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# SOUTH JERSEY REGIONAL LIBRARY COOPERATIVE

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# YOUTH NEWS

## WINTER 2005

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### AMERICAN GIRL CLUB

American Girl book clubs have been popping up in book stores and libraries all over the country. One of the newest additions to the growing trend is located at McGuire AFB Library.

Since the program's inception in September 2004, the program has grown immensely, with an average of 25 to 30 girls coming to each meeting held bi-monthly. The club is based on the popular American Girls book series. The series is based on 9 young girls from different periods in American history. Each girl has a collection of books based on her life. Each month a new girl is spotlighted. The first American Girl spotlighted at McGuire Library was Kaya. During the meetings, books from the spotlighted American Girl are read aloud and discussed, and crafts and food from the time period are made. For Kaya, the girls made their own medicine bags. They also

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### FROM THE EDITORS' DESK

We would like to thank Deitra Oliver from the McGuire AFB Library for being our guest editor for the winter issue.

If you do a different or unusual activity in your library or have a guest speaker, would you jot down a few sentences about it and let us know - we would love to share your experiences with everyone.

Do your students have a particular graphic title favorite? Are there any series of graphic novels that your students like? Please let us know.

Our guest editor for the spring/summer edition of Youth News will be Ellen McCann, Media Specialist, Union Valley Elementary School, Gloucester Township School System.

Have a safe and happy winter!

Co-editors: Ann Wodarczyk and Denise Saia

### PHANTASTIC READING REWARD

Students at Union Valley Elementary School were given a challenge: read for 15 minutes a day, everyday, and the Phillie Phanatic will come in to see you. They rose to the occasion and were rewarded on Wednesday, January 19, 2005.

Each of the approximately 800 students in the building had been keeping a reading log since November 1, 2004. At the end of each month, classroom teachers collected the logs and turned them into the library. Classroom minutes and days read were tallied by volunteers and staff and mailed off to the Phanatic

In the building, the hallways were adorned with baseball diamonds, one per class. The total minutes read for each month by the class was recorded on a baseball attached to their diamond (1st base = November; 2nd base = December, etc.) Classes were challenged to be the class on their own grade level with the most minutes read during the given month. Prizes ranged from ice cream treats to baseball and glove key rings.

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# TEEN READING WEEK

Seven years ago, the Young Adult Library Services Association developed the Teen Reading Week initiative. Since its inception, the program has become an institution at many libraries. Teen Reading Week is celebrated in mid-October. In 2004, the ALA developed theme was "It's Alive! @Your Library," that encompassed horror, suspense, fantasy, and science.

The McGuire Air Force Base Library celebrated this past year by hosting several events throughout the week. McGuire's Teen Reading Group members redecorated the library for the first event of the week. The library was transformed into a murder mystery crime scene with chalk outlines, footprints leading to dead ends, do not enter signs, and other accessories. Displays of mystery, horror, and science books chosen by teen members were set up throughout the library. A candy counting jar, random door prizes for teens, and hidden bookmark hunts all led up to the culminating events of the week – a library scavenger hunt and pizza party. Prizes for the scavenger hunt were donated by the local theater, and the pizzas and drinks for the party were donated by Dominoes Pizza.

McGuire's Teen Reading Program gained 6 new members during Teen Reading Week in 2004, and all who participated had a great time. To find out more about Teen Reading Week visit ALA's website at <http://www.ala.org/ala/yalsa/teenreading/teenreading.htm>.

Deitra Oliver, Library Tech, McGuire AFB Library  
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## TEEN BOOK CLUBS

Running a successful Teen Book Club is a daunting and sometimes seemingly impossible task. Choosing the right books, sustaining interest, and ensuring maximum attendance are only some of the factors that go into maintaining a thriving Teen Book Club.

A common misconception about teens is that they do not like to read. Teens like to read – it is what they enjoy reading that is the question. Finding books that appeal to a wide audience of young adults is a tough task.

McGuire Library's Teen Reading Club uses a democratic approach to book selection. The group moderator develops a list of books from various suggested reading lists and the teens vote on the book they would like to read next. This method has proven very successful. The voting sparks interesting discussions and debates, and the group feels that their voices are heard. Sometimes the group can become caught in a rut; this is when the moderator steps up and selects different types of books to be voted on. The focus of the program is to expose the group to varying forms of literature while emphasizing subjects that members can relate to.

## CHILDREN'S AND YOUTH LIBRARIANS UNLIMITED

CYLU has been quite active this past year. In August there was a reorganization meeting and new officers were elected. CYLU will focus on professional development for librarians serving children and young adults. At a meeting in October, the program was focused on grant writing. Members shared information about their grant experience and Larry Woods from Target gave tips on grant writing. In November, the program focused on library holiday program ideas. In January, the program was School and Public Library Cooperation. Tentatively scheduled in April is a storytelling program to be held at the new Cherry Hill Public Library.

Meetings are usually on Friday afternoons but could vary depending on facilities and resources. Dues are \$5.00 per year and all are welcome to attend. Arlene Baker, current president, can be contacted at the Haddon Township High School Library, 856-869-7750, x8029, or by email: [abaker@haddon.k12.nj.us](mailto:abaker@haddon.k12.nj.us). SJRLC is offering co-sponsorship for CYLU meetings, so all attendees will receive certificates for 2 CEU credits for attending.

*PHANTASTIC, Continued from page 2*

On Wednesday morning, January 19, students were surprised at a school-wide assembly by a visit from the Phillies' bouncy green mascot. He danced with students, staff and even administrators. His recent book, *The Phillie Phanatic's Happiest Memories*, was read as the Phanatic acted out the events in the story. Ten copies were donated to the school library for students to read.

This was the first year for the Phanatic's "Be a Phantic About Reading" program. If your school is interested in participating in the program, please contact the Phillies at 215-463-1000 or email [fandev@phillies.com](mailto:fandev@phillies.com). It is truly a worthwhile reading adventure.

Ellen McCann  
Union Valley Elementary School  
Gloucester Township School District

# HANS CHRISTIAN ANDERSEN BICENTENNIAL CELEBRATION



Children the world over are familiar with fairy tales such as The Little Mermaid, The Princess and the Pea, Thumbelina, and The Emperor's New Suit. In celebration of the bicentennial anniversary of Hans Christian Andersen's birth, McGuire AFB Library will be hosting a very special story hour.

On Saturday, April 2, 2005, Andersen's birth date, the Teen and Tween Reading Groups will perform a play of the well-known story, The Princess and the Pea. The play is being directed by library aide Deitra Oliver, and will take place in the children's library. There will be snacks and a craft provided for participants. The teens and tweens are excited about the production and look forward to performing for their community.

## GRAPHIC NOVEL EXHIBIT AND GAME CARD TOURNAMENT

Graphic novels have become a hot item for library's young adult sections in the past few years. With the influx of Japanese culture and the revival of Super Hero films, graphic novels are more popular than ever before.

Throughout the month of March, the McGuire AFB Library will be exhibiting their entire collection in an exciting multi-media display. The focus of this year's display will be Japanese anime and Manga, which have been very popular at the McGuire Library. The display will include graphic novels, computer slide shows, and monitors set up to show anime films.

To close the display, McGuire Library will again host a gaming card tournament for players of Magic, Yu-gi-oh!, Pokemon, and Star Trek.

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made and ate pemmican and fried bread. One of the most exciting events for the McGuire American Girl club to date was a hula lesson from a halau, a traditional Hawaiian hula dancer.



The American Girl club has been a fun, educational and exciting program for everyone involved. The girls love coming and learning about their favorite American Girl. Not only do they come to the library for meetings, they also come on other days to sit and read some of the many books from the American Girl collection.

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## BIBLIOGRAPHY: GRAPHIC NOVELS AND MANGA

Compiled by Deborah Swierk, Library Intern, Franklin Township Library, Franklinville, NJ. These titles, and many more, are available at the Franklin Township Library:

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Gaiman, N. (1995). The Sandman (vol. 1): Preludes & nocturnes. NY: DC Comics.

Gownley, J. (2002). Amelia rules!: What makes you happy. NY: ibooks, Inc. [Amelia rules!: The whole world's crazy also available]

Kumakura, Y. (2004). Jing: King of bandits (book 1). Los Angeles, CA: Tokyopop, Inc. [Books 2 – 7 also available]

Miyazaki, H. (2001). Spirited away (vol. 1). San Francisco, CA: Viz Communications, Inc. [volumes 2 and 3 also available]

Obana, M. (2002). Kodocha: Sana's stage (vol. 1). Los Angeles, CA: Tokyopop, Inc. [Volumes 2 – 10 also available]

Satrapi, M. (2003). Persepolis: The story of a childhood. NY: Pantheon Books. [volume 2 also available]

Shanower, E. (2001). Age of bronze (vol. 1): A thousand ships. Orange, CA: Image Comics.

Smith, J. (1996). Bone (vol. 1): Out from Boneville. Columbus, OH: Cartoon Books. [volume 2 also available]

Spiegelman, A. (1986). Maus, a survivor's tale (vol. 1): My father bleeds history. NY: Pantheon Books. [volume 2 also available]

Takaya, N. (1998). Fruits Basket (vol. 1). Los Angeles, CA: Tokyopop, Inc. [Volumes 2 and 3 also available]

Talbot, B. (1995). The tale of one bad rat. Milwaukie, OR: Dark Horse Comics, Inc.

## CALENDAR

### **South Jersey Group Book Evaluation**

March 16, 2005, 3:30 pm – Cape May County Special Services School District, 4 Moore Rd., Cape May Court House. Contact: Amy Hufana, 609-465-2723, x3310 (snow date: 3/23)

### **West Jersey Group Book Evaluation**

March 11, 2005, 9:30 am – Burlington County Library, Cinnaminson Branch, 1619 Riverton Rd., Cinnaminson. Contact: Peggy King, 856-829-9340 (snow date: 3/18)

### **All Day Book Evaluation/Giveaway**

May 6, 2005 – Atlantic County Library/Mays Landing, 9:30-2:00. Contact: Pam Saunders, [psaunders@acmail.aclink.org](mailto:psaunders@acmail.aclink.org)

## South Jersey Regional Library Cooperative

## YOUTH NEWS

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**YOUTH NEWS** is the newsletter of the South Jersey Regional Library Cooperative Youth Services Committee, Char: Denise Saia, Franklin Township Library, Franklinville. SJRLC Director: Karen D. Hyman. Telephone: (856) 346-1222, FAX: (856) 346-2839. The South Jersey Regional Library Cooperative is part of the New Jersey Library Network and serves the counties of Atlantic, Burlington, Camden, Cape May, Cumberland, Gloucester and Salem. SJRLC is supported from State funds appropriated for the New Jersey Library Network. YOUTH NEWS is published three times a year and is distributed to libraries as part of membership benefits. EDITORS: Ann Wodarczyk, Gloucester County Library, Mullica Hill and Denise Saia, Franklin Township Library, Franklinville, NJ. Design and layout by Peter Bromberg, Program Development Coordinator, SJRLC, based on a design by the Community Relations Department of the Atlantic County Library System.