Welcome to *Library Notes*, a monthly publication of the Needham Free Public Library. Each month we’ll give you a synopsis of the monthly goings-on and events happening at the Library, as well as highlighting ongoing services....

**December Events in the Community Room at the Needham Free Public Library...**

**Saturday, December 1st  3:00 PM**

**Children’s Author/Illustrator Ruth Sanderson**

Join us as Author/Illustrator Ruth Sanderson talks about how she writes and illustrates her award-winning fairytale and picture books. Books will be available for purchase and autographing following the presentation. 

*Sponsored by the Library Foundation of Needham.*

**Sunday, December 2nd  2:00 PM**

**An Edwardian Christmas Tea with Rita Parisi**

Enjoy an afternoon of holiday cheer as Rita transports you back to Christmas 1908. Find out what ladies, gentlemen and children wanted in their stockings that year, as well as the holiday traditions. Take a moment from the holiday stress as Rita shares with you her plans for the holiday, including her preparation of a Christmas dinner. And don’t forget to bring along your “Christmas Wish List” and Rita will open up her 1908 Sears & Roebuck catalogue and let you know how much it will cost you!

*Sponsored by the Library Foundation of Needham.*

**Thursday, December 27th  3:00 PM**

**Magic by George**

Magic by George’s fun filled show keeps you on the edge of your seat. You’ll be thrilled by the appearance of live birds and the actual levitation of an audience member! With lots of audience involvement and family fun humor, everyone will leave wanting more. For young and old alike. A Great Show! And Great Fun! 

*Sponsored by the Library Foundation of Needham.*

**Friday, December 28th  2:00 PM**

**Children’s Movie: Short Film Festival featuring Pixar Short Shorts and the work of Chuck Jones**

*Disneys’ Pixar Films* invites you to discover these masterpieces of storytelling from the creative minds that brought you *Toy Story, Monsters, Inc.*, *Finding Nemo* and many more. With revolutionary animation, unforgettable music and characters you love, these dazzling short films have changed the face of animation and entertainment and are sure to delight people of all ages for years to come.

Chuck Jones, one of the top directors for the *Warner Brothers Looney Tunes*, also directed several children’s book-based cartoons over the years. We will be showing his version of *Rikki-Tikki-Tavi* as well as a few other surprises.

**Ongoing Activities....**

**Appearing this month in the Friends’ Gallery:**

**Childrens Illustrator/Author Ruth Sanderson**

**Display Cases:**

**Traditional Japanese Embroidery: Study Opportunities - Merrimack Valley Chapter Embroiderer’s Guild of America**

**Tuesday, December 11th  1:00 PM**

**NPL Book Group**

This months’ selection: *The Giver by Lois Lowry*

A modern-day tale for readers of all ages! Jonas’s world is perfect. Everything is under control. There is no war or fear or pain. There are no choices. Now, Jonas is singled out to receive special training from *The Giver*. The Giver alone holds the memories of the true pain and pleasure of life. Now it’s time for Jonas to receive the truth. There is no turning back. “*The Giver*” received the Newbery Medal in 1994.

For further information about upcoming events, go to www.needhamma.gov/library.
Wednesday, December 19th  7:00 PM
NPL Evening Book Group
This month's selection:

**Body and Soul** by Frank Conroy

In the dim light of a basement apartment, six-year-old Claude Rawlings sits at an old white piano, picking out the sounds he has heard on the radio and shutting out the reality of his lonely world.

The setting is 1940s New York, a city that is “long gone, replaced by another city of the same name”. Against a backdrop that pulses with sound and rhythm, Body & Soul brilliantly evokes the life of a child prodigy whose musical genius pulls him out of squalor and into the drawing rooms of the rich and a gilt-edged marriage.

But the same talent that transforms him also hurls Claude into a lonely world of obsession and relentless ambition. From Carnegie Hall to the smoky jazz clubs of London, Body & Soul burns with passion and truth -- at once a riveting, compulsive read and a breathtaking glimpse into a boy's heart and an artist's soul.

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Children’s Department

December Storytimes

**Lap-sit Baby Book Time** - for ages up to 2 1/2
Wed., Dec 5, 12, 19  10:00 - 10:20 AM
Introduce your baby to the fun of books and words with stories, fingerplays, and sing-alongs.

**Toddler Time** for ages 3 and up
Thurs., Dec 6, 13, 20  10:00 - 10:20 AM
Combines music, movement and stories.

Story times are drop-in - no registration required.
All children must be accompanied by an adult.
Storytimes start PROMPTLY at 10:00 AM - please arrive on time.

**Drop-in Story/Craft** - ages 2 1/2 and above
Thursday, Dec 6 & 13  3:45 - 4:10 PM
No Registration required. Children must be accompanied by an adult.

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**Upcoming Events - January 2008**

Saturday, January 5th  10:30 AM
**Bubblemania!** : Comedy with a Drip! featuring bubbleman extraordinaire Casey Carle

International Soap Bubble Artist, **Casey Carle**, creates an event loaded with visual art, quick wit, swing music and amazing soap bubble manipulations - from stunning bubble sculpture to trapping people inside bubbles! With over 1,500 performances since 1992, Mr. Carle is the Soap Bubble Consultant to **Cirque du Soleil** & co-author of the award winning book “**BubbleOlogy**”. You will be both amazed and amused by this program for ages 5-95.

Sunday, January 13th  2:00 PM
**Two Bostons: Ours and the Mother Town in England**

Will Holton, Ph.D., President of The Partnership of the Historic Bostons and Associate Professor of Sociology and Anthropology, Northeastern University, will be speaking on the “ties that bind us to our mother town”. As an adjunct to this talk, the Needham Public Library will have on display on the second floor, for the months of January & February 2008, the “Botolph’s Town” Kiosk. The kiosk features photographs of St. Botolph’s Church in Boston, England, and of documents, buildings, and objects relating to the founding of Boston, MA.

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**Vacation Week Activities**

**Drop-in Storytime for all Ages**
December 26th  10:00 - 10:20 AM
All children must be accompanied by an adult.

**Vacation Week Storycraft for ages 4+**
December 27th  10:30 - 11:00 AM
Registration begins on December 13 - limit 12.

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**Library Hours:**

**Mon. - Thurs.**  9:00AM - 9:00PM
**Fridays**  9:00AM - 5:30PM
**Saturdays**  9:00AM - 5:00PM
**Sundays**  1:00PM - 5:00PM