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...

**Author Charles Fountain - Under the March Sun**

**Tuesday, February 16th  7:30 PM**

*Under the March Sun* recounts for the first time the full and fascinating history of spring training and its growth from a shoestring-budget road trip to burn off winter calories into a billion-dollar-a-year business. **Sponsored by the Library Foundation of Needham.**

**Debbie and Friends**

**Thursday, February 18th  10:30AM**

Debbie and Friends concerts are fun for the whole family. Parents and kids join in this interactive “variety show,” which includes a diverse array of styles including rock, pop, country, reggae, and Broadway-esque tunes. You’ll become the Big Bad Wolf and blow the house down, fix Rosie’s wrong rhymes, test your skills with the Simon Sez Song, and share a special moment with your loved ones singing “Love Is A Family.” **Sponsored by the Library Foundation of Needham.**

**Rory Raven - Brainstorming: An Act of Mentalism!**

**Sunday, February 21st  2:00 PM**

Rory Raven will read your mind, bend your spoon, and leave you talking about it for the rest of your life. Not a psychic, not a magician, his knowledge of the inner workings of the mind allows him to perform amazing shows about the powers of the mind, both real and imagined. Rory insists he’s not psychic but you might not be so sure! **Sponsored by the Friends of the Needham Public Library.**

**2010 McIver Series**

**Everyday Crime and You**

**Sunday, February 28th  2:00 PM**

We are all the potential victims of crime and Bruce Dean and Bonnie Michelman will talk about the details of contemporary crime and how real crime is part of everyday existence in the 21st century. Topics will include workplace violence and trends in crime based on the economic downturn. Identity theft will also be discussed. **Sponsored by the Trustees of the Needham Free Public Library.**

**Bruce Dean**, a Needham Native, is a specialist in fraud deterrence, detection, and investigation. A lawyer, former Asst. D.A., and the former Chief of the Special Prosecution Unit in Suffolk County, he now works as a security management consultant and is a licensed Private Investigator.

**Bonnie Michelman** is Director of Police, Security and Outside Services at Mass. General Hospital in Boston. She has the responsibility of making sure that all hospital facilities are safe for the 35,000 annual patients, one million outpatient visits, and 23,000 staff while allowing thousands of people to visit the hospital each day.

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

**Children’s Programs in February**

**Drop-in Storytime for all ages**
- Wed., February 3 & 24 10:00 AM
- Thur., February 11 & 25 10:00 AM
Stories, music, movement and more for 30 minutes.

**Baby Laptime for ages 0-12 months (Prewalkers)**
- Fri., February 5 & 26 10:00 AM
A low-key interactive program of simple stories, songs, rhymes and fingerplays for about 15 minutes.

*Story times are drop-in - no registration required. All children must be accompanied by an adult.*

**Sing-Alone with Ed Morgan**
- Fri., February 12th 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**
- Wed., February 10th 10:30 AM
- Tues., February 23rd 10:30 AM
An interactive music and movement program for adults and children under 4. Registration required - max. 20 children & accompanying adult, and limited to one session only.

**Ready, Set...Move with Cici Hunt: for ages 3-5**
- Mon., February 8th 11:00 AM
- Mon., February 22nd 11:00 AM
Join Cici Hunt in this fun-filled music and movement class for children and their caretakers. Registration is required.

**Lucy the R.E.A.D. Dog**
- Thurs., February 4th 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.

**February Craft Activities**

Valentine Crafts for ages 5 and up**
- Thurs., February 11th 3:30 PM
Make a valentine and more! **Registration required and begins one week prior to event. Limit 20.♥

Valentine Crafts for ages 2 - 5**
- Fri., February 12th 10:00 AM
Make a valentine and more! **Registration required and begins one week prior to event. Limit 20.

**February Vacation Week Activities**

Great Board Games for all ages
- Tues., February 16th 2:30 PM
Join us in playing a variety of different board games.

Olympic Crafts for ages 2-5**
- Wed., February 17th 10:30 AM
Join us in making Olympic-related crafts and fun activities. **Registration required and begins one week prior to event. Limit 20.

“Beat the Winter Blahs Beach Party” for ages 2 - 7
- Thurs., February 18th 2:30 PM
Crafts and surprises to chase away the winter chill.
Puppet Making Workshop - ages 4 and up**
Fri., February 19th  2:30 PM
Celebrate our new puppet theatre by making simple puppets and learning how to use them! **Registration required and begins one week prior to event. Limit 20.

Children’s Movie: Harry Potter and the Half Blood Prince (PG - 153 min.)
Friday, February 19th  2:00 PM
In the sixth year at Hogwarts School of Witchcraft, and in both wizard and muggle worlds Lord Voldemort and his henchmen are increasingly active. With vacancies to fill at Hogwarts, Professor Dumbledore persuades Horace Slugborn back from retirement to become the potions teacher, while Professor Snape receives long awaited news. Harry Potter, together with Dumbledore, must face treacherous tasks to defeat his evil nemesis.

February Book Discussions

NPL Book Group
Tuesday, February 9th  1:00 PM
Marco Polo: From Venice to Xanadu by Laurence Bergreen
As the first European to travel extensively throughout Asia, Marco Polo was the earliest bridge between East and West. His famous journeys took him across the boundaries of the known world, along the dangerous Silk Road, and into the court of Kublai Kahn, where he won the trust of the most feared and reviled leader of his day. Polo introduced the cultural riches of China to Europe, spawning centuries of Western fascination with Asia.

NPL Evening Book Group
Wednesday, February 24th  7:00 PM
Notes of a Native Son by James A. Baldwin
James Baldwin’s collection of essays, Notes of a Native Son, with the individual essays having been originally written during the 1940s and 1950s, gives readers a thoughtful commentary on the social environment in the United States in the era of the Civil Rights Movement. Through the eyes and mind of one of America’s most effective essayists, the conditions of being an African American living in a society that is grappling with the consequences of racial discrimination are witnessed firsthand. The subjects of his essays vary as Baldwin ponders his own reactions to the significance of the so-called protest novel to the circumstances that led many African-American writers of his time to become expatriates.

This Month in the Friends Gallery
Irwin Thompson
In My Mind’s Eye
and in the Display Cases
Altered Books by NHS Art Students

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 James S. Hirsch — Willie Mays: The Life, The Legend with NPR’s Bill Littlefield

Thursday, March 11th  7:00 PM

Authorized by Willie Mays, THE definitive biography of one of the greatest baseball players of all time written by a New York Times bestselling author James Hirsch — featuring exclusive first-time interviews with friends, family members, and teammates.


Bill Littlefield, an author in his own right, makes an appearance in this book. He is also the host of NPR’s Only a Game.

Join us as they have a discussion about one of the best outfielders to play the game of baseball. Books will be available for purchase and signing, courtesy of the Wellesley Booksmith.

Spring Valley Puppets Presents Jack and the Beanstalk

Saturday, March 13th  11:00 AM

Can beans make wishes come true? They can and do in Jack and the Beanstalk, a puppet production of Michael Graham’s SPRING VALLEY PUPPET THEATER. This popular classic tale features beautifully crafted hand puppets, colorful scenic design, and an original script in which Jack is truly a hero. The program is recommended for Ages 5 and up. Sponsored by the Library Foundation of Needham.

Understanding Manga and Anime with Robin Brenner

Sunday, March 21st  2:00 PM

Here is an opportunity to learn about manga and anime from the author of a highly regarded book about them; the title of the program and the book are the same. Robin Brenner will explain the basics about manga, which refers to serialized Japanese comics, and anime, which spans every genre of animation imaginable. She will provide visual examples along with her commentary, which includes a brief history of Japanese comics, and a description of the cultural differences accounting for the pervasive presence of manga and anime in Japan, relative to their niche market in the U.S. Anyone who has seen the Oscar-winning Spirited Away by Hayao Miyazaki knows the artistic heights attainable in anime. Sponsored by the Friends of the Needham Public Library.

2010 McIver Series

Contemporary Crime

CRIMINAL INTENT: CRIME IN FICTION

Sunday, March 28th  2:00 PM

Linda Barnes is the author of 16 mystery novels, including 12 Carlotta Carlyle mysteries set in Boston. Her Boston and her characters deal with daily questions of good and evil. Her 6’1” redhead Boston private eye confronts crime on a daily basis and manages to keep a moral center in spite of her brushes with evil. Barnes won the Anthony Award and nominations for both the Shamus Award and the American Mystery Award for Best Short Story for Lucky Penny in 1985. In 1987 she received the American Mystery Award for Best Private Eye Novel and nominations for the Edgar, Anthony, and Shamus awards for A Trouble of Fools. Sponsored by the Trustees of the Needham Free Public Library.