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### Library Staff

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- ◇ Cecily Christensen, MLS
- ◇ Nina Hunt, MLS
- ◇ Roxanne Starkin, MLS
- ◇ Renee Milliken
- ◇ Pauline Krajcik
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- ◇ Barbara Pacak
- ◇ Janice Simmons
- ◇ Carol Bonnell
- ◇ Anne Spont
- ◇ Chris Christo
- ◇ Ann Simpson
- ◇ Jessica Charles
- ◇ Marilynn Fuller
- ◇ Don Eldredge



## You'll Love Your Library This Winter!



The Bellingham Public Library is proud to offer Wi-Fi, or wireless access, which is available for free throughout the library. Two quiet Wi-Fi/Study Rooms located near the lobby also have wireless access.

If you don't have your own laptop with a wireless card, there are eight Internet Access computers and three word processing computers available for public use.



**TIP: Always remember that the morning is a good time to find an Internet computer available. Avoid hours between 2 and 5 pm on weekdays.**

Our community room is outfitted with both Wi-Fi and wired Internet access. A laptop can be provided to those non-profit organizations that are registered to conduct a program in the room.

The walls of the Community Room have had several art displays in the past six months. The Bellingham Arts Council held their annual Art Show last summer and their annual Photography Show last fall. On view currently is an exhibit of the art of the library staff and their families. Media and art forms

vary from pastels and watercolors to photography and cross-stitch. Contributors include Nina, Mike, Mary and Teresa Hunt; Roxanne and Carly Starkin; Renee Krajcik; Charlotte and Ciara Rabbitt; Carol Bonnell; Renee and Samantha Milliken; and Marilynn Fuller. Our next showing, starting in the middle of February, will be our student artists enrolled in Art in the Afternoon here at the Bellingham Library.

The library is looking for collections to exhibit in our display cases. If you have an interesting or extensive collection please call the library and ask to speak to the library director, 508-966-1660 or email her at [crabbitt@bellinghamma.org](mailto:crabbitt@bellinghamma.org).

**Printing of this newsletter has been generously provided by Schafer Garden Center in Bellingham, a longtime supporter of the Bellingham Public Library.**

You can check out all of our events on our library calendar. Simply sort by date, age-level, type and location. Send reminders or simply email them to yourself or friends and family. It's easy and simple by using the 'Remind Me' and 'Tell A Friend' buttons.



## Bellingham Public Library Welcomes Legislators

On Friday, March 9th at 8 a.m., the Bellingham Public Library will host a Legislative Breakfast, one of dozens held every spring in Massachusetts libraries. Michael Carr, Chairman of the Board of Library Trustees and Library Director Charlotte Rabbitt will welcome town officials and librarians from the surrounding towns served by local legislators in the Central Region. Included are the municipalities of Bellingham, Blackstone, Douglas, Dudley, Hopedale, Mendon, Milford, Millville, Northbridge, Oxford, Southbridge, Sutton, Uxbridge and Webster.

Senator Richard Moore and Representatives Jennifer Callahan and John Fernandes have been invited to attend and will speak about their own library experiences and their passionate support of Massachusetts libraries. Librarians from around Massachusetts will visit the State House on April 5th on Libraries Legislative Day to voice the need for support of library services.

Interested in attending the Legislative Breakfast? Please call Charlotte Rabbitt, Library Director, 508-966-1660.

## Children's Crafts, Cooking, Classes and Other Cool Stuff!

Children's programming includes some cool new classes. **Art in the Afternoon** teaches beginning art skills to children in third grade and older. From contour drawing to figure drawing, each week is something new. The cooking classes continue to grow. The Library is now hosting three different levels depending on the age. **Recipe Readers** for 4 and 5 year olds focuses on *mixology*. **Cooking with Books** for kids 6—8 year begins transitioning into more difficult recipes that require cooking or baking and finally our **Chef's Club** is from-scratch cooking for kids nine years old and up. Another new program is the **Ring-A-Ding-A-Sing Thing**. This drop-in activity focuses on songs, movement and imaginative play. Geared for the 18 month through three crowd, it can be enjoyed through six years old. Class is held on Tuesday and Wednesday morning at 10 am. **Wee Ones' Lapsit**, a special program for babies to toddlers

aged 0-24 months now runs two days a week on Tuesdays and Fridays. **Tails for Twos and Threes** continues to be offered two days a week. Youth Services Librarian, Roxanne Starkin, offers a **Family Funtime Storytime** a thirty-minute storytime including a craft for the whole family. Renee Milliken, Children's Assistant, once again offers sessions of **Miss Renee's Preschool Storytime**. This session of stories and a craft is designed for four and five year olds only. There is a mandatory registration for most sessions. New storytime sessions begin March 5th with sign-ups opening up February 20th.

Check the library calendar and children's page for descriptions, time and details for these and more events.

## Knitting and Crocheting

What began as a crocheting group for kids and knitting for tweens and teens has evolved into a weekly group for everyone on Wednesdays at 3:30 p.m. in the main room of the library. Roxanne Starkin and Renee Milliken have joined forces and included everyone in on the fun.



## Upcoming Events for Youth

### Coming in April:

*Floral arranging for Kids*

*Wizard of Oz Interactive Movie*

### Coming in May:

*The Cooking Corner "I Love You" family dinner.*

## What's Happening For Young Adults @ Their Library

Now that winter is "officially" under way, the library is heating up with some hot activities for teens (grade five and up). Homework Club meets each Monday from 2:30-4:30. Homework help, a snack, and fun activities are offered. (On Monday, February 12th, we will be making a "sweet" Valentine Craft.) Every Wednesday in January, free Latin Ballroom Dancing Lessons are happening from 3 to 4 pm. Drop in to learn Salsa, Cha Cha, and others. No partner needed!

On January 13th the Library hosted another Red Cross Babysitters' Training course. If you missed this one you can sign up for the next one being held in the spring. Call the library for details. If you *have* taken this Red Cross class, you're invited to participate in a Babysitters' Job Fair on Saturday, Feb. 3rd from 10 am to 1 pm. Families looking for babysitters or "mother's helpers" will be invited to drop in and meet you. Come prepared with your certificate and a resume or business cards to hand out.

Not going to Disney for February Vacation? Don't sit at home and be bored! On Wednesday, February 21st, from 12 to 2, celebrate Chinese New Year. It's the Year of the Pig! Food, crafts, and fun for all. On Thursday, February 22nd drop in between 10 and 2 to play video games with your friends (Dance Dance Revolution and Guitar Hero). On Friday, February 23rd, the very popular "Bingo for Books!" is back. Try to win a book or two to take home.

## Specialty Programming for the School Holidays!

**Feb 20th:** It's Mardi Gras at the Library! From 10 to 12 noon, kids can come in and make either a jester's hat or a mask to celebrate Fat Tuesday! Everyone is welcome for this drop-in craft time.

**Feb 23rd:** Baseball season is here and we are celebrating with the "Red Sox Spring Training Craft Camp" from 10 am to 12 noon. Come hear the story of "Zachary's Ball" by Matt Tavares. Afterward, try your pitching skills with our bean bag toss. Make a #1 finger, a Red Sox pennant and other cool stuff to show your support. Tickets will be available at the front desk starting Feb 12.

**March 14th:** Celebrate St. Patrick's Day. Nina Hunt will be telling Irish tales and children will make bookmarks to take home along with other surprises. The program starts at 4 pm and lasts approximately one hour. Tickets can be picked up March 5th.

**Check the library calendar and children's page for descriptions, time and details for these and more events.**

## Historical Fiction Grant

Beginning this past fall, the staff of the Bellingham Public Library and other select participants began training in "reader's advisory," which means matching the appropriate book with the specific reader. The library was awarded a \$10,000 LSTA (Library Services & Technology Act) grant, which funds training in the use of reader's advisory resources & examinations of literature. The grant participants have been meeting monthly and have selected Historical Fiction as the genre to study. A wide variety of selections have been discussed thus far, focusing on books that would be good recommendations for our patrons. Also, authors have been invited to speak at the library with the public welcome to attend. The first grant-funded author lecture will occur on Thursday, February 8 at 6:30 pm, with a presentation by Professor Anita Silvey from Simmons College. Ms. Silvey has written a number of books on literature for young people. Please call the Library to inquire about available space at the lecture: 508-966-1660.



## Book Discussion Groups @ the Library

Cecily Christensen, Reference Librarian, has led a book discussion group here at the library since 1997. The group meets on the second Tuesday of every month and has between 7 and 10 participants. Books discussed include fiction, mysteries and non-fiction. The book discussion for the February 13th meeting is *The Tipping Point* by Malcolm Gladwell. Another discussion group, *Page-to-Screen*, led by Library Director Charlotte Rabbitt continues this winter.

### Roxanne Starkin, Young Adult Librarian

Young Adult Librarian Roxanne Starkin graduated from Simmons College in 2005 with a Master of Library & Information Science degree. She was hired here at the library through Bibliotemps, a library temp agency, to run a 10-week summer program for teens in June 2005. The program was such a success that she was hired that fall as a permanent part-time employee as the library's Young Adult librarian. She has held craft programs for teens, an ongoing homework club, Salsa dance lessons, Japanese lessons, murder mysteries, to name a few. Roxanne began offering a toddler storytime in the fall of 2006 and is enjoying her additional experience with younger children in Bellingham. See the related article (page 2) for upcoming YA events!

## Programs for adults @ the library this winter

On Wednesday, March 28th from 6:30-8:00 the library will again offer a free **Introduction to eBay Workshop** presented by Lyn Dowler. You must register for this free course sponsored by the Friends of the Library. Join others in learning how to sell and buy at the 'world's largest flea market' online!

Lyn will be coming back to the library on Saturday, April 21 to teach an all-day, 6-hour



**Hands-on e-Bay Workshop.** This runs from 10 am to 4 pm and participants must bring their own laptop with a wireless card installed. Basic computer skills are a must. There is a \$25.00 fee, payable at the time of registration, for this workshop. Register early as this is limited to 10 participants. A lunch will be provided. Call the library for more info.

Another popular workshop will be coming

back in April. Dr. Jennah Dieter from The Khoury Centre for Health & Wellness will be presenting **Balancing Hormones Naturally** on Tuesday, April 24 at 6:30 pm. Registration is required for this free workshop.

Two free workshops coming up in May are **Japanese Lesson for Adults** on May 22 at 7:00-8:00 pm and **Yoga for Adults** on May 15 at 7:00-8:00 pm. Both require registration so please call the library or stop in to register.

## Playaways to Arrive This February

Playaways are ready-to-go audiobooks. They are the first self-playing digital audiobooks. All you do is pull out a tab to activate the battery, plug in the earphones, press the power button, then the Playaway button, and enjoy! They circulate for 3 weeks. These titles will be arriving in February 2007: **The Lovely Bones** by Alice Sebold; **The Collectors** by David Baldacci; **Dark Voyage** by Alan Furst; **Motor Mouth** by Janet Evanovich; **Book of Lost Things** by John Conolly; **No Country For Old Men** by Cormac McCarthy; **On Agate Hill** by Lee Smith.



NO CASSETTES.



NO CDS.



NO DOWNLOADS.



JUST PLAY.

## Holiday Basket Fundraiser

The staff of the library put their creative minds to work this past holiday season and created 15 baskets which were raffled and silent-auctioned in December. This fundraiser earned nearly \$700 for the Friends of the Library who will generously support nearly all library programming in the coming year. The staff plans to prepare several baskets this spring for Mother's Day and will sell raffle tickets during the month of April. One basket, a **Romance Lover's Basket**, has already been designed around the author Danielle Steel's new fragrance. Others planned are **Coffee Lover's** and **Chocolate Lover's** baskets. Tickets will be sold for 3 for \$1, 20 for \$5 and 50 for \$10 and the winners will be drawn on May 5, 2007 at the Cooking corner's *I Love You* dinner program to be held that day.

**BELLINGHAM PUBLIC LIBRARY**

100 Blackstone Street  
Bellingham, Massachusetts 02019  
Phone: 508-966-1660 Fax: 508-966-3189  
Email: library@bellinghamlibrary.org  
On the Web: [www.bellinghamlibrary.org](http://www.bellinghamlibrary.org)

**BOARD OF LIBRARY TRUSTEES**

Michael Carr, Chair Mary Ambler, Vice-Chair  
Pamela Perry, Secretary Kathleen Bartlett  
Bernadette Rivard

**PARENTS OF YOUNG CHILDREN PLEASE NOTE!** The Bellingham Public Library offers babysitter training courses through the Rhode Island Chapter of the American Red Cross. Graduates of the course receive certification from the American Red Cross. As a special service to you, the Young Adult Librarian organizes a Babysitters' Job Fair several times per year. The next job fair will be held on Saturday, February 3rd from 10 am to 1 pm. Families looking for babysitters or "mother's helpers" will be invited to drop in and meet certified babysitters in the Bellingham Community. Please call the library for more information: 508-966-1660.

**Note: The Bellingham Public Library does not endorse any babysitter attending the JOB FAIR.**



*Printing generously provided by Schafer Garden Center in Bellingham, longtime supporter of the Bellingham Public Library.*



We are a proud Member of the  
Central-Western  
Massachusetts Automated Resource



We are a proud member of  
Central Massachusetts Regional  
Library System

TO:

# Friends of the Bellingham Public Library

The **16th Annual Golf Classic** will be held at the New England Country Club on July 9, 2007. Supporting this fundraiser directly supports your library. Please consider playing in the tournament this year. Call the library for more details about the **Golf Classic**.

The Friends of the Library conducts an ongoing used book sale in the lobby of the library. The honor system is appreciated and you can look for special sales posted on the website.

The Bellingham Public Library accepts donations of used books all year round. If appropriate we will add a book to our library collection; if not, the book may be donated to a worthy cause, added to our take-and-replace rack, or sold in the Friends of the Library Book Sale. The Book Sale revenues of the Friends of the Library go directly to the library for funding of children's and adult programs, museum passes, new books and special media collections, equipment and special

events. The library requests that books in damaged condition not be donated. Bags and boxes of books can be dropped off at the front desk of the library.

The Friends of the Bellingham Public Library sells various gifts at the library. These include tote bags, trivets, holiday ornaments and 2007 Booklover's Desk calendars. The Friends of the Library are always looking for new members. Members receive a special invitation to Book Sale Previews. Please pick up a Friends' Brochure complete with membership form and listing of museum passes available at the library—or download it from the library website or use the handy reference guide below:

## Museum Passes Available

- ◇ Boston Children's Museum\*
- ◇ Roger Williams Park and Zoo
- ◇ Museum of Work and Culture
- ◇ New England Aquarium
- ◇ Davis Farmland & Mega Maze
- ◇ Children's Museum of Providence
- ◇ Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum
- ◇ Slater Mill Historic Site
- ◇ Wheelock Family Theater
- ◇ Museum of Fine Arts
- ◇ Plimoth Plantation
- ◇ Massachusetts Parks Parking Pass

Residents of Bellingham who have a current library card in good standing are allowed to reserve museum passes in advance. Please Note: New Policy - Residents of other towns who are current members of the Friends of the Bellingham Public Library are also allowed to reserve museum passes.

**\*Closed through March 2007 for renovations.**