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.....

January Events in the Community Room at the Needham Free Public Library...

Saturday, January 6th - 3:00 PM
Ben Rudnick and Friends -
Play an adventurous, high-energy blend of happy, upbeat acoustic music. This translates into an excellent concert for families. Sets include a great cross section of their award winning family songs, exciting renditions of well known standards like Jambalaya/Hey Good Looking, Somewhere Over the Rainbow, Oh Boy!, Blue Moon of Kentucky and other favorites. BR&F concerts genuinely engage the youngest to the oldest and all in between. Come join us for this great hour-long show. Sponsored by the Library Foundation of Needham - all are welcome.

Sunday, January 28th - 2:00 PM
David Polansky’s Senior Singalong Cabaret-
Natick Resident David Polansky’s Senior Cabaret is a fun-filled hour in which the audience is taken on a musical trip through the last hundred years. Using his keyboard and trumpet, David performs the music of George M. Cohan, Irving Berlin, George Gershwin, Hoagy Carmichael, and a host of others. Sponsored by the Library Foundation of Needham - all are welcome.

Ongoing Activities....

 Appearing this month in the Friends’ Gallery:
China: The Old and The New - Miriam Gilman
Mixed media paintings

Needham Reads!  Needham Reads is an effort to bring our community together around one book. This year we are choosing a book that everyone in town can read for a Townwide Book Group event during Needham Unplugged week in March 2007. Please come in and vote for your favorite from the suggested list put together by the media specialists of the Needham Elementary Schools. Ballots available in the Children’s Room until Tuesday, January 16, 2007.

Tuesday, January 9th - 1:00 PM
NPL Book Group
This month’s selection: The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn by Mark Twain
‘You don’t know about me, without you have read a book by the name of The Adventures of Tom Sawyer, but that ain’t no matter.’ So begins, in characteristic fashion, one of the greatest American novels. Narrated by a poor, illiterate white boy living in America’s deep South before the Civil War, Adventures of Huckleberry Finn is the story of Huck’s escape from his brutal father and the relationship that grows between him and Jim, the slave who is fleeing from an even more brutal oppression. As they journey down the Mississippi, their adventures address some of the most profound human conundrums: the prejudices of class, age, and color are pitted against the qualities of hope, courage, and moral character. Enormously influential in the development of American literature, Huckleberry Finn remains a controversial novel at the centre of impassioned debate. Sponsored by the Trustees of the Needham Public Library - all are welcome.

Check-out the revised and updated Library website for the latest news and information about upcoming events at the Library.
Go to http://www.town.needham.ma.us/Library/
Children’s Department
January Activities

Starting the Week of January 7th:

Baby Book Time - for ages 0 - 2 1/2
  Wednesdays  10:30 - 10:50 AM
  Thursdays  10:30 - 10:50 AM

Toddler Time for ages 2 1/2 - 4
  Tuesdays  10:30 - 10:50 AM

Little Listeners Story Time
for ages 4 and up
  Thursdays  3:30 - 4:00 PM

All story times are drop-in; no registration is required. Arrive on time for the best seats. All children must be accompanied by an adult.

Story Craft for ages 3- 5
  Tuesday, January 16th  3:30 - 4:00 PM
Registration is required and begins January 9th - limited to 12 spaces. Children must be accompanied by an adult.

Creative Kids Craft ages 6+
  Tuesday, January 30th  3:30 - 4:15 PM
Registration is required and begins January 23rd - limited to 24 spaces.

Children’s Movie - Ice Age 2
  Friday, January 26th  3:30 PM
The action heats up - and so does the temperature - for Manny, Sid, Diego and Scrat. Trying to escape the valley to avoid a flood of trouble, the comical creatures embark on a hilarious journey across the thawing landscape and meet Ellie, a female woolly mammoth who melts Manny’s heart. Come spend an afternoon seeing this sequel to the hit movie Ice Age.

Upcoming Events - February 2007

Saturday and Sunday, February 3rd and 4th -
Friends’ Winter Book Sale

Sunday, February 11th - 2:00 PM
Friends’ Program: Author Charles C. Mann-
1491: New revelations of the Americas before
Columbus.

Wednesday, February 21st - 11:00 AM
Teaching Creatures - Out of Africa
Meet extraordinary, live creatures from the wilds of Africa and learn more about the animal diversity of this intriguing continent.

Sunday, February 25th - 2:00 PM
Film/Lecture - David Rothauser: The Diary of
Sacco and Vanzetti. Mr. Rothauser will be showing his PBS docu-drama and then will lead a discussion on Sacco and Vanzetti- the case that rocked Boston, America, and the world from 1920-27.

The Library will be closed Monday, January 15, 2007, in honor of Martin Luther King, Jr. Day.

Library Hours:

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Children’s Dept. News:
The winner of the Children’s Room Book count (held during Children’s Book Week in Nov.) was Gigi Packard. Her guess of 42,272 was the closest to the actual figure (as of 11-21-06) of 35,294. Thank you to all who took part, and well done, Gigi!

Favorite books voted on during Children’s Book Week included the following:
Favorite Picture Book: If You Give a Mouse a Cookie by Laura Numeroff (near unanimous choice).
Favorite Series: The Magic Tree House by Mary Pope Osborne.
Favorite Chapter Book: a tie between Charlotte’s Web by E.B. White and Harry Potter and the Sorcerer’s Stone by J.K. Rowling.