

ATHENAEUM NEWSLETTER

Volume 2, Issue 11

November, 2002

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

FROM THE DIRECTOR'S DESK:

Do you know anyone whose first language is not English, who would like to improve their speaking, reading and writing skills? The Athenaeum is now running its own program in ESOL (English for Speakers of Other Languages). This program is very generously sponsored by Wal-Mart and it is open to all. Susan Moore, who also teaches in the local schools and at Elms College, is the course instructor. In these classes she combines the study of grammar and vocabulary with practical everyday skills like making an appointment with the doctor or ordering a pizza.

The class meets from 6:30-8:00 PM on Monday and Tuesday and runs through early December. More classes are planned for the new year. Anyone who is interested should call 562-0716, or just stop by the reference desk at the library.

Donald G. Buckley, Jr.
Acting Director

NOVEMBER EXHIBIT IN THE JASPER RAND ART MUSEUM:

We are pleased to host an exhibit by ARTSWEST, a group of friends who exhibit together and support each other in their art. Founded in 1985, the group currently has nine artists with nine different styles – their common thread

being their love of art and desire to help each other develop artistically.

Members include: Natalie Birrell, Marie Flahive, Beverly Gamble, Renee Jarvis-Nowak, Edward Mead, Gretchen Reilly, Luann Rose, In Sun Russell and Jean Williams. A list of works for the November show, and prices, will be available at the library's circulation desk. Please contact the artists for further information.

REMINDER: The December Book Discussion will be at 1:00 PM in the Elizabeth Reed Room on Thursday, December 5. The book to be discussed is [A Tree Grows in Brooklyn](#).

November is the month for many different causes and interests. It is the Peanut Butter Lover's month, National Aids Awareness month, Lung Cancer, National Alzheimer's Disease month, Aviation History month, Vegan month, and National Hospice month to name a few. November first starts us off with the Catholic's All Saints' Day or Mexico's Day of the Dead and moves quickly to Cliché Day (November 3) when you are encouraged to Give it a shot, Win some, lose some, You'll never know until you try it. Then, while the United Kingdom will be celebrating Guy Fawke's trying to blow up Parliament,

we will be voting to elect a new governor (and other officials). Ramadan, the Islamic month of fasting, starts November 6, but, if you are not Muslim, you might take advantage of National Men Make Dinner Day (November 7 – it's worth a try). November also brings us Veterans' Day (November 11), a lunar eclipse on November 19, Chanukah starting Nov. 30 and the first U.S. holiday created by presidential proclamation. In 1876, both Houses of Congress requested George Washington to recommend "a day of public thanksgiving and prayer, to be observed by acknowledging with grateful hearts the many and signal favors of Almighty God, especially by affording them an opportunity to peaceably establish a form of government for their safety and happiness." President Roosevelt set aside the fourth Thursday in November for us to celebrate Thanksgiving and to boost Christmas retail sales. (Much of this information is from Chase's Calendar of Events 2002).

New Return Slot. For your convenience, we have created a slot in the adult circulation desk for all returns.

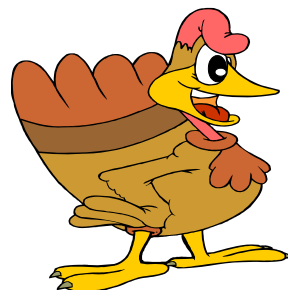
Classics: If you are interested in reading the classic books (Dickens, Austen, Homer, Woolf, Hardy, Faulkner), please contact Kate Deviny at the Reference Desk.

Wondering what to read: Some of our new non-fiction acquisitions are: The Right Words at the Right Time, edited by Marlo Thomas, a compendium of celebrities describing a turning point in their lives, The Gatekeepers by Jacques Steinberg, a reporter's account of the admission process at Wesleyan University, Land's End by Michael

Cunningham, which gives a tour of Provincetown, and In Search of America by Peter Jennings and Todd Brewster, about American culture.

The library staff is reading a wide variety of books: Anne Perry's Death of a Stranger, Jan Karon's At Home in Mitford, Philip Gerard's Secret Soldiers, Elizabeth Keckley's Behind the Scenes, or, Thirty Years a Slave and Four Years in the White House, Jack Kelly's Mobtown, Janette Oke's Searching Heart, and Michael Connelly's Chasing the Dime. What would you recommend?

Secret Treasure in the B & G. You may not realize the extensive computer software the Boys and Girls Library has to offer. We have many programs that help with reading and writing such as Sesame Street's Let's Make a Word, Writing Blaster, Major League Reading, The Amazing Writing Machine or, if you want more of a game, Boggle and Scrabble. There are also numerous math tutors in playful (Blue's 1,2,3) or instructive formats (Mighty Math). If your child is learning about history, science or geography, we have Insects, Civil War, Colonial America, Mammals, Rainforests, Oceans, Oregon Trail, or Africa – to name a few titles. The Madeline Thinking Game or Rocky and Bullwinkle's Know It All sound like a lot of fun.



NOVEMBER PROGRAMS IN THE BOYS & GIRLS LIBRARY:

Parent/Child Saturday Art at 10 AM:

The November 2 class has been cancelled and the November 16 class for Grades K-1 is filled. Space is still available for November 30 at 10 AM for Grades 4 & 5. Register now.

Mother Goose Time for Baby through

age 2: Tuesdays, November 5, 12, 19 and 26 at 10 AM and 11 AM. These classes are filled. The next series will be held in January. Watch for Mother Goose Holiday Crafts in December (Sign up November 26!)

2's TOO: Thursdays, November 7, 14, and 21 at 10 AM. This series is for children age 2. Two sessions are offered. Space is still available in the 10:00 AM session. Each child must be accompanied by an adult. Only children who are registered for the program may attend. Siblings (regardless of age) may not attend unless they are registered participants and are accompanied by an adult. Register now.

Open Story Time for all ages: Fridays, November 8, 15 and 22 at 10 AM. A half hour of stories, songs, and finger plays for children of all ages. No registration is required.

Story Time Plus for Ages 3 & 4:

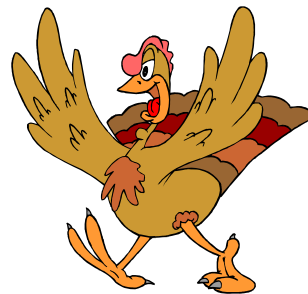
This series normally meets on Fridays at 11:00 AM. The November series is full. The next series will be held in January.

Saturday, November 9: 1:30-2:00 Harry Potter Gathering. 2:00-4:30 the movie, Harry Potter & the Sorcerer's Stone will be shown in the Lang Auditorium. Advance registration is required.

Saturday, November 23 at 9:00 AM:

A Thanksgiving Craft Table will be set up all day for all ages. Materials will be available throughout the day for as long as supplies last.

Tuesday, November 26: Sign up for Christmas Tea & Mother Goose Holiday Craft.



HAPPY THANKSGIVING from all of us at the Westfield Athenaeum!!

LIBRARY HOURS:

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

LIBRARY TELEPHONE HOURS:

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

CONTRIBUTING TO THIS

NEWSLETTER: Kate Deviny, Editor and Mary Ann Tourjee.

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