Libra Notes

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 Ken Farbstein: Getting Your Best Health Care: Real-World Stories for Patient Empowerment

Thurs., January 5th  7:30 PM

An illuminating guidebook for all patients - and those who serve as their advocates - Getting Your Best Health Care parses the complex system of care in America. Through practical examples and real-life strategies, it steers us toward a more collegial, more efficient, more patient-focused - and undeniably safer - relationship with the system and professionals within it.

Ken Farbstein leads Patient AdvoCare, advising patient advocates and patients on staying safe and healthy while receiving healthcare. He served two elected terms as the President of Health Care for All’s Consumer Health Quality Council. He also writes the Patient Safety Blog at http://www.PatientSafetyBlog.com, with more than 800 stories to empower patients and their families.

Mclver Series 2012

Author Felicity Long—Great Escapes: New England

Sun., January 8th  2:00 PM

Felicity Long, the author of Great Escapes: New England, will speak about her experiences as a travel writer and about her book. Great Escapes: New England has over 25 day trips and weekend getaways throughout New England. There’s a lot to see and do in New England, all within an easy drive. Whether you crave mountains or beaches, the best seafood or the best museums, solitude or boisterous fun, you’ll find just the right trip. There will be books for sale and signing after the program. Join us for this second in a series of four programs in this year’s Mclver Lecture Series.

This Program is sponsored by the Trustees of the Needham Free Public Library.

Ricardo Erta—Ecology of Sound

Sat., January 14th  10:30 AM

Ricardo brings an exciting and dramatic 45 minute performance that inspires children and parents to absorb the rhythms, sounds, and feelings of the Brazilian rainforest. Through his engaging and dynamic style, Ricardo entertains and educates while playing multi-cultural songs from indigenous peoples around the world. He incorporates African, South American, Native American, and Brazilian music into an interactive experience for people of all ages. His performances highlight the use of traditional rhythm instruments as well as instruments made of recycled and natural-found objects.

This Program is sponsored by the Library Foundation of Needham.

Wellesley Books’ Betsey Sudarsky: Finding Fiction Worth Your While

Sun., January 22nd  2:00 PM

Please join us on this wintry afternoon as Betsey Sudarsky tells us about the latest in the Fiction Field (as well as some of her own favorites).

Betsey Sudarsky has spent her life among books. As an alumna of Houghton Mifflin, McGraw Hill, the Book of the Month Club, and Newtonville Books, she’s been in the publishing world for 30 years. In the last decade, Betsey has developed a specialty in book clubs. You’ll often find her speaking about the history of book clubs and helping people begin, manage, maintain and rejuvenate reading groups.

This program is sponsored by the Friends of the Needham Public Library.

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 January**

**Drop-in Storytime for ages 5 and under**
- Wed., January 4, 18, 25  10:00 AM
- Sat., January 21  11:00 AM
- Mon., January 30  10:30 AM

Stories, music, movement and more. Story times are drop-in—no registration required. All children must be accompanied by an adult.

**Music, Movement and Me with Sara Epstein**
- Tues., January 10  10:30 AM
- Tues., January 24  10:30 AM

An interactive music and movement program for adults and children under 4. **Registration is required, one session per month only please.**

**Ready, Set...Move with Cici Hunt: for ages 3-5**
- Fri., January 6  11:00 AM
- Tues., January 17  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.**

**Sing-Along with Ed Morgan**
- Fri., January 13  3:00 PM

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

**Lucy the R.E.A.D. Dog: for ages 3 and up**
- Thurs., January 5  10:00 AM

Join Lucy, a black lab, and Pat Howes for a great program that encourages children to read! **Registration required. Begins one week prior to program. Sponsored by the Friends of the Needham Public Library.**

**Toddler Movies**
- Thurs., January 5, 19  11:00 AM

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

**Children’s Craft Programs in January**

**Drop-In “Crafts of the Month” for ages 2+**
- Thurs., January 5  4:00 PM
- Mon., January 9  10:30 AM

**Drop-In “Winter Nature and Sports” Crafts for ages 2+**
- Thurs., January 12  4:00 PM

**Drop-In “Alphabet” Crafts for ages 2+—This Month “ABC”**
- Thurs., January 19  4:00 PM

**Drop-In “Chinese New Year’s” Crafts for ages 2+**
- Mon., January 23  10:30 AM
- Thurs., January 26  4:00 PM

**Drop-In Craft Programs usually last for approximately 45 minutes, depending upon your child(ren). Four crafts related to the theme will be offered for our creative young patrons. Please arrive during the first half hour of the program.**

**LEGO Club! Needham Free Public Library’s BLOCK PARTY!**

**Because of space limitations, we will be able to accommodate 24 children total, ages 6+. Please sign up for only one session per month.**

- Sunday, January 8  3:00 - 4:30 PM
- Tuesday, January 24  4:30 - 6:00 PM

You **MUST** sign up in advance for a LEGO program even if you attended a previous session.
Children’s Movie: *Mr. Popper’s Penguins* — Rated PG - 94 minutes

**Fri., January 20th**

Based on the 1938 book of the same name by Richard and Florence Atwater, *Mr. Popper’s Penguins* is a comedy about how the surprise appearance of a penguin at a New York businessman’s door turns his life completely upside down, while simultaneously teaching him an important lesson about the value of family. Far from the small-town painter featured in the book, the film’s Mr. Popper is a real estate developer who lives in an exclusive apartment on Park Avenue, has his sights set on becoming a partner in his firm, and is an everyday-weekend father to his two children. A ruthless developer with no time for anything but business, Mr. Popper resolves to deal with his father’s parting gift of a penguin by getting rid of the annoying bird as quickly as possible. That proves much more difficult than expected, even with the help of his ultra-efficient assistant Pippi, who speaks primarily in ps, and Mr. Popper soon winds up with six penguins. Even more unexpected is how markedy those penguins begin to affect the relationship between Mr. Popper and his children and how that change affects the rest of Mr. Popper’s life.

**What’s New at the Library...**

In order to help promote the Library’s goal of lifelong learning, the Friends of the Needham Public Library have purchased *Universal Class™*, an electronic database of over 540 on-line courses. *Universal Class™* is restricted to Needham residents only, requiring an e-mail address and a password to register. Courses cover everything from Feng Shui and dog training to most of the popular computer programs, including Adobe Photo Shop, Microsoft Word and Excel. These are non-credit courses for personal enrichment only, using engaging video-based lessons, with graded tests to advance you to the next lesson. Each course has a real instructor that you can communicate with via e-mail. Patrons may access the database by clicking on the library’s database page at: [http://www.mln.lib.ma.us/electronic/nee1.htm](http://www.mln.lib.ma.us/electronic/nee1.htm) or in the library catalog page at: [http://library.minlib.net/search](http://library.minlib.net/search) – Keyword search – Universal Class, clicking on the link.

**January Book Discussions**

**NPL Book Group**

**Tuesday, January 10th**

**1:00 PM**

**Henderson, the Rain King**

by Saul Bellow

Bellow evokes all the rich color and exotic customs of a highly imaginary Africa in this acclaimed comic novel about a middle-aged American millionaire who, seeking a new, more rewarding life, descends upon an African tribe. Henderson’s awesome feats of strength and his unbridled passion for life win him the admiration of the tribe—but it is his gift for making rain that turns him from mere hero into messiah. A hilarious, often ribald story, Henderson the Rain King is also a profound look at the forces that drive a man through life.

**NPL Evening Book Group**

**Wednesday, January 18th**

**7:00 PM**

**On the Road**

by Jack Kerouac

Few novels have had as profound an impact on American culture as *On the Road*. Pulsating with the rhythms of 1950s underground America, jazz, sex, illicit drugs, and the mystery and promise of the open road, Kerouac’s
Upcoming Events...

McIver Series 2012

Author/Boston Globe Reporter Eric Moskowitz

Sun., February 5th 2:00 PM

Eric Moskowitz, an award-winning Boston Globe reporter, will speak about his experiences as a journalist in New England over the past decade, covering a multitude of memorable stories. As a features writer, general assignment reporter, and beat writer, he has specialized in finding compelling stories in everyday life, humanizing his subjects, and treating the material with dignity, whether following the governor on the campaign trail, documenting prison education, or telling the untold stories of Logan Airport workers who carry the burden of 9/11. He will also address the ways social media and the Internet have changed the job, and the ways they have not. This Program is sponsored by the Trustees of the Needham Free Public Library.

Mitali Perkins: Books Between Cultures - My Journey as a Writer

Sun., February 12th 2:00 PM

Born in Kolkata, India, the author of Bamboo People and Monsoon Summer, among others, lived in Ghana, Cameroon, England and Mexico before her family settled in California. From her experiences as the transplanted Bengali “new girl” come sensitively drawn stories about young people discovering how to balance different cultures. A program for both adult and young adult readers, writers, and aspiring writers. This Program is sponsored by the Friends of the Needham Public Library.

Wayne from Maine Show

Thurs., February 23rd 10:30 AM

The Needham Library is delighted to welcome back Wayne Read and his Wayne from Maine Show! The Wayne from Maine Show is a 45 minute interactive musical experience for the young and young at heart. Wayne along with his percussionist Jimmy James, the Koonga Boonga Man, invites volunteers to the stage to play various percussive instruments or sing into a wireless microphone. Wayne has been performing and recording children’s music for over a decade and has traveled up and down the East Coast delighting audiences with his very own brand of “Edu-Tainment.” This Program is sponsored by the Library Foundation of Needham.

Children’s Movie: Dolphin Tale — Rated PG - 113 minutes

Fri., February 24th 2:00 PM

Inspired by a true story, Dolphin Tale is about courage, ingenuity, and never giving up. Sawyer is a young boy who’s struggling with school and doesn’t have many friends other than his cousin Kyle. When Kyle, a star swimmer, joins the army to earn money for college and is called to active duty, it looks like Sawyer is destined to spend his summer alone tinkering in the garage and attending summer school. Sawyer stumbles upon a dolphin that’s been severely injured, becomes fascinated by dolphins, and is suddenly intellectually engaged like never before. In spite of his shyness, he forms a friendship with marine rescue doctor Clay and his daughter Hazel and, more importantly, a special and very powerful bond with the rescued dolphin, who’s dubbed Winter. As the newly formed team struggles to save Winter’s life and ensure her continued safety, financial concerns, an accident that leaves Kyle crippled for life, and a hurricane all seem to join forces against them. In the end, it is Sawyer’s determination, coupled with a little bit of luck and a lot of ingenuity from an army doctor who specializes in prosthetics, that helps make each member of the team, including Kyle and Winter, whole again.

Friends Winter Book Sale

Saturday, January 28th
9:00 AM - 4:00 PM

Sunday, January 29th
1:00 - 4:00 PM

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