
RICHMOND READINGS

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

Winter 2007

Library Expansion Project Expected to Go to Referendum

After meeting for almost six years, Richmond Memorial Library's expansion will be put to a vote on March 20. That's the day that has been set aside for all registered voters to cast ballots.

"The Library Board and Expansion Committee has worked diligently to move this project forward. We knew in 2001 we were running out of space and have spent the last five years working toward the goal of a better library for Marlborough." There are serious issues with the present building," Wood continued. "Not only are we out of room, but there is little energy efficiency in the building. Our furnace was used when it was installed twenty years ago, the air conditioner is shot, the lights and windows are total energy wasters. Further maintenance issues include painting, driveway and sidewalk repairs and replacement of carpeting. We anticipate that during the Town meeting on March 13, the question will be moved to a referendum. March 20 is the anticipated date for all registered voters to cast their ballots."

The library's Expansion Committee has been meeting almost monthly since 2001 and has planned what will be the final expansion on the School Drive site. "This expansion puts to best use the library property," said Library Board Vice-President Bob Allen. "I know the library has become a place where people pick out what they want and leave. There's no place to sit, there's not enough room for programs. We envision the library as a place where the community can come together - to study, to exchange ideas and meet their neighbors, to go programs and have meetings. There is not a place like this in town right now and the need is there.

The cost of the project has been set at \$5.1 million with the town asking to bond \$4.5 million. The library has already received a grant of \$500,000 and the Richmond Memorial Library Association is committed to raising at least \$600,000 more through other grants and fund raising. "Twenty years ago, the Association raised \$600,000, so we have set as our goal, \$1.1 million. We already are well on our way, having gotten the \$500,000 grant, said Library Board President Linda

Cherry. "Almost half way there!"

The project costs include everything - from age appropriate furniture in our children's area to a RFID system for customer self-checkout. "We plan to use most of our existing furnishings. Seismic codes for our shelving have changed and we will refurbish or replace, whichever is cheaper," said Wood. "Even inflation has been factored in, however we plan to bring in the project on time and under budget," she said.

Realizing running a facility that is more than three times the size of the current building is going to cost more, the Expansion Committee and Library Staff have looked to technology to help contain costs. "We hope to use software for online booking of all our program rooms. If you want to book a small conference room, you will be able to go online and choose your date and



time, explained Assistant Director Ann Grybko. "Using RFID technology, customers will be able to do self checkout which will free library staff to do other tasks. Staff anticipates RFID will streamline various operations including checkouts, returns, inventory and security. Cost efficiencies will also be realized through energy efficient heating and cooling systems and new lighting. The library plans to use geo-thermal technology and have as "green" a building as possible.

"We have spent much time and energy on this project, said Mrs. Cherry. We have held focus groups, done surveys and crafted a new long range plan. We know what we need and what the public wants. There won't be another opportunity, we won't be back next year with a different plan. All I can say is, please support this project by voting yes on March 20."

Details of the project are on the library's website, www.richmondmemoriallib.org.



Calendar

February – Library Card Month, free replacement on lost or damaged cards this month!

February – The Big Read, *Their Eyes Were Watching God* by Zora Neale Hurston

February 5 through March 7 – Session I Story Time

February 19 – *Library Closed for President's Day*

February 20 through March 31 – March Reading Madness

February 22 – The Spoon Man, Family Entertainment Fun at the Marlborough Senior Center at 7 PM

February 27 – RML Book Club, *The Glass Castle* by Walls, 7 PM

March 6 – The Big Read book discussion at Welles-Turner Library, Glastonbury, 7 PM

March 7 – RML Friends Meeting, 7 PM

March 13 – **Town Meeting:** send the Library Expansion to referendum

March 19 through April 18 – Session II Story Time

March 19 – Library Expansion Meeting, 6:45 PM

March 19 – Library Board Meeting, 7:30 PM

March 20 – **LIBRARY EXPANSION REFERENDUM** —Vote today!

March 27 – RML Book Club, *March* by Brooks, 7 PM

April 4 – RML Friends Meeting, 7 PM

April 12 through May 11 – Babies and Ones, Special Story Times for our youngest readers to be, call the library for details

April 6 – *Good Friday, Library closed*

April 23 – Library Expansion Meeting, 6:45 PM

April 24 – RML Book Club, *The Sunday Wife* by King, 7 PM

May 2 – RML Friends Meeting, 7 PM

May 14 – Library Association Annual Meeting, 7 PM

May 14 – Library Board Meeting, 7:30 PM

May 28 – *Memorial Day, Library closed*

May 29 – RML Book Club, *The Master Butcher's Singers Club* by Erdrich, 7 PM

Credit Where Credit is Due

Louise Concodello – Donation for children's DVDs

Diana Hales – Donation for adult books

Marie Johnson – Donation for adult materials

Lagonick-Weitzel Family – Donation of DVDs given in memory of Thomas and Nancy Lagonick

Nancy and Chris Lynch – Donation for library expansion fund given as Christmas gift in honor of Pat and Joe Raffin

The Passacantando Family – Donation for adult books given in honor of Kevin O'Connor

Mr. and Mrs. Robert Phelan – Donation for adult books given as Christmas gift in honor of Mr. and Mrs. Ronald Romanowski

Ellen S. Roman – Donation for children's books given as Christmas gift in honor of Molly and Rebecca LaPoint

Sara's Home Childcare – donation of DVDs given in memory of Eric Alexandre and Rosa Gagliardi

Maria and Ed Baroncini – Donation for children's book given in honor of Chelsea Egazarian

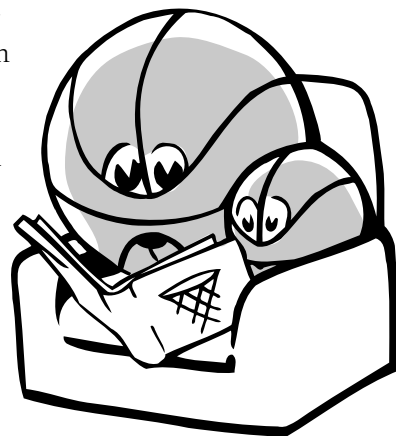
Special thanks to those who remembered library staff with holiday gifts of Christmas goodies

Mr. and Mrs. James Traska – Donation of DVDs

WIN Investment Club – Donation for adult books

March Reading Madness

College basketball has its March Madness. How about some March Reading Madness? This year we are celebrating the almost-end-of-winter with families reading together. Folks of any age can sign up to win prizes that promote togetherness and reading. The program runs from February 20 through March 31. Every Thursday beginning March 1, we will draw a lucky winner. How do you get in the game? For every book you read, you get to enter an entry form. If you win, you can share your prize with your family.



Documentaries on DVD You May Have Missed.

When new formats emerge, we strive to create a collection that meets certain criteria and follows our material collections policy. Our policy guidelines include using review journals in the library literature as a means of determining the best purchases for our collection. Although the majority of our DVDs are what we call “entertainment DVDs”, the library is developing a collection of documentary DVDs. Most can be found in our non-fiction DVD collection (they have a Dewey Decimal Call number). Those with a Dewey call number may be borrowed for three weeks and you may request that a title be “reserved” for you.

Academy Award nominated documentaries in our collection include:

The Fog of War – DVD 973.92 FOG
Capturing the Friedmans – DVD 364.3 CAPTURING
My Architect – DVD B KAHN
The Weather Underground – DVD 973.92 WEATHER
The Story of the Weeping Camel – DVD STORY
Super Size Me – DVD 947.95 SUPER
Tupac: Resurrection – DVD B TUPAC
Twist of Faith – DVD 362.76 TWIST
March of the Penguins – DVD MARCH
Enron: The Smartest Guys in the Room – DVD 658.4 ENRON

Video Librarian Best Documentaries:

Deadline – DVD 364.66 DEADLINE
Fred Rogers: America's Favorite Neighbor – DVD B ROGERS
Ghosts of Rwanda – DVD 967.57 GHOSTS
My Flesh and Blood – DVD 362.73
No Direction Home – DVD B DYLAN
The Staircase – DVD 364.152 STAIRCASE

Independent Spirit Award Nominee

Go Tigers – DVD GO

Honored by the Sundance Film Festival:

My Knees Were Jumping – DVD 940.53 MY KNEES
WTC, The First 24 Hours – DVD 974.71 WTC
Brother's Keeper – DVD BROTHERS
Sunset Story – DVD 305.262 SUNSET
Unforgivable Blackness – DVD B JOHNSON
An Inconvenient Truth – DVD 363.73 INCONVENIENT
Grizzly Man – DVD GRIZZLY

Got Knowledge? Your Library Card Gets It for You

Email@Your Library

Have you provided us with your current email address? If not, you are missing on email notification from our CONNECT system as well as email updates about library events and news from our library listserv.

The CONNECT integrated library system now provides those with a valid email address auto-generated notification. This includes letting you know via email when holds are available for you, overdue notices and bills. Best of all there is a new feature called “Almost Due”. The day before an item you have checked out is due, the system will email you a notice, entitled “Almost Due”. This gives you heads up – either renew or return the item as it is due the next day.

The library listserv was created to enable us to email you about upcoming events and programs at the library as well as library news. We realize many of you don't have time to keep up with what's happening here, so this is our way of sending you a brief email and informing you of library related news you may have missed.

So, are you ready to get in on the action? Just email us at mail@richmondmemoriallib.org with the subject line, “subscribe” and we will do the rest! Please also use this address if your email changes and you need to let us know.



— Reminder —

Referendum for Richmond Memorial Library Expansion Project

Tuesday, March 20
6:00 AM to 8:00 PM

in the Community Room
at Thienes-Hall Elementary School

Contact the Town Clerk's Office if you
need an absentee ballot.

Paid for by RML Expansion PAC



Get Out the Silverware “The Spoon Man” is Coming!

Hoping to keep the family entertained during February vacation? How about using household spoons? RML welcomes Jim Cruise, aka “The Spoon Man”, for an all-ages show as part of this Michigan performers’ stop in Connecticut. Plan to spend the night of Thursday, February 22nd getting ‘spooned’ at this stirring performance to be held at the Marlborough Senior Center. It’s literally a spoonful of family fun - and his only evening performance in the state!



Dad will love the Spoon Man’s outrageous impressions, brother and sister will enjoy the Hillbilly Band and sing-a-long competition, and grandma will appreciate the fact that he *never* uses dirty silverware!

The show starts at 7 PM and no registration is required. Call the Library at 295-6210 for additional information.

Jim Cruise has performed for U.S. Presidents and world leaders, and at fairs and festivals across the country. Here’s what one mom had to say: “We absolutely loved the show at the Library this week! I (mom) laughed so hard that my face was hurting afterwards! My daughters Sierra, 6 and Bethany, 4 can’t stop talking about “getting spooned.” We intend to tell everyone we know about the good, clean fun...”

Said one public library director, “The program was the talk of the town for days! How Fun! Thank you again for a delightful family program!”.

You can visit The Spoon Man’s website at www.getspooned.com. We’ll see you at the show, and remember, getting ‘spooned’ is a lot better than getting forked or knifed!

RML’s Growth



The Old Library at Route 66 and North Main Street (c.1935)



Remember Libby? She was the logo mascot for the 1987 building campaign.



Architect’s rendering for 1987’s new construction.



SNOW DAY?

Check here to find out if we’re open – we don’t always follow school schedules:

WFSB Early Warning Network, **WTIC** AM, **WTIC** FM, **WRCH**, **WZMX**

