



# Newsletter 2009

[www.penningtonlibrary.org](http://www.penningtonlibrary.org)

Everyone needs a Library and  
Every Library needs a Friend

## Director's Message:

**A**s media coverage of the economic recession has amply documented, the use of public libraries throughout the country rose dramatically this year. In Pennington, patron attendance and circulation have both increased by 20%. More than economics, these statistical increases reflect the work of dedicated volunteers and staff, and demonstrate the popularity of our rapidly growing, Friends-funded, DVD and audio-book collections. Looking ahead, our website is undergoing a facelift. Next month our updated, user-friendly new homepage will be ready for viewing at [www.penningtonlibrary.com](http://www.penningtonlibrary.com). Check it out!



## Pennington Public Library

30 North Main Street  
Pennington, NJ 09534  
609-737-0404

### Library Hours:

Mon & Wed: 10 am—5 pm, 7—9 pm  
Tues & Thur: 10 am —7 pm  
Friday: 10 am—5 pm  
Sat: 10 am—2 pm

## FOPL Board Members:

Dodie Hamblen – President  
Betsy Grimes – Vice President  
Kathleen Nash – Secretary  
Jean Robertson- Treasurer  
Donna Doran  
Ellyn Spragins  
Christine Dorsett  
Rebecca Fazzina  
Jeanne Faber  
Heather Wurtz

## Library Staff:

Kathy Doyle, Director  
Cindy Persichilli, Director of  
Children's Programs  
Tara Russell, Volunteer Coordinator  
Noreen Leffler, Administrative Assistant

The Pennington Library book group continues to flourish. We invite you to join our lively monthly discussions of books such as *The Guernsey Literary & Potato Peel Pie Society* by Mary Ann Schaffer (a favorite!) and *Age of Innocence* by Edith Wharton. Over the last 3 years members of The Great American Book Club have read and discussed each of the 27 books on the New York Times list of the best American fiction written in the last 25 years. Kudos to all who rose to this ambitious challenge. In collaboration with the Hopewell Branch of the Mercer County Library, we'll soon launch a new program for readers, featuring discussions of books made into movies, followed by viewings of the movies they inspired. Stay tuned!

PPL's available technology is expanding to meet the growing needs of our users. Many places offer free Internet access to anyone with a laptop. Public libraries, however, are among the few places that offer patrons the free use of computers in addition to free Internet access. Thanks to donations made in memory of FOPL's founding president, Nora Ducharme, we have a new computer area with three computers set-up in custom-built work stations. We're pleased to provide our patrons an updated, comfortable environment outfitted with the technological resources they need.

The library itself received a facelift from paint, and the artful and inventive displays of our staff and volunteers. The hallway outside the library sports Tess Grapethin's fabulous mural of Pennington's downtown, populated with characters from favorite children's books, and protected by a custom built case. One project that has particularly enhanced the aesthetic of the library, and serves as an enthusiastic message to all library patrons is the stenciling above the windows in the children's area which reads **DISCOVER, IMAGINE, READ**.

In addition to the library's updated appearance, patrons appreciate the warm welcome and friendly attention they receive at the library—thanks to our volunteers and to the FOPL who help us provide it.

Sincerely,

Kathleen M. Doyle



Cookbook Author Pam Anderson entertains her audience at the Friends' Spring Author Event. Read more on Page 6, and stay tuned for information about our 2010 Event!

# Letter from the President

Dear Friends and Neighbors,

Thank you for taking a moment to peruse our annual newsletter. As you will see, 2009 has been a very busy year at the library. As in the past, **FRIENDS OF PENNINGTON LIBRARY** helped to underwrite two of the library's most popular areas of circulation: DVDs and audio books. We continued funding improvements to the children's area, which sports the new theme **DISCOVER, READ, IMAGINE**. This two-year project has transformed that area into a cheerful and inviting home for the library's ever-popular children's programs.

Library Director Kathy Doyle reports that in keeping with national trends during uncertain economic times library use increased 20% in 2009. It seems when money is tight people turn to their local library for help with job hunting, and to check out books and DVDs that they would have previously purchased. While the downturn in the economy is regrettable, it underscores the value of our local library as a place that provides resources and creates community.

The generosity of this community enhances and enriches the library's holdings and programs. I hope you will choose to make a contribution to **FRIENDS OF PENNINGTON LIBRARY**. Your gift of \$25 could buy a best-selling novel. A gift of \$50 could purchase an audio book, and a gift of \$250 could provide a DVD display carousel. Please know that all gifts are enormously appreciated.

Our newsletter is just a snapshot of what goes on at the library throughout the year. I hope you'll stop by the library soon to check out a new book or DVD, take a break with a newspaper or a magazine, or just say 'hello' to one of our friendly volunteers.

Sincerely,

Dodie Hamblen  
President,  
Friends of Pennington Library

## Be a Friend... Become a Volunteer!

The library is currently seeking additional volunteers, during the day or evening hours. In particular, the Library would welcome someone with an interest in keeping our Website updated.

Volunteers can create their own schedule, coming in as little as once a month or once a week.

If you're interested, please call Tara Russell at 609-737-0404 or email her at [trussell@penningtonlibrary.org](mailto:trussell@penningtonlibrary.org).



The Friends, standing left to right: Dodie Hamblen, Donna Doran, Jean Robertson, Eilyn Spragins, Betsy Grimes, Jeanne Faber. Seated: Kathleen Nash, Rebecca Fazzina, Christine Dorsett. Not pictured: Heather Wurtz

Check out our Website at [www.penningtonlibrary.org](http://www.penningtonlibrary.org)

## Children's Programming Brings Kids and Families to the Library

The popular Children's Programming at the Pennington Library continues to expand, entertaining more than thirty children each week at the preschoolers' story time and craft program. Under the leadership of Cindy Persichilli, additional programming brought families to the Library throughout the year.

In January, movie days provided cozy entertainment for children when school was closed during winter breaks. Springtime brought dozens of three- and four- year- old visitors from the Pennington Presbyterian preschool to learn more about our "town helpers." Our summer program, "Discover, Read, Imagine," enrolled more than 75 children each week and kept them cartooning, dancing, wiggling, giggling, acting, and, best of all, reading for five consecutive weeks in July. And, back by popular demand, high school honors students armed with pizza and soft drinks led lively discussions of books pulled from the district's required summer reading lists for groups of middle school students.

In the library-sponsored "Mock Council Meeting," children considered the question: "Do you think a water park on Sked Street is a good idea?" The entire third grade class from Toll Gate Grammar School marched on Borough Hall, complete with "hecklers" to present their views for and against the proposal. The mayor and town council members were invited to participate and play their roles so that children could participate "hands on" in the local government process.

To honor our historic past and Laura Ingalls Wilder, the beloved author of the "Little House" series, the library sponsored "Laurapooza," a craft table and interactive display for children held at the Pennington Farmer's Market in September.

Moving into fall and winter, the library looks forward to providing more quality programs for children in our serene and newly-painted juvenile section!



## Nora Ducharme Honored with Memorial Fund

On a sunny June afternoon, family and friends of the late Nora Ducharme gathered at the Library for a reception hosted by the Ducharme family. The gathering was a celebration of their naming The Friends of the Pennington Library as the beneficiary of contributions made to the library in Nora's memory.

The generous memorial contributions have funded a new computer area that includes three custom work stations equipped with computers and monitors. Upgrades were also made to the children's area with new storage boxes and colorful signage.

Mrs. Ducharme was a founding member of the Friends Group more than ten years ago. To date, the Friends has raised in excess of \$100,000 in support of the Library. The Friends of Pennington Library are grateful to Nora for her leadership and support, and to her family for honoring her memory in a way that benefits our Library and community.



**Nora Ducharme**

## Pennington Library's Board of Trustees

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*At left, children enjoy Story-time on the comfortable and colorful rug in the recently updated Juvenile Area of the Library.*

# Partial List of New Acquisitions

## Juvenile Audio Books

Cam Jansen and the green school mystery —Adler, David A.  
Never glue your friends to chairs —Applegate, Katherine.  
Poppy and Ereth —Avi.  
Scream for ice cream —Keene, Carolyn.  
Diary of a wimpy kid : the last straw—Kinney, Jeff.  
Bats at the library —Lies, Brian.  
The big field —Lupica, Mike.  
The desperado who stole baseball —Ritter, John H.  
The beautiful stories of life [: [6 Greek myths re-told]—Rylant, Cynthia.  
Encyclopedia Brown keeps the peace —Sobol, Donald J.

## Juvenile Easy Titles

Llama Llama misses Mama —Dewdney, Anna.  
Goldilicious—Kann, Victoria.  
Naked mole rat gets dressed—Willems, Mo.

## Juvenile Fiction

Diary of a wimpy kid : the last straw—Kinney, Jeff.  
Hotel for dogs—Duncan, Lois  
News for dogs—Duncan, Lois  
The last Olympian—Riordan, Rick

## Juvenile Nonfiction

Woof and wag : bringing home a dog—Davis, Rebecca Fjelland.  
Yorkshire terrier : tiny but tough—Fetty, Margaret.  
Dachshund : the hot dogger—Lunis, Natalie.  
Jack Russell terrier : bundle of energy—Lunis, Natalie.  
Beagle : a howling good time—Searl, Duncan.  
Purr and pounce : bringing home a cat—Tourville, Amanda Doering

## Adult Audio Books

Dead and gone —Harris, Charlene.  
Fugitive—Margolin, Phillip.  
Guardian of lies —Martini, Steve  
Rough county —Sandford, John  
Panic : the story of modern financial insanity—Lewis, Michael

## Adult Biography

Resilience : reflections on the burdens and gifts of facing life's adversities—Edwards, Elizabeth  
True compass : a memoir—Kennedy, Edward Moore  
Traveling with pomegranates : a mother-daughter story—Kidd, Sue Monk.  
Strength in what remains—Kidder, Tracy.  
Where men win glory : the odyssey of Pat Tillman—Krauker, Jon.  
The bolter—Osborne, Frances.

## Adult Fiction

Girl in a blue dress : a novel inspired by the life and marriage of Charles Dickens—Arnold, Gaynor.  
The year of the flood : a novel—Atwood, Margaret  
The anthologist—Baker, Nicholson.  
The lost symbol : a novel—Brown, Dan  
The children's book : a novel—Byatt, A. S.  
South of Broad : a novel—Conroy, Pat.  
KnockOut—Coulter, Catherine.

Spartan gold—Cussler, Clive.  
Homer & Langley : a novel—Doctorow, E. L.  
The Christmas list—Evans, Richard Paul.  
An echo in the bone : a novel—Gabaldon, Diana.  
I See You Everywhere.—Glass, Julia.  
Once in a blue moon—Goudge, Eileen.  
The white queen—Gregory, Philippa.  
The hunted—Haig, Brian.  
The story sisters : a novel—Hoffman, Alice.  
Juliet, naked—Hornby, Nick.  
Nocturnes : five stories of music and nightfall—Ishiguro, Kazuo  
Pilgrims : a Wobegon romance—Keillor, Garrison.  
Relentless : a novel—Koontz, Dean R.  
The girl who played with fire—Larsson, Stieg  
An expensive education : a novel—McDonell, Nick.  
No time to wave goodbye : a novel—Mitchard, Jacquelyn.  
Her fearful symmetry : a novel—Niffenegger, Audrey.  
Little bird of heaven : a novel—Oates, Joyce Carol  
The last Dickens : a novel—Pearl, Matthew.  
Inherent vice—Pynchon, Thomas.  
The angel's game—Ruiz Zafon, Carlos  
That old cape magic—Russo, Richard  
Shanghai girls : a novel—See, Lisa.  
A change in altitude : a novel—Shreve, Anita.  
Love and summer—Trevor, William  
My father's tears and other stories—Updike, John.  
Cutting for stone : a novel—Verghese, A.  
Best friends forever : a novel—Weiner, Jennifer.  
The crowning glory of Calla Lily Ponder : a novel—Wells, Rebecca

## Adult Mystery

There goes the bride : an Agatha Raisin mystery—Beaton, M. C.  
Gone tomorrow : a Reacher novel—Child, Lee.  
The scarecrow : a novel—Connelly, Michael  
Roadside crosses—Deaver, Jeffery.  
Finger lickin' fifteen—Evanovich, Janet.  
Even money—Francis, Dick.  
Living dead in Dallas—Harris, Charlene  
The devil's punchbowl—Iles, Greg.  
Fire and ice—Jance, Judith A.  
Evidence : an Alex Delaware novel—Kellerman, Jonathan  
Road dogs—Leonard, Elmore  
Guardian of lies—Martini, Steve  
The lost art of gratitude—McCall Smith, Alexander  
The professional—Parker, Robert B.  
Alex Cross's trial—Patterson, James  
206 Bones—Reichs, Kathy  
Rough country—Sandford, John  
Get real—Westlake, Donald E.

## Adult Nonfiction

Predictably irrational : the hidden forces that shape our decisions—Ariely, Dan.  
Glenn Beck's common sense : the case against an out-of-control government, inspired by Thomas Paine—Beck, Glenn.  
Well-preserved : recipes and techniques for putting up small batches of seasonal foods—Bone, Eugenia.  
Losing Mum and Pup : a memoir—Buckley, Christo-

pher  
Reflections on the revolution in Europe : immigration, Islam, and the West—Caldwell, Christopher.  
Why evolution is true—Coyne, Jerry A.  
The pattern in the carpet : a personal history with jigsaws—Drabble, Margaret  
Our life in gardens—Eck, Joe  
The Third Reich at war—Evans, Richard J.  
Inside of a dog : what dogs see, smell, and know—Horowitz, Alexandra.  
The end of overeating : taking control of the insatiable American appetite—Kessler, David A.  
A big little life : a memoir of a joyful dog—Koontz, Dean R.  
Half the sky : turning oppression into opportunity for women worldwide—Kristof, Nicholas D.  
Born to run : a hidden tribe, superathletes, and the greatest race the world has never seen—McDougall, Christopher  
The element : how finding your passion changes everything—Robinson, Ken  
You were always mom's favorite! : sisters in conversation throughout their lives—Tannen, Deborah.  
Bad mother : a chronicle of maternal crimes, minor calamities, and occasional moments of grace—Waldman, Ayelet.  
The evolution of God—Wright, Robert  
Prisoner of the state : the secret journal of Zhao Ziyang—Zhao, Ziyang.

## DVDs

Bedtime Stories  
Bride Wars  
Charlie and Lola. What can I wear for Halloween?  
Confessions of a Shopaholic  
Coraline  
Crossing Over  
Defiance  
Duplicity  
Gigante  
Gran Torino  
He's Just Not That into You  
Inkheart  
Knowing  
Last Chance Harvey  
Marley & Me  
Munurangabo  
New in Town  
Revolutionary Road  
Seven Pounds  
Taken  
The Boy in the Striped Pajamas  
The Country Teacher  
The Curious Case of Benjamin Button  
The Drummer  
The Friends of Eddie Coyle  
The International  
The Pink Panther 2  
The Reader  
The Soloist  
The Tale of Despereaux  
The Window  
Valkyrie

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# Cookbook Author Event a Savory Treat

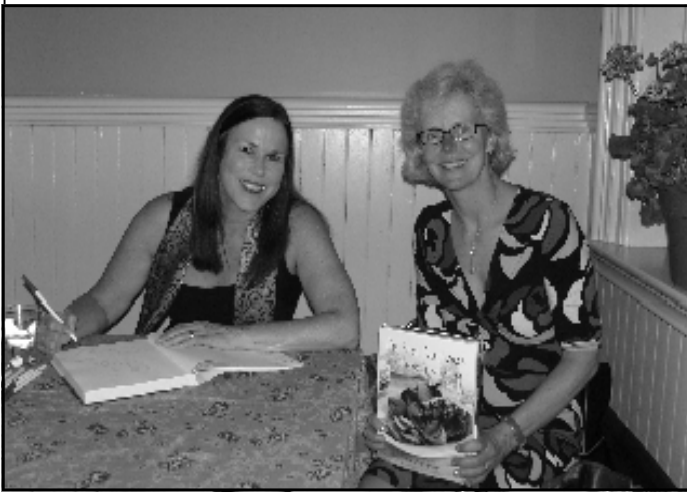
**B**uttermilk-Honey Fried Chicken Fingers. Roasted Buttery Pecans. Lacy Cheddar Crisps. These are a few of the delectables that were spread out at the historic Hopewell Train Station on May 7<sup>th</sup> in honor of cookbook author Pam Anderson. The train station was festooned with spring flowers loaned by Ash's Flower Farm to the Friends of the Pennington Library for the group's annual fundraiser.

About 45 guests attended the cocktail party to hear the author of *The Perfect Recipe*, *The Perfect Recipe for Losing Weight & Eating Great*, and *Perfect Recipes for Having People Over*. Pam and her hus-

band mingled with guests, after which she spoke about her experiences researching recipes for her books, an expertise which was honed during her years as a writer for *Cook's Illustrated*. She also discussed how an occupational hazard—taste-testing—led to weight gain, which inspired *The Perfect Recipe for Losing Weight & Eating Great*.

In deciding to slim down, Pam explained, she began to understand that, for her, eating had become a way to feel strong enough to shoulder all of the responsibilities in her life. Rather than recommending a particular system for weight loss, she emphasized the need for aspiring dieters to find an approach that works for them. In her case, six small, delicious meals a day was the answer.

After signing books, the author and her husband headed off to their vacation home in Bucks County,



Above, Betsy Grimes of the Friends sits with Pam Anderson as she signs her cookbooks. Right, Ellyn Spragins and Jeanne Faber helped to turn the Hopewell Train Station into a lovely room filled with flowers, delicious food and tasty beverages.



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