

Milton Public Library Newsletter



Letter No. 2003-4

September 2003



Milton Main Library
476 Canton Avenue
Milton, Ma 02186
Tel. 617-698-5757
Fax. 617-698-0441
email: miref@ocln.org

Web Page
www.miltonlibrary.org

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

It has been a very eventful summer for the Milton Public Library. The extended loan periods have been met with wide acclaim. People really like being able to keep a new book for two weeks and ordinary books for three. The groans about 20 cent fines for adult items have not been as loud as we feared. As expected, the reviews on the switch from date due cards to printed slips is mixed. Some folks, especially parents, love to be able to tack the printed slip up on the fridge and keep tabs on what has been taken and returned. Others much preferred to have a card in each book, so they could just open the book and look at it. Since public opinion is divided, we'll go with the least-fuss option. Here the receipt printers show a clear advantage. Desk folks don't have to punch cards and slip each book, and processing staff don't have to prepare pockets and specialized labels. This has allowed us to start putting spine labels on the fiction books, so that they will be easier for you to find on the shelf, and for our pages to put back in the right spot.

A lot of work was accomplished on the building project this summer as well. Library Trustees and the Library Space Needs Committee approved a revised Building Program document. This describes what we want in a library, down to the level of what rooms there should be, how many seats in each and how big various parts of the collection should be. It says nothing about how the building should look, besides an indication of which rooms should be near other rooms. That is for the architect to suggest. The entire 87 page building program document can be seen either in our Reference Room or on our web page, <http://miltonlibrary.org>

Once the Building Program was approved, the architects set to work to design a building that met the goals. The Library Space Needs Committee met four times over the summer and there were a lot of interim meetings with the architects to refine the plan. That process is still ongoing, with the goal of a public review before winter. Some of the decisions already made feature a children's room on the main level with circulation, new books and fiction in the addition, and the great rooms being restored to a reading room and periodical room. Reference and young adults would be on the upper level, along with the director's office. Meeting rooms and staff work rooms would occupy the lower level. We are just now getting to the options of how the exterior façade of the addition will look.

Big news from the East Milton Branch is the birth of Joseph Thomas Malone on September 11. Meghan will be taking a few months off as Head of the Branch. Luckily, Deborah Backman was able to start that very day as our temporary Branch Librarian. Deborah has been on the job now for two weeks and has stepped right in. She will be resuming Monday night story times on Sept. 29.

This fall we should also look forward to seeing work progress on a temporary parking lot on our newly acquired land beside the main library. Trustees approved a plan by Town Engineer Walter Heller to place a gravel lot that should accommodate 42 cars. With luck we can get this accomplished before winter sets in.

BOOK SALE NEWS

First, a recap of our **Summer Sizzler Book Sales** held on Wednesday evenings in July and August...we raised over \$425, bringing our total for 2003 to \$5,111!
Now it's back to school season, and that means it's time to plan for our **BIG FALL BOOK SALE**.

The dates are set for October 23rd, 24th and 25th. Our book donation drives starts now and runs through October 22. We'll be asking for donations from members of the Friends of the Library and articles will run in the Milton Times and the Record Transcript over the next few weeks. Please pass along the word that we are in need of hard cover and paperback books in good condition. Just bring them to the Library lower level conference room area and look for the signs.

With the large number of books we expect to see arriving at the Conference Room door, we will need help shelving the books into categories. Each year we hear how well organized our book sales are, and that is due in large part to the volunteers who spend one or two hours a week during donation time, sorting through the books and categorizing them. If you have time to help and have shelved before, feel free to work out whatever schedule fits your calendar. If you are a new shelper and have an hour or two to share, please contact either Connie Spiros at 617-698-8003; cdspiros@comcast.net or Marie-Laure Brown at 617-696-8125; marie-laure.brown@usa.net, and we will show you the process.

BIG FALL BOOK SALE Hours of Operation

Thursday, October 23rd

6:00pm-8:30pm

Preview Sale for Friends

**Instant Memberships will be available
at the door**

Friday, October 24th

2:00pm-4:30pm

Saturday, October 25th

9:30am-3:30pm



Friends of the Milton Public Library officers Harley Laing, Elaine Gelinas, Elizabeth Mock and Connie Spiros invite Milton Library Patrons to enjoy the new outdoor furniture, provided by the Friends of the Library.

Lighthouse Keeper Shines – Friends Speaker Series Continues

Connie Spiros



The nation's first female lighthouse keeper explained the inner workings of life at Boston Light to an enthusiastic audience of boaters and history buffs on September 16th. Sally Snowman came in historical dress to explain the history of Boston Light and share her passion for the relevance of lighthouses as modern aids to navigation. She and her husband, Jay Thomson, spend a week at a time tending the two million candlepower light that shines twenty-seven miles out to ships at sea, directing them and their cargo safely into Boston.

Boston Light is accessible for visit by boat during the summer season. The program was co-sponsored by the Friends of the Milton Public Library and the Milton Historical Society.

The schedule of speakers for the balance of the year includes:

**Suzette Martinez Standring, "Managing Stress with Meditation/Self Hypnosis"
Wednesday, October 15th, 7:30pm at the Milton COA**

**Al Blanchard, "Mystery Night at the Milton Public Library"
Tuesday, November 18th, 7:30pm at the Library (in the Reading Room)**

LIBRARY BOOK DISCUSSION – Marjorie Jeffries, Library Trustee

School has begun and so have the Milton Public Library Book Discussions. October 6th begins the session with *Desirable Daughters* by Bharati Mukherjee. This book concerns sister relationships and cultural differences between the USA and Calcutta where the sisters grew up in a wealthy Brahmin family. Even if you have not read any of the discussion books, you are always welcome to come and listen. Usually our auditors are inspired to read the book after hearing about it.

Discussions all take place the first Monday of the month from October thru May, (no discussion in January) 10:00 AM and 7:30 PM in the downstairs Conference Room of the Library AND 4:00 PM at Winter Valley in Building #5.

The November book is *Cracking India* by Bapsi Sidhwa. It takes place in India. The story revolves around a child witnessing the effect on her neighborhood, of the Moslem breakaway from India which eventually results in the creation of Pakistan. Through her eyes we see the hatreds and agonies that were visited on those around her, whether they leave to go to the new country or stay behind. Today we might call it ethnic cleansing. Whatever its name huge migrations of people forced to leave their ancestral homes have occurred in many continents over the centuries, and will always result in unimaginable pain.

SHORT STORY CONTEST

The Short Story Contest entries due September 26th will be judged in the following weeks. Watch for the announcement of the Award Ceremony and come to congratulate the winners and hear them read their stories aloud.

WRITERS' WORKSHOP

We plan to have the Writers' Workshop again this year, so watch for the announcement of time and place. Since the Library will not be open on Sundays this winter, (due to budget constraints) we will have to schedule another day. Stay tuned!

BICYCLE AUCTION

Bring an unwanted bike to the Milton Police Station on Saturday, October 4th, between 12:00 and 2:00 PM. No bike to give? Come anyway and view the bikes to be auctioned at 2:00 PM. Many sizes and makes and you can't beat the prices.

NEWS FROM THE YOUNG ADULT ROOM – Pat Bergin, Young Adult Librarian

There are a number of new books in the YA Room. Here is a list of just a few of them.

Remembrance-Theresa Breslin

Remembrance is a novel about how World War II affected the lives of five young people in Scotland. Eighteen year old John enlists in the army, his girlfriend, Charlotte, stays home to earn her nursing certificate, Maggie, John's twin sister stays behind to create a new life for herself, Charlotte's brother Francis, enlists and Alez, not yet old enough to enlist, is determined to get to the front lines somehow. This is a powerful story about how war changed the lives of young people united, not only as family and friends, but also by a common purpose.

Not as Crazy as I Seem-George Harram

This is a story about a young man named Devon who is not your typical high school student. He is meticulous, fussy and compulsive. Devon thinks he will be just fine if everyone would just leave him alone. However, his strange behavior gets him into trouble at his new high school. With the help of a good friend and a good therapist Devon discovers that there is a name for his behavior, obsessive-compulsive disorder. This is a great story about growing up different.

Olive's Ocean-Kevin Henkes

This is a story of a friendship that could have been. Olive Barstow and Martha Boyle were in the same grade at school and they share the same secret even though they weren't aware of it. Then one day Olive is killed when struck by a car while riding her bike on a busy street. Martha is devastated by the death of a girl she didn't know well and hopes that a summer on Cape Cod with her grandmother will help the situation. But things intensify on the Cape with the presence

of the Manning boys-Jimmy, Todd, Tate, Luke and Leo. Martha learns how difficult life can be and how the world can change in a minute.

St. Michael's Scales-Neil Connelly

This novel is a blend of humor, wrestling, religious guilt and dysfunctional family dynamics. Keegan Flannery thinks he wants to commit suicide. Then, into his life enter Nicky Carpelli, a wrestler, Nathan Looby, an outcast and Angela Martinez, a senior with an attitude. This is a funny, sometimes shocking story about the twists and turns of life.

The YA Room is also creating a brand new collection of Graphic Novels. Graphic Novels are stand-alone stories in cartoon form published as a book. Many of these books are also part of a series and they have become very popular around the world. We are starting out with a small collection and will develop it further if our readers have an interest. Come check them out!

ACQUISITIONS - Shirley Pyne, Technical Services Librarian

The new fiscal year has brought some budget cuts. In order to more effectively use our book budget, we have made some changes in the way we order and catalog books and materials. First, we examined the list of items on standing order and cancelled those that aren't absolutely essential. Second, we arranged for books to come without pockets and catalog cards. This saves us about one dollar per item, but still gives us the spine labels and book jackets that we really need.

The third change is a more detailed book budget, which allows us to keep better track of the expenditures. The new budget has been divided into yearly and monthly totals for the various parts of the collection, such as adult fiction, young adult paperbacks, children's non-fiction, and DVDs for the Central library and for East Milton branch library. There are 23 categories in all. Keeping such a detailed record of expenditures makes the ordering process a little more complicated, but it is useful to know how much we have spent for a given category as the year progresses.

The fourth change is that we enter adult items onto the database ourselves when they are ordered. In recent years we have paid for the vendor to enter the items onto our database when they ship them. This service made cataloging quicker for us once the items arrived, but didn't allow you to see what was on order until it had been shipped. Entering books ourselves when we order them saves us the cost of the service and allows you to see what's on order as soon as we order it. All of these changes mean that it takes much longer to complete the ordering process; but we now have a more accessible record of what is coming, a more detailed financial record of how the budget is being spent, and once the items arrive, we can still get them on the shelf fairly quickly.

For a list of books to be published soon, look at the folder titled "Coming Soon from Your Favorite Authors", kept on the bulletin board across from the adult circulation desk. The folder lists titles that will be published in the next few months. These titles are on-order and in the database. You can place holds now:

Trojan Odyssey by Clive Cussler

The Conspiracy Club by Jonathan Kellerman

The Dark Tower: Wolves, by Stephen King

Stone Cold by Robert Parker

Balance of Power by Richard Patterson

Irish Born by Nora Roberts

These books have been received. You can find them in the new books area:

Zelda Fitzgerald: Her Voice in Paradise, by Sally Cline is a new biography of the legendary American Dream Girl of the roaring twenties. Zelda was married to writer F. Scott Fitzgerald, and flourished as a dancer, writer and artist during the Jazz Age, and suffered a mental breakdown shortly after the stock market crash. Author Cline has researched Zelda's autobiographical writings and letters to provide a more complex portrait of the Fitzgeralds' marriage, and a clearer picture of Zelda's tumultuous life than has been previously written.

Ticket to Ride: Inside the Beatles' 1964 Tour that Changed the World, by Larry Kane, features stories from that famous tour and includes a CD featuring rare interviews with the group. Kane was the only American journalist in the official Beatles press group in 1964-1965.

The Lord is My Shepherd: Healing Wisdom of the Twenty-third Psalm, by Harold S. Kushner is according to the book jacket, "a new book of practical spirituality, of inspiration and encouragement...Each chapter discusses one line of the psalm in the context of both the time it was written and the present day, and illuminates the life lessons contained within it."

Slatewiper, by Lewis Perdue is a fact inspired thriller. Lara Blackwood, a genetic engineering entrepreneur is asked to help solve an epidemic in Tokyo. In the process, she discovers that her life's work has been perverted to produce a genetic weapon that turns people's own chromosomes against them. Lara faces great danger as she tries to expose the terrorist plot that threatens to destroy the human race.

The World's Finest Mystery and Crime Stories, 4th Annual Collection includes award winning mystery stories from around the world. The stories are in a variety of styles. "Something for every mystery taste." writes Publisher's Weekly.

DVDs continue to be a popular item. We have added several to the collection and more are on order. These are some new titles:

Anger Management, starring Adam Sandler and Jack Nicholson. The summary from the packaging reads, "After a small misunderstanding aboard an airplane escalates out of control, timid businessman Dave Buznik (Sandler) is ordered by the court to undergo anger management therapy at the hands of specialist Dr. Buddy Rydell (Nicholson). But when Buddy steps up his aggressive treatment by moving in, Dave goes from mild to wild as the treatment wreaks havoc with his life in this hilarious hit comedy."

Bad Boys, stars Will Smith and Martin Lawrence as partners in the Miami Police Dept. In this action movie, the partners investigate the theft of drugs from police custody. When the only witness, a friend of theirs, is kidnapped by murderers, the investigation becomes personal, and deadly.

Frida, with Salma Hayek, Alfred Molina, Antonio Banderas, is an award winning film that follows the life of artist Frida Kahlo from her humble upbringing to her worldwide fame and controversy that surround both her and her husband, Diego Rivera. "Frida is the triumphant motion picture about an exceptional woman who lived an unforgettable life!"

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

The Children's Room will be holding story hours for two year olds in October and November. Sign up for these story hours will be on Monday, October 20, beginning at 9:00 A.M. They will be held on Wednesday mornings at 10:00 A.M. on October 29, November 5, 12 and 19. Three to five year olds story hour will be held every other Saturday at 10:30 A.M. The signup will be on Saturday, September 20th. They will be held on October 4, October 18, November 1 and November 15.

The Children's Room has recently received some exciting new books. *Lemony Snicket's The Slipper Slope* (Harper 2003) #10 is the newest in A Series of Unfortunate Events. This darkly humorous series is very popular with readers 9-12. The newest title in the Sammy Keyes mystery series by Wendelin Van Draanen is *Sammy Keyes and the Art of Deception* (Knopf, 2003). One of our new picture books is *Pirate Jam* by Jo Brown (McGraw-Hill, 2003). This humorous pirate story is illustrated with bright water colors. *Lizards Weird and Wonderful* (Little Brown, 2003) by Margery Facklam is part of our new nonfiction. This book has very informative, detailed illustrations. The illustrations and text tell about lizards from the Chuckwalla to the Komodo dragon, their habitat and their quirky behavior. *!Pio Peep!* *Traditional Spanish Nursery Rhymes* (Harper, 2003) is a new book in our Spanish Collection. This book contains Spanish and English nursery rhymes that were selected by Alma Flor Ada. A new biography is *Chief: the life of Peter J. Ganci, a New York firefighter* (Scholastic 2003) is by his son Chris Ganci. Fire Chief Peter Ganci gave up his life on September 11, 2001, when the World Trade Center was blown to bits. All of these books can be found in the Milton Public Library Children's Room New Book section.

EVERYBODY LOVES A PARTY! -Gene Boylan, Centennial Committee Co-chair

Next year the Central Library is one hundred years old. So, we are going to have a party, and celebrate like it's 1904. The Centennial Committee has already met three times and outlined the concept of a year of celebration at the Library. In fact, there will be many opportunities to celebrate. Each month will have an event which celebrates the Library as a center of learning for the entire town. In June, there will be a gala celebration at the John F. Kennedy Library to commemorate one hundred years of service to the community, and to unveil the plans for the next century. Mark your calendars now for the social event of the year - June 9, 2004 - dinner at the Kennedy Library.

We are looking for enthusiastic people to help make next year a great success. The projects are limited in time and scope, so the work will be reasonable. Our next meeting is Wednesday, October 8 at 7:30 pm at the Library. Please contact me at esboylan@comcast.net or 698-8003 to volunteer. You'll have a great time!

Fall Activity and Events Calendar

There's lots going on at the Library this Fall. Be sure to join the fun!
For more info, visit www.miltonlibrary.org or call 617-698-5757.

Friends Membership Meetings

Lower Level Conference Room

- Tuesday, October 14; 7:30pm
- Tuesday, November 18; 7:00pm

Special Events and Activities

- **Month of October**
Milton Camera Club
Photo exhibit throughout the Library
- **Wednesday, October 15; 7:30pm**
Suzette Martinez Standring presents
"Managing Stress with Meditation and Self Hypnosis"
Location: Milton COA
- **Tuesday, November 18; 7:30pm**
Al Blanchard presents
"Mystery Night at the Milton Public Library"
Location: Milton Library Reading Room (Canton Street Entrance)
- **Tuesday, December 9**
Friends Holiday Party
Location: To be announced

Children's Programs

- **2-year olds Story Hours**
Weds, Sept 24, Oct 1, 8, 15; 10am

Weds, Oct 29, Nov 5, 12, 19; 10am

- **3-5 year olds Story Hours**
Saturdays, Oct 4, 18, Nov 1; 10:30am

Big Fall Book Sale!

- Thursday, Oct 23rd 6-8:30pm PREVIEW SALE
- Friday, Oct 24th 2:30pm-4:30pm
- Saturday, Oct 25th 9:30am-3:30pm

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!

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.)

Student/Senior Citizen \$10

Individual \$15

Family \$25

Sponsor \$50

Patron \$100

Benefactor \$500

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

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

**NONPROFIT ORG.
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
MILTON, MA
PERMIT NO. 50946**

UPCOMING EVENTS

Book Sale October 23rd, 24th and 25th

Centennial Meeting October 8th

Suzette Martinez Standring, Wednesday, October 15th, 7:30pm at the Milton COA

Al Blanchard, Tuesday, November 18th, 7:30pm at the Library (in the Reading Room)