



SPRING 2009

WINCHESTER PUBLIC LIBRARY
commitment ~ community ~ connections

Speaking Volumes

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WELCOME TO OUR NEW DIRECTOR

On behalf of the Friends of the Winchester Public Library, I would like to welcome our new Library Director, Ann Wirtanen!

Ann holds graduate degrees in both Library Science and Applied Mathematics and most recently was Director of the Fitchburg Public Library. She had also worked at the Cary Memorial Library in Lexington and was Director of the Lawrence Library in Pepperell. Ann taught at Northeastern University for a number of years before becoming interested in library administration.

Ann brings tremendous experience and enthusiasm to her new position! We look forward to working closely with Ann to support the mission of the Library during these challenging economic times.

Welcome to Winchester, Ann!

Donal Grelotti, *President*
Friends of the
Winchester Public Library

A MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTOR . . .



Donal Grelotti and Ann Wirtanen

As Barack Obama said in 2005, "At the moment we persuade a child, any child, to cross that magic threshold into a library, we change their lives forever, for the better." Early childhood education begins at your public library and continues through a lifetime, if you let it. Growing up in a suburb of Cleveland, Ohio, in the early 1960s, my sister and I rode our bikes to the library. We'd borrow a few books, and end the afternoon with a special treat at McDonalds. Library visits were special occasions, and we celebrated them!

Today your public library offers more services and special events than we ever imagined. Winchester offers more children's programs and activities than any other public library of comparable size in the state. Thousands of adults and children attend special events every year and over half-a-million items are borrowed annually. Winchester has an outstanding Library and it is my pleasure and responsibility to build on its success and bring a new level of library service to the community.

As we all face the economic challenges ahead, know that your library can help in many ways. Borrowing materials, using the wifi, researching with the help of our databases, and attending special events and training seminars—all with no fee attached—truly make your Library central to your life.

Please stop by and visit. If you have comments, concerns, or suggestions, my door is always open. Enjoy the Spring . . . with a good book!

Ann Wirtanen, *Director*

NOTEWORTHY

2009 Lecture Series

The lecture series continues with the last two events of the year. Our thanks to Programs Chair Dotty Burstein for planning a very timely and interesting series of lectures.

Thursday, April 16, 7:00 p.m.

"NEW ENGLAND IN HOLLYWOOD" by Roger Kolb, photographer and head of New England Armchair Tours. Mr. Kolb will present a survey of past and present New Englanders "who found fame and fortune in Hollywood – from Betty Davis to Meg Ryan – and beyond."

Thursday, May 7, 7:00 p.m.

"NOVELS AND THEIR MOVIE VERSIONS" by Sol Gittleman, the Alice and Nathan Gantcher Professor at Tufts University. Professor Gittleman will explore the relationship between literature and film, for example, between John Steinbeck's Pulitzer Prize-winning novel *The Grapes of Wrath* and its 1940 film version starring Henry Fonda.

Lynda Wills Fund established by Murphy Foundation

The John and Mary Murphy Education Foundation has established the Lynda Wills Fund to honor the former Director's contribution to education in Winchester. This \$25,000 donation will be given to the Library in \$5,000 increments over the next five years.

We plan to recognize the needs of the Young Adults in the community with the first \$5,000. Our Young Adult Librarian plans to establish a Teen Advisory Board and to offer programming and materials to make their time with us more comfortable and productive. In recognition of the spirit of the donation, we will target other age groups in the coming years.

Photo top of front page: Librarian Molly Wiellette and the kids at Wednesday morning's Storytime.

"SADDLE UP AND READ, BOOKAROO!"



Children's Summer Reading Program, 2009 Yvonne Coleman, Head of Children's Services

Get ready for a rip-roaring ride this summer as we gallop off through the West! We'll have a kick-off event close to the beginning of the summer vacation. Join our reading program for an introduction to the "wild west," Native Americans, cowboys and cowgirls, the desert, Annie Oakley, the legend of Pecos Bill, roadrunners, iguanas, rattlesnakes and much more! Here's a sampling of books to read to get started on your western adventure.

The Buffalo Storm, Katherine Applegate. Hallie uses her grandmother's quilt to help her cope with old and new fears along the Trail to Oregon.



Bandit's Moon, Sid Fleischman. Twelve-year-old Annyrose spends time in California with a band of outlaws during the Gold Rush.



Buster Goes to Cowboy Camp, Denise Fleming. Buster is nervous about going to camp, but he leaves with a loud Ya-Hoo!

Girl Who Loved Wild Horses, Paul Goble. A young American Indian girl feels truly free only when she is with horses.



The Last Cowboys, Harry Horse. An elderly man and his dog search for a father who is rumored to live among cowboys.

The Great Texas Hamster Drive, Eric Kimmel. Pecos Bill goes to Chicago to help his daughter with her hamster problem.



100 Things You Should Know about the Wild West, Andrew Langley. Simple facts about the culture of those who already lived in the West and of those pioneers who came to start a new life.



Bulls-eye: a Photobiography of Annie Oakley, Sue Macy. Large and beautiful black, white and brown-toned photos enhance the biography of this remarkable and unusual woman.

Thunder Rose, Jerdine Nolen. Thunder Rose is whom you want if you need a tornado tamed or a herd of stampeding steers stopped.



B is for Buckaroo: A Cowboy Alphabet, Louise Doak Whitney & Gleaves Whitney. Short rhymes accompany a paragraph of information about people, places and things that are part of a cowboy's daily life.

The Children's Department serves children from birth through age 11, their parents, caregivers and other interested patrons. Among the many services offered are: Storytimes (ages birth through 4); Special programs (ages vary); and Summer Reading Program for (ages 3 to 11.) New this year is Summer Reading for Middle School students. Check regularly on winpublib.org for information about current programs.

THE ANNUAL APPEAL IS UNDERWAY

Please consider donating to the Friends of the Winchester Public Library during our Annual Appeal. The need for Library services has continued to grow. For example, circulation in September 2008 increased 11% when compared with September 2007, and visits to the Library increased 11.5% during that same period. The financial support provided to the Library by the Friends is crucial and provides funding for many popular programs for children and adults. The Friends also underwrite the cost of over 100 magazine subscriptions, bestselling books and the Library's award-winning website. Look for our Annual Appeal letter in your mailbox or use the form at right to make your contribution.

KEVIN DRUM RETIRING FROM BOARD OF TRUSTEES



After serving ten years as a Library Trustee, Kevin Drum is retiring when his term expires at the end of March. "I've enjoyed working closely with the Library Director and staff, as well as with the Friends of the Library, Town Managers, and Library patrons," says Kevin. "We achieved a great deal: for example, establishing permanent Sunday hours, keeping pace with

technology, and restoring hours after the severe cuts of a few years ago."

Kevin believes that his prior five-year tenure on the Winchester Finance Committee as well as his many years as a town meeting member "enabled me to prepare the Board of Trustees for the budget process each year. I have many pleasant memories of my time as Trustee," declares Kevin, recalling the establishment of the WPL Endowment Fund, Richard Elia's donation of wine and expertise to six Library Wine Tasting fundraisers, and the consistent funding support from the Friends and patrons of the Library. Kevin states "I will miss being a Library Trustee but will remain an active supporter of the WPL."

WINE TASTING AND AUCTION

The November event was well attended making it a huge success. Richard Elia, publisher of the *Quarterly Review of Wines*, gave a presentation about wine that was informative and entertaining. The bidding was lively on wines generously donated by Mr. Elia, and many Sunday



Richard Elia



Barbara Yuan

openings were funded through the contributions of those attending. A great variety of items were available for the Silent Auction, ranging from products and services offered by local businesses to tickets to a Celtics game. A good time was had by all to benefit the Library! And special thanks go to Assistant Director Barbara Yuan for planning this splendid event!



Be a Friend of the Winchester Public Library

Your annual donation keeps your Membership current and helps to support the Library programs sponsored by the Friends.

CATEGORIES (check one)

Individual (adult) \$15.00 Family \$25.00 Sponsor \$100.00

PLEASE CHECK ONE: New Friend Returning Friend

Name _____

Address _____

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Make checks payable to Friends of the Winchester Public Library (FWPL) and mail to Winchester Public Library, 80 Washington St., Winchester, MA 01890.

Your contribution is tax deductible and eligible for most company matching grants programs. Please send your company form to us with your check.

Thank You for supporting your Library!

WINCHESTER PUBLIC LIBRARY

Ann Wirtanen,
Director

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THE TITLE SEARCH . . .

Are you looking for an interesting book to take on your summer vacation? Here are a few suggestions from the Friends of the Winchester Public Library.

A Great Idea at the Time, Alex Beam.

A critical and sometimes hilarious history of the Great Books movement, begun in the 1930s. Beam's subtitle suggests his upbeat and humorous style of writing: "The Rise, Fall, and Curious Afterlife of the Great Books." (Recommended by Dotty Burstein)

Dewey, the Small-town Library Cat Who Touched the World, Vicki Myron.

Kitten found in book return box is adopted by the library staff and becomes world famous. You will be touched by his philosophy: "Find your place. Be happy with what you have. Treat everyone well. Live a good life. It isn't about material things; it's about love." (Recommended by Joan O'Neil)

Einstein, His Life and Universe, Walter Isaacson.

Meet the famous scientist on a human level. Politics and his religious faith played a significant role in his life, as well as atomic theory. (Recommended by Ann Wirtanen)

Merle's Door: Lessons from a Freethinking Dog, Ted Kerasote.

Off leash and with his own doggy door, Merle (aka the Mayor) strolls through town greeting his constituents. Fun read for every dog lover! (Recommended by Ann Wirtanen)

Gracefully Insane, Alex Beam.

In this entertaining history of McLean Hospital that traces its beginnings in 1817 to the present century, Beam provides fascinating anecdotes of both the hospital's famous inhabitants and its administrators. (Recommended by Dotty Burstein)

Lords of Finance: The Bankers Who Broke the World, Liaquat Ahamed.

A well-written and readable book about the men and the times leading up to the Great Depression—fascinating! (Recommended by Karen Martin)

The Rules of the Game, Leonard Downie Jr.

The former editor of *The Washington Post* writes a clever and suspenseful book of politics and intrigue in Washington. (Recommended by Karen Martin)

Water for Elephants, Sara Gruen.

Depicts and develops the relationships of the members of a traveling circus. (Recommended by Ann Pisani)

Yellow Raft in Blue Water, Michael Dorris.

The history of three generations of a family and their individual experiences, as well as the impact they have on each other. It was a great book! (Recommended by Ann Pisani)

Editor: Mary S. Farrell

Speaking Volumes, the newsletter of the Winchester Public Library, is published three times a year and is funded by The Friends of the Winchester Public Library.

during the Summer.

The library is closed Saturday and Sunday

All other hours same as above.
Closes at 7:00 p.m. Monday – Thursday.

CHILDREN'S ROOM

We are grateful to the donors who made Sunday hours possible this year.

Monday – Thursday: 9:30 a.m. – 9:00 p.m.
Friday & Saturday: 9:30 a.m. – 5:30 p.m.
Sunday: 2:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.

LIBRARY HOURS

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Winchester Public Library



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