



SPRING 2011

WINCHESTER PUBLIC LIBRARY

commitment ~ community ~ connections

Speaking Volumes

www.winpublib.org



KEEPING UP WITH LIBRARY NEWS AND EVENTS

The Library is a hive of activity! Check the Library's website www.winpublib.org for all the latest Library news and events as well as the complete catalog of books, DVDs, audiobooks, and much more! Here is a list of what you can sign up for electronically through the Library website:

Library Lines

One Winchester

New Children's Items

New AudioVisual Items

Weekly New Items

Speaking Volumes Newsletter

All of the *NextReads* newsletters

The Winchester Star also publishes Library Lines each week listing current events and programs offered by the Library. Included are announcements of lectures, book clubs, and children's activities.

YVONNE COLEMAN RETIRES

After serving as Head of Children's Services for the last two decades, **Yvonne Coleman** retired at the end of December.



Photo at top (left to right): *Joanne Brady and Linda Bohan of the Library Staff, Yvonne, and Maria Nicholson of Friends of the Library.*

Photo at bottom (left to right): *Yvonne with FAN members Shelley Ayervais and Andrea Cox*

FAN presented her with a painting that will be displayed in her honor in the Children's Room. The accompanying plaque reads: "For fostering a love of reading in so many of our children over the years. Gift of Winchester's Family Action Network." In addition, the Library Staff and the Friends of the Library will have a tree planted for her just outside the Children's Room where she and the children can enjoy it. Yvonne is one of a kind, and we wish her a well-earned rest and a very happy retirement!

Our recipe for a great Head of Children's Services:

Mix together one part each:

A deep and broad knowledge of children's literature

Love of children

Creativity

Responsiveness to patrons' needs

Fold in a good sense of humor.

This describes Yvonne Coleman. She has given the Library's littlest patrons twenty years of storytimes, welcoming school groups, building the children's collection, planning summer reading programs, and answering patron questions that often start with "Off the top of your head . . ." At the open house held in December, members of

NOTEWORTHY

LIBRARY DATABASES

The Winchester Public Library purchases databases with funding support from a variety of agencies: the Minuteman Library Network, the Massachusetts Library System, and the Massachusetts Board of Library Commissioners. In-Library use is available to everyone regardless of residence. However, you must be a Winchester resident to access these databases from home. For a current list and description of each database, go to www.winpublib.org. Here are two recent additions:

CONSUMER REPORTS ONLINE

Known as one of the most trusted resources for information and advice on consumer products and services, Consumer Reports Online provides ratings, reviews and buying advice as well as general tips on saving money, ways to improve health and much more. Also included is a searchable archive of the past four years of product ratings and car reliability reports. At-home access is available for Winchester residents and in-Library access is available for all.

BOSTON CONSUMERS' CHECKBOOK ONLINE

Boston Consumers' Checkbook is an independent non-profit consumer organization. Their online database evaluates the quality and prices of local firms and stores, such as auto repair shops, plumbers, contractors, lawn-care companies and many more. Special health guides provide ratings and reports on local physicians, dentists and hospitals and health care plans. This database is available for in-Library use only.

Our Special Thanks to:

Book Ends and Judy Manzo, for continuing to support Library events and for donating to the Library a portion of the proceeds from all books sold at lectures sponsored by Friends of the Library.

En Ka Society and Winchester Rotary Club, for providing passes to many museums in the area.

Winchester Co-operative Bank, for its continuing sponsorship of R.O.A.R.

Photo at top of front page:
View of the Library facing Mill Pond.

CHOCOLATE SUNDAYS

Chocolate was the theme of the Library's annual fall event to fund Sunday openings. Swing music was provided by *On The Record*, led by Jon French, President of the Board of Trustees. A bountiful dessert buffet, a wide variety of silent auction items, and beverages that included

"Bookatinis" (i.e. chocolate martinis) all combined to make it a successful event, insuring that the Library can continue to be open to its patrons on Sundays. Thank you to everyone in the community who gave so generously to make Sunday openings possible!



Above: Jon French,
President, Board of
Trustees

Left: A bountiful buffet!

NEW BOOKDROPS AVAILABLE 24/7!

Big news is on our doorstep! Two new and larger bookdrops will be installed this spring in the parking lot, replacing the older boxes. In addition, after receiving requests from many of our patrons, the boxes will be available for use 24 hours per day, every day, a convenience that will be appreciated when parking is limited or weather is inclement.

"BOOK A LIBRARIAN"

"Book a Librarian" is a new service offered by the Library's Reference Department that offers 30-minute sessions with one of our librarians to help you make the most of our Library's resources. Do you need help getting started with research? Would you like to set up a free email account or just learn more about searching the web? Please contact the Reference Desk in person or by phone (781-721-7171 ext. 20), or send an email to winill@minilib.net and put "Book a Librarian" in the subject line to set up an appointment.

ENGLISH AT LARGE

Three very lively English Language Conversation Groups meet at the Library. Volunteers, trained by English At Large (www.englishatlarge.org), meet weekly with groups of 8-12 learners who come from countries around the globe. The groups provide the perfect opportunity for learners to improve their speaking confidence and to meet other people who are learning English. Topics covered in Conversation Groups usually include American culture and holidays, idioms, casual spoken English, and daily life situations in the U.S., as well as the richness of varied cultural practices and traditions. Learners also become familiar with Library resources that they can use to enhance their learning.

To sign up for a Conversation Group go to the sign-up form at www.surveymonkey.com/s/conversationgroupswinter2011. Or contact English At Large at 781-395-2374.

WHAT DOES A COMMUNITY SERVICES LIBRARIAN DO?



Here at the Winchester Public Library, **Janet Nelson** coordinates several Library outreach services, some of which fall into the category of “letting the public know what’s going on.” In addition to creating many of the flyers and brochures that advertise programs and ongoing services, she also edits the *Library Lines* column that runs weekly in the *Winchester Star* and the Winchester edition of the *Woburn Times-Chronicle*.

(If you would like to receive *Library Lines* via email, call the Reference Desk or go to the “Sign up to receive . . .” section of the Library website.)

One of Janet’s favorite and most important assignments is coordinating services to those who cannot get to the Library themselves. She is assisted by several groups of wonderful volunteers who provide the service.

R.O.A.R, or Rush Out And Read, is best known for its summer cadre of teens who bring picture books and read to young children all over town; but it also offers an adult component. At the Winchester Nursing Center, every week a Library volunteer brings a short story, a section of a book, or an article to read to a group of residents and get them involved in a discussion.

In addition, twice a month a Library volunteer brings a book or books that he or she has enjoyed to discuss with residents of the Gables at their Reading Circle. Residents also share their own thoughts about books they have been reading or have heard about, so that everyone comes away with new ideas for that stack on their bedside table!

Janet believes that serving those who cannot get to the Library is one of the most rewarding parts of the community services aspect of her job. At any one time, she will have a list of 15 or more people who need to have Library items delivered to their home, again accomplished by a group of great volunteers. About a dozen of these patrons will get deliveries regularly—they may ask for a book every few months; some receive deliveries of about five books a month; and one patron gets six books every week!

Some will ask for specific books they want to read. Others will indicate the type of book they enjoy and Janet will search for titles she thinks they will like. Janet says “It is a lot of fun as well as a challenge to try to choose items that will be appreciated by each particular patron, and it sharpens my skills at what library-speak calls ‘reader’s advisory’—helping each reader find his or her next good read. I find it particularly rewarding to help those who cannot come in to get what they need.”

If you need home delivery—or know someone who does—contact Janet Nelson. She is the link to your next “good read.”

NEW FACES IN THE CHILDREN’S LIBRARY!



Stephanie Wolflink (right in photo) has been named the new Head of Children’s Services. Stephanie had been working part time at the Library prior to assuming this position. Joining her as a part-time librarian in the Children’s Department is **Brittany DeLorme** (left in photo). Please stop by to say “Hello” during your next visit to the Children’s Library.

WINCHESTER PUBLIC LIBRARY

Ann Wirtanen
Director

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

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FRIENDS OF THE WINCHESTER PUBLIC LIBRARY BOARD OF DIRECTORS 2010–2011

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Winchester Reads: Joan O’Neil

Who are the Friends of the Winchester Public Library?

The Friends of the Winchester Public Library (“The Friends”) is the grassroots organization that supports your Library’s continuing excellence. We raise funds for publications, equipment, and services which are not included in the town’s budget but which enhance the Library’s mission of improving the quality of life for Winchester residents.

A TRIBUTE TO BILL O'CONNOR



Bill O'Connor passed away on December 9, 2010. In addition to teaching for many years at Winchester High School, Bill served on the Board of the Friends of the Library as its secretary and archivist. Donal Grelotti, President

of the Friends of the Library related that "The Winchester Public Library has lost a great friend with the passing of Bill O'Connor. His wit, wisdom and dedication to the Library and to the town of Winchester will be missed." Barbara Yuan, Assistant Director, added "We've lost a great friend to the Library and a sweet man." Bill's daughter, Sarah, on behalf of the family, requested that donations in his memory go to the Library—either for Sunday hours or for history and art books.

BOOK GROUPS AT THE LIBRARY

Is there anything better than a good book? Yes! It is sharing your interpretation and reaction to it with a small group of friends. A recent unofficial survey has the number of book groups in Winchester at over fifty, seven of which meet regularly at the Library. With no snacks to prepare or dishes to clean up afterwards, book groups at the Library have become very popular.

The Library sponsors five groups: the **WPL Book Discussion Group**, the **2nd Tuesday Women's Reading Group**, the **Afternoon Book Club**, the **Classics Book Club**, and a new **Young Adult Book Club** that started in January.

The very popular community-based Parent to Parent organization offers a **Parenting Book Group**. Participants are not required to have read the book and the discussions always focus on timely issues of interest to parents.

A brand new book group is **Read, Meet, Eat**—an International Book Club facilitated by One Winchester, Many Traditions. The books and snacks always have an international theme.

Regular print copies of all books are usually available at the circulation desk one month prior to the meeting. Most books may be requested in audio, large print, and sometimes in downloadable formats. Visit our website winpublib.org and click on "Book Groups" for current and past titles as well as meeting dates and times.

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fx: 781-721-7101
www.winpublib.org

LIBRARY HOURS

Monday – Thursday: 9:30 a.m. – 9:00 p.m.

Friday & Saturday: 9:30 a.m. – 5:30 p.m.

Sunday: 2:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.

We are very grateful to the donors who make Sunday hours possible.

Please note that the Library is closed on all legal holidays and on Saturday and Sunday during the Summer months.

Children's Room closes at 7:00 p.m.

Monday – Thursday

All other hours are the same as above.

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Editor: Mary S. Farrell



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