

## Browse Our Photographs in the C/W MARS Digital Treasures Collection

We are pleased to announce that we have added twenty photographs to the *C/W MARS Digital Treasures Collection*. Digital Treasures includes digitized photographic collections from many Central and Western Massachusetts libraries. The images can be browsed by library or searched by keyword. Library staff selected twenty photographs, mostly from the early 1900s, and included representation of people, churches, and businesses in Wilbraham.

Visit the Digital Treasures collection directly at <http://dlib.cwmars.org> to view the new collection. The image to the right is an interior view of Glendale Methodist Church from the pulpit which shows the congregation sitting on pews.



## Great Decisions Discussion Group Returns in January

Registration has begun for the 2012 *Great Decisions Discussion Group*, to be held at the Wilbraham Public Library beginning in January. The topics from the 2012 series, selected by the Foreign Policy Association, are "*Middle East realignment*", "*Promoting Democracy*", "*Mexico*", "*Cybersecurity*", "*Exit from Afghanistan and Iraq*", "*State of the Oceans*", "*Indonesia*", and "*Energy Geopolitics*".

The Briefing Books cost \$20 to purchase and can be pre-ordered from the library by December 8. Checks are to be made payable to the Wilbraham Public Library. There will also be a Briefing Book available for in-library use for participants who may not wish to order their own copy.

The series will again be facilitated by members of the Friends of the Library. Sessions will be held on Wednesdays from 4:00-5:30 p.m. on January 18, 25, February 1, 8, 15, 22, 29, and March 14. March 21 and 28 are reserved for snow dates.

Great Decisions Groups meet all over the country - in private homes, libraries, and other venues to discuss selected topics in the area of current affairs. Participants have the ability to have their opinions tallied in a National Opinion Poll, which then gets sent to Congress. This is a wonderful program to learn more about what is happening in the world and to have your voice heard by people who make the decisions. To learn more about the series topics, check out [www.greatdecisions.org](http://www.greatdecisions.org). Please register by contacting the Reference Desk at 596-6141 ext. 101.

## Library uses donations in memory of Helen Kelly to create Book Club Kits

When long-time Friend of the Library volunteer and active "Booked for Lunch" participant Helen Kelly passed away recently, her family designated the library as a recipient for funds in her memory. Adult services librarian and acting director, Karen Demers, was in contact with Helen's family to determine the best way to use the funds and suggested that the library create a "Book Club Kit" program. The Friends of the Library also contributed to this project and a dozen kits will be available to checkout to local book clubs mid-December. Each kit contains ten paperback copies of a title, a discussion guide for the group leader, and a comment book for the group members to share their reflections - included in a zippered canvas tote bag. Book Club Kits will be loaned for six weeks. Titles include:

*The Gendarme*, by Mark T. Mustian  
*This Must be the Place*, by Kate Racculia  
*Woodsburner*, by John Pipkin  
*People of the Book*, by Geraldine Brooks  
*Mink River*, by Brian Doyle  
*Major Pettigrew's Last Stand*, by Helen Simonson  
*The Good Daughters*, by Joyce Maynard  
*The Art of Racing in the Rain*, by Garth Stein  
*At Home: A Short History of Private Life*, by Bill Bryson  
*The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks*, by Rebecca Skloot  
*The Radleys*, by Matt Haig  
*World and Town*, by Gish Jen

These titles include fiction and non-fiction, with four authors having received a Massachusetts Book Award.

**Wilbraham Friends of the  
Library, Inc.**

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**Friends Website**

[www.wilbrahamfriends.com](http://www.wilbrahamfriends.com)

If you have any questions or suggestions for the Wilbraham Friends of the Library, please direct them to Susan Magee at [twin.javanet@rcn.com](mailto:twin.javanet@rcn.com).

**Library News** is written and edited by the Wilbraham Public Library staff and the Friends of the Library.

Wilbraham Public Library  
25 Crane Park Drive  
Wilbraham, MA 01095  
[www.wilbrahamlibrary.org](http://www.wilbrahamlibrary.org)

Circulation Desk (Renewals)  
596-6141 ext. 103

Reference Services  
596-6141 ext. 101

Children's and Teens' Services  
596-6141 ext. 102

Library Director  
596-6141 ext. 105

**President's Message**

Today most of us are in the midst of coping with many challenges in our lives. Whether it is family, friends, homes, jobs, the community or the economy, we can identify with the feeling of being stretched in too many directions. This also holds true for our own town library and for our organization - the Friends of the Wilbraham Library. There are only so many hours in a day to get things done and only so much staff and money to help provide for programming, collection services, upgrades, additions, fixes, etc.

Our wonderful library staff works hard to keep up with program needs and desires in an environment of diminishing resources. (Remember when bank CDs actually paid 3% or more?) Staff members are filling many roles that were not envisioned even five years ago. Planned work on the facility is progressing, but very slowly. Budget restrictions at the federal, state and town levels make operating decisions tougher than ever. Material costs continue to rise and today's amazing technological advances require new expertise and equipment. We continue to see real growth in library usage as our patrons seek support for their searches, and more information in addition to ongoing use of tried-and-true library services.

The Friends are dedicated to helping the Wilbraham Library provide the services and programming that the community depends on. Like many, we find funds are not growing as planned, and there is more competition for patrons' involvement and resources. We constantly strive to keep our membership up in order to provide funding to WPL as planned. We are a nonprofit organization and all of our earnings go into library support. There are ways you - OUR MEMBERS- can help.

- Continue to attend and support library programming and events, but remember that they do come at a cost. Continue to be a Friends member and advocate for the Library and Friends whenever possible.
- When you renew, consider giving a membership as a gift to someone special.
- If you have a fund-raising idea - do it! Judy Cmero recently had a tag sale and donated the proceeds to the Library. Great!
- Volunteer to help at Library-focused projects.
- Donations to the Friends are very welcome.
- Come on our terrific Friends-sponsored trips. Part of every ticket goes back into our future programming.
- Our book sale is a critical fundraiser for us. Please save your books for us. This year's sale is the end of April.

Enough begging. I really appreciate how helpful so many folks are and just want to make our efforts even more significant. Enjoy your holidays, stay warm and remember "Spring is right around the corner" (supposedly).

Sue

**Upcoming events:**

- Spring trip to Providence RI - Rhode Island School of Design
- Annual Friends Book Sale April 30 - May 5
- Autumn trip - Location TBA (Too many good places to visit!)
- Annual Friends Art Show - November 2012

STAY TUNED FOR MORE...



(Left) A scene from the award-winning film *When I Dance*, to be screened at the library December 19. See page 4 for complete description of upcoming Film Movement titles.

### Children's Winter Activities

The *Winter Storytime* session will meet over a period of six weeks, from January 11 through February 16, and will accommodate over 50 children. The following times are offered: ages 2 - 3 ½ (with an adult) on Wednesdays at 10:15 a.m. or Thursdays at 10:15 a.m. The older group, for ages 3 ½ - 5, will meet on Thursdays at 11:15 a.m. Registration for Storytimes will be held at 10:00 a.m. on Monday, January 2 for Wilbraham residents. Phone registration will be taken starting on January 4. Non-residents may sign up on January 9, as space allows. The *Spring Storytime* registration will be held on Wednesday, February 22.

*Tremendous Toddler Two-Step* will be held for children 12 - 24 months old on Mondays at 10:15 a.m., for 4 weeks (Jan 23, 30, Feb. 6 and 13). Tremendous Toddlers is 20 minutes of nursery rhymes, singing and music for toddlers and their parents or caregivers. Registration for these storytimes begins at 10:00 a.m. on Monday, January 2 for Wilbraham residents. Phone registration will be on January 4. Non-residents may sign up on January 9, as space allows.

*Cover-to-Cover*, the book discussion groups for students, are on-going, meeting once a month. Students in grades 4, 5, and 6 will be meeting Tuesdays from 7:00 p.m. - 7:45 p.m. On December 13, January 10, and February 14. Titles are as follows:

December 13 - *The Strange Case of Origami Yoda*, by Tom Angleberger

January 10 - *The Blizzard Disaster*, by Peg Kehret

February 14 - *Once Upon a Marigold*, by Jean Ferris

The monthly book should be read before the meeting, at which opinions and questions will be posed, and refreshments will be served. Copies of each month's books will be available upon registration at the Children's Desk. Please address any questions to Heidi Kane in the Children's Department.



Looking for something to do with the kids while on Christmas break? Join us for magician *Ed Popielarczyk's* popular *Magical Moments* on Thursday, December 29 at 10:15 a.m. *Magical Moments* is a great comedy magic show with Ed entertaining all first and then amazing them second. Audience participation is a MUST, because the kids make the magic happen. This 45-minute show, brought to you by the Friends of the Library, is for ages 3 and up. Registration begins on December 15.

For students who are 8-years-old and up, Ed Popielarczyk will hold a *Balloon-Sculpting Workshop* on Thursday, December 29 at 12:00 noon after his comedy magic show. Participants will learn balloon safety, which different balloons can be used, how to tie a knot, and how to make various balloon animals. Space is limited for this Friends-sponsored workshop, which starts registration on December 15.

To celebrate the season of giving, the library will again feature a *Mitten Tree*, which will be decorated with your donations of gloves, mittens, hats and scarves for children and adults. All donations must be new and brought to the library for the tree between November 16 and December 16. After that time, all donated items will be brought to the Community Survival Center for distribution. Please help us with this worthy cause, as you know the winter will be a cold one!

During the school vacation week, the library will host an exciting puppet show, *The Three Billy Goats Gruff* and *The Lion and the Mouse* for children ages 3 and up. John McDonough will bring his wonderful *Pumpernickel Puppets* to perform two classic tales in a most entertaining way. The *Pumpernickel Puppets* have been enthralling audiences for over 35 years and have had the honor of appearing at the Smithsonian Institution, the Center for Puppetry Arts and the International Festival of Puppetry sponsored by the Jim Henson Foundation. John designs and creates all his puppets, manipulates the entire cast and provides all voices and sound effects. Registration begins on February 15. This show is brought to you by the Friends of the Library.

**Be sure to stop by the Festival of Trees at the Old Meeting House on Sunday, December 4, 1:00-5:00 p.m. to see the tree decorated by the Teens of the Wilbraham Library (T.O.W.L.)!**



#### **Overdrive E-Books from C/W MARS Digital Catalog Supports Most Platforms**

This fall Overdrive launched its support from Amazon Kindle devices, making the library's e-book collection available to even more users. People can now read library e-books for free for a two week loan period on their Barnes and Noble Nooks, Sony Readers, Amazon Kindles, iPad and iPhones, Android phones and tablets, and many other e-reading devices. A complete list of supported devices can be found at [www.overdrive.com/resources/drc](http://www.overdrive.com/resources/drc).

**Wilbraham Friends of the Library**  
**25 Crane Park Drive**  
**Wilbraham, MA 01095**

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## **Library News**

### **Winter 2012**

#### *In this issue:*

*Wilbraham adds to Digital Treasures*

*Great Decisions series scheduled*

*Children's activities and storytimes*

*Kindle books supported from Overdrive*

#### **Film Movement Series**

*Mondays at 7:00 p.m. Popcorn and soda are served. Discussion follows the film.*

*Sponsored by the Friends of the Library. Please note that these films have not been rated by the M.P.A.A. and are intended for a mature audience.*

**December 19** - *Only When I Dance* (Brazil, 78 min.) This documentary follows two young teenagers, Irlan and Isabela, as they strive to realize an extraordinary dream. One girl, one boy; both black and poor, and living in one of the most violent favelas on the outskirts of Rio, Irlan and Isabela both want to dance ballet, and their ambition is to leave Brazil to join one of the great companies in North America. For them, dance is the way out, an escape, and on stage, it brings them to a state of ecstasy that is rarely found in their day-to-day lives. The question is, can they make it? *Only When I Dance* is *Mad Hot Ballroom* meets *Billy Elliot*—a classic narrative of coming of age. It is about chasing a dream to dance the most perfect dance against all the odds of race and of circumstance—and, of course, the price you must pay for talent, for ambition and for success.

**January 23** - *Jaffa* (Israel, 90 min.) In the heart of the Israeli city of Jaffa, Reuven's garage is a family-run business. The garage workers consist of Reuven's beautiful daughter Mali, his violent and distant son Meir, as well as a young Palestinian, Toufik. No one suspects that Mali and Toufik have been in love for years, and that Mali is pregnant with Toufik's child. As the two lovers secretly make their wedding arrangements, tension steadily builds between Toufik and Meir, who openly voices his disdain and prejudices about Arabs. As these relationships continue to intensify, emotions begin to boil, resulting in an astonishing conclusion.

**February 13** - *Alamar* (Mexico, 73 min.) Jorge and Roberta have been separated for several years. They simply come from opposite worlds: he likes an uncomplicated life in the jungle, while she prefers a more urban existence. He is Mexican and she is Italian, and she has decided to return to Rome with their five-year-old son, Natan. But before they leave, Jorge wishes to take young Natan on a trip, hoping to teach him about his Mayan origins in Mexico. At first the boy is physically and emotionally uncomfortable with the whole affair, and gets seasick on the boat taking them to their destination. But as father and son spend more time together, Natan begins a learning experience that will remain with him forever.