



# LIBRARY NOTES

December 2010

**NEEDHAM  
FREE PUBLIC  
LIBRARY**

Welcome to *Library Notes*, a monthly publication of the Needham Free Public Library. *Library Notes* describes both the monthly events at the Library and the ongoing services...

## **Trio Con Brio**

**Sun., December 5th 2:00 PM**



Come celebrate an afternoon of classical music with flautists Wendy Vignaux and Laura Wilkin and cellist Suzanne Friedrich. Sponsored by the Friends of the Needham Public Library.

## **Keith Michael Johnson's *The Secret World of Bubbles***

**Sat., December 11th 10:30 AM**

*You've never seen bubbles like this before...*

*As big as a rainbow colored bathtub wobbling 10-feet off the ground with a liquid-skin thinner than the wavelength of light. Bubbles will bounce, divide and sometimes even swallow*



*you whole if you give them the chance. Even ordinary bubbles are extraordinary. The Secret World of Bubbles is packed with state-of-the-art bubble sculpture: kinetic and ephemeral, miniscule and mammoth. The bubbles' mission is to snare your attention and make you wonder, "How is that possible?" This program is sponsored by the Library Foundation of Needham.*

## **Genealogy 101 with Judith Lucey**

**Sun., December 12th 2:00 PM**

Do you know who you are? Have you always wanted to learn more about your family? Shows like NBC's "Who Do You Think You Are?" starring Brooke



Shields and Sarah Jessica Parker have created new interest in genealogy, but the shows make searches look deceptively easy.



Judith Lucey, Assistant Archivist at the New England Historic Genealogical Society on Newbury Street, will show you how to begin your genealogical search by using Ancestry.com and HeritageQuest Online, databases at the Needham library. This program is sponsored by the Library Foundation of Needham.



## **New Years Needham 2011 @ the Library**

**Friday, December 31st**

- |                 |  |
|-----------------|--|
| <b>10:00 AM</b> | <b>Pumpnickel Puppets - Peter Rabbit</b> |
| <b>11:00 AM</b> | <b>Pumpnickel Puppets - Peter Rabbit</b> |
| <b>1:00 PM</b>  | <b>Storyteller Johanna Sweet</b>         |
| <b>2:00 PM</b>  | <b>Storyteller Johanna Sweet</b>         |
| <b>3:00 PM</b>  | <b>Magician Chris Bolter</b>             |
| <b>3:45 PM</b>  | <b>Magician Chris Bolter</b>             |
| <b>4:30 PM</b>  | <b>Magician Chris Bolter</b>             |

For further information about upcoming events, go to [www.needhamma.gov/](http://www.needhamma.gov/)

# What's happening this month in the Children's Room...

## Children's Programs in December

Drop-in Storytime for ages 5 and under

Wed., December 1, 15, 22, 29 10:00 AM  
Fri., December 3, 17 10:30 AM  
Stories, music, movement and more for 30 minutes.



Spanish Storytime with Claudia -

Drop-In Storytime for ages 5 and under

Fri., December 3rd 10:00 AM



Featuring a Spanish storytime by Claudia

Baby Laptime for ages 0-12 months (Prewalkers)

Fri., December 17th 10:00 AM

A low-key interactive program of simple stories, songs, and rhymes for about 15 minutes, followed by a 15 minute "playtime."



Story times are drop-in—no registration required.

All children must be accompanied by an adult.

Sing-Along with Ed Morgan

Fri., December 10th 3:00 PM



For children 2 years and up accompanied by an adult. This is a drop-in program - please arrive on time.

Ready, Set...Move with Cici Hunt: for ages 3-5\*\*



Wed., December 8th 11:00 AM

Mon., December 20th 11:00 AM

Join Cici Hunt in this fun-filled music and movement class for children and their caretakers.

**\*\*Registration is required, one session per month only please.**

Music, Movement and Me with Sara Epstein\*\*

Tues., December 7th 10:30 AM

Tues., December 14th 10:30 AM

An interactive music and movement program for adults and children under 4.



**\*\*Registration required - max. 20 children & accompanying adult.**

Lucy the R.E.A.D. Dog: for ages 3 and up\*\*



Thurs., December 9th 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 required**

**and begins one week prior to program. Sponsored by the Friends of the Needham Public Library.**

## Toddler Movies



**Thurs., December 9, 23 11:00 AM**

Due to popular response, we will continue to show Toddler Movies – films based on story-books—in the Community Room.

## December Craft & Special Events

Paper Play ages 2 and up



Thurs., December 9th 3:00 - 4:30 PM

Thurs., December 16th 3:00 - 4:30 PM

Stop by and make cards, paper gifts and envelopes.

Drop-In December Crafts for ages 2 - 6 years



Thurs., December 2nd 10:00 AM

Thurs., December 2nd 4:00 PM

Join us for this fun drop-in craft program!

Great Board Games for ages 4 and up

Tues., December 28th 3:00 - 4:30 PM

Join us in playing a variety of different board games.



Drop-In End of the Year Leftovers — Craft

Projects for ages 2 - 6 years

Thurs., December 30th 3:00 - 4:30 PM

Stop by and make some of our leftover craft projects.

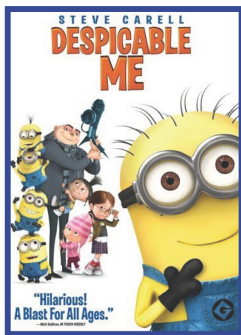


# HAPPY HOLIDAYS

## Children's Movie: Despicable Me (Rated PG - 95 minutes)

Wed., December 29th 2:00 PM

*Despicable Me* is a compelling animated comedy about an aging super villain's falling popularity at the hands of a younger super villain and three young orphan girls. Gru is a true, bad-to-the-core evildoer who's earned the title of the world's No. 1 super villain, but when young upstart Vector steals the Pyramid of Giza, Gru's status suddenly sinks to No. 2. Gru counters his fall by speeding up his plan to shrink and steal the moon, enlisting the help of his army of minions and the elderly Dr. Nefario, but a lack of funding and the difficulties involved in stealing the needed shrink-ray gun threaten to derail everything. Adopting three young orphan girls is an unlikely, but seemingly effective means to further Gru's evil mission, but Gru quickly discovers that caring for three young girls is more work and distraction than he could ever have anticipated. What unfolds is an unexpected shift in attitude that will forever change the lives of Gru, Vector, and all three young girls.



*forming experience of new love ends under threat of scandal. Driven ever deeper within himself, Stoner rediscovers the stoic silence of his forebears and confronts an essential solitude.*

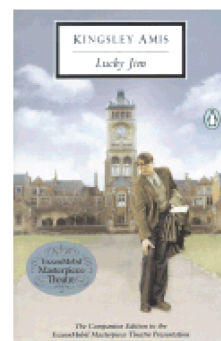
*John Williams's luminous and deeply moving novel is a work of quiet perfection. William Stoner emerges from it not only as an archetypal American, but as an unlikely existential hero, standing, like a figure in a painting by Edward Hopper, in stark relief against an unforgiving world.*

NPL Evening Book Group  
Wednesday, December 15th 7:00 PM

*Lucky Jim*

by Kingsley Amis

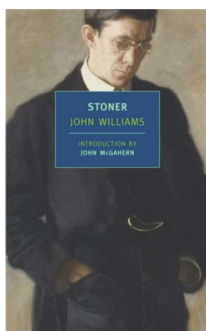
*Jim Dixon has accidentally fallen into a job at one of Britain's new red brick universities. A moderately successful future in the history department beckons—as long as Jim can survive a madrigal-singing weekend at Professor Welch's, deliver a lecture on "Merrie England," and resist Christine, the hopelessly desirable girlfriend of Welch's awful son Bertrand.*



## December Book Discussions

NPL Book Group  
Tuesday, December 14th 1:00 PM  
*Stoner*  
by John Williams

*William Stoner is born at the end of the nineteenth century into a dirt-poor Missouri farming family. Sent to the state university to study agronomy, he instead falls in love with English literature and embraces a scholar's life, so different from the hardscrabble existence he has known. And yet as the years pass, Stoner encounters a succession of disappointments: marriage into a "proper" family estranges him from his parents; his career is stymied; his wife and daughter turn coldly away from him; a trans-*



## This Month in the Friend's Gallery

Vera Kaufman

*Nature's Seasons*

and in the Display Cases

Shirley Pratt

*Accessories from a Bygone Era*

## Library Hours:

Mon. - Thurs.	9:00am - 9:00pm
Fridays	9:00am - 5:30pm
Saturdays	9:00am - 5:00pm
Sundays	1:00pm - 5:00pm



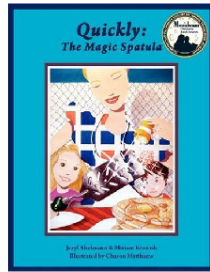
# Upcoming Events...

## Needham Author Miriam Kronish - *Quickly: The Magic Spatula*

Sat., January 8th

10:30 AM

Co-written with fellow educator Jeryl Abelmann, Former Hillside School Principal Miriam Kronish brings the enchanting story of *Quickly: The Magic Spatula* to life. This warm childhood memory describes a touching family story.



*Quickly* is discovered in the upstairs attic in an old dusty box. This seemingly magical spatula brings the warmth of Mommy's kitchen to life. What is the real secret of Mommy's Sunday morning pancakes? How did *Quickly* get its name? A story for children of all ages, *Quickly* will bring a smile to your lips and tug at your heart. This universal story celebrates those heartfelt family moments that become treasured with time. Come and join us for this unique family presentation.

## Wingmasters Presents *The World of Owls* Sat., January 22nd 3:00 PM



Owls are not evil spirits, wise little philosophers or Walt Disney creations. Nor do they wing about carrying messages, despite the way they're depicted in the Harry Potter books. In fact, owls are probably more misunderstood than any other kind of bird. These are hunting

birds, yet their sharp beaks and talons are partly hidden under feathers. Owls have more and softer feathers than other birds, and this unique plumage gives them a plump, rounded look. Add an upright posture and huge eyes set in front like ours, and you have what looks irresistibly like a small, bemused person wearing a fur coat. In reality, owls are superbly adapted nocturnal hunters. This program, for ages 5 and up, shows how owls use their specialized powers of sight, hearing and flight to survive and thrive. A wealth of fact and folklore about these masters of the dark explains the natural and unnatural history of owls. A variety of live owls provides the focus of the presentation.

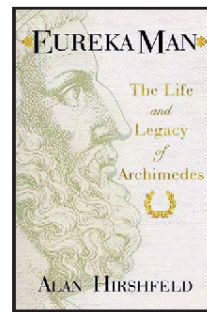
This program is sponsored by the Library Foundation of Needham.

## Dr. Alan Hirshfeld Speaks about *Eureka Man: The Life and Legacy of Archimedes*

Sun., January 23rd

2:00 PM

The millennia since Archimedes lived seem to fade away in the telling of his story by Hirshfeld, Professor of Physics at the University of Massachusetts, Dartmouth. Archimedes was acknowledged as brilliant by his third century B.C. peers. Today, his mathematical understanding of basics, such as buoyancy, levers, and screws, is taken for granted, but still applied. Professor Hirshfeld shows the relationship between sensational feats credited to Archimedes in the ancient world, and modern marvels, such as mechanical cardiac assist systems or wastewater treatment plants.



Professor Hirshfeld is also the author of *The Electric Life of Michael Faraday* and *Parallax: The Race to Measure the Cosmos*. Sponsored by the Friends of the Needham Public Library.

## Children's Movie: Disney's *The Sorcerer's Apprentice* (Rated PG - 109 minutes)

Fri., January 21st

3:30 PM

Who doesn't wish they could unleash fire from their fingertips and make mops come to life? *The Sorcerer's Apprentice* enjoyably captures this fantasy as a young physics student named Dave learns that he's the inheritor of the powers of Merlin--and suddenly finds himself in the middle of a war between two of Merlin's protégés, Balthazar and Horvath.



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