

PUBLISHED QUARTERLY

SUMMER 2011

ANNUAL MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

Using images and stories, Eamon McCarthy Earls, 17-year-old author of *Wachusett: How Boston's 19th Century Quest for Water Changed Four Towns and a Way of Life*, described the historic making of the Wachusett Dam and Reservoir at the Friends of the Worcester Public Library annual meeting on April 17. A junior at Franklin High School, Earls explained how the \$11 million civil engineering feat was completed with the labor of over 4,000 immigrant workers, many of whom lived in squalid shanty towns.

In a brief business meeting before the program, outgoing President Alice Welch gave an overview of the year's activities and presented the "Volunteer of the Year" award to Virginia Woodbury, library volunteer and 4th floor "Receptionist Extraordinaire" since January 1999.

In addition, the following slate of officers was approved:
 Christine Weinrobe,

FRIENDS FINANCIAL REPORT

The Friends annual report includes the following for the fiscal year that ended January 31, 2011:

Income:

- \$13,591 Membership dues
- \$33,226 Total book sales – store, Internet, special sales
- \$6,968 Miscellaneous donations

Expenditures:

- \$10,159 Children's and teens' programs – main library and branches
- 269 Programs for children and teens
- 8,501 Program participants
- \$3,552 Other programs
- \$1,800 Contributions to library staff
- \$3,769 Bookstore and book sale expenses
- \$7,400 Museum memberships
- 2,138 Museum passes checked out
- \$7,973 Newsletters
- \$5,548 Office expenses and overhead

Dorsey, Valerie Forkey, Joanne Frew, Jeanne Gallagher, Sharon Hall, Mary Lynch, Nancy Miller, James Murphy, Al O'Donnell, Delia Trainor, Arthur Weinberg, and Alice Welch.

GREAT BROOK VALLEY BRANCH IS 30!

In 1981, when the Worcester Public Library opened the Great Brook Valley branch in a tiny room provided for free by the Worcester Housing Authority, kitchen cabinets served as book shelves. Today, the busy branch occupies a small apartment and includes a reading area, new shelving and furniture, a dozen computers (including four new ones provided last year by the Gates Foundation), a DVD collection of over 1200

items, books for all ages, and two staff members.

Establishing a library presence in Great Brook Valley, first by the traveling bookmobile and later by creating an actual branch, was "a godsend" to children in the

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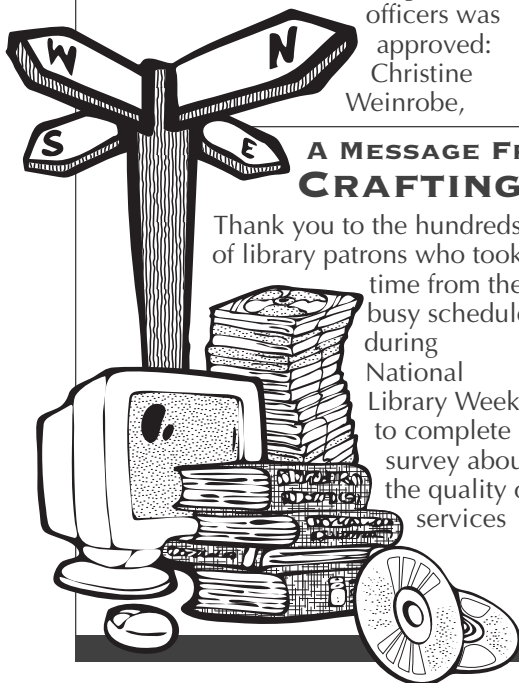
A MESSAGE FROM HEAD LIBRARIAN MARK CONTOIS CRAFTING A LIBRARY "ROAD MAP"

Thank you to the hundreds of library patrons who took time from their busy schedules during National Library Week to complete a survey about the quality of services

the Worcester Public Library offers to the community. We were pleased to discover that for the vast majority, we are doing a good job during these difficult times. We were equally pleased to hear of your hopes for expanded hours of operations, more technology, and other exciting programs. From your input we will develop a Strategic Plan to guide the library for the next three years.

This strategic planning document will build on the past successes of the Worcester Public Library and will

foresee a future in which the library continues to uniquely contribute to the civic, intellectual and cultural pursuits of the community. We hope that by 2014 we will be able to look back and know that we have achieved these goals and contributed to building a brighter future for Worcester. We invite you, and all our patrons, on this journey that will shape your library's future. Ask where you can lend a hand, lead a project, find a solution, grow an idea — after all, it's your library!



“geographically isolated” public housing community, according to local jazz musician Chet Williamson, who lived there as a child. “For many of us yearning to be educated about the great wide world that lay beyond the confines of the projects, libraries were the keys to open those doors,” Mr. Williamson said. “With a library card you could discover how greatness was achieved by reading *Profiles in Courage*, or learn how a young person overcame adversity to become Jackie Robinson.”

Raymond Mariano, Executive Director of the Worcester Housing Authority and former Mayor of Worcester, also grew up in Great Brook Valley. “I looked forward to my visits to the library’s bookmobile,” he recalled. “As Executive Director of the WHA, I want to thank the library and its caring staff for 30 years of wonderful service to our children.”

The Great Brook Valley branch is located at 89 Tacoma Street and is open Monday through Friday from 2 to 5 p.m.

FAREWELL TO FOUNDATION HEAD

A fond farewell to Maria Lockheart, who served as Executive Director of the Worcester Public Library Foundation since 2006 and who has

accepted a position at Wellesley College. In the five years that Maria held the Executive Director position, she “built a robust development organization that has benefited the library and thousands upon thousands of city residents,” said Robert Nolan, Jr., President of the Worcester Public Library Board of Trustees. Private and public partnerships developed by Maria have allowed the library to provide many important services, including a program that ensures that every Worcester Public School third grader receives a library card, the installation of personal computers at the Great Brook Valley branch, Sunday hours at the main library from October to April, and English-literacy training for adults.

TECHNOLOGY UPDATES

How people get information is changing rapidly, and the Worcester Public Library is keeping up! Here’s a sampling of new services:

Library patrons can **download eBooks and eAudiobooks** directly from the library website, www.worcpublib.org. (Click on Digital Downloads in the left column and follow instructions.)

Wowbrary is a free service that sends an email alert each Wednesday to

showcase the Worcester Public Library’s most recent acquisitions. To sign up go to www.wowbrary.org/signup.aspx.

Learning a foreign language is now easier than ever with **Powerspeak Languages, a new language-learning tool** that can be accessed from home or the library. Go to www.worcpublib.org, select Online Databases and then Language Learning.

FRIEND-LY NOTES

Donate your unused Legos to the Children’s Room, where approximately 50 kids participate in the new Lego program each week.

Free passes to the Harvard Museum of Natural History and Fruitlands Museum are now available through the main library and Frances Perkins branch. For a full list of museums and to reserve a pass, go to www.worcpublib.org, or visit or call the library.

We will miss the following longtime library staff members, who recently retired: Elaine Lovely, Reference Librarian (39 years); Marianne Bourgault, Talking Book Library Customer Service Representative (39 years); Judith Cassavant, Head of Cataloguing (34 years); Kathleen Peltier, Copy Cataloguer (33 years); Liza Graybill, Branch Children’s Librarian (19 years).

SUMMER 2011 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

All programs are free!

MAIN LIBRARY

“Beach & Backyard” Book Sale

Saturday, June 18, 10 a.m.-4 p.m.
Books for adults and children: 25 cents each (buy 4, get one free); magazines: 10 cents each. Lobby.

Summer Reading Program for All Ages

This summer’s reading program at the library embraces all ages. Participants in each age group can win prizes for reading! For details, check at the library, beginning mid-June.

Children: One World, Many Stories

Teens: You are Here!

Registration begins June 28. To be eligible for prizes, reading log must be completed before August 12.

Adults: Novel Destinations

Registration begins June 28.

Friends Film Festival

Saturdays, 2 p.m. Saxe Room.

— Elizabeth Taylor Tribute —

June 4: *National Velvet*

Spunky, twelve-year-old girl trains and rides her horse, Pie, in the Grand National Steeplechase, 1944. (G)

June 11: *Giant*

Large-scale epic about the changing socioeconomic and physical landscape in Texas as experienced by one family, 1956. (NR)

June 18: *Butterfield 8*

Taylor plays Gloria, a woman with loose morals who discovers a last chance at love and redemption, 1960. (NR)



June 25: *Sandpiper*

Bohemian free spirit (Taylor) and married minister/school headmaster (Richard Burton) fall for each other, 1965. (NR)

— The Seventh Month —

July 2: *The Seven-Year Itch*

Married man left alone during a hot summer fantasizes about and then befriends his gorgeous upstairs neighbor (Marilyn Monroe), 1956. (NR)

July 9: *Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs*

The classic Disney animated film based on the Grimm fairy tale, 1937. (G)

July 16: *Seven Years in Tibet*

The life of Austrian mountain climber and Nazi (Brad Pitt) is transformed over seven years living near the Dalai Lama in Tibet, 1997. (PG-13)



July 23: The Magnificent Seven
Mexican village, weary of bandito attacks, hires seven gunslingers to repel the invaders. Yul Brynner, Steve McQueen, Charles Bronson, 1960. (NR)

July 30: The Seventh Seal
Disillusioned Crusader challenges Death to a fateful game of chess in this allegory of man's search for meaning, 1957. (NR)

— No Sweat, No Glory —

August 6: The Longest Yard
Disreputable and imprisoned former pro quarterback finds redemption by helping the prison football team win a championship, 1974. (R)

August 13: Chariots of Fire
Unlikely pair of athletes run for Great Britain in the 1924 Paris Olympics, 1981. (PG)

August 20: A League of Their Own
Two sisters are recruited for the struggling Rockford Peaches of the All-American Girls Professional Baseball League. Tom Hanks, Geena Davis, Madonna, 1992. (PG)

August 27: Wimbledon
A whirlwind romance rejuvenates the game of ranked tennis player with a slipping record, 2004. (PG-13)

Children's Activities

Inch by Inch, Row by Row
Saturday, June 18, 9 a.m.
Help plant our children's garden. Then watch it grow all summer long! Rain or shine.

Concert: Odds Bodkin
Thursday, June 30, 11:00 a.m.
Amazing musical tales for families. Saxe Room. Free tickets available on June 21 in the Children's Room.

Concert: Marcus Gale
Wednesday, July 6, 1 p.m.
Interactive concert of songs from around the world. Saxe Room.

Rainforest Reptiles
Tuesday, July 12, 6:30 p.m.
Learn about rainforests and the reptiles that live in them. Saxe Room.

The Amazing Dewey Race
Thursday, July 21, 2:30 p.m.
A round-the-library challenge for kids alone, in teams, or with a grown-up. Use clues to find envelopes with challenges hidden in books. Complete the challenge and go on to the next clue until you complete one challenge

in each Dewey classification number. Registration begins June 28. Children's Room.

Tidepool Adaptations
Thursday, July 28, 10, 11 a.m. and 12 p.m.

Discover how coastal animals have adapted to life in three different shoreline habitats. Best for children ages 7 and older. Children's Room.

Photography Contest for Kids
Tuesdays, July 19, 26, August 2, 2 p.m.

Explore the world of photography and win prizes. Take pictures of the city of Worcester in three sessions. Disposable cameras will be provided. Ages 8-12. Registration begins July 1 until full.

Kid Flicks
Children's Friday film series. Saxe Room.

July 8, 10 a.m. Dora the Explorer: Explore the Earth

July 15, 10 a.m. Beverly Hills Chihuahua 2

July 15, 2:30 p.m. Megamind

July 22, 10 a.m. Gulliver's Travels and Louise, the Adventures of a Chicken

July 29, 10 a.m. Alice in Wonderland

July 29, 2:30 p.m. The Last Airbender

August 5, 10 a.m. Toy Story 3

Summer Reading Finish Line!
Friday, August 12, check library for time.

Celebrate your summer reading accomplishments with games and refreshments!

Young Adults

Anime Wings
Wednesdays, July 13, 20, 27, August 3, 10, 17, 5:30-8:30 p.m.
Teens 12-18 watch and discuss Japanese anime. Saxe Room.

Heather's Henna Workshop
Tuesday, July 19, 3:30-5:30 p.m.
Learn the history of henna and mehndi, and try it on yourself.

Grants Resource Center

Orientation
Workshops giving an overview of foundation funding for non-profits will

be offered during the summer. Please call 508-799-1655 for times and dates.

Genealogy Programs

Registration required; call Joy Hennig at 508-799-1670. Check the library's online calendar for updates.

Getting the Most Out of Ancestry.com
Thursday, June 9, 9:30-11 a.m.

Great Books Discussion Group

Participants must read book first, 7-9 p.m. Banx Room.

Wednesday, June 1: Snow Country
by Yasunari Kowabata

Public Meetings

Worcester Public Library Board of Directors
Tuesday, June 7, 5 p.m. Green Room.

Friends of Worcester Public Library Board
Tuesday, June 14, 4 p.m. Green Room.

FRANCES PERKINS BRANCH

Adult Programs

Brown Bag Mystery Discussion Group
Thursday, June 2, 12:15 p.m.
Bring a lunch. Dessert/coffee provided. New members welcome! No meetings in July and August.

Children's Activities

Concert: Odds Bodkin
Thursday, June 30, 3 p.m.
Amazing musical tales for families. Free tickets available on June 21 at Frances Perkins Branch Library.

Rainforest Reptiles

Tuesday, July 12, 3 p.m.
Learn about rainforests and the reptiles that live in them.

GREAT BROOK VALLEY BRANCH

Children's Programs

There will be lots going on this summer. For program information, call 508-799-1729, or stop by the branch during open hours. We'll be there — so we hope you'll be there, too!

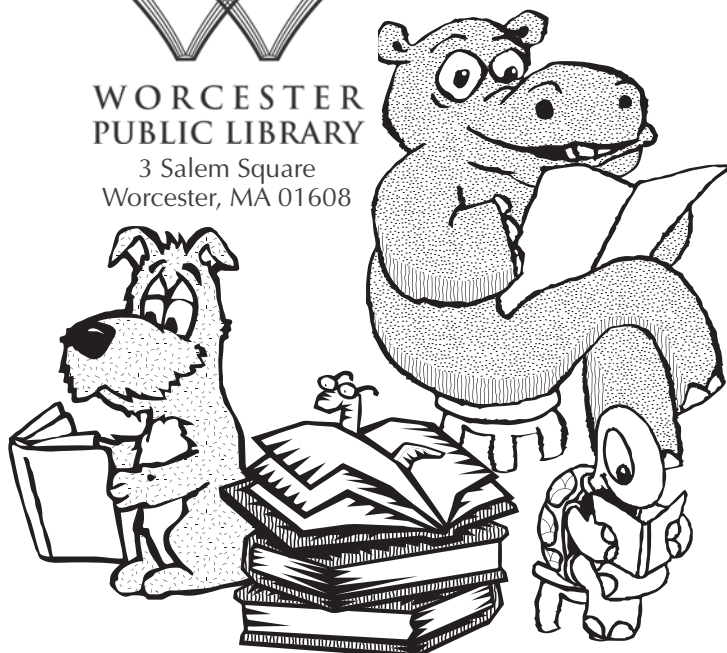


FRIENDS OF



WORCESTER
PUBLIC LIBRARY

3 Salem Square
Worcester, MA 01608



Non profit Org.
U.S. Postage
PAID
Worcester, MA
Permit No. 402

A Summer Reading Program for Everyone!

SPECIAL EXHIBITS

June: Paintings by John Murphy

July: Paintings by Julie Smith and Tara Stephanos

August: Political Posters by Steven Lewis

FRIEND-LY BOOK LIST

Here is a selection of recommended books (and a DVD) for this year's 150th anniversary of the Civil War.

- ✦ ***A Stillness at Appomattox***, by Bruce Catton. Pulitzer Prize-winning history by this prolific Civil War writer, 1953.
- ✦ ***Cold Mountain***, by Charles Frazier. Love story about a husband returning from war, 1997.
- ✦ ***Mary Chestnut's Civil War***, edited by C. Vann Woodward. This edited Civil War diary was a Book-of-the-Month Club selection, 1994.
- ✦ ***Sea of Gray: The Around-the-World Odyssey of the Confederate Raider "Shenandoah,"*** by Tom Chaffin. Naval history with lots of adventure and arresting details.
- ✦ ***The Civil War***, the acclaimed PBS film series produced by Ken Burns, 1990.
- ✦ ***The Killer Angels***, by Michael Shaara. Pulitzer Prize-winning classic about the Battle of Gettysburg, 1974.
- ✦ ***The Red Badge of Courage***, by Stephen Crane. Perhaps the best book written about the experience of war; many editions, first published in 1895.

LIBRARY HOURS AND USEFUL INFORMATION

Main Library
3 Salem Square
Phone: 508-799-1655
Tuesday and Wednesday,
9 a.m. to 9 p.m.
Thursday, Friday, Saturday,
9 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.
Closed Sundays and
Mondays.

The Library Bookstore
Phone: 508-799-1686 (for store and Friends of the Worcester Public Library)
Tuesday and Wednesday,
10 a.m. to 6 p.m.
Thursday, Friday, Saturday,
10 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Closed Sundays and
Mondays.

Great Brook Valley Branch
89 Tacoma Street
Phone: 508-799-1729
Monday through Friday,
2 to 5 p.m.
Closed Saturday and Sunday.

Frances Perkins Branch at Greendale
470 West Boylston Street
Phone: 508-799-1687
Monday and Thursday,
9 a.m. to 9 p.m.
Tuesday, 9 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.
Wednesday, 1 to 5:30 p.m.
Friday, 1 to 9 p.m.
Closed Saturday and Sunday.

Worcester Public Library Website:
www.worcpubliclib.org
Explore library's website for important library information and easy referencing. To browse list of special donated books for sale by the Friends, click on FWPL link, scroll to abebooks.com, click, choose Booksellers and enter Friends of Worcester Library.

LIBRARY HOLIDAY

Independence Day – Monday, July 4