



**FRIENDS of
LANE MEMORIAL LIBRARY
SPRING 2011 NEWSLETTER**

PRESIDENT'S NOTE

Hello Friends!

I hope you are all enjoying the warmer weather. We Friends have some wonderful fundraisers coming up! Your volunteer efforts are always welcome and greatly appreciated so please read on about the upcoming book sale, Red Sox raffle and doll clothes sale.

Also, kudos to all the volunteers who worked so hard on Saturday, April 30, to clean up our library grounds. A huge thank you to Chairs Terri Teleen and Richard Lasky for pulling the day together.

Our library is in need of Movie Minders for Thursday nights and possibly more. This volunteer position involves showing up thirty minutes before show time, helping to make popcorn, and starting the movie. Then you get to sit back and relax while watching a great movie for FREE! Movie Minders are a definite necessity for our library to be able to continue to show these wonderful movies to our patrons. If you are interested in this opportunity please email Wendy Rega (wrega@comcast.net) or call the Children's Room at 926-4729.

**Available movies this month:

Black Swan, Rated R (Thursday, May 26 @ 5:30 pm and Saturday, May 28 @ 2 pm)

Gnomeo and Juliet, Rated G (Saturday, May 28 @ 12 pm)

Lastly, I was delighted to hear about the arrival of Beatrice May Cooper on Sat. May 15 at 12:27 p.m. She and mom (Library Director Amanda Cooper) are healthy and resting happily. Congratulations to the Cooper Family!

Thanks again for all of your help and support. I look forward to seeing you at an upcoming Friends event or activity.

Shelley Chandler
President, Friends of the Lane Memorial Library

NEWS FROM THE LIBRARY DIRECTOR

Inside Our Library – Part 2

Amanda Reynolds Cooper, Director of Lane Memorial Library in Hampton, talks with Lynn Goodman of the Friends organization about the library and how it operates. The idea is to give our readers, and our library patrons, a better understanding of how the library functions other than simply checking books out.

In Part 1, published in the Summer 2010 issue of the Friends Newsletter, such topics as acquisitions, fiction and non-fiction, and categories were covered. Here we'll talk about space, the reference department, staffing, budgets, and some basic library data.

Space. It seems we're surrounded by it. But it could be a major issue for a library, one that might come up every time a new book arrives. There is only so much usable space within four walls, so what happens when things get tight and the books run out of 'elbow room'?

One way to address the space issue is through the process of purging books from the shelves. Doesn't sound good, does it. But, as Amanda explained, the books are merely directed into another 'stream.' Purged books are sometimes donated to organizations looking for books, or are designated for a book

RED SOX RAFFLE TICKETS



GREAT NEWS FOR THE LANE LIBRARY, THE FRIENDS, AND RED SOX FANS!

This year The Friends will be raffling off tickets for TWO Red Sox games at Fenway Park! A generous donation from the Rotary Club of Hampton allowed The Friends to purchase FOUR tickets for seats in an ultra-fun PAVILION BOX between home plate and third base. AND-----we also have received a great donation of TWO tickets from Wheelabrator Technologies, Inc. for seats in a LOGE BOX near third base. That means Red Sox fans will have TWO chances to win tickets. There will be two drawings in July: The first place winner and 3 friends will attend the Aug. 4th game, and the second place winner and friend will attend the Aug. 1st game. Tickets will be going on sale at the Library in a few weeks. Buy Early and Often!!

We're going to need the help of our Friends members if this fundraiser is to be a success. By getting involved, you can meet other Friends, have a great time, and make a big difference in how many raffle tickets are sold. And all with just a minimum of commitment!

Our greatest needs are in two specific areas:

- Help distribute posters and flyers to retail businesses in the area, and
- Help staff two-hour shifts from 9 to 3 at a local supermarket where raffle tickets will be sold on Saturdays in June and/or July.

This raffle is an important fundraiser for the Lane Library, and your support is the very best way to show your appreciation for the Library and its contributions to our community. We look forward to hearing from you very soon. Thank you.

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What does Friends monies support?

Have you ever wondered what we, as an organization, do with the money we raise? Here's a list of our latest purchases for the Lane Memorial Library:

Outdoor sign with message board

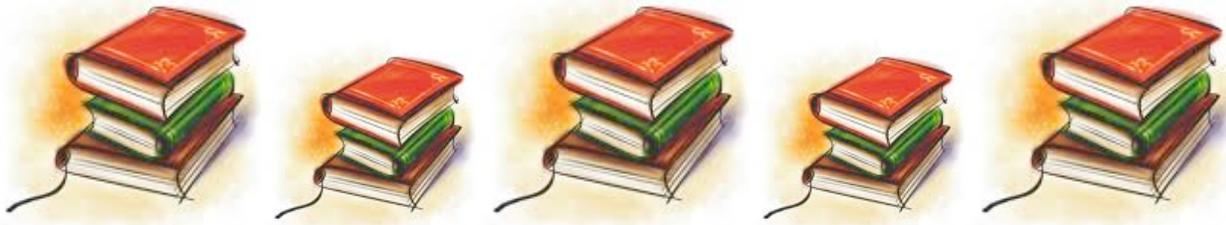
DVD Carousels

Museum passes to
MFA, Boston
Peabody Essex Museum
Currier Museum of Art
New England Aquarium
Museum of Science, Boston
Children's Museum of NH
Seacoast Science Center

Snacks for all movies

Love seat and ottomans
for Children's Room

\$5,000 toward new Reference Desk



Book Sale News

Summer is around the corner so don't be caught without your books for the beach! Our big blow-out summer book sale is scheduled for **June 16, 17, and 18**. There is a preview sale for Friends members only on the evening of Wednesday June 15. We have a huge inventory for this sale and a wide selection of titles. There are beautiful coffee table books, riveting biographies, current best selling fiction, large print books, children's titles, cookbooks...the list goes on and on! In addition to reading materials, we will have books on CD, music CDs and movies on DVD. So, why not stop by? Great prices for you AND a wonderful way to support our library: it's a WIN-WIN sale! So, shop early and shop often! Or better yet, volunteer at the sale and shop while you're already there!

Hours of sale:

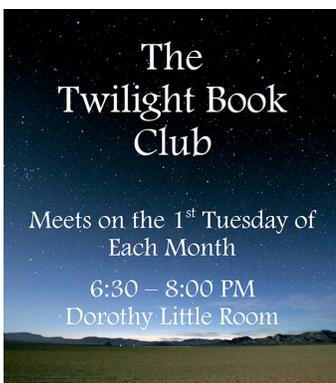
June 15 (members only) 5 -7 PM

June 16 9 AM to 7 PM

June 17 9 AM to 4 PM

June 18 9 AM to Noon

Give Kris Sawyer a call at 929-6292 or email at mosaw@comcast.net to volunteer or to get more information. See you at the sale!



For all the night owls out there and those who work or have other commitments during the day, the Lane Memorial Library has a special book club for you! Every first Tuesday of the month, the Twilight Book Club meets in the Dorothy Little Room at 6:30 PM for an enjoyable discussion of recent best-sellers and 'good reads' suggested by the members. Book club selections are available at the Circulation desk several weeks prior to the meeting so that everyone has a chance to read the book. Upcoming titles are: *The Testament of Gideon Mack* by James Robertson (June 7); *Revolutionary Road* by Richard Yates (July 5) and *The Remains of the Day* by Kazuo Ishiguro (August 2). Please feel free to attend even if you haven't yet read the book. The Twilight Book Club is open to all, with light refreshments provided by the Friends of the Lane Memorial Library.

The Lane Memorial Library is truly the Treasure House of Hampton!

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sale. Unfortunately for some libraries, a book must be removed from the shelf when a new book is purchased. Thankfully, we are not quite that tight on space.

How does a library decide such a question? Our staff uses a database to see when the last time a book was checked out, and how often a book has been checked out in the recent past. For instance, in 2011, books that had not been checked out since 2007 might be good candidates for purging.

A library needs to track which books 'pay their rent,' meaning, is a book being read or sitting unused on the shelf? Of course, books that are damaged beyond repair are weeded out. Long-unread books that are not part of a series are weeded out. For some books, it depends on the popularity of the author. Amanda said sometimes an author changes subject matter, going from one genre early in his/her career to another one later on. If those early books have not been checked out for a long time, they might be removed from the shelves, even though the author is still popular, but in a new category now.

In children's books, some are 'old' for today's kids. What was popular even 10 years ago might not be of interest to today's young readers. Amanda said sometimes books are re-published with a new cover, new illustrations, to bring them more into current times. It's a way to give old books a new life and interest another generation of youngsters.

For non-fiction, trends change, as we all know. It's different for different categories. Some subjects lose relevance, and older books on such subjects are removed. An example of this would be macramé, very popular in the past but now not so much. Amanda said the library would keep some books on such a subject but not as many as in its heyday. The library tries to maintain a comprehensive collection on most subjects.

One other space aspect that might be of interest is how many copies of a particular book should be purchased. Amanda said for really popular authors, staff checks to see how many patrons are on the hold list – if it's a large number, several copies will be ordered. Sometimes extra copies of a book are kept in the closed stacks. Popular books that are heavily used may need to be replaced. Rather than buy a new one, staff can get one of the extra copies stored downstairs. Sometimes the library buys used books, in good condition, from Amazon or other such sources as replacement copies.

I brought up the topic of the Reference Department. Reference Librarians do a lot more than just locate books for people, right? Amanda filled me in: Reference Librarians help students with homework assignments, doing research on-line with them, and teaching them about and how to use the library's resources. Reference Librarians help patrons locate obscure items from equally obscure sources; help to find data/information on various subjects for work, school, or self; and point out the best references for a particular problem. There are many different types of reference books available, and the

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Reference Librarians know how to look up most anything. At the Lane, the Reference Librarians are also in charge of newspapers, non-fiction books, magazines, and keeping reference books updated and current. Inter-Library Loans are also handled by the Reference Librarians. While our library does have a lot of books, it doesn't have everything. That's why the state-wide Inter-Library Loan program was formed - it's good to be able to borrow from other libraries.

Several non-book matters of interest might include library staff and hours, budget, and number of users. Amanda told me there are 15 people on staff - 8 are full-time and 8 are part-time. There are also 9 people who serve as substitutes on an as-needed basis. And of course there are the many volunteers who help out in so many ways on a daily basis.

The library is open 60 hours a week. That seems like a lot, but not everyone can come during the day, hence the longer hours into the evenings. There are four department heads plus the Director who have varying shifts throughout the week. One of them is in the building as supervisor at all times. Amanda told me that salaried staff works 37.5 hours/wk, including her. Hampton is very lucky to have the library and its many services available for 60 hours per week. Some towns are not able to have their library open on a daily basis. As for the budget, monies for the library come from the Town budget. Amanda reminded me that the library is fortunate to have money available from the Lane Trust as well. She said the library receives no monies from the State, but the State does make available to all libraries in New Hampshire certain services, such as the Inter-Library Loan program and databases that are developed/designed for library use.

On the subject of patrons, Amanda supplied the following data:

Number of people who walked through the front doors in the first 3 months of 2011:

| | |
|----------|---------------------------------|
| January | 8,912 |
| February | 8,773 |
| March | 11,712 (March 2010 was 11,145.) |

Number of books checked out by those people during the same 3 months:

| | |
|----------|---------------------------------|
| January | 13,932 |
| February | 13,698 |
| March | 15,915 (March 2010 was 14,501.) |

That's a lotta people, and that's a lotta books!

I hope you have enjoyed learning about our library as much as I have. The Lane Memorial Library is truly the Treasure House of Hampton!

Centre School First Graders Return to Library

The entire first grade class at Centre School visited the Lane Library on May 17. This is traditionally a fun time for the staff, the Friends, and the children when they come to visit. This is their second visit to the library and it is really fun to see just how much the kids have grown since the fall. The first graders enjoyed story time and then had a chance to purchase a book at the Friends book sale. The PTA sponsors this event, providing each child with a quarter to pay for his/her book. The kids are always very enthusiastic about looking for that "perfect book" to take home! Many thanks to the Friends volunteers who helped with this event.

Sign of Friendship



The Friends of the Lane Memorial Library have a brand new way to let the public know about upcoming events at the library: a big, bold, eye-catching sign on the corner of the front lawn.

“It has brought a noticeable change to the town landscape,” said Sue Hughes, past president of the Friends. The sign, with its easy-to-read changeable letters and a colorful book motif stretching across the top, was a gift to the library from the Friends. It replaces the much smaller sign that simply identified the building as the Lane Library.

The library has already put the new sign to good use, informing the public of various upcoming programs and movies that may have otherwise been missed by patrons, simply because they did not see anything about them.

“That’s what we kept saying – we do lots of wonderful things at the library; why don’t they know about it?” said Hughes. “We have this sign but nobody sees it. Let’s get a sign where everyone can see what’s going on.”

That opened the book on some serious sign shopping, but the process was not done in haste. “It took us about a year to really get stuff going,” said

Hughes. “We talked to a couple of vendors, and had to make decisions. It was important to get the Trustees involved.” The task also called for a required public hearing before town officials. “We followed that process,” said Hughes. “We got no questions; all we got was support from selectmen and planning board. They made the process easy.”

Ultimately, the Friends enlisted the expertise of Sign of the Times in Exeter, with inspiration provided by the Harvey Mitchell Memorial Library in Epping. “We really liked the Epping sign,” said Hughes. “We wanted something similar but not the same motif, and I think they achieved it.”

Hughes said the Friends are nothing but pleased with what the sign company created. “They did a great job. We’re very happy,” said Hughes. “Sign of the Times did everything,” including making arrangements for the removal of the old sign and the installation of the new one. She particularly credited Wendee Robinson for her helpful assistance. Since it was presented as a gift, “the library owns this sign; it’s theirs now. They have the job of changing it,” said Hughes. “We’re hoping this will generate a lot more publicity for them.”

Once the sign was installed, Hughes said a fellow member of the friends declared, “We’ve now set the bar for town signage.” As for the library staff, there is one word that best describes their thoughts and response to the new sign. “Delighted,” said Lane Memorial Library Director Amanda Reynolds Cooper. “There’s no other way to describe it.”

FRIENDS OF LANE MEMORIAL LIBRARY 2011 OFFICERS

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Vice-President: Kris Sawyer

Treasurer: Sue Hughes

Recording Secretary: Pat Walker

Membership: Lynn Blume

Publicity: Liz Premo

Newsletter: Kacey Morris

Corresponding Secretary: Sandra Kent

Established in 1958, the Friends is a multiage volunteer organization whose mission is to preserve and strengthen Hampton's library as a community resource.

Friends of the Lane Memorial Library
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