



# Library News

A quarterly publication of the Wilbraham Public Library

Winter 2010

## Library Renovations Project Proceeding

The WPL is nearly ready to start construction on the Phase 1 of the Library Renovation Project. The mezzanine will undergo renovations during 2010 to transform the east side to a teen space, update the non-fiction book stacks on the west side, and remove the existing stairs and build a new staircase to the mezzanine to increase the usable space both upstairs and downstairs. Project costs for Phase 1 are approximately \$193,000 including construction and new furnishings and more than 90% of the funding for this phase is in hand.

The Library Renovation Project plan will solve many of the library's immediate space problems and provide a safe, comfortable and upgraded library that will benefit the people of Wilbraham in many ways. Subsequent phases include:

### Phase Two

- Consolidating service desks into one desk in the center of the library,
- Renovating the children's space, including creating zones and upgrading handicap access,
- Upgrading infrastructure and safety features such as emergency lighting and fire alarms.

### Phase Three

- Renovating the adult area on the first floor, including seating areas and browsing areas.

### Phase Four

- Modernizing staff office space.

The WPL is funding renovations through combined monies including private fundraising conducted by Library Improvements for Tomorrow, Inc. (LIFT), library state aid, town capital projects money and grants. In all, an estimated \$800,000 is needed to complete renovations.

LIFT is asking for pledges and donations over a five-year period, and phases 2, 3, and 4 will follow as funds becomes available. Gifts to LIFT are fully tax-deductible and contributions this year will help make Phase One and Two a reality.

Of note the Friends of the Library have generously pledged \$15,000 toward the cost of the new service desk, and the town is providing \$8,000. We hope to raise the remaining \$10,000 quickly to complete the service desk in 2010. The consolidated desk will allow for more efficient staff deployment to cover circulation, reference, and children's services at one point.

For more information on renovations or how to contribute to LIFT, please contact Christine Bergquist, library director, at 596-6141 ext. 105 or one of the library trustees.

## Jobseekers' Support

### Meeting Scheduled

The library will hold a "Jobseekers Support" program for Friday, December 4 from 10:30 a.m. to noon. This is an opportunity to network with other jobseekers, share your experiences and learn about resources to assist you from the library as well as area agencies. If the attendees are interested in creating an ongoing group, the library will schedule additional sessions on the first Friday of the month. Drop-ins are welcome.

## Great Decisions Group

### to Return in January

Register now for the 2010 Great Decisions Discussion Group! This year's topic are "Special Envoys", "Preventing Genocide", "Global Crime", "U.S.-China Security Relations", "Global Financial Crisis", "Russia and its Neighbors", "The Persian Gulf", and "Peacebuilding and Conflict Resolution". A Briefing Book, published by the Foreign Policy Association, is available to pre-order for \$18. The deadline to order from the library is December 15. There will also be a copy available for in-library use.

Members of the Friends of the Library will act as facilitators for the discussion. Responding to the feedback from last year's participants, the discussion time will be extended to 90 minutes. Sessions will be held on Wednesdays, January 27 through March 17, from 4:00-5:30 p.m. To learn more about the series topics, check out [www.greatdecisions.org](http://www.greatdecisions.org) or stop by the Reference Desk. Please register through Adult Programs and Events page at [www.wilbrahamlibrary.org](http://www.wilbrahamlibrary.org), or contact the Reference Desk at 596-6141 ext. 101.

**Wilbraham Friends of the  
Library, Inc.**

**Officers and Board  
Members 2009-2010**

President - Susan Magee  
Treasurer - *Bruce Gaudette*  
Clerk - *Nancy Peck*

**Board Members At Large**

*Ray Burk*  
*Edna Colcord*  
*Kris Crimmins*  
*Phyllis Ervin*  
*John Harrington*  
*Mary Ripley*  
*Roger Schifferli*

Library Director - *Christine  
Bergquist*  
Library Trustee - *Jean Canosa  
Albano*

**Friends Website**

[www.wilbrahamfriends.com](http://www.wilbrahamfriends.com)

If you have any questions or suggestions for the Wilbraham Friends of the Library, please direct them to Susan Magee at [twin.javanet@rcn.com](mailto:twin.javanet@rcn.com).

**Library News** is written and edited by the Wilbraham Public Library staff and the Friends of the Library.

Wilbraham Public Library  
25 Crane Park Drive  
Wilbraham, MA 01095  
[www.wilbrahamlibrary.org](http://www.wilbrahamlibrary.org)

Circulation Desk (Renewals)  
596-6141 ext. 103

Reference Services  
596-6141 ext. 101

Children's and Teens' Services  
596-6141 ext. 102

Library Director  
596-6141 ext. 105

**Join and Make a Difference**

Membership in The Wilbraham Friends of the Library is more than a great bargain. Not only do you get to partake in many activities and support the library needs, you also get a chance at a special membership prize drawing when you join or renew. Stop at the Friends' display at the main desk and learn more.

The Friends are a great group who obviously care a lot about our library programs, materials and services. Your memberships provide much that makes the Wilbraham Public Library so special, including funds for children's, teens and adult programs, passes and/or discounts for area attractions and museums, and funds for media collections. We need your help to continue to provide this support. Volunteers are needed to help in many ways such as:

- newsletter mailings (2 hrs, 4 times a year)
- book sale
- art sale
- bus trips
- selected children and adult programs

Please contact Susan Magee, online at [twin.javanet@rcn.com](mailto:twin.javanet@rcn.com) if you are willing to help.

**Attention Artists!**

Mark your calendars: The Annual WFL Art Exhibit will be held in March 2010. As usual we'll house your paintings in the Brooks Room and other mediums such as sculpture, textiles, and metals will be exhibited in the locked, foyer-window displays. Be sure to renew your membership early so you won't lose out on this popular program.

Big and Little Art Exhibits: Thanks to all the artists who are exhibiting in the Brooks Room throughout the year. Your work is a wonderful addition to our library. For those artists who prefer to have a smaller exhibit, please note, the foyer window displays are available for that purpose. Check at the reference desk for a month that is available. We look forward to seeing more of your delightful creations.

The Wilbraham Friends of the Library would like to thank members of the Wilbraham Art League who have so graciously donated their art work for the Bookmarks for the Library project which benefits WFL programs. Other artists are welcome to donate. Please see Heidi at the library for further details.

**Annual Book Sale**

Our book sale that was so popular in May 2009 will be repeated in 2010. Donations will be accepted in the Brooks Room beginning May 17, with the sale to take place the last week in May. A detailed schedule of member preview days and public sale days will be announced. Last year's sale was a wonderful success, with a net profit for the Friends of more than \$1500. We need your help to make 2010's sale even better. Please contact your friends and neighbors and SAVE THOSE BOOKS! Watch for updates.

**'Tis the Season**

The holidays are fast approaching. Consider surprising someone with a WPL gift such as a hand-crafted bookmark, note paper, a book bag or a gift membership in The Friends. It's a great way to remember someone special and help our library.

## Farewell to Kate Pritchard and Promotion for Sue Kent

The WPL bid a fond farewell to Kate Pritchard, Assistant Reference Librarian/Young Adult Specialist, in August. Over her three years at the library Kate did a sterling job of building services to reach the high school age population in Wilbraham. Among her many accomplishments are establishing the Teen Advisory Board (TAB) and growing it to around twenty regular members, applying for and receiving a two-year federal Library Services and Technology Act grant for 20,000 to support and improve services for 'tweens and teens ages 12-18, planning and implementing several fun and exciting programs for teens such as the Anime Club and sleepover events, building the teen book and media collection for older teens, establishing connections with Minnechaug Regional High School, and assisting with planning for the new teen space on the mezzanine.

While working part-time at WPL, Kate completed her Master's Degree at Simmons Graduate School of Library and Information Science. Kate has moved to Tennessee to pursue further career aspirations, and we wish her every success.

Sue Kent, who has been the part-time Assistant Children's Librarian/Young Adult Specialist since 2000 serving middle school-age children, was promoted to a full-time position to serve 'tweens and teens ages 12-18. The merger of these two positions will allow for excellent continuity working with Wilbraham youth.

## Teen Programs

Anime Club (Ages 13-18) -Dec 14, Jan 11 and Feb 8. New members are always welcome.

Book Group for Gr. 9+ Coming Soon! Please contact Sue Kent, Teen Librarian at 596-6141 x132 or email [suekent@wilbrahamlibrary.org](mailto:suekent@wilbrahamlibrary.org) if you are interested.

T.O.W.L. (Teens Of the Wilbraham Library) grades 6-8 are meeting one Thursday/month and planning future events: a murder mystery event, a games afternoon, a and fleece dog toy service project. They will meet from 4:00-5:00 p.m. on Dec 10, Jan 14, Feb 4.

T.A.B. (Teen Advisory Board) grades 9-12 are meeting one Wednesday/month and planning the following programs: a December "Evening of Service", "How to maintain your Car", "Cooking for College" and another spring music fundraiser. The will meet from 7:00-8:00 p.m. on Dec16, Jan 13 and Feb 24.

## Children's Winter Activities

The Winter Storytime session will meet over a period of six weeks, from January 13 through February 25, and will accommodate over 50 children. The following times are offered: ages 2 - 3 ½ (with an adult) on Wednesdays at 10:15 a.m. or Thursdays at 10:15 a.m. The older group, for ages 3 ½ - 5, will meet on Thursdays at 11:15 a.m. Registration for Storytimes will be held in the Brooks Room at 10:00 a.m. on Monday, January 4 for Wilbraham residents. Phone calls will be taken starting on January 6. Non-residents may sign up on January 11, as space allows.

**Tremendous Toddler Two Step** will reappear in the spring, due to popular demand. Please look for more information at the Children's Desk in February.

**Cover to Cover**, the book discussion groups for students, are on-going, meeting once a month. Students in grades 4, 5, and 6 will be meeting Tuesdays from 7:00 p.m. - 7:45 p.m. See Heidi Kane in the Children's Department to participate.

December 9 - Book Share: bring 3 recommendations of books you've liked + a canned good

January 13 - *Sadako and the Thousand Paper Cranes* by Eleanor Coerr

February 10 - *The Magician's Elephant* by Kate DiCamillo

To celebrate the season of giving, the Library will feature a **Mitten Tree**, which will be decorated with your donations of gloves, mittens, hats and scarves for children and adults. All donations must be new and brought to the library for the tree between November 18 and December 18. After that time, all donated items will be brought to the Community Survival Center for distribution. Please help us with this worthy cause, as you know the winter will be a cold one!

During the school vacation week, there will be an exciting interactive show, **The American Animals Magic Show**, for children ages 3 through 10. This lively and humorous celebration of American history will be presented by magician Debbie O'Carroll on Thursday, February 18, at 10:30 a.m. The audience will learn about wild and legendary creatures of North America, including Sylph, the mustang ridden by Pony Express riders, Bigfoot, and a Tyrannosaurus Rex. They will also play a game with Champ, the renowned monster of Lake Champlain. This is an energetic and entertaining take on the history of our country and is brought to you by the Friends of the Library. This show also serves to highlight our We The People "Picturing America" grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities and American Library Association. Space is limited and registration begins February 10.

**Wilbraham Friends of the Library**  
25 Crane Park Drive  
Wilbraham, MA 01095

**NONPROFIT ORG.  
U.S. POSTAGE PAID  
WILBRAHAM, MA  
PERMIT NO. 63**

## **Library News** **Winter 2010**

### ***In this issue:***

*Update on renovations*

*Great Decisions Discussion Group*

*Online Tutorials*

*Storytimes, Activities for Children and Teens*

## **Film Movement Nights!**



**Dec 14, 7:00 p.m.**



**Jan. 11, 7:00 p.m.**



**Feb. 8, 7:00 p.m.**

***Film summaries available at [www.wilbrahamlibrary.org](http://www.wilbrahamlibrary.org).***

### **"Online Spotlight" Tutorials Available at Library Website**

The Wilbraham Library has added a new video tutorials called "Online Spotlight" to our website to instruct users on accessing library databases. Each tutorial is approximately 5 minutes long and is intended to give a brief overview of the content and special features of the database. Tutorials currently available include: Ebsco's Hobby and Craft Reference Online, Facts on File's World Atlas and Bloom's Literary Reference Online. More tutorials will be added over the next few months. Online Spotlight can be found at [www.wilbrahamlibrary.org/reference/spotlight.html](http://www.wilbrahamlibrary.org/reference/spotlight.html). To learn more about the Wilbraham Library's databases for adults and children, please contact the Reference department at 596-6141 ext. 101.

### **Bram Stoker's Dracula Chosen for Community Reading Project**

Vampires are a hot topic in today's bestselling books and television series.

This spring Wilbraham will read the book that started it all! Details TBA in early 2010.

