Cosmic Moxa

Sunday, December 6th  2:00 PM
Cosmic Moxa is the dynamic duo of John Salonen, maestro of the guitar, keys and killer fiddle, who was born in Finland and comes from a familial musical background, and American born Nancy Valois, who is awesome on vocals as well as an inspired keyboard player. COSMIC MOXA was formed in 1970 and has gone on to create over 50+ CDs of original music, with more coming all the time. From Rock to Jazz, Trance to Funk, Acoustic to such diverse and interesting instrumentation as the Japanese Koto, and Irish Dulcimer, COSMIC MOXA pleases the ear and the spirit with their original sound. Sponsored by the Friends of the Needham Public Library.

Diane Kordas - Romper Rhythms and Puppets presents Pirates Ahoy!
Saturday, December 11th  3:00 PM
Romper Rhythm and Puppets produces quality theater performances that entertain and educate audiences. Diane’s puppet shows feature beautifully crafted stages and well-designed gorgeous puppets. Pirates Ahoy! features three short vignettes: Blackbeard and His Leg-
endary Treasure on the Isle of Shoals, The Story of Ocean Born Mary, and an excerpt from “Treasure Island.” There is neither gore nor sword fights — Diane’s trademark humor and audience participation are the highlights of this show. This performance is geared for ages 5 and up. Sponsored by the Library Foundation of Needham.

New Years Needham Schedule
December 31, 2009
Tiny Tots Film Festival  10:00 AM
- storybook short films

Movie: G-Force (PG-88min)  10:30 AM
G-Force, an elite team of highly trained guinea pigs, races against the clock to save the world.

Pumpernickel Puppets presents The Frog Prince  1:30 PM
Classic story of an enchanted frog and the princess who can change him back into a prince, if only she will give him a kiss...

Magician Christopher Bolter

3:00 PM
3:45 PM
4:30 PM

For further information about upcoming events, go to www.needhamma.gov/library.
What’s happening this month in the Children’s Room...

**December Activities**

**Sing-Along with Ed Morgan**
Fri., December 11th  
3:00 PM
For children 2 years and up accompanied by an adult. This is a drop-in program - please arrive on time.

**Music, Movement and Me with Sara Epstein**
Tues., December 8th  
10:30 AM  
Tues., December 22nd  
10:30 AM
An interactive music and movement program for children under 4 and adults. Registration required - max. 20 children & accompanying adult, and limited to one session only.

**Children’s Programs in December**

**Children’s Movie:**

**Night at the Museum - Battle of the Smithsonian (Rated PG - 105 min)**

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

In this 2nd installment of the Night at the Museum saga, Larry Daley faces a battle so epic it could only unfold in the corridors of the world’s largest museum. Now, Larry must try to save his formerly inanimate friends from what could be their last stand amid the wonders of the Smithsonian, all of which, from the famous paintings on the walls to the rocketships in the halls, suddenly have a mind of their own.

**December Book Discussions**

**NPL Book Group**

**Tuesday, December 8th  1:00 PM**

**The Widow's War** by Sally Gunning

When her husband is lost in a whaling disaster, widow Lyddie Berry finds her status is vastly changed. Her son-in-law sets out to strip her of everything she and her husband worked for, but she refuses to bow to societal and legal pressures.

While conjuring the hearths and salt air of eighteenth-century colonial America, The Widow’s War captures a timeless human longing. With rich, realistic characters,

**Lucy the R.E.A.D. Dog**

**Wed., December 16th  10:00 AM**

Join Lucy, a black lab, and Pat Howes (recently retired first grade teacher at Newman) for a great program that encourages children to read! Registration is required.

Sponsored by the Friends of the Needham Public Library.
Sally Gunning weaves a tale of a woman’s journey to understand herself and her world, and her place in that world. Honest and moving, The Widow’s War is a stunning work of literary magic, a spellbinding tale from an assured and gifted writer.

NPL Evening Book Group
Wednesday, December 16th
7:00 PM
A Judgement in Stone by Ruth Rendall
What on earth could have provoked a modern day St. Valentine’s Day massacre? On Valentine’s Day, four members of the Coverdale family—George, Jacqueline, Melinda and Giles—were murdered in the space of 15 minutes. Their housekeeper, Eunice Parchman, shot them, one by one, in the blue light of a televised performance of Don Giovanni. When Detective Chief Superintendent William Vetch arrests Miss Parchman two weeks later, he discovers a second tragedy: the key to the Valentine’s Day massacre hidden within a private humiliation Eunice Parchman has guarded all her life. A brilliant rendering of character, motive, and the heady discovery of truth, A Judgement in Stone is among Ruth Rendell’s finest psychological thrillers.

Library News

David Summergrad, the inaugural user of the library’s new self-check system, checks out his library book under the watchful eyes of library staffers Cindy Crawford (left) and Sue Priver (right). The self-check computer has been installed at the library’s Circulation Desk to help cut down on the long check-out lines. Area libraries that have installed self-check report that one-quarter of all checkouts have been done on the self-check system. During the first day of use, people self-checked out 147 items. The library’s self-check is an intuitive, easy-to-use system that does not require any special training. Borrowers will be amazed at how easy it is to use.

Watch the Children’s Play Area during December and January for some dramatic changes. The area is being redesigned and the “Reading Wave” will be removed. The area will have to be closed off for short periods of time during wave removal and other work.

Library Hours:

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<th>Days</th>
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<td>Mon. - Thurs.</td>
<td>9:00am - 9:00pm</td>
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<td>Fridays</td>
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<td>Sundays</td>
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This Month in the Friends Gallery

Rachel Carroll
Upcoming Events...

Author Walter Hunt - Past Views of the Future: Science Fiction's Peek Over the Horizon

Sunday, January 10  2:00 PM
Join Science Fiction Author Walter Hunt (The Dark Wing Series) as he talks about the mind-expanding ways that writers past and present answer the important question, “What if?” The science fiction genre embraces many forms of exploration — from the credible to incredible, the known to unknown. Hunt’s 2008 book, A Song in Stone, casts a twenty-first century personality into a Friday the 13th challenge...in the year 1307. Sponsored by the Friends of the Needham Public Library.

StoryPlay w/Author Jason Edwards

Saturday, January 23rd  10:30 AM
Children’s Author Jason Edwards, author of Will Allen and the Great Monster Detective, presents this imaginative program, designed to accommodate a wide variety of ages and numbers of participants. StoryPlay is as limitless and creative as a child's imagination! This program is designed so that children of all ages and levels of ability can personally take part in a storytelling activity by creating characters and making up their own lines in an interactive adventure with Jason Edwards as our facilitator/storyteller. Any child old enough to talk can participate because no reading or writing skills are required. This program is sponsored by The Library Foundation of Needham.

2010 McIver Series Contemporary Crime

The McIver series for 2010 will explore Contemporary Crime. We are fascinated by people who commit crimes, are aware that we are all at risk, and enjoy reading about crime and evil. The series will feature extraordinary crime (Jack Levin), everyday crimes (Bonnie Michelman and Bruce Dean), and fictional crime (Linda Barnes).

Serial Murder: Up Close and Personal with Jack Levin

Sunday, January 24th  2:00 PM
Jack Levin is Brudnick Distinguished Professor in the Sociology and Anthropology department at Northeastern University and director of the Brudnick Center on Violence and Conflict at Northeastern. His research specialties are mass/serial murder, hate crimes, youth and school violence, and workplace murder. Author of 28 books including Serial Killers and Sadistic Murderers, he has been interviewed on national television hundreds of times and on the radio over a thousand times. Sponsored by the Trustees of the Needham Free Public Library.

Children’s Movie: Cloudy with a Chance of Meatballs (PG - 90 min)

Friday, January 22nd  3:30 PM
Ever since he was a child, Flint Lockwood has dreamed of becoming a great scientist whose inventions would change the world. When he constructs a synthesizer that can change water into food his dream comes true, and as the sky rains down cheeseburgers, pizza, ice cream, and more, Flint finally achieves the adoration and respect he’s always desired. But when the greedy town mayor demands an ever-increasing assortment of cuisine, the machine overloads, bringing down mountains of meatballs and cyclones of pasta. Now it’s up to Flint, his pet monkey, and nerdy weather girl Sam Sparks to save the world from certain extinction by eatables.

Thanks to the Friends of the Needham Public Library for providing financial assistance in the production of this Newsletter.