that paradise will be a kind of library.

-Jorge Luis Borges