December Events for Adults

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December Events

On Thursday, Dec. 3 from 10:00AM-12:00PM please join E-Bay seller Ann Butler as she shows you how to turn your clutter into cash on E-Bay! From setting up your account to mailing the package, you will learn the entire process of selling on E-Bay. Please register in advance.

Please join us on Friday Dec. 4 from 4:00-6:00PM for the Meredith Library Genealogy Club. This month we share tips on getting organized. Snacks will be served. Open to all levels of genealogy experience.

The Friends of the Meredith Library will be hosting their annual Holiday Open House on Saturday Dec. 5 from 10:00AM-12:00PM with their annual meeting to follow.

They will be serving holiday munchies and holding a free raffle for a Library Lover’s Basket.

Getting Started in Genealogy will be on Thursday, Dec. 17 from 10:00AM-12:00PM. Learn how to use the library databases Ancestry, HeritageQuest and New England Ancestors. Forms such as pedigree charts, research sheets and family group sheets will be distributed.


Ask us about Home Delivery Service

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Please note that the library will be closing on Christmas Eve at noon. We will reopen Saturday, Dec. 26 from 9:00AM-2:00PM. Please have a Merry Christmas!
New

Highlighted Books!

That’s not my snowman
By: Fiona Watt

Fun addition to the Usborne board book collection. Babies and tots love the touch and feel and repetition of this series.

Fancy Nancy: splendidiferous Christmas
By: Nancy O’Connor

What could be fancier than Christmas? Fancy trees, cookies and presents can be very exciting. But Nancy finds that sometimes things don’t always turn out as fancy as she might like but the spirit of Christmas still shines though.

Nubs: the true story of a mutt, a marine and a miracle
By: Brian Dennis

The powerful story of friendship which can cross deserts, continents and species. A touching story of an Iraqi dog of war and the Marine Major whose heart he touched.

Children’s Programs

Preschool Story Time for ages 3-5 on Weds at 10:30am and Thurs at 1:00pm

Tot Time Fridays at 9:30 for ages 1-3

Curiosity Club Join the club that loves to explore!
This month we will explore baking. We will bake goodies to take home and explore the whys and hows of baking. The club is for ages 4-9 and will meet every 2nd Wednesday of the month. (12/9, 1/13, 2/10 etc.)

Bedtime stories on the first Tuesday of every month at 6:30pm. Come in your pajamas and listen to good night stories, do a project and have a bedtime snack (12/1, 1/5, 2/2 etc)

Gingerbread House Decorating on Wednesday Dec. 16th at 3:30pm for ages 3-9. Listen to a holiday story and decorate gingerbread to take home. Must sign-up in advance.

Look forward to First Grade Night on Thursday 1/21 from 4:30-6:30pm. A celebration for first graders who can now get their own library cards.
Mystery Book Group - Thursday, December 10 from 10:30-12:00PM - Please join us for a lively discussion of Elizabeth George's *A Suitable Vengeance*. Detective Inspector Thomas Lynley, 8th Earl of Asherton, has brought to Howenstow, his ancestral home, the young woman he has asked to be his bride. But the savage murder of a local journalist soon becomes the catalyst for a lethal series of events which shatters the calm of the picturesque Cornish community, tearing apart powerful ties of love and friendship, and exposing a long-buried family secret. The resulting tragedy will forever alter the course of Thomas Lynley's life.

*Thursday Evening Book Group* - This book group is on hiatus until January. We will meet on Thursday, January 28 at 7:00PM. We will be reading *The Pillars of the Earth* by Ken Follett.

Friends of the Library Update

The Friends would like to extend lots of holiday warm wishes and thank yous to the children’s room. Along with the guidance of staff, Jessie, Karen, and Jan the children created the ornaments to decorate the tree sponsored by the Friends, for the Altrusa Festival of Trees. Check out their tree “If You Take a Mouse to the Movies” during the festival December 4-6 at the Waukegan Golf Club.

Just a reminder: Saturday, December 5, 2009 we are hosting our annual Holiday Open House. Coffee and holiday treats will be served in the library from 10:00 to 12:00; followed by our monthly meeting from 12:00 to 1:00. Everyone is welcome to join us!

Happy Holidays to everyone and many thanks for your support of the Friends of the Meredith Library. Our mission is to promote library involvement in the community and community involvement in the library. Consider joining the Friends membership and/or participating in some of the volunteer positions available. Contact Danielle Scott for details: 472-2616 or dmscott@metrocast.net.

Upcoming events:

Friends of the Meredith Library Holiday Open House, December 5, 2009 from 10:00 to 12:00; monthly meeting following from 12:00 to 1:00.

We Deliver!

The Meredith Public Library in conjunction with the Altrusa Club provides home delivery service to our patrons. If you’re sick this flu season or can’t get out of the house for some reason, please give us a call at 279-4303 and ask to set up Homebound Service. A member of the Altrusa Club will drop off whatever items you’ve requested from the library and return items you still have at home, free of charge! Please don’t hesitate to call. We are happy to provide this service.
Teens and ‘Tweens Page

Ages 10-17

A GOOD READ FOR DECEMBER

**Ex-Mas** by Kate Brian

Ever since her mother passed away, Katie’s been alone in her too-big house with her genius dad, who restores old paintings for a living. Katie takes a summer job at a garden estate, where, with the help of two brothers and a glamorous librarian, she soon becomes embroiled in decoding a mystery. There are secrets and shadows at the heart of **NOTHING BUT GHOSTS**: symbols hidden in a time-darkened painting, and surprises behind a locked bedroom door. But most of all, this is a love story—the story of a girl who learns about love while also learning to live with her own ghosts.

This is a heartfelt, lyrical tale from the National Book Award-nominated author of **UNDERCOVER** and **HOUSE OF DANCE**.

**Exciting New Books**

*Rash* by Pete Hautman

*Behind the Curtain: An Echo Falls Mystery* by Peter Abrahams

*Down the Rabbit Hole: an Echo Falls Mystery* by Peter Abrahams

*Mrs. Mike* by Benedict and Nancy Freedman

*I’ll Pass for Your Comrade: Women Soldiers in the Civil War* by Anita Silvey

*The Green Glass Sea* by Ellen Klages

*The Return: Nightfall* by L.J. Smith

*Good Night, Mr. Tom* by Michelle Magorian

*Who’s Buried in the Garden?* By Ray Villareal

*Starclimber* by Kenneth Oppel

*Twisted* by Laurie Halse Anderson

*Snap* by Carol Snow

*Raven Rise* by D.J. Machale

*Going Bovine* by Libba Bray

*House of Dance* by Beth Kephart

*Silver Dragon Codex* by R.D. Henham

*Gifted: Here Today, Gone Tomorrow* by Marilyn Kaye

*Tempted: A House of Night Novel* by P.C. and Kristin Cast

**Upcoming Events**

Join us for a teen family movie. Bring your whole family and watch *Prancer*, here on Thursday, December 10 from 5:30 to 7:30. Enjoy the movie on our big screen, we will also be serving popcorn balls and drinks. Please bring a canned good to donate to the food pantry.

Christmas Cookie Decorating for young adults-ages 10 and up. Celebrate the season with your friends by decorating yummy Christmas cookies! Thursday, December 17 from 6:00 to 7:00 – YOU MUST SIGN UP FOR THIS PROGRAM.
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New Adult Items
(ask for the full list at the desk)

### Fiction
- Castle-*Heat Wave*
- Chiaverini-*A Quilter’s Holiday*
- Cussler-*The Wrecker*
- Gingrich-*To Try Men’s Souls*
- Graham-*Home in Time for Christmas*
- Grisham-*Ford Country*
- Hawkins-*A Christmas of Cats and Dogs*
- Jacobs-*Knit the Season*
- Johansen-*Blood Games*
- Keillor-*A Christmas Blizzard*
- Kingsolver-*The Lacuna*
- King-*Under the Dome*
- Lamb-*Wishin’ and Hopin’*
- Mantel-*Wolf Hall*
- Patterson-*I, Alex Cross*
- Robb-*Kindred in Death*
- Rutherford-*New York*
- Shaara-*No Less Than Victory*
- Simon-*Shades of Grey*
- Steel-*Southern Lights*
- Winters-*Sense and Sensibility and Sea Monsters*
- Wright-*Christmas Jars Reunion*

### Non-Fiction
- Rathbone-*Windows 7 for Dummies*
- Haag-*The Templars*
- Plouffe-*The Audacity to Win*
- Sorkin-*Too Big to Fail*
- Gore-*Our Choice*
- Flynn-*Wicked Intentions*
- Gun Digest 2010
- Oliver-*Jamie’s Food Revolution*
- Vaynerchuk-*Crush It!*
- Jacobs-*Strange Maps*
- Lynch-*Google Your Family Tree*
- Egan-*The Big Burn*

### Non-Fiction
- Books on CD

<table>
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<tr>
<th>books</th>
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<tr>
<td>Burroughs</td>
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<td>Brown</td>
<td><em>Smash Cut</em></td>
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<td>Cussler</td>
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<td>Doctorow</td>
<td><em>Homer and Langley</em></td>
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<td>Gaiman</td>
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<td>Glass</td>
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<td>Grisham</td>
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<td>Macomber</td>
<td><em>Angels at Christmas</em></td>
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<td>Patterson</td>
<td><em>I, Alex Cross</em></td>
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### DVDs
- The Close Shave
- Food, Inc.
- Meredith: the first 200 years
- Windows 7 for Dummies
- Drag Me to Hell
- G.I. Joe
- Green Lantern
- My Sister’s Keeper
- The Shipping News
- Star Trek
- 27 Dresses
- West Side Story
David Plouffe not only led the effort that put Barack Obama in the White House, but he also changed the face of politics forever and reenergized the idea of democracy itself. *The Audacity to Win* is his story of that groundbreaking achievement, taking readers inside the remarkable campaign that led to the election of the first African American president.

For two years Plouffe worked side by side with Obama, charting the course of the campaign. His is the ultimate insider's tale, revealing both the strategies that delivered Obama to office and how the candidate and campaign handled moments of great challenge and opportunity. Moving from the deliberations about whether to run at all, through the epic primary battle with Hillary Clinton and the general election against John McCain, Plouffe showcases the high-wire gamesmanship that fascinated pundits and the drama and intrigue that captivated a nation.

*The Audacity to Win* chronicles the arrival of a new moment in American life at the convergence of digital technology and grassroots organization, and the exciting possibilities revealed by a campaign that in many ways functioned as a $1 billion start-up with laser-like focus and discipline. In this extraordinary book, David Plouffe unfolds one of the most important political stories of our time, one whose lessons are not limited to politics, but reach to the greatest heights of what we dream about for our country and ourselves. (Product Description...this is not a review.)

No character in the canon has been writ larger than Henry VIII, but that didn’t stop Hilary Mantel. She strides through centuries, past acres of novels, histories, biographies, and plays—even past Henry himself—confident in the knowledge that to recast history's most mercurial sovereign, it's not the King she needs to see, but one of the King’s most mysterious agents.

Enter Thomas Cromwell, a self-made man and remarkable polymath who ascends to the King’s right hand. Rigorously pragmatic and forward-thinking, Cromwell has little interest in what motivates his Majesty, and although he makes way for Henry's marriage to the infamous Anne Boleyn, it's the future of a free England that he honors above all else and hopes to secure. Mantel plots with a sleight of hand, making full use of her masterful grasp on the facts without weighing down her prose.

The opening cast of characters and family trees may give initial pause to some readers, but perseverance: the witty, whip-smart lines volleying the action forward may convince you a short stay in the Tower of London might not be so bad... provided you could bring a copy of *Wolf Hall* along.  

—Anne Bartholomew, Reviewer
Library Mission Statement
Meredith Public Library is the informational, educational, and cultural heart of the Meredith community. The library is a dependable source of reliable information and of challenging ideas that enlighten and enrich, and of materials in many formats that enhance leisure time and expand knowledge of current events. The library encourages the love of reading and the joy of learning, and offers the assistance people need to find, evaluate, and use electronic and print information resources that help them live successful and rewarding lives.

Are You Talented?
Do you have a special skill such as knitting, scrapbooking or model train building you’d be willing to share with others at the library? Are you an artist looking for a place to display your work? If so please contact the library. If displaying artwork please ask for Karen Henchey. If you would like to do a program at the library please contact Erin Apostolos.

The Perfect Sugar Cookie Recipe for Cookie Cutters
Too thin, too thick, too tasteless or too sweet, cutting and decorating cookies for the holidays can be a challenge. Try this no fail recipe from allrecipes.com.

Yield 60 small cookies

Ingredients
1 1/2 cups butter, softened
2 cups white sugar
4 eggs
1 teaspoon vanilla extract
5 cups all-purpose flour
2 teaspoons baking powder
1 teaspoon salt

1. In a large bowl, cream together butter and sugar until smooth. Beat in eggs and vanilla. Stir in the flour, baking powder, and salt. Cover, and chill dough for at least one hour (or overnight).

2. Preheat oven to 400 degrees F (200 degrees C). Roll out dough on floured surface 1/4 to 1/2 inch thick. Cut into shapes with any cookie cutter. Place cookies 1 inch apart on ungreased cookie sheets.

3. Bake 6 to 8 minutes in preheated oven. Cool completely.

Tips
-These cookies are best when decorated with frosting or colored sugar.

-Try rolling the cookies on the cookie sheet and then cut them. This way you don’t have to disturb the cookie transferring it to the sheet.

-Some prefer to roll the cookies in sugar rather than flour.