

ATHENAEUM NEWSLETTER

Volume 2, Issue 6

June, 2002

The Westfield Athenaeum, 6 Elm Street, Westfield, MA 01085

FROM THE DIRECTOR'S DESK:

Over the last six years many of you have probably seen the library "books on wheels" van around town. We have about 200 patrons who are elderly, homebound or disabled that we deliver material to on a monthly basis. We have decided to trade in our 1988 van and purchase a 2002 Subaru Forester. We have been able to purchase this van with grants from the Community Foundation of Western Mass., the Friends of the Westfield Athenaeum, Sarah Gillett Services for the Elderly, the Rotary Club of Westfield and from library funds. Look for our new blue vehicle around town and wave to Joyce Peregrin, the Outreach Coordinator. If you would like to use our service or know anyone who would be interested, please call the library at 568-7833.

Through the generosity of the Wal-Mart Corporation and manager, Don Byram, the library has started an ESL program for Russian-speaking people. The sessions are being held in the evening at the library from 6:30 to 7:30 PM.

Patricia Thompson Cramer

CORRECTION: An entire line was left out of the Word Find Puzzle in last month's Newsletter. Here is the puzzle as it should be:

EGYPTSIRAPYD
ASPAINPZNALA
COCAPECODRAI
ILIOGCDFOUTD
RENOTNEWHBIN
ARNBOLYMIAMI
TSILREATOFHT
SMAINEVNURAI
OHTSCANADATA
CHINAYRAGNUH
ODRVSURPYCKW
EFBERMUDA EAJ

Look for: Disney World, Aruba, Britain, Scotland, Miami, Cape Cod, Bermuda, China, Maine, Canada, Hungary, Costa Rica, Spain, Cyprus, London, Egypt, Ohio, Reno, India, Paris, Utah, Rome, Italy, Haiti, France.

PLANNING A TRIP THIS SUMMER?

The library can help with directions. With our Internet access computers you are able to access the following Web sites: MapQuest (www.mapquest.com), MapBlast! (www.mapblast.com), Freetrip (www.freetrip.com), Maps on Us (www.mapsonus.com), Expedia (<http://maps.expedia.com>), and Rand McNally (www.randmcnally.com). MapQuest is one of the most popular sites that provides Web directions in North America. The main function of this site is to provide easy to follow directions from one place to another with the user supplying as much information as possible. MapQuest will then provide the total distance between the starting point

and the destination, total estimated time of the trip, a map of the route area highlighted, and step-by-step directions. MapBlast! also provides step-by-step directions, but in addition, it includes stopovers. You can also have the directions printed in several languages, including French, Spanish and Italian. MapBlast! also includes points of interest in your destination area and will plot these into the directions. Freetrip is useful for people who don't need the quickest routes but ones that are more scenic. You can ask Freetrip to avoid large metro area roads, or certain U.S. highways. The user can request information on bed & breakfasts or hotels within a certain price range and points of interest and attractions. Freetrip is the ultimate Web site for the picky traveler. Maps on Us is another mapping and driving direction site. The user has two choices here: creating a map of an area or directions from one point to another. Users can type in any address and a map of the area will be displayed. The plan-a-route feature allows the user to choose the type of route (e.g. the fastest route, or one that avoids major highways) and a full map complete with directions is displayed. Expedia performs the same basic tasks, but also provides maps for places around Europe. Another nice feature of this site is that if you make a mistake in the spelling of a place, Expedia will give you alternative spellings. RandMcNally users can obtain maps of the U.S. and other countries on this Web site, but directions are only available for the U.S. So, now all you have to do is load up the car and head for the open road!! (Excerpted from Public Libraries, May/June, 2002)

THE JASPER RAND ART MUSEUM will be featuring the paintings of Denise St. George. The public is welcome to view the exhibit during regular library hours.

CELEBRATE 100 YEARS OF STEINBECK. John Steinbeck was born in Salinas, CA in 1902 and attended Stanford University. He did not graduate from Stanford, but instead chose to write while supporting himself through manual labor. His experience among the working classes in California lent authenticity to his depiction of the lives of the workers who are the central characters of his most important novels. His first novel, *Cup of Gold*, was published in 1929. His first three novels were unsuccessful, both critically and commercially. His first success came with the novel, *Tortilla Flat*, in 1935 followed in 1937 by *Of Mice and Men*. His crowning achievement, *The Grapes of Wrath*, won him a Pulitzer Prize and a National Book Award. It was also adapted into a classic film and named one of the American Film Institute's one hundred greatest films. After World War II and the recovery from the Great Depression, Steinbeck's work became less socially critical. Later writings such as *Cannery Row* (1945), *The Pearl* and *The Bus* (both 1947) are examples of this more relaxed style. In 1962 Steinbeck received the Nobel Prize for literature.

**BOOK DISCUSSION AND FILM –
Thursday, June 27 beginning at 1:00.**

Join us for a book discussion of *East of Eden* on June 27 at 1:00 PM in the Elizabeth Reed Reading Room. A film will be shown in the Lang Auditorium following the discussion. Refreshments will be served. Please reserve your copy of the book, *East of Eden*, at the Circulation Desk.

WESTFIELD ATHENAEUM EVENTS ARE AVAILABLE ONLINE!!

From home, from the office, from school you can now go to the library via the internet. Just enter our web address:

<http://www.eventkeeper.com/westfield>

and you will find our events listed there. For your convenience and information, we are providing a listing of all our programs by categories (i.e. children, adults, teens, all events) with a brief description. You can now see what is happening this month, next month and in some cases six months from now. The calendars are updated regularly so make our eventkeeper a regular stop in your internet browsing!

JUNE PROGRAMS AT THE BOYS AND GIRLS LIBRARY.

The Summer Reading Club Begins

Thursday, June 27! Join us in the large pavilion at Stanley Park at 11:00 AM to help us kick off our Star Spangled Summer Reading Program featuring singer, Roger Tincknell and storyteller, Davis Bates! Entitled, *This Land is Your Land: Stories and Songs from Sea to Shining Sea*, the program will involve the audience in a celebration of the diverse cultural heritage of the United States. Davis Bates and Roger Tincknell have over four decades of combined experience performing for families in community settings throughout the Northeast. Both have received Parents' Choice Awards for their most recent recordings. Davis won a Gold Award for *Family Stories* and Roger an Honor Award for *Earth Rhythms: An Environmental Album*. Material from both recordings will be featured during the June 27 program. Bring the entire family to join in the fun and to collect information on joining the Boys and Girls

Library Summer Reading Program. *This performance is made possible, in part, by a grant from the Westfield Cultural Council, a local agency supported by the Massachusetts Cultural Council.*

CONGRATULATIONS! To the following children who have participated in The Reading Club this winter and spring. At this time there are 363 children and teens enrolled. Of these, 213 have earned a patch or a prize. To earn a prize a regular reader has read at least 250 pages; a junior reader has read or listened to 25 books. To earn a patch a regular reader has read 500 pages; a junior reader has read or listened to 50 books. Many have read much, much more. We would like to recognize the following who have read at least 5,000 pages!!

- Victoria Fontaine 31,888 pages
- Jessica LaFond 7,800 pages
- Nichole LaPlante 6,500 pages
- Lisa Lombardini 5,025 pages
- Kali Nunez 5,474 pages
- Dimitry Pyatachenko 9,285 pages
- Brian Rucki 16,058 pages
- Timothy Rucki 16,058 pages
- Sarah Shepardson 6,107 pages
- Aimee Wong 8,230 pages

The Reading Club will resume on August 5, 2002. Current members will start recording their reading from where they stopped in May. Anyone interested in being a part of The Reading Club may sign up starting August 5, 2002.

ANNUAL POETRY WRITING CONTEST WINNERS.

Grades K-3:

- First Place Addie Fleron Grade 2
- Second Place Liliya Foksha Grade 3
- Hon.Mention Matthew Hamel Grade 3

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Grades 4-5:

First Place Casey Dupelle Grade 4
Second Place Virginia Fisher Grade 5
Hon. Mention Christine Sgrignari-Grade 5

Grades 6-12:

First Place Victoria Fontaine Grade 6
Second Place Linnea Jensen Grade 11
Hon. Mention Vera Farina Grade 8

On Wednesday, June 12 at 7:00 PM a reception is being held for the winners, their families, friends and other lovers of poetry. The winning poems will be read and refreshments served. Please join us for this celebration of poetry in the Lang Auditorium.

Wednesday, June 26 – 5:30 PM – YA Movie night.

ATTENTION PARENTS AND GRANDPARENTS!!

Are you wondering how to entertain the children this summer? Don't forget the Boys and Girls Library has lots of puzzles, toys and games to help you out in addition to videos and, of course, books. They also have kits which are themed and include: Dinosaurs, farm, games and guessing, numbers and shapes, teddy bears, etc. These kits come complete with books, toys, videos -- all relating to the name of the kit. They can be checked out for three weeks.

LIBRARY HOURS:

Monday-Thursday 8:30 AM-8:00 PM
Friday & Saturday 8:30 AM-5:00 PM

LIBRARY TELEPHONE NUMBERS:

Adult Library 568-7833
Reference Dept. 562-0716
Boys & Girls Library 562-6158

CONTRIBUTING TO THIS NEWSLETTER

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