



# Milton Public Library

Letter No. 2006 -1

We Appreciate Your Continuing Support.

February, 2006

## **Director's Message**

*By Phil McNulty*

### ***Thank You!***

I would like to extend a huge Thank You to all of you for the positive vote on November 29th for the Library Renovation. To all of you who voted, contributed, called friends and neighbors, knocked on doors, organized events, gave house parties or ran lemonade stands, we at the library thank you with all our hearts. This was a tremendous effort by so many that there is no way to even begin to name you all. However, the result is huge. The building project is now launched onto the next phase.

That phase begins with putting together our design team. The Library Building Committee is now in the process of advertising for a Project Manager who will be the owner's representative with the architect and contractors. The new 2004 state public construction law stipulates duties and requirements for this position, and sets it as a pre-requisite for establishing contracts with the architect.

Once these steps are done, we begin the "Design Development" phase. This is when we will tweak the schematic, make sure everything is where we want it, and then add another layer of detail, such as what the circulation desk will look like and what materials it will be made of. After that comes the precise detail work of developing construction drawings, specifications and bid documents.

We hope to move into temporary quarters next fall, and begin construction work late in the year. At this point the Building Committee has not identified a site for temporary quarters, but that is one of their top priorities.

It will be an eventful and momentous year! All of it is only possible through all of your hard work and support.

Again, Thank You!

## **The Friends Corner**

*By Connie Spiros, President,  
Friends of the Milton Public Library*

Have you noticed the days are getting longer? The good feeling that spring will in fact come back to Milton in the not so distant future makes it somewhat easier to shovel through the weeks of cold and snowy weather we still have ahead of us! There are other ways to keep those winter doldrums away and many of them are available at (or through) the Library!

***Winter Wonderland Book Sales*** take place every Saturday from 10 am to 12 noon. Volunteers operate these weekly sales, and along with great prices, the selection this year is better than usual because we received some great donations over the summer months. Sales run through the end of March, and there's always something new on the shelves, so stop by more than once this winter and keep up your supply of great books. And remember that the money you spend goes right back to the Library to purchase new books.

**Museum Passes** provide a reasonably priced way to spend an afternoon at one of the Boston area's best museums. Thanks to the Friends of the Library, you can simply call the Library and reserve passes to either the Museum of Fine Arts, the Science Museum, the Children's Museum, the Isabella Stuart Gardner Museum, the JFK Library or the Fuller Craft Art Museum in Brockton.



**Programs for Children** continue to expand at the Library. Along with an active schedule of Story Times for small children, programs targeted to teens like the new **Teen Readers Circle** for ages 11-14, are a great way for older kids to enjoy reading with others their age. And to get ready for everyone's favorite winter holiday, Valentine's Day, (it's my favorite at least!), children age 12 and under are invited to "Make a Valentine" Day, at the Library on Saturday, February 11.

**Books to the Homebound** is a program you've read about in past newsletters, but I'm happy to say we're getting close to making it happen! We are putting the procedures together, and are looking for a few additional volunteers who can deliver books to patrons who love to read but can't get to the Library. If you can spare a few hours a month, please contact me at [cdspiros@comcast.net](mailto:cdspiros@comcast.net) or 617-698-8003.

The **Friends Web Site** pages are a great way to learn about all the Friends activities from the comfort of your home. Just visit the Library's site at [www.miltonlibrary.org](http://www.miltonlibrary.org) and click on Friends, and you'll see a newly constructed site. Thanks to Friends Treasurer Jeff Erickson who has spent hours building the site, you can now find up to date news about the Friends and their programs and events. Also on the site are links to past newsletters and a photo gallery of recent happenings. You

never know who you might recognize when perusing the photo gallery!

**Friends Membership Meetings** – are a great way to share your programming ideas or just to meet other people who love the Library! Please come to our meetings and make a difference for our Library! The next meeting will be on Tuesday, March 7 at 7pm.

Keep warm and read a good book  
(or two or three...)

## **February Art Show**

*By Anna Litten*

In celebration of Black History month, Brockton artist Hilton Parham's oil paintings featuring jazz greats of the 1930s, 40s and 50s and civil rights activists will be on display in the Art Gallery of the Milton Public Library during the months of February and March.

A Medford native, Parham served in the Army during the Korean War. After his military service, Parham studied at the Vesper George School of Art and at the Massachusetts College of Art.

As a self-described, "respected, but not famous artist," Parham's paintings are much in demand and have been shown locally at the Boston Public Library, the Fuller Craft Museum in Brockton, and many other libraries, community centers and town halls in the area.

The inset at right shows Parham's "Jazz Piano Man", an oil depiction of Count Basie with tenor sax player Lester Young in 1939. It is part of the Milton library exhibit.



## **Digital Audio Books**

*By Phil McNulty*

There is a new delivery mechanism to get audio books from the library – your computer! Milton and other OCLN Library Card holders may now download audio titles from the Overdrive eAudio collection.

Overdrive digital audio books can be played from your computer, or loaded onto a MS-Windows compatible MP3 player, or most titles can be burned to CD's for playback.

The process starts by downloading the Overdrive Medial Console onto your computer and upgrading your Windows Media Player software to accept files that have digital rights management restrictions. This will allow the audio books to automatically check themselves back in after a week, without you having to do a thing! (The files will remain available on your CDs or MP3 player, and you may also check them out again to the PC.)



The Digital Rights Management is the piece that allows us, through Overdrive, to get the licensing to provide these titles to you for free, as we do with our books or books on CD. It is also why the digital audio books will not work with Apple iPods. Apple has not developed a compatibility with the Windows Media Player rights system, and their primary partner for digital audio, Audible Books, refuses to develop library friendly systems.

OCLN has already acquired 200 digital audio titles that you can download with just your library card. Other nearby systems have also adopted the Overdrive System. If you have a Boston Public Library card, you may access their 2000+ titles.

Happy Listening.

## **News from East Milton**

*By Pat Bergin*

December was a busy month at the East Milton Library. Several special Christmas Story Times were held for our toddlers and our 3- 5 year olds. Christmas stories, songs, crafts and special treats made these programs fun and festive. The children in one group were also treated to some Spanish Christmas songs and games provided by a native Spanish-speaking caregiver, which was greatly enjoyed by parents and children alike.

In addition to our Story Hours, on December 20th, the Library hosted a Family Christmas Open House. Patrons of all ages were invited to stop by the Library to enjoy Christmas cookies, cheese and crackers, and a festive Holiday punch. With Christmas music playing and our beautiful Christmas tree, a warm and cozy feeling enveloped the Library and made our guests feel welcome on a cold winter day.

Our weekly Story Hours will begin again the week of February 6th. We have 2 programs every week. On Monday evenings at 7:30 P.M., we hold a P.J. Story Time for 3-5 year olds. On Friday mornings at 10:00 A.M., we hold a Story Time for toddlers. Both of these programs consist of stories, songs, and a simple craft. We hope these programs will be as well-attended as they have been in the past and we welcome all to join us.

We are also planning some special programs for adults this spring. Watch for details and please join us!.

## **From the Reference Desk**

*By Dan Haacker*

### **Memories of the Milton Public Library.**

I recently received a letter from a gentleman from Los Angeles that I would like to share with you. His name is Alan Rich and he is the music critic for LA Weekly, which is a tabloid similar to our Boston Phoenix. In his research for a piece about Wilhelm Stenhammar (1871-1927), a Swedish composer, pianist and conductor, he came across on Amazon.com a used copy of "Stenhammar Serenade" which had been stamped "Discarded from the Milton Public Library".

Apparently someone who purchased this item, withdrawn from our library and sold at one of our Friends of the Milton Public Library's book sales, later decided to try and resell it. I thought, wow, you never know where one of our former library acquisitions might end up.

Well there is more to this story. What was just a simple item found on Amazon.com ended up bringing back a flood of memories of Milton for Mr. Rich, who is now in his early eighties and, in fact, grew up here. Alan lived in a two family house on Brook Road back in the 1930's. He recalled his best friend at the time and wondered whatever became of him. His friend's name was David Whittier. Does anybody know what happened to him?

One of his reminiscences of the Milton Public Library involved a poster he was making for school called "The sun never sets on the British Empire". He recalls driving the reference librarian "somewhat bonkers" in helping him research this. The end result was that he won a prize for his poster. This was a contest sponsored by the

school's Stamp Club. The teacher or adviser of the club was Addison Craig. Mr. Rich also told me that the same poster went on to win another competition at the Children's Museum, when it was in Jamaica Plain.

One result of him mentioning Milton in his article was that one night when he was attending a concert a young man who was working there approached him to tell him he grew up in North Quincy and relayed to Alan that the article brought back many memories for him also.

When I responded to his letter I told him how we had just won approval to renovate and expand our library. I gave him our website so he could look at the plans. He wrote back and commented; "I hope you don't change it too much". In conclusion, the Milton Public Library has provided a wealth of information for many generations of our residents and it has also provided a wealth of memories to all who use and used it. Do you have a favorite memory of the Milton Public Library?

## **Book Discussions & More**

*By Marjorie Jeffries*

The Library Book Discussion Group will meet the first Monday of each month. There are three opportunities for joining the discussion: 10:00 am or 7:30 pm in the Library conference room; or at 4:00 pm, Building 5 at Winter Valley.

The March title will be "*The Dark Room*" by Rachel Seiffert. Find out details of the book on the library's web page, as well as info. on future books as they are chosen.



## **Children's Room News**

*By Elaine Weischedel*

A new collection has been added to the Children's Department. Educational CD-ROMs for children are now available to check out for home use. You'll find them adjacent to the picture book area and there are more than 50 titles in the collection. One helpful reminder when using the borrowed software – when you're ready to return it, uninstall the program to save space on your hard drive.

Two special programs are scheduled for February vacation week. On Wednesday, Feb. 22 there will be a jewelry making class at 10 a.m. for children ages 8-12. Registration is required, and at "press time" the class was almost full, but if you're interested contact the children's room.

On Thursday the 23<sup>rd</sup> at 7 p.m. we will have another Family Game Night. Register in the children's room and come prepared for fun and board games. Bring along your own family favorites or play some of ours.

Looking farther ahead, plans are being made for our summer reading program. This year the slogan is "What's buzzin' @ your library." Be prepared to 'bug out'!

## **Correction**

November's newsletter misidentified the picture of Brian McGrory with his second grade teacher.

That really is **Doris Foley**, with Brian at the October 5<sup>th</sup> program of the Friends!



## **The Online Library: Workshop Series**

*By Anna Litten*

People often think of a library in terms of the physical space of the building. As we move forward with the planning for the building project, it certainly is exciting to think about the new library building here in Milton, but our physical building is only part of our library. The information available online through the library's website is also an important part of the library's collection.

Through an ongoing series of workshops, library users will be introduced to the online library and learn how to use the library's website in conjunction with other material here at the library. During the workshops, we will focus on using tools available from the library's website and sharpen our search skills. Participants will be introduced to new resources as well as gaining skills to make them more efficient researchers.

The February workshop, "**The Online Library 101**" will be an introduction to the library's website, including tips for using the catalog, pointers for searching the thousands of full-text articles available on the website, and more. Members of the community can sign up for one workshop, or, for the entire series. Take a peek at the calendar enclosed and join us for an informative session. There will be a different online workshop each month through May.

*Director's Note:*

Anna Litten, our new Adult Services Librarian at the Milton Public Library, will be leading all of the workshops. With ten years of experience as a reference librarian teaching research skills, Anna has a passion for helping library users become proficient researchers.

## Calendar of Events

**Wednesdays** – 10:30  
Through March 22

**Small Wonders** - "Lap sit" story times for babies & toddlers.  
No Registration required. (No program the week of February Vacation)

**Alternate Tuesdays** – 10:30  
Through March 28

**Time for Tales** - Stories for ages 3-5.  
No registration required. (No program the week of February Vacation)

**Every Saturday** – 10 am to Noon  
Through March 25

**Winter Wonderland Book Sales**  
Lower Level Conference Room

**February 11** – 9:30am to 4:30pm  
Saturday

**Make A Valentine**  
A do-it-yourself craft time for children age 12 and under



**February 16** – 3 pm to 4 pm  
Thursday

**Teen Reader's Circle** The Teen Readers' Circle will discussing *Money Hungry* by Sharon Flake this month! Read the book, and come join us for fun conversation.

**February 22** – 10 am to 11:30 am  
Wednesday

**Make your own jewelry**-Children ages 8-12 years of age.  
Sorry, registration is already full. If you are interested in a future jewelry workshop., please leave your name at the Children's department.

**February 23**  
2 pm to 3 pm

**Workshop: The Online Library 101**  
Learn about using online library tools including My Account, the Virtual Catalog, and more.

7 pm to 8 pm  
Thursday

**Family Game Night**  
Bring your own games or use the library's

**March 6**  
Monday

**Book Discussion - *The Dark Room***, by Rachel Seiffert  
Discussions at the Library: 10:00 am and 7:30 pm; At Winter Valley Building 5, 4pm

**March 7** – 7 pm to 8 pm  
Tuesday

**Friends' of the Library Monthly Meeting**  
Lower Level Conference Room.

**March 30** – 7 pm to 8 pm  
Thursday

**Online Workshop: Advanced Googling**  
Tips and tricks for getting better results out of the web's largest search engine.

**April 29** – 10 am to 11 am  
Saturday

**Online Workshop: Get Health-Wise!**  
Become an expert at searching for health and medical information. Learn about reputable web sites and the resources available via the library's databases.

**May 18** – 7 pm to 8 pm  
Thursday

**Online Workshop: Make a Quick Getaway**  
Use websites, newspaper articles and books for better travel planning.

For the latest information on events, visit [www.miltonlibrary.org](http://www.miltonlibrary.org)



## Holiday Party 2005

There was a lot to celebrate at the 2005 Friends of the Library / Milton Library Foundation holiday party on December 14<sup>th</sup>.

At left Veronica Guerrero-Macie, Patty Elliot, Eileen Heller and Liz Buchanan (left to right) are all smiles, perhaps in appreciation of the 74% of voters who approved funding for the Library Building Project two weeks before.

## ***Renew or Join the Friends of the Milton Public Library***

**NOTE: Membership runs on a calendar year basis.**

**Reminders are mailed each November for the following year's dues.**

Your membership dues are tax deductible

- Yes**, I would like to RENEW my membership  
 **Yes**, I would like to JOIN the Friends as a NEW MEMBER  
 **Please** notice the change of name/address/phone number (enter new information below.)
- |   |      |                                     |         |
|---|------|-------------------------------------|---------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Student/Senior Citizen | \$10 | <input type="checkbox"/> Sponsor    | \$50    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Individual             | \$15 | <input type="checkbox"/> Patron     | \$100   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Family                 | \$25 | <input type="checkbox"/> Benefactor | \$500   |
|   |      | <input type="checkbox"/> Other      | \$_____ |

(For **membership renewals**, no need to fill out name and address if label on reverse side is correct.)

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Street \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ EMAIL \_\_\_\_\_

Please make your check payable to:

**Friends of the Milton Public Library**

And mail it with your completed application to:

**Friends of the Milton Public Library – PO Box 54 – Milton, MA – 02186**

**The Friends appreciate your additional financial support!**

**Friends of the Milton Public Library**  
**476 Canton Avenue**  
**Milton, MA 02186**

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**Friend's Monthly**  
**Meeting**  
**Tuesday, March 7<sup>th</sup>**  
**All Members Welcome!**

**Milton Main Library**

476 Canton Avenue  
Milton, Ma 02186  
Tel. 617-698-5757  
Fax. 617-698-0441

**Hours of Operation:**

Monday – Thursday 9 – 9  
Friday 1 – 5:30 (Summer 9 – 5:30)  
Saturday 9 – 5 (Closed Summer, Starting June 25)  
Sunday Closed

**East Milton Branch**

334 Edgehill Road  
Milton, MA 02186  
Tel. 617-698-1733

**Hours of Operation:**

Monday 1 – 6, 7 - 9  
Tuesday & Thursday 1 – 5:30  
Wednesday Closed  
Friday 9 – 12, 1 – 5:30  
Saturday & Sunday Closed



View of the Proposed Library Expansion

**Milton Public Library Newsletter:**  
**February 2006**