



Director's Message

By Phil McNulty

On July 7th we received the best possible news in regards to our **construction grant** application. Trustees Marge Jeffries, Gene Boylan and I attended the July meeting of the Massachusetts Board of Library Commissioners at the newly opened Gardner Public Library, where they announced the awards for the 2004 construction grant round. Out of 41 libraries Milton received one of the top scores, based on need, suitability of our service objectives, how well the design meets objectives, the overall quality of the design and equalized valuation of the town.

In fact, Milton was only one of seven towns that to score high enough to qualify for the \$21 million in funds currently available to award. An additional 25 libraries have been placed on a waiting list to receive further appropriation from the legislature. Ten projects did not pass muster and have the opportunity to improve their plans and re-apply within six months.

Milton's award is \$3.68 million dollars. It is a tremendous validation of the goals of our project and the design vision of Schwarz – Silver Architects. It is a tribute to the hard work of the library staff, Building Committee and to the Library Space Needs Committee that preceded it.

Our one requirement to claim this award is to obtain our local funding for the project within six months – or January 7, 2006. This gives us two huge tasks to accomplish in the rest of 2005. One is to raise another \$3.8 million in private funds – one third of which is currently

in hand. The other is to build public support for a fall vote that will commit some \$6 million in public funds to reach our total project expense of \$13.4 million.

The Friends Corner

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

The state construction grant awarded to the Milton Library brings us so much closer to the reality of a renovated and up to date library, one that can satisfy the needs of the Milton community. On behalf of the Friends of the Library, I would like to thank Library Director Phil McNulty and the members of the Library Building Committee for their efforts in preparing a grant application that clearly shows the need we have in Milton for a new Library. Out of the 41 cities and towns that applied for grant money, Milton was one of just seven that received the first round of money! Now the tough work really begins...we need to spread the word and make sure Milton residents know about the building project so that it is approved by both Town Meeting members in the early fall, and a town wide vote of Milton residents later in the fall.

Here's where we could use the help of our Friends! Please talk to your Town Meeting members about the project. And, if you can spare a few hours to help us get the word out to your friends and neighbors in Milton, by helping us stuff envelopes for mailings, deliver materials in your neighborhood, or make phone calls, we ask you to join the Campaign to Restore the Milton Public Library! If you can help, please contact Jennifer White at 617-698-9898 or jenlacontiwhite@yahoo.com.

The Friends Corner

...continued

The summer may seem like a quiet time for some, but not at the Library. Going Places @ Your Library, a program for young readers, and Summer Sizzler Book Sales (Wednesdays from 6-8pm, from July 20th – August 24th), will keep the place buzzing. Check out www.miltonlibrary.org for more details.

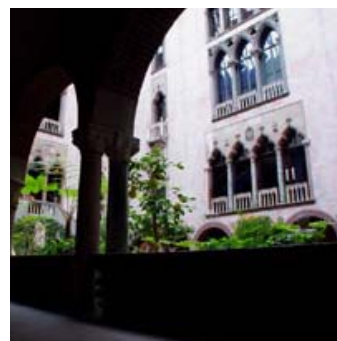
We're guaranteeing another very busy season of programs this fall, starting with the Raise the Roof Gospel Choir Concert, on Sunday, September 25th, at 4pm. The South Central Mass Gospel Choir will raise not only the roof, but also your spirits and your voices. Bring the family along for a great afternoon of celebration. Look for more event details over the summer. On Wednesday evening, October 5th, we welcome Boston Globe Columnist, Brian McGrory to Milton, for our second annual "Meet the Journalists" forum. On Saturday, November 5th, join us for "Milton Writes", and meet local Milton authors for a session of readings, refreshments and informal conversation with Milton readers who might not know of the large number of local authors living in our midst here in Milton!

Let me close with a story of a boy who attended a Library House Party with his mother a few months ago. After listening to comments about the importance of the fundraising effort to the future success of the Library building project, he waited until the question and answer session, and asked if there was something the kids of the Milton community to do to help build a new library. That question was the incentive behind a program called LemonAID for the Library! During the weekend of September 10-11, children all over Milton will set up lemonade stands in their neighborhoods, and help raise money for the Library. If you have a child (or a grandchild) who would like to participate

either in their own neighborhood, or at some of the public venues around Milton, please contact Sue Balestraci at 617-698-3339. By the way...that little boy who asked the question was Brian Bauer, son of Martin Bauer and Library Trustee Kathy Fagan Bauer. Way to go Brian!

Enjoy the summer everyone. As the song goes...see you in September!
Connie Spiros

P.S. A special thanks to our Friend Helen Buchanan for donating a membership at the **Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum**. Summer is the perfect time to enjoy great art in a cool place, and the Gardner is much more than just a museum...it's a bit of Boston history in a beautiful home setting. Ask about Gardner and other museum passes at the Library's circulation desk.



Children's Room News

By Elaine Weischedel

June was a very busy month in the Children's Department. All of the 3rd and 4th grade classes in the Milton School system came by for a visit. The children were given a flyer containing information about our GoingPlaces @Your Library summer programs and a short presentation on the history of the Milton Public Library. Children who had not previously had a library card were able to obtain one, and all the children had an opportunity to check out some books.

On June 20 registration for the summer reading club began. Children who signed up received a bag, book mark and mood pencil,

all decorated with the summer reading theme logo. Club members can do their summer reading by playing book bingo, keeping track of time spent reading, or by working through a checklist of reading choices. Completing a reading sheet earns each child a prize from our treasure chest. All club members are also eligible for weekly drawings that award backpacks and paperback books to lucky winners. More than 260 children have signed up already. Children can continue to sign up through July 29.

Our kickoff program featuring magician Peter Boie drew an excited crowd to the Children's Room on a sultry summer afternoon. Peter entertained the jam-packed audience with his masterful sleight of hand, then told how reading a library book about magic got him started on his career. Following the show, the Friends of the Library held their annual family cook-out on the terrace. Fortunately the thunderstorms held off until the food was gone! Check out the calendar on the library website for information on the rest of our summer program schedule. If you're looking for ideas to keep the kids busy at home or while traveling this summer, take a look at these websites:

Summer Fun

<http://www.education-world.com/holidays/archives/summer.shtml>
Lots of activity ideas and links to other sources for crafts, games, and more.

Make a Splash This Summer

http://familyfun.go.com/parties/holiday/feature/summer_main_ms/
This site offers lots of craft ideas, indoor and outdoor activities, games and kid-friendly recipes.

Summer Reading

http://www.educationworld.com/summer_reading/
Lists of recommended titles and brief reviews arranged by grade level (K-8) as well as

“book-tivities” to keep kids busy and reading. A sample is the ...

Museum Treasure Hunt

Why not take a group of kids on a summertime tour of a nearby museum? (An art museum would be great, but any kind of museum would be fine.) Before you start your museum tour, make a quick stop in the museum store to purchase a selection of postcards that show items from the museum's collection. Then divide the postcards among the children and challenge them to find all the exhibits (paintings, fossils, items from history) they hold in their hands. This little treasure hunt might help keep kids focused, even those with short attention spans, and it's sure to make your museum adventure interesting and fun!

Challenge Grant!

We have a tremendous fundraising opportunity thanks to a generous challenge grant from Milton residents Abbie Johnson and Chris McKown.

If the **Milton Library Foundation** can raise \$500,000 between June 1 and September 30 this year, they will add another \$250,000!

Your contribution at this time will greatly help us in meeting this challenge, as well as demonstrating support before our anticipated fall vote.

Please contribute to the Milton Library Foundation at

Post Office Box 314
Milton, Massachusetts 02186

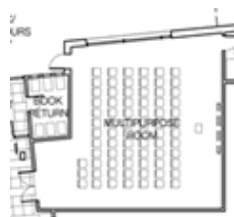
Or contact Library Director Phil McNulty for more information: 617.698.5757x4 or pmcnulty@ocln.org.

A Place for People

By Phil McNulty

Our third installment on how the building project will improve library service focuses on people. When people think of libraries they think of spaces for books and more lately for computers. While this is important, we have to keep the broader picture always in mind: We are creating space for people ... to read, to research, to work, to study, to listen to stories and speakers, to learn and to gather as a community.

Libraries in the last quarter century have become true community centers. The general meeting room, conference room and study rooms we are proposing will be heavily used – as they are in many neighboring towns that have included these in their library facilities. Not only will these rooms be useful for library programs, story hours, author talks, Trustee meetings and Friends books sales, but they will be available to a wide array of community groups, clubs, literacy and other tutors.

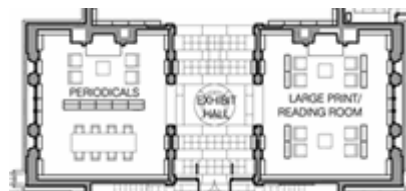


Seating for students and researchers is a huge shortcoming in the present library. We have 67 seats where national standards indicate that we should have double that number for a town of Milton's size. Even worse, nearly half our seats are at large 8-person tables. They are never used to full capacity because people are naturally reluctant to crowd in unless they are working together.

Comfortable reader seating does not exist. There are also no quiet nooks other than the upper floor gallery, which is not now handicapped accessible.

Schwarz / Silver's design improves all of these elements for the new library. You will find 144 seats, many of them comfortable reader chairs and none of them at tables larger

than four. There will be four quiet study rooms that can be used by tutors and researchers. Our two busy and congested "great rooms", now used for reference and new materials, will become a reading room and periodical room away from the main flow of traffic through the building.



Computer users will also have much better access to workstations. They will find 32 library stations instead of jostling for the 17 we now have. Patrons with wireless equipped laptops will also be able to get internet connections through the library's wireless access points.

The library will grow from being in many respects little more than a pickup and dropoff point for books to a community gathering space, a place for research, learning, interaction ... a place for people.

From the Reference Desk

By Dan Haacker

Focus on Travel Books

Summer is undeniably the height of the travel season. Although many of us travel throughout the year, it is the summer when it is more concentrated. Recently, I went to the New England Mobile Book Fair to select some new travel books. I decided to look for guides that were not your normal run-of-the-mill variety. Instead, I choose guides that were of a more specialized nature for the traveler who might want something different in a travel guide. Here are a few that I selected that may be of interest to you now or if you are planning a trip or excursion later.

Scotland by *Richenda Miers*. This is part of the excellent Cadogan Guide series. A British title available from Globe Pequot Press, it begins with a photographic essay and then is followed by an historical chapter. Then what follows are chapters on the various cities or areas of Scotland, such as Edinburgh, Aberdeen, Loch Lomond, the Highlands, and the Northern Isles. It also includes numerous maps of each area discussed. At the conclusion of the book is a chapter of biographical notes, chronology, glossary, and bibliography. It is also well indexed. Anyone traveling to Scotland would surely want to consult this informative guide.

Chile by *Tim Burford* This is also a British travel guide. It is one of the Bradt travel guides and is also available here in the United States from Globe Pequot. It begins with background and practical information for the traveler to Chile. It then has chapters on the various parts of Chile, including Santiago, Central Chile, Tierra del Fuego, the Pacific Islands and Easter Island. At the conclusion of the guide it has a short dictionary and bibliography for further readings. It is not as well illustrated or does it have as many maps as the Cadogan Guide but it is still very extensive in its coverage of entire country of Chile.

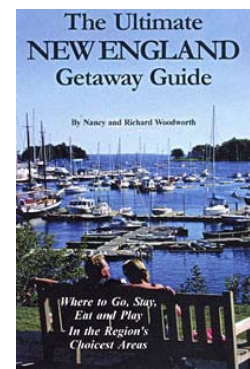
Myrtle Beach and the Grand Strand by *Kimberly Allyson Duncan and Lisa Tomer Rentz* This is part of the Insider's Guide Series. Myrtle Beach, South Carolina is a well known resort for not only the beach but also for its many golf courses. What one might not know is that they also have attractions such as deep sea fishing, NASCAR SpeedPark and Country music venues. This book is sparse when it comes to pictures and maps but the publisher says that each title "is written by locals and true insiders" that "offers a personal, practical perspective". It has to it's credit many helpful chapters on accommodations both motels and long term rentals, kidstuff, attractions, shopping and even real estate if one is interested in

relocating or buying a second home in the area. On the whole, a very informative guide.

Best places-Northwest: the locals guide to the best restaurants, lodgings, sights, shopping and more, edited by *Giselle Smith* This travel guide covers from British Columbia to Southern Oregon. Each restaurant or accommodation is rated by not only a one to four stars but also by such designations as "Editor's Choice" or "good value". It is not illustrated which is unusual for current travel guides but then the main thrust of this book is to "guide you to all the BEST the Northwest offers". It has extensive listings for such areas as the Olympic Peninsula, Vancouver, Columbia River Gorge, and Puget Sound to name a few. While I have traveled in British Columbia, I have not been to Oregon or Washington State but when and if I do go there I will surely consult this informative guide.

The ultimate New England getaway guide: where to go stay, eat and play in the region's choicest areas by Nancy and Richard Woodworth.

If you do not want to travel far or just want to go on a short jaunt over a long weekend here is the guide for you. It has chapters on all 6 New England states and then subdivides each into various areas of the state. For example, for New Hampshire it has sections on Lake Winnepesaukee, Franconia/Bethlehem, Mount Washington Valley, and Portsmouth. Then they recommend what to see and do, where to stay, and where to eat. This guide would be ideal for anyone venturing out to look at the Fall foliage, for example.



In conclusion, whether you are traveling near or far don't forget to check with the library to see what we can do to help you plan your next trip.

News from East Milton

By Pat Bergin

The East Milton Library has been a busy place this summer. Regularly scheduled story hours ended in June, but a series of on-going programs has taken their place. In late May, Carolyn Martino, a storyteller from Rhode Island, entertained with humorous and moving tales from her native Italian background. On a very rainy day our audience spent a delightful afternoon listening to Carolyn's moving stories, while enjoying hot coffee and biscotti.

On Friday, July 15, at 10:00 A.M., a naturalist from the Trailside Museum will present a wildlife program for children. He will tell a nature story and, with the help of several live animals, will talk about wildlife and natural habitats.

On Tuesday, August 2, at 2:00 P.M., our favorite storyteller from Rhode Island, Carolyn Martino, will pay us a return visit, this time for children. She will tell stories related to the Summer Reading theme, "Going Places with Books". Her great storytelling techniques and her ability to engage her audience should make this a very special program for children.

In addition to these special events, the East Milton Library is participating in the Summer Reading Program, "Going Places with Books", for children. Pick up a registration form at the desk and receive a game sheet and the chance to win a weekly prize.

We invite everyone to stop by the East Milton Library to enjoy any, or all, of these special summer activities.

Calendar of Events

Mondays – 10:30

July 11 through August 8th

Small Wonders - "Lap sit" story times for babies & toddlers. No Registration required.

Wednesdays – 6-8 pm

July 20 through August 24th

Summer Sizzler Book Sales

Basement Conference Room

Fridays – 10:30

July 8 through August 12th

Time for Tales - Stories for ages 3-5. No registration required.

September 17

Saturday

Celebrate Milton - at Cunningham Park.

September 25 – 4 pm

Sunday

Raise the Roof Gospel Concert

October 3 – 7:30 pm

Monday

Book Discussion – *Title to be announced!*

Discussions at the Library: 10:00 am and 7:30 pm; At Winter Valley, 4pm

October 5 – 7:30 pm

Wednesday

Brian McGrory, Boston Globe Columnist

October 20 - 22

Annual Fall Book Sale

Thursday evening for Friends Members, Friday afternoon and Saturday 10-3.

November 5 – 3pm

Saturday

"Milton Writes" - a gathering of Milton Authors

For the latest information on events, visit www.miltonlibrary.org



JFK Event Raises \$35,000

Art Buchwald talks with Library Building Committee Chair Tom Martinson and Library Friend Suzette Standing before the 2nd annual literary gala dinner at the John F. Kennedy Library, June 8.

The event welcomed over 320 attendees and netted \$35,000 for the library building campaign - the first step towards meeting the challenge grant described earlier in this newsletter.

Mr. Buchwald had the audience roaring with stories from his days in Paris and his accurate barbs about today's Washington scene.

Renew or Join the Friends of the Milton Public Library

NOTE: Membership runs on a calendar year basis.

Invoices 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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Big News!
**Library Construction
Grant Awarded to
Milton!**

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, through Sept. 3)
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:
July 2005.**