



Behind the Grin

Newsletter of the Cheshire Public Library

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www.cheshirelibrary.org

Fall 2007

A BLAST FROM THE PAST

By Ramona Harten, Director

I've recently had the opportunity to do some sifting through Library historical documents and timelines, and I've learned some interesting tidbits...

Did You Know?

The original Library Director, Mary Elizabeth Baldwin, was paid a salary of \$25.00 a year (\$541.00 in today's money) and drove around Cheshire in a horse-drawn buggy to collect donations of books. The Library owns a photograph of Ms. Baldwin sitting at the same desk that the current Library Director uses.

The Library has never had a male Director.

The Library has been housed in 5 different buildings and homes around Cheshire since it was founded in 1892.

The present Library building has been expanded/renovated twice since it was built in 1958. The Library will mark 50 years at its current location in 2008.

Until the Cheshire Historical Society was founded in 1951, the Library was the repository for historical documents and artifacts about Cheshire.

The original benefactor of the Library was Julia Tompkins, who bequeathed \$5,000 in her will. The Library still spends some interest from the Tompkins Fund to purchase materials each year.

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It cost more to borrow a book in 1892 than it does today. When the Library was first established, books were rented for 5 cents per volume (more than a dollar in today's money), for one week. Today, book loans are free, with loan periods up to four weeks -- plus renewals!

AUTHOR APPEARANCE SET FOR OCTOBER

Julie Otsuka, the author of *When the Emperor was Divine*, will visit the Library on Wednesday, October 10 at 7:00 p.m. This event is part of the *Cheshire Reads: One Book One Town* project. Information about the program, the book, and other events, can be found on our website at www.cheshirelibrary.org/cheshirereads.htm

LIBRARY USAGE INCREASES

Did you have trouble finding a parking space in the library parking lot this summer? You were not alone. The library is getting busier and busier! In July of this year 41,571 books, DVDs and other library materials went out the door, an almost 19% increase over last July. A record 20 children's programs were scheduled in July, and attended by over 690 children. These children and their families checked out lots of children's and teen books, 12.6% more than last year. Adults also made good use of the library in July. The circulation of adult books, DVDs, music and audio books was over 24% higher than it was the previous July. Much of the increase came from the books and DVDs displayed on the new shelving in the lobby.

In an effort to make the library parking lot a safer place, the Cheshire Police Department has clearly marked 'no parking' and loading areas. Please be sure to park in marked spaces only as the police will be patrolling town parking lots to enforce safe parking procedures. Don't forget the additional parking in the back of the

Cheshire Reads : One Book One Town

is proud to sponsor a concert with

ELISABETH VON TRAPP



Friday, September 14, 2007
7:00 pm

Christ Community Church
120 Main Street

Tickets

\$30 preferred seating
\$20 general admission

Tickets are available at the library or can be reserved online at www.cheshirelibrary.org

SUNDAY SHOWCASE

The Cheshire Public Library's *Sunday Showcase* series will open its fall season on Sunday, September 30 at 4:00 pm with a concert by Tanya Anisimova, cellist, and Lydia Furkin, piano. Continuing the series on October 28, the performers will be Judy Handler and Mark Levesque, classical guitarists. November 18 will feature Irish and Celtic music with Tara's Thistle. The fall series will conclude on December 2 with Amy Gallatin, folk musician.

All programs begin at 4:00 pm and are free and open to the public. They are funded by the Friends of the Library.

CHILDREN'S PROGRAMS

DROP-IN PROGRAMS *No Pre-registration needed*

MONDAY STORY TIME 3½ years old - kindergarten 10:00 a.m. - 10:30 a.m. <i>Stories, fingerplays and songs</i>	TUESDAY STORY TIME 3½ years old - kindergarten 10:00 a.m. - 10:30 a.m. <i>Stories, fingerplays and songs</i>	MOTHER GOOSE TIME Wednesdays Ages 6 - 30 months 10:00 a.m. - 10:30 a.m. For children and parents/ caregivers <i>Stories, songs, fingerplays</i>	AFTER SCHOOL STORY TIME Wednesdays Ages 3 - 8 4:00 p.m. - 4:30 p.m. For children and parents/ caregivers <i>Stories, songs, rhymes, craft</i>
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No drop-in storytimes will be held November 21-24 and December 24-January 5. Please check the library website or the monthly calendar for complete schedule information.

REGISTRATION REQUIRED *for these programs*

ART WITH KIM Wednesdays Crafts for ages 2 ½ - 5 10:00 a.m. - 10:30 a.m. 10:45 a.m. - 11:15 a.m. September 19, October 17, November 7, December 12	FAMILY PLACE Thursdays Ages 1 - 3 years with parent/caregiver 10:00 A.M. - 10:55 a.m. 11:00 a.m. - 11:55 a.m. Session 1—September 13, 20, 27 October 4, 11, 18 Session 2— November 1, 8, 15, 29 December 6	<i>Stories, toys, crafts & parent resources</i> FRIDAY FUN 2½ - 3½ years old 10:00 a.m. - 10:30 a.m. 10:45 a.m. - 11:15 a.m. Session 1—September 14-October 19 Session 2—November 2-December 7 (No session November 23) <i>Stories, songs and a craft</i>
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Registration for Session 1 of Family Place and Friday Fun began in August. For Session 2, registration will begin on Monday, October 1. Register for Art With Kim on September 4, October 1, November 1 and December 1.

PUMPKIN PAINTING FESTIVAL

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 13
 10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.
 Ages 4 and up

Join in the fun as Kim Larkin presents
 this ever popular fall program



Funding for these programs has been provided by the Friends of the Cheshire Library

Teen Book Board / monthly / Thursday evenings (mostly)

5:30-6:30 Sept., 6, Oct. 4, Nov. 7*, & Dec. 6

No registration required

Readers are invited to munch pizza, write reviews, and talk about books at our informal monthly meetings. Members help the teen librarian decide which books to buy for the library, contribute book reviews to the Teen Book Blog, and have the opportunity to appear on the 'report from the Teen Book Board' segment of the CPL Podcast. *November 7 is a Wednesday.

Teen Games Drop-In / monthly / Friday afternoons

3:30-4:30 Sept. 7, Oct. 12, Nov. 9, & Dec. 21

No registration required.

Play games and nibble snacks! We have a Nintendo Wii available for group play, as well as a large selection of board games: Monopoly, Upwords, chess, checkers, Scrabble, Life, Clue, Yahtzee, Boggle, Battleship and more.

Teen Volunteer Program / ongoing

Are you looking to give back to your community? Fulfill a community service requirement? Have fun? Consider becoming a library volunteer! Pick up an application at the library or fill one out at our website. Mandatory orientation sessions will be held as needed.

CPL Podcast / ongoing

The CPL Podcast is an award-winning audio-magazine featuring teen writers, musicians, and reviewers. Contribute story ideas, songs, poems, essays, reviews, comic sketches, or announcements. Subscribe on iTunes or listen in streaming audio on the library's website. For more information, contact Sarah, or join the CPL Podcast group on Facebook. Participation in the podcast is limited to high school students.

Teen Book Blog / always on!

Check out our TeenBookBlog, (<http://cplttb.wordpress.com>) where members of the Teen Book Board post book reviews. You can browse all postings, or just look at postings in your favorite genre - mystery, horror, fantasy, historical fiction, and more. Use the comment feature to share your opinions.

All programs are for Grades 6—12 unless otherwise indicated.

For more information...

Visit our website: <http://www.cheshirelibrary.org/teens> (MeeboMe!)
 Call or stop by: 104 Main St. Cheshire, CT 06410 203.272.2245
 Contact Sarah, the teen librarian: email smorgan@cheshirelibrary.org

ROTARY BIRTHDAY BOOKS

William Bengtson

*Pedometer Walking
 Fitness Walking*

Arnold Bernstein

*Motivating Employees
 Joy at Work*

Rick Ciaburri

The New Manual of Photography

Michael Evans

*Golf Freck: One Man's Quest to Play as
 Many Rounds of Golf as Possible for Free
 The Short Bus: a Journey Beyond
 Normal*

Sheldon Dill

*Don Mattingly's Hitting is Simple
 Don't Ask what I Shot*

Howard Baldwin

*Summer: A User's Guide
 Fanatic: Ten Things All Sports Fans Should
 Do Before They Die*

Ghislaine Mahler

*100 Ways to Motivate Others
 Change Your Thinking, Change
 Your Life*

Steve Volpe

*Heart in the Right Place
 Grieving: A Beginner's Guide*

John Husic

*Una Storia Segreta: The Secret History of
 Italian American Evacuation and Intern-
 ment During World War II
 Undue Process: The Untold Story of
 America's German Alien Internees*



Have you ever wondered what it's like to use open source software? Come try out our Ubuntu

Linux machine in the children's room. Surf the Internet and use the OpenOffice suite for word processing, spreadsheets, and more. Several state and even national governments worldwide are currently switching to open source software in order to ensure document compatibility and cut down on the huge costs of proprietary software systems. Come in, explore, and learn!



**CHESHIRE
PUBLIC LIBRARY
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Cheshire, CT 06410**

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*Thanks to the staff for their
many contributions*

Bits 'n Pieces

- ✓ September is **Library Card Sign-up Month**. Currently there are 12,000 valid card holders in Cheshire; that is about 40% of the population. Make sure your students have their library cards up-to-date and ready for school projects and internet use.
- ✓ **Are you a FAN?** We have recently updated the list of authors available for the Favorite Author Notification program. New authors include Jodi Picoult, Chris Bohjalian, Dan Brown, Greg Iles and many more. The FAN program allows you to choose your favorites from a list of 178 authors. Your name will automatically be placed on the reserve list for new hardcover books by these authors. If you are new to the FAN program come in and ask for the list at the Circulation Desk. If you are already part of the FAN program take a look at the updated list and add as many of the new authors as you wish.
- ✓ An architect's rendering of the proposed **Life-Style Center** for the north end of town will soon be available for viewing at the library.

Bits 'n Pieces

- ✓ The Library will be **open winter Sunday afternoons** again, 1:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m., from January 6 through March 30, 2008 (excluding Easter Sunday).
- ✓ The Friends of the Library will be holding their **Fall Booksale** on Thursday, October 25, Friday, October 26, and Saturday, October 27.
- ✓ Congratulations to **Sarah Kline Morgan**, whose efforts serving teens earned her national recognition by the American Library Association, in the form of an 'Excellence in Library Service to Young Adults' award!
- ✓ Watch for more information about **authors** coming to CPL in November—Stephen Carter and Will Clower.
- ✓ Would you like to keep up on some of the hundreds of **new items** added to the library's collections every month? Check the library website at www.cheshirelibrary.org and subscribe to Booknews. You will find lists of new fiction and nonfiction for adults, children and teens as well as lists of new DVDs, music CDs and audio books.

Bits 'n Pieces

MEMORIAL DONATIONS

IN MEMORY OF JACK BONESI

Donated by Deborah Wylie - *Pride and Pinstripes: The Yankees, Mets, and Surviving Life's Challenges*

IN MEMORY OF BONNIE GEHRING

Donated by David & Nancy Burt - *Pauline Frommer's Paris, Moon Handbooks Alaska, Changing Faces*

IN MEMORY OF EDWARD GILHULY, SR.

Donated by Evelyn M. Henriques - *Battleships of World War Two*

IN MEMORY OF LOUISE MEUSEL

Donated by Cheshire Performing and Fine Arts Committee - *African American Art and Artists*; donated by Mary & Joel Helfer - *Lives of the Artists*

IN MEMORY OF MARGARET McGEEHAN

Donated by Allen & Elizabeth Norwell - *Lady on the Hill: How Biltmore Became an American Icon, Traveler's Guide to the Hudson River Valley, Hoop Tales: UCONN Huskies Women's Basketball*

IN MEMORY OF DALE MILLER

Donated by Barbara & Richard Miller - *Now and Then (a Spenser novel)*

IN MEMORY OF NELLE MOKRZYNSKI

Donated by Pat Vita - *Trowel and Error, Well-Designed Mixed Garden*

IN MEMORY OF WILLIAM STEVENSON

Donated by Mary & Joel Helfer - *Insight City Guide Montreal*

NEWS FROM THE FRIENDS

The Friends of the Library are looking for a very special person. They have been receiving many donations for their book sale, among which are dozens of old, potentially rare, and valuable books. The Friends are looking for a volunteer with a working knowledge of old book values, who is both computer and eBay savvy. This volunteer's work would consist of assessing book values by researching them online. Please call or email Debbie Wylie if you are interested in helping out. Phone number: 203-272-4723 or email Debbie at mimisbook@aol.com.

As part of their fundraising efforts, the Friends are selling handmade pins which promote reading in various whimsical ways. Stop at the library's circulation desk to check out the pins. They sell for \$12.00 each.

Mark your calendars - the next booksale is October 25, 26,