

From the President



Ready for Winter? As promised, the Friends have been busy with a lot of activities – many of which are reported on later in this newsletter. Read on...

First, please welcome our new Friends Board member - Russell Garrison. Russ is an avid reader and has participated in many town and library activities. He states he is ready to help in any way possible and we definitely will be taking him up on his offer.

Friends' membership fees pay for many of our library programs and materials including this newsletter. Costs for these services and programs continue to increase. We are looking into the best ways to both earn funds and leverage them to “get more bang for our buck.” After much discussion, we have decided to keep our dues schedule as it has been for several years, but we will eliminate membership cards. When occasions call for proof of Friends membership (such as an event discount), we will verify such through our current database. As many other non-profits are doing, we will recognize memberships in our newsletter unless anonymity has been requested. If a receipt other than the cancelled check is desired, we will, of course, send one. Please be patient with this system... we all have to try new things!

In the same vein, early in November, two new Friends' fundraisers were initiated. We are sponsoring a raffle for a “Readers' Basket” and also selling the annual Western Massachusetts edition of *The Taste of Dining and Activity Book*. Both are very appropriate for gift giving as well as a personal treat, so please consider participating. Details are given below. All proceeds from both will support library programs.

When new events come up or changes in some plans occur, we want to keep you informed. It will help us greatly to have an email address to use in contacting our members. We do not share member information with other organizations and promise not to abuse your trust. If you are willing, please send an email to me (twjn.javanet@rcn.com) or enter it on your renewal form so we capture your email address. Thanks.

Remember that membership in the Friends is a major part of funding for many library programs and materials. Please don't forget to renew. Help us to increase our membership by encouraging others to join. Membership forms are available online at the Library website as well as at the library's main desk.

Take a deep breath (I know, it isn't on the schedule but...) and enjoy this special season – Susan

Art Show

On Saturday, November 3, the annual Friends of Wilbraham Library Art Exhibit was opened. Patrons and guests were able to enjoy the work of many of Wilbraham's talented artists and artisans who were also members of the Friends. Many appreciative comments on the works were heard throughout the show which ran through November 29. A highlight of the opening reception was the opportunity for holiday gift shopping among the creations from the various participants.

NEW! Special Fundraisers

The Friends are sponsoring a raffle of a “Readers' Basket” - the perfect chance to reward some lucky reader! The basket is on display at the Library and contains a brand-new NOOK e-reader coupled with specially-selected items designed to help readers relax and enjoy their literary moments. Raffle tickets are on sale at the library main desk for \$1 each or 6 for \$50. The winner will be announced Saturday December 15 in plenty of time for the holidays!

Also for sale at the library is the all-new Western Massachusetts edition of *The Taste of Dining and Activity Book*. Each book costs \$20 and offers straightforward money-saving certificates valued at over \$2000 in savings at our area's popular restaurants, retailers and attractions. This is a great stocking stuffer and in these times, who can't use some savings?

The Irish Are A-comin...

Our third annual Irish Night of Celtic music is planned for Wednesday, February 27 at 7:00 p.m. in the Brooks Room. The much-acclaimed musical group “Banish Misfortune” will visit us again. Good Irish snacks and a lively night are promised. A donation of \$7.00 will be requested at the door. All proceeds go to support of library programs.

Wilbraham Friends of the Library, Inc.

Board Members 2012-2013

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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.

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

Circulation Desk (Renewals)
596-6141

Reference Services
596-6141 ext. 101

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

Library Director
596-6141 ext. 105

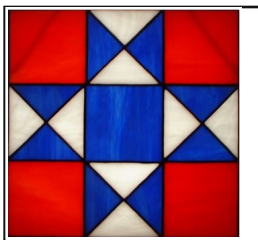
Library Hours: Monday, Tuesday,
Wednesday 10:00 a.m.-8:00 p.m.,
Thursday and Friday 10:00 a.m.-5:00
p.m., Saturday 10:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m.



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Quilt Show

At the March 2013 Friends of the Library Quilt Show, three beautiful quilts will be raffled. One is a queen-size quilt, one has a sport theme and one is a baby/toddler quilt. Raffle tickets will be available at the circulation desk in February and will be good for the quilt of your choice. They were completed by a team of dedicated quilters and are very special. Winners will be thrilled - we promise! The first show (2010) was very popular and the breadth of the selected works astounded many. This show will be no less. Co-chairs are Meta Desantis and Nancy Peck. The show opens on Friday, March 1, and runs through March 28. An opening reception is scheduled for Saturday, March 2 at noon.

Trips

The Fall trip to Concord, Massachusetts was great. Forty-five folks enjoyed specially escorted tours of the Alcott House and The Manse. We capped off the day with a fantastic meal at Longfellow's Wayside Inn. Luckily the scheduled trip was before the terrible SANDY and we could still enjoy foliage and seasonal mild weather. Our trip group folk are currently wading through materials and suggestions and will soon be announcing the Spring trip. The trip will be announced ASAP in the News Bits as well in our next newsletter.

Searching Ancestry Library Edition

Our first Ancestry Library Edition program was such a success, that we'll be doing it again - twice!

Adult Services Librarian Mary Bell will be hosting two after-hours programs exploring how to search Ancestry Library Edition to research your family history. The program will include a brief overview of census records, military records, and other images available on Ancestry, as well as time for hands-on exploration on the library computers and a family history starter kit for all participants. The dates will be:

Saturday, December 15 from 2:00 to 5:00 p.m. (already filled!)

Saturday, February 16 from 2:00 to 5:00 p.m.

Space is limited due to the number of computers we have, so register now by calling the library at 413-596-6141 or through the Event Calendar www.wilbrahamlibrary.org.

Genealogy Series

Dave Robison from the Western Massachusetts Genealogical Society will present a series of programs on genealogy and family history research at the library. All of the programs begin at 6:30, and will have about an hour long lecture followed by a question and answer period. Sign up for one or all of the programs on the following topics:

December 10 - Genealogy Websites

January 7 - Becoming a Genealogy Detective

February 11 - Work on Family Trees

Coming Soon - Book Group Suggestions

Looking for suggestions for new or trade paperback books for your book club? A representative from Random House will be coming to the library to preview some of their titles and make suggestions! Look for more information to be announced soon.

Your Immediate Family Tree



Storytimes

The **Winter Storytime** session will meet over a period of six weeks, from January 9 through February 14, 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 Wednesday, January 2 for Wilbraham residents. Phone calls will be taken starting on January 4. Non-residents may sign up on January 7, as space allows. The **Spring Storytime** registration will be held on Wednesday, February 22.

Toddler Two-Step will be held for children 12 - 24 months old on Mondays at 10:15 a.m., for 4 weeks (January 14, 28, February 4 and 11). **Toddler Two-Step** 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 Wednesday, January 2 for Wilbraham residents. Phone registration will be on January 4. Non-residents may sign up on January 7, as space allows.

To expand our offerings for the young, there are play groups with **Pathways for Parents**, funded by the MA Department of Early Education and Care. These are for parents with their infants, toddlers and preschoolers on the first Monday of each month. The first group will meet January 7th at 10:15. Sign-ups are required. This will be a fun and informational class with stories, songs and activities, hosted by Cindy Milner, lead teacher.

Registration for the Spring Storytime session will be on Monday, February 25.

Cover-to-Cover



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 11, January 8, and February 12. Titles are as follows:

December – *Bliss* by Kathryn Littlewood, *The Candymakers* by Wendy Mass, or *The Lands* by Erik Beckel

January – *Wonder* by R.J. Palacio

February – *Who Could That Be At This Hour?* by Lemony Snicket

In December, the group will have a special guest, the author of *The Lands*, Erik Beckel. The monthly book should be read before the meeting, in 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.

Mitten Tree

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 14 and December 14. 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!



Spin, Pop, Boom!

During the school vacation week, the library will host an exciting science show, **Spin, Pop, Boom!** for children in kindergarten and up. Mad Science of Northampton will bring their show to us on Thursday, February 21 at 10:15 a.m., full of very visual scientific effects. These scientists will perform experiments to demonstrate the effect of centripetal force, show the principle of angular momentum, create a rainbow effect in a series of flasks and create a Genie-in-a-bottle. They will also demonstrate sound and resonance to produce cool sounds with their version of a Didgeredoo and an awesome Mad Science pipe organ. Registration begins on February 13. This show is brought to you by the Friends of the Library.



Wednesday, February 20 from 1:00 – 5:00 pm in the Brooks Room. National Project Linus- Teens 6th -12th grade will make easy no-sew fleece blankets. They will be distributed to area hospitals, providing love and comfort to children who are seriously ill or traumatized. Accepting donations of fleece fabric, new handmade quilts or new crochet/knit blankets. See the website: www.projectlinus.org.

Wilbraham Friends of the Library
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Library News
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Film Movement

Join us for monthly screening of award-winning foreign and independent feature films and documentaries. All films are not rated but intended for audiences ages 17 and up. They are screened in the Brooks' Room on Monday nights at 7:00 p.m. Look for more information coming soon on upcoming titles to be shown on the following dates:

December 17 - *If I Want to Whistle, I Whistle* (Romania, 93 min.)
January 28 - *Illegal* (Belgium, 95 min.)
February 25 - *The Colors of the Mountain* (Columbia, 93 min.)

Booked for Lunch

The first **Booked for Lunch** meeting of 2013 will be on Tuesday, January 8 from noon to 1:00 p.m., discussing *Howards End* by E.M. Forster. Considered by many to be E. M. Forster's greatest novel, *Howards End* is a tale of two very different families, the Wilcoxes and the Schwegels, brought together by an unusual event.

Booked for Lunch meets on the first Tuesday of every month. Check out the Event Calendar at www.wilbrahamlibrary.org to see the complete list of schedule reads.



Zinio Digital Mazines are now available through our website, www.wilbrahamlibrary.org! Create an account to read magazines such as *Consumer Reports* and *Family Circle* on your computer here or at home. Reference librarians will be happy to help you get started.

Evening Book Discussion

The **Evening Book Discussion** will be reading and discussing *The Bookseller of Kabul* by Asne Seierstad on Wednesday, December 19 at 7:00 p.m. Award-winning journalist Asne Seierstad has given readers a first-hand look at Afghani life as few outsiders have seen it. Invited to live with Sultan Khan, a bookseller in Kabul, and his family for months, this account of her experience allows the Khans to speak for themselves, giving us a genuinely gripping and moving portrait of a family, and of a country of great cultural riches and extreme contradictions.

Newcomers are always welcome to the **Evening Book Discussion**, which meets on the third Wednesday of every month. See the complete list of books scheduled on the Event Calendar on our website, www.wilbrahamlibrary.org.