



## **A MESSAGE FROM PHIL MCNULTY-** Library Director

Good news came in from the Massachusetts Board of Library Commissioners as I sat to write this message today. Milton Public Library has again been certified to receive state aid for library service. Not only does this win us a \$24,000 grant, it also extends the privilege of all Milton residents to borrow materials at any certified library in the state. The library had to meet several criteria in order to be certified. The overall budget had to be 2.5% higher than the average of the previous three years (we cleared by 11 cents thanks to specific efforts of the Warrant Committee), we had to spend 13% of our budget on materials for the library collection (only achieved with the help of Friends donations), we have to maintain at least 63 hours open to the public every week, and finally lend materials to residents of other certified towns.

I wish I could report more progress on the temporary parking lot. Our goal is to put 42 spaces on a gravel lot in the space vacated by the Smith house. The DPW took down and removed many trees as a first step. However, initial quotes for leveling the lot, placing the gravel and adding two paved drives off of the street came in much higher than anticipated. At this point we are evaluating whether the town can manage more of the project or whether to launch a formal bid process.

The Schematic Design process for the new building is making considerable progress. The first week in November was a big review week for the draft plan. The Library Space Needs Committee reviewed plans on the 3<sup>rd</sup>, the Building Consultant of the Massachusetts Board of Library Commissioners reviewed them on the 4<sup>th</sup> and the Town Building and Engineering department heads reviewed the plans on the 6<sup>th</sup>. The space needs committee is now planning on how to incorporate suggestions resulting from these meetings into the design.

The Milton Camera Club held a very successful exhibit in October. They made use of the display cases and wall space in the main lobby and made extensive use of the gallery space upstairs. The show was extremely well received. Hopefully it will be the first of many that allow local artists to exhibit their work.

On December 4<sup>th</sup> Meghan Malone will return to work as Head of the East Milton Branch after her maternity leave. I wish to extend the thanks of all to Debbie Backman who filled in so ably in Meghan's absence.

Our Reference Room has a cleaner look thanks to the Friends purchase of a new set of computer tables. They give our computer users some more elbow room, while getting the processor boxes off of the desktops and freeing up space in front of the atlas case. We are working on setting up a secondary internet access center in the young adult room, which will be filtered and secured in the same way the children's room computers are. Hopefully as you receive this newsletter we will be upgrading our main lobby area with new shelving. We will be building in new CD drawers that fit into the old LP cases, and making a more accessible and prominent new book area where the music now stands in the lobby. This also is a project made possible by the Friends of the Milton Library.

## **LIBRARY BOOK DISCUSSION** – Marjorie Jeffries, Library Trustee

It's new! (to Milton). It's different! It's stolen! (the idea, that is).

THE WHOLE TOWN IS GOING TO READ ONE BOOK: *Theodore Roosevelt* by Louis Auchincloss. What is behind this plot to have everyone read a biography of our twenty sixth president? The 100th Anniversary Celebration of the Milton Public Library building. Members of the Friends Anniversary Committee looked for a book (we're celebrating a Library, after all) that would be of interest to male and female and young and old. The Auchincloss book is very readable, available and not expensive.

Why choose President Roosevelt? Because, can you guess? He was President in 1904 when the building was completed. The turn of the century was a time of beginnings, of violence and activity and Mr. Roosevelt was involved and influenced almost all of it. Because of this, learning about President Roosevelt's life and times teases us to delve into a large variety of interesting subjects, many of which reverberate today.

By reading this short biography, you will glimpse what was going on in our country at the very time that citizens of Milton were meeting to discuss our library situation and Town Meeting was voting to accept and supplement large donations of several prominent citizens to finance the Library building project.

The Friends Anniversary Celebration Committee want to give people plenty of time to read this book, (December and January) then many Discussion times in February are planned for us to come together and talk about this remarkable man and his era.

We don't want to leave out the younger set, so we recommend that you get a copy of *The Tale of Two Teddies, the First Teddy Bears to Tell Their True Stories*, by Kathleen Bart, a picture book format to be read aloud.

The holidays are coming, so think about giving these books to hard to please family, friends and neighbors, as a unifying influence in our town and a tribute to all the many people who have worked in or for our historic library building.

Copies of the books will be available at or through the Library at discount prices. Keep tuned for more news about this and coming events and activities in connection with the 100th Anniversary.

## **NEWS FROM THE CHILDREN'S ROOM** – Anne Parker, Children's Librarian

The library has recently received a number of new animal books. These include books on insects, mammals, fish and birds.

*The Life and Times of the Ant* is by Charles Micucci (Houghton, 2003). This book presents the history of ants as well as their characteristics and behavior. This book is suitable for children ages 8-11.

*Rabbits, Rabbits, & More Rabbits* by Gail Gibbons (Holiday House, 2000) presents different varieties of rabbits as well as how to care for them as pets and where they live in the wild. This book is suitable for children ages 8-11.

*Whales! Strange and Wonderful* by Laurence Pringle (Boyd Mills Press 2003) presents the behavior, appearance and species of whales. This book is suitable for ages 9-12.

*My Seasons with Penguins* by Sophie Webb (Houghton 2000) is a journal of the author's stay in Antarctica to study and paint whales. Reading this book you learn some surprising things about whales. This book is suitable for children ages 9-12.

*On the Wing* by Carol Lerner (Harper Collins 2001) is a discussion American bird migration. If you've ever wondered where birds go when they migrate, this is the book to read. This book is suitable for ages 9-12.

All of these books can be found at the Milton Public Library Children's Room.

### **Acquisitions** - Shirley Pyne, Technical Services Librarian

#### Holiday Cooking and Entertainment

The holiday season can be a time of social gatherings. We have just received some cookbooks that will help you to serve your guests.

*The Best American Recipes 2003-2004*, edited by Fran McCullough and Holly Stephens contains recipes that are culled from magazines, cookbooks, newsletters, Web sites, food packages and emails. The editors claim that this year's recipes are easy to prepare. Included are: an easy pasta dish from world-famous chef Alain Ducasse, a foolproof turkey recipe from a famous New York restaurant, and many desserts for holiday parties.

*Cooking from the Heart: 100 Great American Chefs Share Recipes They Cherish*, by Michael Rosen. Each chef contributes a superb dish and also tells the story of why the dish is important to him. Included are holiday dishes, comfort foods, cross cultural innovations, and family classics.

*Cooking at Home with the Culinary Institute of America* is a guide to the techniques that will make the best use of the various types of food. Each chapter starts with an illustrated section on techniques, such as cutting, and best cooking styles for the food group. Then there are several delicious-looking recipes. This book will be useful for people wanting to improve their cooking technique.

*Bistro Cooking at Home* by Gordon Hamersley is designed for busy cooks who really want to taste bold and full-flavored comfort foods. Many of the dishes involve walk away cooking that allows you put the food in the oven or crock pot and let it bake or stew while you do something else. Other recipes taste better if made a day ahead and reheated. The author says that his recipes will result in food that is like the best home cooking and better than the standard restaurant fare.

*Alton Brown's Gear for your Kitchen* offers advice on stocking your kitchen with the basic and the best quality kitchen tools. In the introduction, Brown emphasizes the need to weed out those items that aren't used or that aren't well made. Then he

devotes a chapter to each class of tools: Pots and pans, sharp things, small appliances, non-electric tools, storage, safety and sanitation.

If you are planning a holiday party, you may need background music. Be sure to check out our display of holiday music near the adult circulation desk. We have recently added some new compact discs, which have been checked out. This is a sample of music that was checked in at this writing.

*Black Christmas: Spirituals in the African-American Tradition Christmas in England*, performed by The Choir of New College, Oxford and the Collegium Novum Ensemble, a collection of sacred Christmas music

*A Dave Brubeck Christmas*, featuring Dave Brubeck on piano

*Jazz for Joy*, a compilation of holiday songs by various artists

*98 Degrees: This Christmas*

If you aren't planning to cook or listen to music, you may want to read these books or give them as gifts. The quoted passages are from the book jackets.

*So Many Books, So Little Time: a Year of Passionate Reading*, by Sara Nelson. "The well-known publishing correspondent and self-described 'readaholic' chronicles a year spent reading." Perhaps her choices will give the rest of us some ideas about what to read. At this busy time of year, I bet that many of us can relate to the title; there are indeed so many books, so little time.

*The Funny Thing is...*, by Ellen DeGeneres "contains hundreds of succinct insights into her psyche, supplemented by easy to understand charts, graphs, and diagrams so that you'll never miss a joke." This sounds like a good escapist book.

*The Opposite of Fate: a Book of Musings*, by Amy Tan. "With the same spirit and humor that characterize her beloved novels, Amy Tan presents a refreshing antidote to the world-weariness and uncertainties we face today, contemplating how things happen – in her life and beyond – but always returning to the question of fate and its opposites; the choices, charms, influences, attitudes, and lucky accidents that shape us all."

*Four Days in November: the Original Coverage of the John F. Kennedy Assassination*, by the Staff of *The New York Times*. "This commemorative volume provides a poignant, definitive, firsthand account and a detailed chronology of the events that took place in Dallas and Washington from November 22 to November 25, 1963. Here is history being recorded in the moment – a recitation not just of facts but of emotions and reactions as they were being experienced."

*The President's House: A First Daughter Shares the History and Secrets of the World's Most Famous Home, by Margaret Truman.* Included are "hilarious stories of Teddy Roosevelt's rambunctious children...the real story of the Lincoln Bedroom, and the thrilling narrative of how First Lady Dolley Madison rescued a priceless portrait of George Washington and a copy of the Declaration of Independence before British soldiers torched the White House in 1814."

**BOOK SALES NEWS** - Connie Spiros, Book Sale Committee

The Book Sale Team just closed out another great year, raising over \$7,200!

We want to thank all the Library patrons who donated great books, and of course all the "regulars" who come back season after season to find great bargains at our sales. We love your stories about buying best sellers for \$1, after hearing your friends tell you they paid \$13 at those big name book stores!

A special thanks to all our volunteers including:

Gene Boylan	David Jackson
Jocelyn Burke	Ruth Johnstone
Enid Chapman	Elizabeth Mock
Anita Chase – a new volunteer this year!	Matt Reardon – community service volunteer
Terry Douglass	Helen Sim
Phyllis Esau – a new volunteer this year!	Dottie Snow
Krys Glavin	Ruth Tucker
Carol Hahnfeld	Steven Wildes –community service volunteer
Charlie Harnden – a community service volunteer	

Without the help of these shelveers, and sale workers, we couldn't make it happen, so thank you to all involved in making our sales a big success!

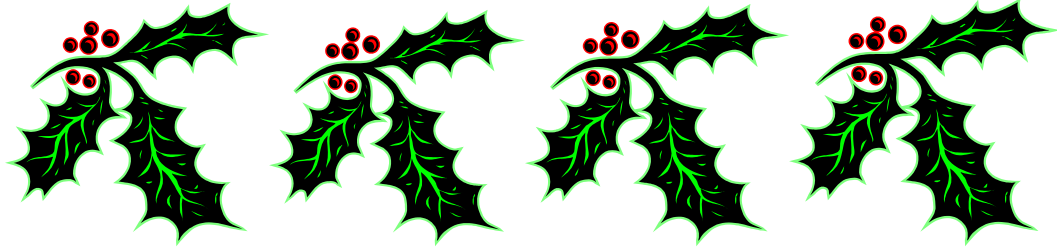
We still have many many great books on the shelves, so will be hosting **WINTER WONDERLAND** sales starting on Saturday, January 17 through the end of March. Look for more details in January.

If you would like to volunteer for the WINTER sales, please contact either of us at:

Connie Spiros      617-698-8003  
Marie-Laure Brown 617-698-8125

[cdspiros@comcast.net](mailto:cdspiros@comcast.net)  
[marie-laure.brown@usa.net](mailto:marie-laure.brown@usa.net)





## **Friends of the Library Annual Holiday Party**

**Tuesday, December 9<sup>th</sup>, 2003  
7:00pm-9:00pm**

The First Congregational Church Hall  
495 Canton Avenue, Milton

Admission is free,  
but we ask that you bring along a treat!

**If your last name starts with A-L;  
please bring a dessert**

**If your last name starts with M-Z;  
please bring an appetizer**

To RSVP, contact Connie Spiros  
at 617-698-8003 or [cdspiros@comcast.net](mailto:cdspiros@comcast.net)

## ***Be a Friend of the Milton Public Library***

and help us Write the Next Chapter of Our Library's Future!

### **As a member, you can...**

- Help the Library continue and enhance its service to the Milton community,
- Participate in fundraising activities including book sales, children's educational programs, author events, musical performances and book discussions,
- Help support the Library's need for new books, passes to local museums, recorded books, and many other programs.

### **As a member, you will...**

- Receive preferential admission to many of our programs and events,
  - Subscribe to The Newsletter, filled with book reviews, notices of special events, and preview information about activities around the Library,
  - Meet other great people who LOVE books as much as you do!
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### **Renew or Join the Friends of the Milton Public Library**

Your membership dues are tax deductible (IRS approved)

- 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 \_\_\_\_\_

**I am interested in helping out with one of the Friends activities. Please contact me about:**

- Fund Raising       Book Sales       Story Hours       Author Events  
 Other \_\_\_\_\_

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, Web-site:*

[www.miltonlibrary.org](http://www.miltonlibrary.org)

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

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**UPCOMING EVENTS  
Holiday Party  
Tuesday, December 9, 2003**