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# RICHMOND READINGS

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The Newsletter of The Richmond Memorial Library • Marlborough, Connecticut 06447  
www.richmondmemoriallib.org 860/295-6210

Fall 2006

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## Grant Supporting Local History Awarded to Richmond Memorial Library

The Richmond Memorial Library has received a \$10,000.00 grant from the State of Connecticut's Office of Policy and Management through the offices of State Senator Mary Ann Handley in support of our efforts to mount Marlborough's history online into a searchable database. This grant, given by the State Legislature earlier this year, will help us create an online home for our diverse collection of historic materials.

We plan to use this grant money for software and hardware that will support this local history project and help us get the data into a format that is easily searchable over the Internet. "We are indebted to Senator Handley's interest in both Marlborough and local history for her help with this grant," said Library Director

Nancy Wood. "We have been evaluating software this summer and hope to make a purchase soon so we can get this project going."



Library Board President Linda Cherry meets with State Senator Mary Ann Handley

The library's collection has come from a variety of sources. Organizations like the Marlborough Historical Society have given the library many interesting pieces of local history over the years. Former resident Joseph Giggey donated a treasure trove of his research when he moved from Marlborough. There are many issues of the *Marlborough Messenger*, town annual reports and photographs that may be included in this project. The first database to be created will concern the historic structures of Marlborough including houses and commercial buildings.

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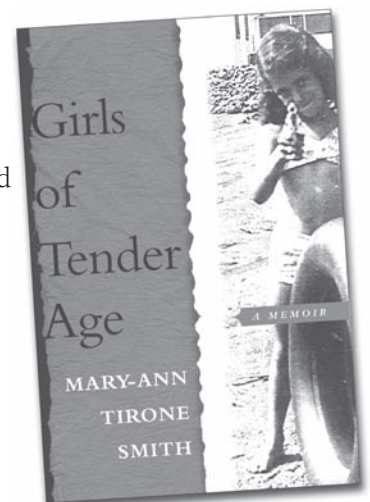
## East of the River Reads Author to Visit

Based on circulation statistics, we know that many of you read our first East of the River Reads selection, *Girls of Tender Age*, this summer. The author, Mary-Ann Tirone Smith will make two stops in our area this fall. On October 4 she will appear at Manchester Community College at 2:00 pm and will conclude her day at the Douglas Library in Hebron at 7 pm. She will discuss her book and take questions from the audience at both programs.

On Tuesday, September 26, we are co-sponsoring with Cragin Memorial Library, a local discussion of *Girls of Tender Age*. Our facilitator will be James Coleman. Dr. Coleman is a writer, retired teacher and former Chair of Humanities at Three Rivers Community College. The discussion will begin at 7 PM in the Norton Meeting Room at Cragin Memorial Library in

Colchester. All programs are free and open to the public. Reservations are not required.

*Girls of Tender Age* is Smith's memoir of growing up in Hartford after World War II. Multiple copies of this book are available at the library and their purchase was made possible by a grant from the SBM Foundation. Additional financial support for this program was donated by the Friends Committee of the Richmond Memorial Library.



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## Credit Where Credit is Due

J.P. Foley and Adam Thime – Work done in the library's front garden

Lee and Dick Phillips – Donation in honor of the birth of their grandson, Cooper Phillips

The Meyer Family – Donation in honor of their cat, Murphy

Marlborough Junior Women's Club – Donation for our children's summer reading program, Paws, Claws, Scales & Tales.

Marlborough Junior Women's Club – Donation for new software for our children's computer

Mary Kowal – Flowers for our circulation desk

Lisa Seethaler and Richard Baker – Donation in honor of their daughter Alanna Seethaler Baker

Chi LaBossiere – Donation in honor of Riva Clark

Ella and Lucy Redfearn – Donation for children's book given in honor of Carol Bartok

The Stockford Savvy Savers – Donation to adult materials collection

Robert and Judith McBrair – Donation in memory of Peter Fellman

Murphy the Therapy Dog and owner Betty O'Brien – Donation of time listening to our fabulous young readers

Town of Marlborough – Annual grant to the library

Our summer reading sponsors: Liberty Bank, Marlborough PTO, Marlborough Junior Women's Club, Richmond Memorial Library Association, Richmond Memorial Library Friends Committee, Dunkin' Donuts

*Our activities could not be accomplished without your help and support. Many thanks.*

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**Ice cream girls socializing**

**infoAnytime**  
Reference 24/7 Service

## InfoAnyTime

It's the middle of the night. You have a burning question that needs to be answered. Where do you turn? But to a librarian of course. And where do you find one 24/7? InfoAnyTime.

What's InfoAnyTime? InfoAnyTime is a real-time, web-based reference service that provides live librarians to assist students, faculty and the public in finding information to support their research. Users of the virtual reference service click on the InfoAnyTime link on our library's web site, enter their name and email address (optional), and wait a few moments for a librarian to come online. Professional, highly-trained librarians conduct reference interviews via online chat, and provide answers and further resources in the form of web sites and online database citations. These online resources appear directly on the user's screen, next to the chat session window. The user may interact both with the web sites provided and with the librarian until his/her question has been answered satisfactorily.

Richmond Memorial Library has joined Connecticut's InfoAnyTime program – just click the InfoAnyTime link on our website and try it, it's free and easy. Go to [www.richmondmemoriallib.org](http://www.richmondmemoriallib.org).

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## Fall Story Times Begin

Registration for our popular Story Times begins on September 6 at 10 am for Marlborough residents. Non residents may register beginning September 13. Children may register for one session. Session I begins September 18 and continues through October 20. Session II begins October 30 through November 30.

Two year olds meet Mondays or Wednesdays with parent or caregiver at 10 AM. Three year olds meet Mondays at 1 PM. Three and four year olds meet Wednesdays at 1 PM. Four and five year olds meet Tuesdays at 10 AM or 1 PM.

For babies and toddler the following programs have been planned: One year olds, those who are 12 through 23 months meet on Thursdays October 5, 12, 19 and 26 with parent or caregiver, no siblings please. Bouncin' Babies Playtime, a special session for newborns through 11 months meet Mondays at 9:30 AM on November 20, 27, December 4 and 11.



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## Calendar

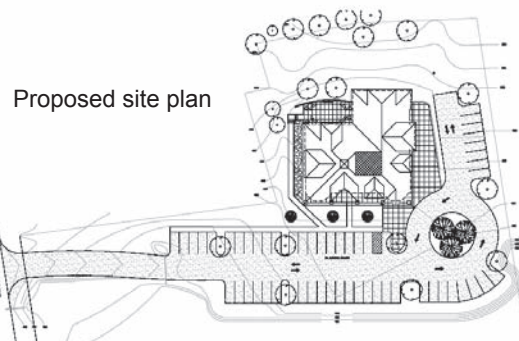
- September 4 – *Library closed for Labor Day holiday*
- September 6 – Story Time registration for Fall story times begins for Marlborough residents, 10:00 AM
- September 13 – Story Time registration for Fall story times begins for non-residents, 10:00 AM
- September 16 – Fall book sale at the Library from 9:00 AM to 2:00 PM
- September 18 through October 20 – Story Time Session I
- September 25 – Library Board meeting 7:30 PM
- September 26 – **East of the River Reads** – *Girls of Tender Age*, led by scholar James Coleman at the Cragin Memorial Library in Colchester, 7:00 PM
- October 3 – Library Expansion Information Session, open to all, 10:00 AM
- October 4 – **East of the River Reads** – Hear *Girls of Tender Age* author Mary-Ann Tirone Smith speak at the Douglas Library in Hebron, 7:00 PM
- October 9 – *Library closed for Columbus Day*
- October 10 – Library Expansion Information Session, open to all, 7:00 PM
- October 13 – Story Art for those in grades 4 through 8, registration required, 3:30 PM
- October 16 – Library Board meeting 7:30 PM
- October 20 – Story Art for those in grades 4 through 8, registration required, 3:30 PM
- October 24 – **Cemetery Chillers and Thrillers** with Storyteller Tom Lee. Our annual outdoor storytelling night for families with children (over 5 please), 6:30 PM
- October 27 – Story Art for those in grades 4 through 8, registration required, 3:30 PM
- October 30 through December 1 – Story Time Session II
- October 31 – Book Club, 7:00 PM
- November 1 through December 1 – **25 Days of Holiday Cheer**, Friends Silent Auction, come in and bid on 25 fabulous prize packages
- November 1 – Friends of the Library meeting, all welcome, 7:00 PM
- November 11 – *Library closed for Veteran's Day*
- November 22 – Library closes at 6 PM for Thanksgiving holiday
- November 23 – *Library closed for Thanksgiving holiday*
- December 25 and 26 – *Library closed for Christmas holiday*



## Expansion News

Work continued all summer long on the library's plans to expand. The library program was completed, schematic drawings were produced, publicity and marketing schedules were formulated and the Connecticut State Library grant application was prepared. All fall we will be meeting with organizations and committees in town to present our expansion plans. Look for drawings of the proposed expanded library presented on our website later this fall. We will also have "open houses" at the library where those interested in learning about the expansion can come in for an informal presentation. Consult the Calendar for details.

Based on our past usage, population projections for the town and number of items added yearly, we are proposing a building that will triple in size over the present building. The new library would be a true community center and provide a variety of spaces in one building for individuals, or groups to meet, both formally and informally as well as house a growing library collection. New plans calls for several quiet study rooms, two conference rooms – one with a 12 person capacity, the other for six people, a program room that seats 130 with a moveable wall so the room can be divided and two meetings can occur simultaneously and with after hours accessibility. Children would finally have their own space, separate from the rest of the library as would young adults. An expanded library will have space for all people to come together to learn, explore and celebrate what it means to be part of a community.



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# I'm Not Pulling Your Tale!

## *It was a bow-wow wonderful summer...*

by Murphy the Springer Spaniel Therapy Dog

As the summer winds down, the staff at the Richmond Memorial Library has asked me to write a wrap-up of the "Paws, Claws, Scales & Tales" reading program.



I first want to thank all the children who took the time to read to me during the 'dog-days' of summer! I really enjoyed your stories and know you are on your way to becoming great readers! I also want to send a 'woof' out to everyone who

brought in some super pet food and litter to pay off their fines this summer – my friends at the Marlborough Food Bank will really appreciate the donations.

So here's the wrap. The summer kicked-off with Full Effect Productions and an all-ages show where everyone got a chance to sign-up for the children's reading program or the "Dog Days of Summer" reading program for adults and teens. There were over 225 people at the show, and when all was said and done, almost 400 children had participated in the summer reading program, and 113 teens and adults had signed-up for the "Dog Days of Summer"! I'm so proud of all the Marlborough readers out there! Here's a list of weekly prize winners in case you missed it:

Child: Teen / Adult:

Tara McGuinness / Barb Ferrara

Matthew Bates / Karen Ring

Colin Jones / Tracey Neumuth

Charlie Dursin / Tammara Peterson

Allison Rulli / Karen Migliaro

Jared Roskin / Laurie Kivney

Megan McGuire / Erin McGuinness

The giant 'aquarium' on the Library windows now holds close to 320 fish, thanks to all the children who told us about their 'fishy tales'! Participants in the Adult/Teen program read 275 books as well.

The fun continued through the summer with a visit from a couple of



Kooka-burras and their feathered friends presented by the animal rehabilitation and education group, Wind Over Wings. Kids got crafty with Ms. Eileen and Mrs. Danek during two sessions of Pet Crafts (Hey! How did I miss that?) The 'Scales' Team went home with some prizes after being crowned Jeopardy champs, and almost 100 children enjoyed a mid-summer visit from the Cedar Island Marina Touch Tank which brought some crusty and slimy creatures from Long Island Sound.

Jay Mankita also showed up in July in his vegetable oil-powered car for a wild performance – check out two of his music CDs now at the Library. The events came to an end

with a class on Dog Grooming and an informative session on pet photography.

The summer wound down with the Friends Committee "End of Summer Ice Cream Social" – wonder if there were pup-sicles there? Thanks to all the summer reading sponsors, including a new friend, Dunkin' Donuts who generously gave the Library some coupons for the adult/teen program. Keep on reading!

Woof!



**Wind Over Wings and their feathered friends**

