



Milton Public Library

Letter No. 2006 -2

We Appreciate Your Continuing Support.

October, 2006

Director's Message

By Phil McNulty

It has been an incredibly busy time at the library since our last report. You have probably noticed a lot of company when you are in, and we certainly have seen an increased borrowing load. The figures for the fiscal year ending in July bear this out: Borrowing levels were up 10% over fiscal year 2005 levels. You and your neighbors took out a total of 209,670 items, 18,701 more than the previous year. The summer story hour had many more signups this year, and meeting room bookings were the highest we have ever recorded.

This activity certainly shows strong and growing interest in the library, and also is helped by improvements in our book budget, and hopefully continued improvement in buying the materials that you want to see in your library.

In the spring we were all saddened by the sudden passing of long time librarian Patricia Bergin. Pat had served in many capacities in the library since 1989, first as a library assistant, and then after she earned her Master's in Library Science she worked in the children's department, as young adult librarian and as branch librarian. Pat will be missed by all.

East Milton Branch was introduced to a new branch librarian in July. Jean Hlady comes to us from a position as Assistant Director at the Saugus Public Library and previously as Branch Librarian at Dedham's Endicott Branch. Jean is bringing an incredible

amount of energy and professional skill to a formidable job this year, that of getting the branch ready to be one of our two main service points when the main library construction begins next spring. Jean has been purging the accumulated detritus of years and has also been working to transform the collection to one of predominately high-interest titles.

We have also welcomed Terese Stano as our new Adult Services Librarian this fall. Terese has been cataloger and reference librarian for the Plymouth Public Library and began her professional career at the Dedham Public Library. Terry takes over from Anna Litten, who has moved on to a position as full-time mom.

The Friends Corner

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

When the children go back to school and the leaves start to change colors, it feels like its time to get busy! The object of your "busy-ness" is up to you of course, but we at the Friends feel it's our job to provide you with some ideas for educational, informative, and just plain fun options, so here goes:

Big Fall Book Sale – our annual event takes place on October 12, 13, and 14 (look for a notice elsewhere in this newsletter), and we're shelving lots of great donations to get ready for our biggest sale of the year. We're coming off a great summer of sales, with our weekly Wednesday night and occasional Farmer's Market appearances, helping us reach a year to date total of almost \$5,000.

This year, we're also including a mini Fall Fair in our festivities on Saturday, October 14, from 10am-12noon. Be sure to stop by!

Milton Library's Meet the Press – our third annual Meet the Press, features Boston Herald columnist and 96.9 FM Talk host ***Margery Egan***. Ms Egan, co-host of the popular Egan and Braude show (daily from noon to 1 pm), will speak at Milton Academy's Strauss Hall on Monday, October 16, 2006, at 7:30 pm. Join Margery as she shares her thoughts on our own history-in-the-making Governor's race.

Annual Art Sale – this fundraising event, which gathers some of the finest local artists to our library, takes place on Saturday, December 2, 2006, from 10 am-2 pm. Thanks to friends Miriam and Herb Wotiz, thirty area artists will display and sell their works - just in time for the holidays! They will also make the Library's holiday even brighter, by donating 20% of their proceeds to the Friends.

We'll wrap up the fun with our ***Annual Holiday Party*** on Tuesday, December 12th (more details to follow), and cruise our way into the new year with lots more!

Membership Drive – our annual membership drive will take place in early November, and we hope you'll be as generous as you always are. Your membership in the Friends is an important part of our annual fundraising efforts, which help us support the many adult and children's programs the Library offers our community in Milton. Events such as *Meet the Press*, community outreach programs including *Books to the Homebound*, family activities like the *Summer Reading Program Kick-Off Cookout*, are all part of what we do with your funds. Thank you in advance for your support!

Become a Sponsor - this year, we've found a special way you can help us with your financial support. We invite you to sponsor a special event or program. You can become the reason the Friends of the Library can offer free museum memberships, author talks, or children's programs. Look for a flyer in your membership letter that outlines the possibilities.

To learn more about museum passes, children's story times and all our events, as well as the exciting plans for our new building, log onto www.miltonlibrary.org.

Happy Fall!

The Friends are looking for new ideas!

Do you know someone who is:

- **an author,**
- **a painter,**
- **a musician,**
- **a singer,**
- **or maybe a graphics genius?**

Could you be that person?

If you fit the description or you know someone who does you may be able to help the Friends of the Library!

Please contact Connie Spiros at cdspiros@comcast.net or 698-8003.

We need Authors to present their books, or offer a "how to", workshop;
Musicians or singers to perform at our events; Graphics designers who can help the Friends come up with a LOGO;
Painters who might like to exhibit their works in our gallery

News from East Milton

By Jean Hlady

I am very pleased to introduce myself as Branch Librarian for East Milton. I have enjoyed my start in Milton and hope to put my nearly 20 years of reference and collection development experience to good use. My husband and I live in Dedham with our high school-aged son.

I have been cleaning and updating the Branch, including weeding out worn books and ordering new materials. The East staff is anticipating lots more business as the main library moves towards closing in the Spring for renovation, so we are making room for many more books, DVDs and audiobooks, some of which will be on loan from the main collections.

Thayer Nursery has done a great job with their landscaping work in front of the building so that there were lovely flowers and shrubs blooming all summer long. Please come by and admire their handiwork. We so appreciate the gift of their time and materials to make the grounds beautiful. In addition, this Fall will bring several building improvements to East, including a new furnace, repairs to the roof, and three new doors at the side and back of the library. The handicapped entrance will also be partially rebuilt by replacing boards so that the new door can be installed. Work has already started on these projects.

On September 15th, the branch offered children and their families a concert featuring singer/guitarist Rick Goldin as a kickoff for Fall storytimes. His singing puppets Henry the Horse and Quackleberry Duck charm the audience as children get to sing, dance and jump along with the songs. Mr. Goldin's latest recording, "I Like To Read," received a Parents' Choice

Recommended Award. The program was aided by volunteers from the Friends of the Milton Public Library.

On Fridays starting September 22nd there will be a drop-in storytime at 10 am geared to children ages 3-5 in the downstairs Childrens Room. This will continue through October 29th. We will read stories and sing songs for about 45 minutes. All children must have a parent present in the building, and younger siblings are welcome as long as they do not become disruptive.

Also, on Monday evenings between 7 and 9 pm, I will be happy to assist patrons with use of the library's computers, including Internet surfing, preparation of documents using Microsoft Word or Excel, and how to search the OCLN online catalog to find materials. This is an introductory lesson only to help those who may feel computer-phobic. Just call the branch at (617) 898-4960 to set up an appointment.

Please come visit us at the East Milton Branch Library during this busy Fall season!

A schedule note: we will be shifting our closed Monday evening supper hour 30 minutes earlier as of November 1, to help with evening program scheduling.

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 November title will be "*curious incident of the dog in the night-time*" by Mark Haddon. A fifteen year old autistic boy writes about his life from his perspective. Who doesn't know an autistic child?

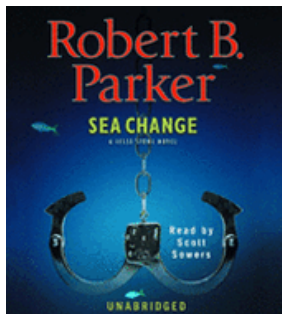
New to the Collection

By Shirley Pyne

Books on compact disc have been very popular in recent years. They are perfect for people who have long commutes, for students, and for multi-tasking people who listen while they work. We have recently purchased some best-sellers and some classic titles. We've also added a new standing order plan for best-selling books on compact disc. We should be receiving a steady supply of titles to keep the collection up-to-date. These are some of the recent additions.

A Prairie Home Companion: It's Only a Show contains live performances from the popular radio show. Listen again to Guy Noir, Private Eye, cowboys Dusty and Lefty, the All-Star Shoe Band, and Garrison Keillor's monologs about the people of Lake Wobegon, "where all the women are pretty, all the men are handsome, and all the children are above average".

Sea Change: a Jesse Stone Novel, by Robert B. Parker takes place in Paradise, Massachusetts. Police chief Jesse Stone faces the case of his career when the partially decomposed body of a woman washes ashore. The victim, Florence Horvath was a recently divorced heiress. Investigating her death leads Jesse into a world of depravity in two Florida yacht clubs.

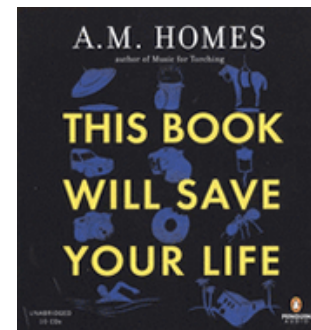


Smart and Simple Financial Strategies for Busy People, by Jane Bryant Quinn, describes money management strategies that are simple and effective. Quinn says that

investors should forget complicated, expensive strategies proposed by financial managers. She gives readers some alternative ideas that will produce regular savings, financial security, long-term investment growth, personal control, and peace of mind.

The Death of a Salesman & the Crucible by Arthur Miller are part of the ***Arthur Miller Audio Collection on Compact Disc***. The set features full cast recordings of Arthur Miller's most famous plays. *Death of a Salesman* is the Pulitzer Prize winning play about a man who is in great emotional turmoil as he considers life and realizes that he "sold his life in pursuit of the American dream." *The Crucible*, Miller's most produced play, deals with "mass hysteria, empty piety, and collective evil". The town minister witnesses a secret ceremony performed by a group of girls. Soon the girls are falsely accused of witchcraft and put on trial.

This Book Will Save Your Life, by A. M. Homes is an uplifting, funny novel about what can happen when you open yourself up to new experiences and friendships. Richard Novak, a middle aged man who lives in his own world, has a life changing experience after a trip to the hospital for intense pain, and after a sinkhole opens in the street near his house. These events force him to notice the world around him; and in the process, he meets new friends and re-connects with estranged relatives.



Building Project Update

By Phil McNulty

The Library Building Committee has also had a very active year. Led by committee chair Tom Martinson, the seven member team started the year by selecting Design Technique, Inc. to be project managers. The committee then renewed the contract with Schwartz/Silver Architects

The first step was to review the 2004 schematic design in view of all have learned in the intervening two years. The committee and architects determined that it was worth examining how the addition would sit on the lot, and began to explore an addition that would project directly behind the library in an I shape, rather than behind and to the side in an L.

The advantages of this plan became quickly obvious. The parking could work on the same plan as the gravel lot, entry and exit onto Canton Ave., instead of a pass through to Reedsdale. This would have building security advantages, since all entry would be on the main level. Before 2/3rds of the parking led to the unsupervised meeting room level. The old plan also had the bulk of the parking up against the conservation no-touch line, and conservation commission officers advised us that a plan that pulled more parking away from that zone and put building there instead was advantageous.

The advantages to library operations will be strong. New plans incorporate a return center near the main entrance that will allow staff to more easily handle the expected increases in borrowing. In most other respects the relationships between spaces are exactly as they were in the '04 plans, building on the important work done by the Library Space Needs Committee.

Cost concerns were definitely a factor in the plan revision. While the 2004/05 budget envisioned 3% construction inflation per year, higher than in previous years, the actual impacts of an Asian building boom, hurricane rebuilding and oil price increases boosted construction inflation to the 7% per annum level. The new plan involves less excavation, shorter and simpler retaining walls, and a more regularly shaped building – all elements that will keep costs down.

The committee wants to keep a similar exterior feel to the building. The architect has been refining exterior looks in the last few weeks, and we should be able to show a rendering of the revised design soon.

In addition to Mr. Martinson, continuing Library Building Committee members are Library Trustee Gene Boylan, Library Trustee Jennifer White, Frank Davis, and Jeff Gouveia. New in 2006 are members David Hall and Ellen Anselone, who is returning from service on the Library Space Needs Committee. Leaving the Building Committee were two members who had served since the beginning of the Library Space Needs Committee, Sean Stewart and LSNC Chairperson Susanna B. Place.

Community Service Helpers Needed!

Do you have a son or daughter in need of community service hours?

The Friends of the Library needs their help with a variety of projects including; shelving books for sales, stuffing envelopes for the membership mailing, labeling postcards, and staffing the welcome desk at events.

Please contact Connie Spiros at
cdspiros@comcast.net
or 698-8003.

Calendar of Events

Wednesdays – 10:00
Through December 13

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

Thursdays – 10:00
Through December 14

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

Fridays – 10:00
Through October 29

Story Time at East Milton
For ages 3-5. Come join us for stories, nursery rhymes and songs.
No registration required. Younger siblings are welcome, but must be accompanied by an adult during the stories.

October 10 – 7:00

Friends Monthly Meeting
Lower Level Conference Room

October 12 – 6 pm to 8 pm
Thursday

Fall Book Sale – Friend's Preview Night
Lower Level Conference Room

Friends members get first peek at the sale items. Memberships available at the door.

October 13 – 2:30 pm to 4:30pm
Friday

Fall Book Sale
Lower Level Conference Room

October 14 – 9:30 am to 3:30 pm
Saturday

Fall Book Sale
Lower Level Conference Room

October 14 – 10:00 to 12:00
Saturday

FALL FAIR
Enjoy Crafts and Food
Lower Level Conference Room

October 16 – 7:30 pm
Monday

Milton Academy's Strauss Hall,
170 Centre Street

Meet the Press
Margery Egan
96.9FM Talk Show Host and Herald Columnist
Milton Academy's Strauss Hall, 170 Centre Street
Confirm your place, contact Connie Spiros
698-8003 or cdspiros@comcast.net

December 2 - 10:00 to 2:00

Art Sale
The Friends of the Library Art Sale returns for another year.
See selections from Local Artists.

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



John Meacham,

managing editor of Newsweek magazine, was the featured speaker at the third annual Literary Gala run for the benefit of the Milton Library Foundation on May 31st.

John spoke about his latest book "American Gospel : God, the founding fathers, and the making of a nation."

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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Annual Art Sale!

Saturday, December 2;
10 am to 2 pm

Look for selections from a wide
variety of local artists!

Milton Main Library

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

Hours of Operation:

Monday – Thursday 9 – 9
Friday 1 – 5:30 (Summer 9 – 5:30)
Saturday 9 – 5 (Closed Summer)
Sunday Closed

East Milton Branch

334 Edgehill Road
Milton, MA 02186
Tel. 617-898-4960

Hours of Operation:

Monday 1 – 5:30, 6:30 – 9 (Revised as of Nov. 1!)
Tuesday & Thursday 1 – 5:30
Wednesday Closed
Friday 9 – 12, 1 – 5:30
Saturday & Sunday Closed



View of the Proposed Library Expansion

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October 2006