



CURTIS MEMORIAL LIBRARY

CURTIS NEWS

VOLUME 21 NUMBER 5 · NOVEMBER, 2010 — JANUARY, 2011

EVENT HIGHLIGHTS

Curtis Kids Book Sale

SATURDAY NOVEMBER 13, 9:30—NOON
— SEE PAGE 9

Annual Meeting

BRUNSWICK PUBLIC LIBRARY ASSOC.
THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 18, 3:30 pm
— SEE PAGE 3

Sunday Fires

Weekly beginning December 5
1:00—3:00 pm
— SEE PAGE 3

HOLIDAY CLOSINGS

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 11
VETERANS DAY — CLOSED

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 24
CLOSE EARLY — 5:00 pm

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 25
THANKSGIVING — CLOSED

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 24
CLOSE EARLY — 1:00 pm

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 25
CHRISTMAS — CLOSED

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 31
CLOSE EARLY — 5:00 pm

SATURDAY, JANUARY 1, 2011
NEW YEAR'S DAY — CLOSED

MONDAY, JANUARY 17
MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. DAY — CLOSED



HIDDEN IN PLAIN SIGHT

Did you know that Curtis Memorial Library has a wonderful collection of art, larger than that of many small museums? Library volunteer Pam Galvin and library Director Liz Doucett have been working together over the past year to inventory the library's art collection and develop a notebook for the public that shares the history of each piece, as well as other pertinent facts that might be of interest. This notebook is now available with copies at the Reference Desk, the Circulation Desk and in the 1904 magazine room. You can borrow it any time to give yourself a tour of the library's collection.

Here are two of the stories we've particularly liked (but there are many, many more!).

If you look to the right of the library's main entrance you might have noticed a beautiful



bird bath. It was donated by the library's primary benefactor, William J. Curtis, in 1917. If you look at the edge of the bowl you can see the inscription "In Memoriam. L. Augusta Curtis" as the bath was given in honor of Curtis' sister who died at a young age in 1916. The bath was created by the well-known sculptor Mahonri Macintosh Young (1877-1957), a grandson of Brigham Young and a member of the National Academy of Design. From Curtis' letter donating the bath to the library: "The base of the bath consists of three storks who are holding up the basin. The birds on the rim of the bath are selected from birds of Maine. The bird bath is not only a beautiful addition to the grounds but is in itself a distinctly individual and highly meritorious work of art." At one time the bird bath was

removed because of vandalism but today it stands in a place of honor and respect on the library's grounds.

You can still see some of the beauty and drama of the Age of Sail by viewing "Leander," a painting of a night scene off the coast of Liverpool, England in 1858. The *Leander*, captained by Peleg Curtis of Brunswick, collided with the steamship *North America* of the Allen Steamship line in St. George's Channel off Liverpool on the night of February 11, 1858. Sadly the *Leander* sank in less than five minutes. This painting was donated to the library by Mr. Oliver Quinby of Brockton, Massachusetts and can be seen in the 1904 building.



Curtis is lucky indeed to have all of the art found in the library. We hope you will take the time to rediscover our beautiful treasures, "hidden in plain sight"! —ED

ANNUAL BOOK FUND

2010-2011

Curtis Memorial Library’s Annual Book Fund has started with a bang. The library’s Board of Directors asked all current and former library leaders (those who have served on the Board of Directors, the Friends Board, and library committees) to make their donations to the Annual Book Fund early in September to start the campaign and help build momentum.

This group that does so much to make Curtis Memorial Library an outstanding institution has once again demonstrated what makes these individuals special. Before the first mailing to the public had gone out, the library received over \$7,000 for the Annual Book Fund.

We hope that everyone in the community will follow their lead and their commitment to the library. Please keep in mind that when you contribute to the Annual Book Fund you are enabling the library to purchase those things most fundamental to its reason for being—the books, magazines, newspapers, music, movies and electronic databases that provide the ideas and information that enrich our community.

If you did not get a letter in the mail requesting a donation, you can still give by picking up a donation envelope at Curtis or by giving online at www.curtislibrary.com/donate/.

Thank you for supporting Curtis!

Elisabeth Doucett
Library Director

Curtis News is published five times/year. Copies are available through the mail, online and in the library lobby. To request a subscription contact the library by phone 725-5242 ext. 236 or register for the online version at www.curtislibrary.com.

The newsletter is one of the many projects funded by Curtis Friends.

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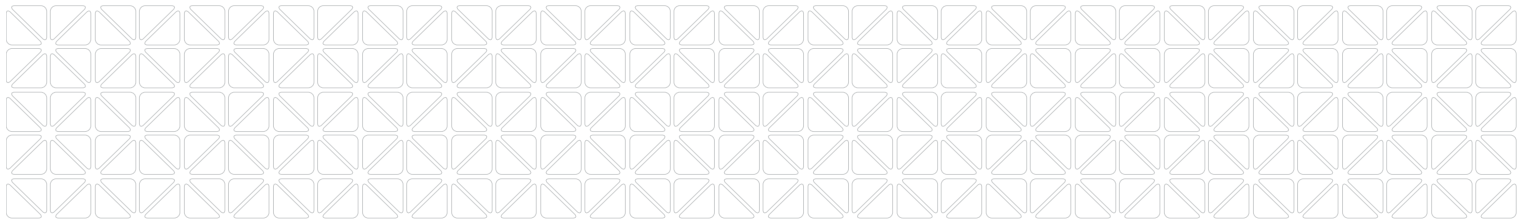
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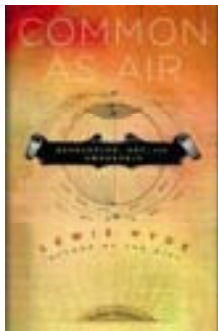
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COMMON AS AIR

Hollywood mogul Jack Valenti, when asked what he thought the proper period for copyright, answered, “Forever less one day.” He may have been pulling the questioner’s leg but his prescience can’t be faulted. Copyright that extends 70 years after the death of the creator, thanks to the Sonny Bono Copyright Extension Act, is essentially just that.

Lewis Hyde’s book *Common as Air* asserts that we are surrendering the common—the public square that nourishes creativity, intellectual growth and scientific knowledge. The erosion of our public domain is being orchestrated by the litigious forces of the Motion Picture Association of America (MPAA) to leave us with a creative environment choking on unreasonable enclosures. Working from its strength, Hollywood has fictionalized and misrepresented the views of Jefferson, Franklin and Adams in their justifications. Misnamed copyright is not a right at all; it is a limited monopoly granted by the government for a proscribed period of time, after which a work becomes public property. Thomas Jefferson determined that a reasonable period for copyright was the creator’s lifetime plus a generation, which he reasoned was 19 years. His peers agreed and so copyright was licensed to the creator for that period, thereby rewarding his/her industry yet maintaining the goal that the end user/benefactor was the public.



This is a subject near and dear to my librarian heart. Libraries exist in the common. Science and creativity thrive here as creators and scholars climb upon the shoulders of predecessors and peers to contribute to our store of knowledge.

Wikipedia, an outgrowth of the commons, would have been celebrated by Franklin. He would have been appalled that discoveries— things that already exist—should be patented and thereby kept out of circulation. Franklin, the most creative man of his era, would be spending the better part of this era in court. —PD

TAKE A WARM BREAK ON A SUNDAY

Despite our best efforts to live in our dream world of summer, winter is nearly here. Patrons are invited to come to the library on Sunday afternoons to enjoy a cozy fire in the 1904 Fireplace Room. From December through mid-March, volunteers tend the fireplace from 12:30—3:30 pm. It’s a good opportunity to warm up and relax with a book, crossword puzzle, or knitting project.



If you are interested in volunteering to tend the fire, please contact Pamela Bobker, 725-5242 x237 or pbobker@curtislibrary.com. You don’t have to be a Boy Scout to do this — training will be provided! —PB

ANNUAL MEETING

The institution we now know as Curtis Memorial Library began its existence in 1883 as the Brunswick Public Library Association. The Association has continued to be the governing body for these past 127 years with membership including all voting age residents of Brunswick.

This year the Annual Meeting of the Association will be held:

November 18 at 3:30 pm
Morrell Meeting Room

The public is encouraged to attend.



LIBRARY FIRES UP INTERNET LINES

We are all very excited that, as a result of the Maine State Library's efforts in applying for a Broadband Technology Opportunity Program (BTOP) grant (on behalf of over 100 Maine libraries), we will be replacing our aging public access computers soon—we hope by the end of the year.

As the world of the internet expands, web sites are being designed in such a way that they require more and more memory and/or computer processing power just to look at them, never mind interacting with them. And of course multi-media has taken over the web, something that wasn't even on the radar when our current PCs were purchased.

In anticipation of receiving the new devices, we have quietly made some other changes to our computer infrastructure over the summer. First, our internet service provider, the Maine School and Library Network, took advantage of some network changes they were making and connected us to the internet with optical fiber instead of phone lines. The resulting



connection speeds are radically faster. We see this not so much in the speed with which a single web page is returned, but in two other important ways: many more people can be connected to the internet at the same time without a network slow down, and file transfer time (such as for audio books) is significantly faster.

In addition, for those with wireless devices, the library has recently installed several new generation Wireless-N units. Most wireless devices sold today support this new faster standard, and the option has been available for a while so older devices may have been configured for it as well.

The new public access stations will have the ability to take advantage of these infrastructure changes, and the combination of the two should be awesome. That is at least until the internet morphs into something demanding even more memory and power! — MD

DIGGING BACK

Do you like mysteries? Do you enjoy putting together puzzles? Are you stubborn and tenacious? Does it drive you crazy when you can't find the answer to a question? If you said yes to more than two of these questions, you would probably find genealogy to be the perfect hobby for you!

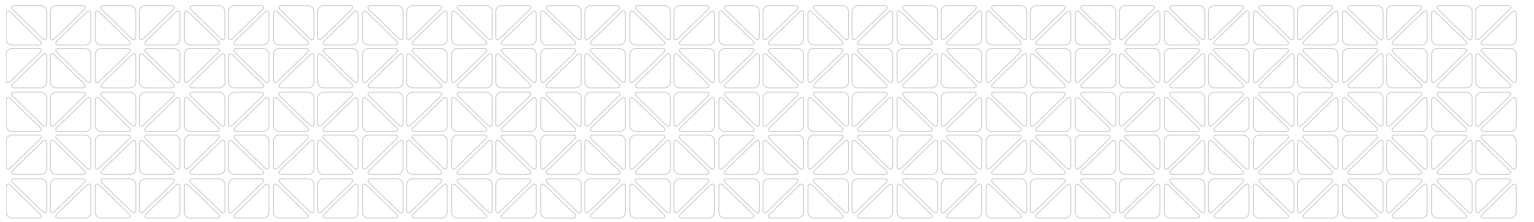
A formal definition of genealogy says that it is the investigation and recording of the ancestors of one individual or family. I think genealogy is much more than that. I see genealogy as a fascinating mish-mash of history, geography, story-telling and research. It is a constantly growing puzzle that grabs your attention and nags at you until you figure out the next piece of that puzzle.

Why do people get into genealogy? They might not know much about their family and are just curious to learn more. They might have heard family stories and want to either confirm or deny them. They might just be nosy about how their ancestors lived. There are probably as many reasons for doing genealogy as there are individuals doing it.

How can you get started in genealogy? Start with yourself. Pick which part of your family you would like to research and write down everything you know, including names, birth, marriage and death dates and where people lived. Then go to your relatives and ask them what they know. Write that information down. When you run out of information that way, come to Curtis and try our genealogy database—Ancestry.com.

Ancestry.com is a subscription database (meaning the library pays for it to be available to library users) that has over five billion records. It includes US, Canadian and United Kingdom census; birth/marriage/death records; immigration records, court records and military records. It provides a wealth of information and is an indispensable tool for today's genealogist.

You can only access Ancestry for free at Curtis but you can do it from any library computer or via our wifi access on your own laptop. Look for the Ancestry button on the left side of the library's website. Click on that, enter a name and see what happens! Ask any librarian if you need help using Ancestry or with your genealogy search. After all, we librarians love a good mystery! — ED

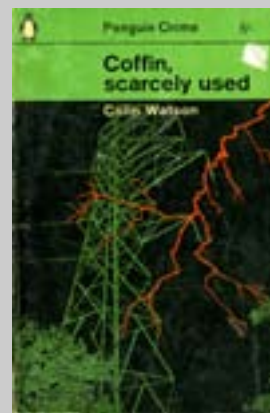
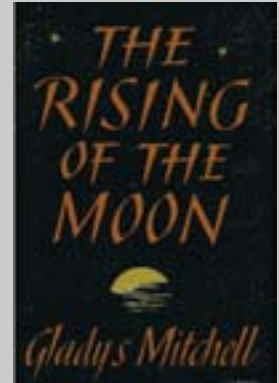
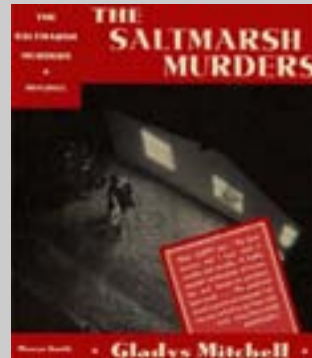


MY LIFE IN MYSTERY— PART II

If you enjoy detectives with quirky personalities, may I recommend the Mrs. Beatrice Adela Lestrage Bradley books by Dame Gladys Mitchell? Heroine of sixty-six novels, Mrs. Bradley, later Dame, is a psychiatrist who consults for the Home Office. She's known as Mrs. Croc, for her saurian looks and quick mind, has degrees from all over the world, has had three husbands, and is admired by many and feared by more. Her cases take place in unusual settings. She sometimes finds herself dealing with witchcraft, the supernatural and the occasional homicidal maniac. All with perfect sang-froid.

Another of my favorite authors is H.C. Bailey, hailed as a worthy successor to Conan Doyle. His Reggie Fortune stories and novels, set in England in the early part of the twentieth century, brim with good humor, much like their protagonist. Intensely curious, with an eye for minute details and an analytical mind, Reggie Fortune uses his medical skills and the knowledge he's gained from wide and eccentric studies to illuminate the dark corners of his world. Reggie never fails to protect the underdog.

Finally, I recommend Colin Watson's twelve Flaxborough novels, which introduce that most ladylike con-woman, Lucilla Ethith Cavell Teatime. Miss Teatime sometimes thwarts, sometimes abets Inspector Walter Purbright, worthy guardian of the small market town, which is full of eccentrics. The writing is dryly humorous.



Though most of these books are out of print, they can still be found at Curtis or through interlibrary loan. Happy hunting!
— MN

HEATIN' WITH GAS

The Town of Brunswick has made some headway in converting the library's heating plant to operate on natural gas. This project has been in the works for many months and we hope to have it completed before the depths of the heating season.

As of newsletter press time, the gas company has installed a line under Pleasant Street to the building. Plans are being made to change out the burners on the two boilers, and connect them to the gas line.

The most elaborate task is to retrofit the old library chimney to handle the increased demand (and to satisfy building codes). A mason will chip into the brick work and enlarge the flue—bottom to top. Our aim is to have as little disruption as possible to normal library activity.

As with most complicated projects, progress depends on coordinating the work of several contractors. The Town is taking the lead in the work since this is a town-owned building. We appreciate the efforts and anticipate savings in the fuel bill this winter. — MH

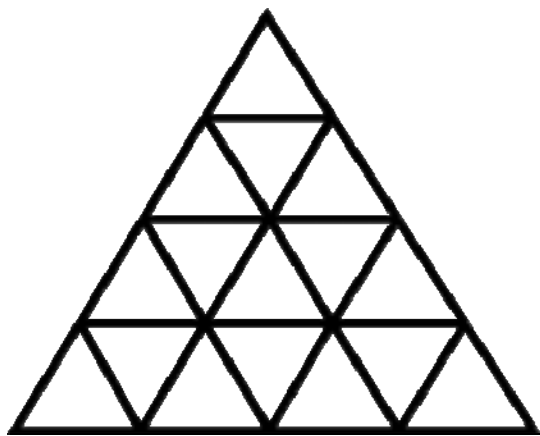
A FEW LITTLE CHALLENGES

Created and compiled by George Burr

The answer key is available at the Circulation Desk or online: www.curtislibrary.com/puzzle-answers

MATCH THE FAMOUS SIGHT WITH THE CORRECT CITY

- | | |
|-----------------------|-------------------|
| ___ BIG BEN | 1) BOSTON |
| ___ SUGAR LOAF | 2) PARIS |
| ___ THE GREEN MONSTER | 3) MILAN |
| ___ LEFT BANK | 4) LONDON |
| ___ KREMLIN | 5) NEW ORLEANS |
| ___ BASIN STREET | 6) CHICAGO |
| ___ BRANDENBURG GATE | 7) MOSCOW |
| ___ FORBIDDEN CITY | 8) BERLIN |
| ___ LA SCALA | 9) RIO DE JANEIRO |
| ___ WRIGLEY BUILDING | 10) BEIJING |



HOW MANY TRIANGLES?



What is the 6th figure?

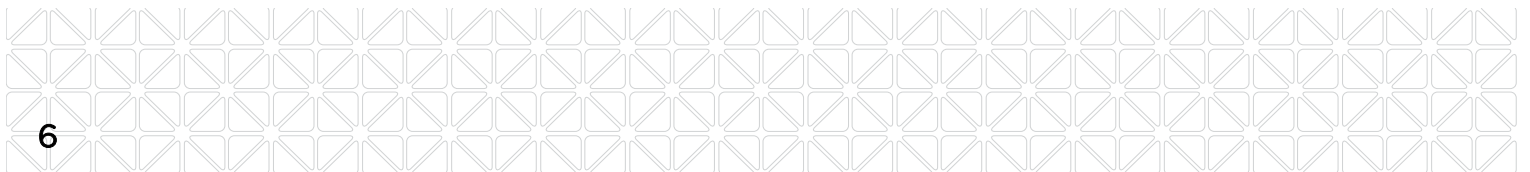
CAN YOU UNSCRAMBLE
THIS GREETING?

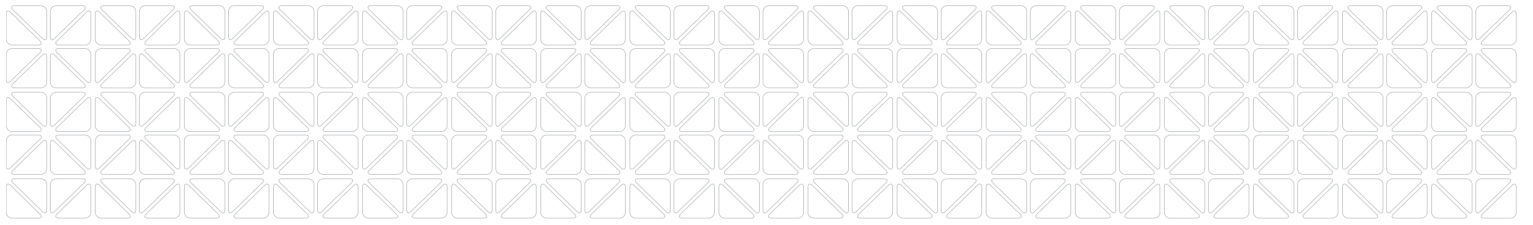
PAYPHVINTGIGSANHK

USE THE CLUES TO FIND A TWO WORD RHYMING ANSWER.

EXAMPLE: Bowdoin mascot, two aces = bear, pair

- heavy, feline _____
- chef, collected writings _____
- spinner, policeman _____
- long distance, top billing _____
- filthy, friend _____
- car path, hopper _____
- large mammal, story _____
- for sure, window dressing _____
- sailboat, captain _____
- large, porker _____





READING



Have you ever wondered how to choose your next book? Are there books that you have meant to read for years but have never gotten around to actually reading them? Do you spend time in a library surrounded by books so that the title of Sara Nelson’s amusing book on reading *So Many Books, So Little Time* constantly runs through your brain? All these conditions applied to me, so a few years back I took measures to expand my horizons and read books by authors I had never read. I decided to read through the alphabet in the fiction section, reading a new author for every letter of the alphabet. I started with a title by Louis Auchincloss and am currently on “V”, waiting for a book by Abraham Verghese.

I had seen Auchincloss’ name on shelves and in articles for years, plus he was one of my husband’s maternal grandmother’s favorite authors. I didn’t like the title I read and wondered if I had chosen one of his weaker novels. This experience taught me to be more careful when choosing a novel by a renowned author. Now I often check Contemporary Authors or Literary Resource Center (both available on MARVEL!) before choosing a title of a well-known prolific author (Joyce Carol Oates, for example) because these resources contain commentary on a writer’s entire body of work.

After Auchincloss I read a book by Elizabeth Berg. I chose her because all her titles were very popular with our readers. Now I know why! While on “B” I thought I might as well read another popular author (Sandra Brown) and a lesser-known one, Elizabeth Bowen. This decision set a precedent for reading 2, 3 or 4 authors for each letter. I reasoned that I might not get around to the beginning of the alphabet again for a long time, so why not? Of course this has slowed my progress on this project, but I had no deadline. Throughout this alphabetical tour of the fiction stacks I have been reading other books that were not part of my “alphabet project”, often straying into non-fiction titles that took me down all kinds of

paths including the gulags of the Soviet Union and the streets of Mumbai. These diversions led me to still more books causing me to abandon my alphabet project for months at a time, but always keeping it in the back of my mind.

I have kept a log of all the books I have read, with brief summaries and my impressions. I chose some authors because they are popular among our patrons (Elizabeth Berg, Wally Lamb, Ann Patchett, Jodi Picoult) and others because I had been meaning to read them for years (Daphne Du Maurier, Graham Greene, Zora Neale Hurston, Jhumpa Lahiri, Iris Murdoch, Vikram Seth, Anthony Trollope). At one point I did worry that there was something wrong with me because I did not like the ever popular *Rebecca* by Du Maurier, a favorite of many readers that I know and respect. But then, to quote a literally translated Russian proverb: “On taste and color there are no comrades.”

Some letters, such as “Q” were challenging. I read Daniel Quinn’s *Ishmael*, a book I didn’t really feel like reading but there weren’t many choices for “Q”. While I didn’t like the style in which it was written, I did find the ideas in the book to be very interesting and provocative. Another surprise was Erich Remarque’s *All Quiet On the Western Front*.

This was a classic that I missed in school. I usually don’t like books about war but this one with its succinct descriptions of incidents at the front and rear of battles in World War I told from the viewpoint of a young German soldier really drew me in. The message of the book is a very important one that is still needed today.

With only “V”-“Z” remaining in my project, I am contemplating another, more serious tour of the fiction shelves to read some classics and great writers of our time. First book on the tour will be *Things Fall Apart* by Chinua Achebe. Then Balzac.

So many books, so little time! — CLL

TO



TEENS' TOP TEN



“Great news!”, Jo Hipsher and I told the teens in the Brunswick High School Book Club in September. “What?”, they responded.

“We got it! We were chosen to be one of 16 book clubs across the nation to read, read and review books that you will nominate to the Teens’ Top Ten list!” “Woot! Woot!”

After the excitement settled, a question arose from new members of the club: what is the Teens’ Top Ten (TTT) project?

Every year during Teen Read Week (this year was Oct. 17–23) YALSA, the Young Adult Library Services Association, announces the ten books that garnered the most votes from teens who read from a list of 26 nominees during the summer, then voted in late August. The TTT is a teen choice award. What makes this award different from other student picked prize winners is that the original list of 26 nominees was also chosen by teens.

And that’s where our book club comes in. For the next two years, Jo Hipsher, librarian at BHS, and I will guide the Brunswick High School Book Club members in reading and reviewing pre-release and recently released titles and deciding if they are worthy of making it to the Teens’ Top Ten nomination list.

It means a lot of reading and a lot of writing, since we will send the teens’ reviews to the committee and to the publishers. But the teens are looking forward to it. It was five of their reviews, in fact, that got our application noticed and helped put Brunswick on the Teens’ Top Ten map; the next nearest participating club is in Duxbury, MA.

As one book club member said, “I’ve been reading the TTT nominees for years as part of the [Curtis Memorial Library] teen summer reading program. I’m so excited to now be one of a special few who gets to decide what goes on that list!”

Getting teens excited about reading is what it is all about. For more information, see: www.ala.org/teenstopten — MO

YOUNG ARTISANS

Most Monday afternoons at 4:00, a group of kids can be found in the Morrell Meeting Room making panels of felt, threading needles, dying fabric, crafting gifts, or otherwise creating with a variety of materials.

Young Artisans is an arts and crafts program for children ages 8 to 12, led by Robyn Fay-Tringali. “It’s a fun, social atmosphere where kids with similar interests get together to express themselves and learn new skills,” says Miss Robyn. Each program includes five sessions covering a general craft or technique. The focus for November & December is basic hand-sewing techniques, and scrapbooking will be featured in January.

All sessions are free and open to the public, sponsored by Curtis Friends. To register and get your supply list, please stop by the Youth Services desk or call 725-5242 x225, or email kids@curtislibrary.com.

Recommended Books for Young Artisans:

The Jumbo Book of Needlecrafts by Judy Ann Sadler

Made by Me by Jane Bull

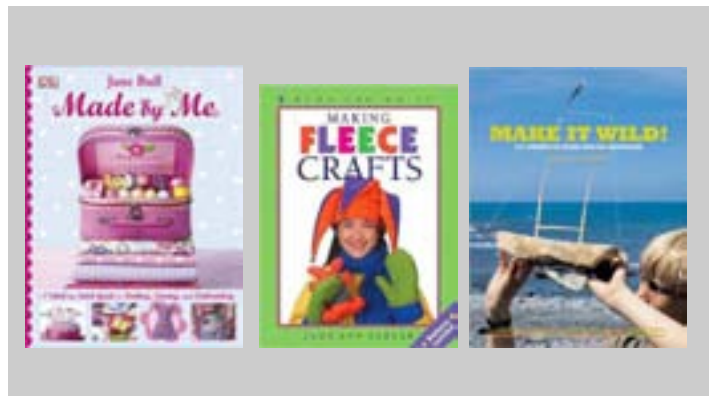
Projects include workboxes, embroidery, sewing, and knitting.

Make it Wild! 101 Things to Make and Do Outdoors
by Jo Schofield and Fiona Danks

Making Fleece Crafts by Judy Ann Sadler

Scrapbooking Just for You! How to Make Fun, Personal, Save-Them-Forever Keepsakes by Candice Ransom

— PJ



EXPLORE TOGETHER

The sun is setting earlier and the cold weather is moving in, but there is still plenty of nature out there to investigate. It's a great time to check out an Explorer Pack sponsored by Cornerstones of Science and, well, explore!



Shorter days mean earlier night sky viewing. Bundle up to watch the stories in the stars and still get everyone to bed on time. The Exploring the Night Sky packs contain guides to the constellations and a special flashlight with a red lens which lets viewers look at the book, then up at the sky without having to adjust from the brightness of a regular flashlight.



Sometimes, by standing very still with birdseed on an outstretched hand, an adventurous chickadee will land and have a snack! Late fall and winter provide lots of opportunities to observe our feathered friends. Get right up close with an Exploring Bird Watching pack. Learn who they are, what they eat, and whether they wear different colors as the weather changes.



When the snow falls, squirrels, mice, and other animals leave a trail of footprints. The new Exploring Tracks packs will help identify who's been around. Compare the tracks in the yard to the life-sized tracks in the guide—has a moose been in your yard?

The world is fascinating. What interests you? We are currently conducting a survey to find out how to tailor our science programming to better meet your needs. Please take a few minutes to fill out the survey insert in this newsletter, or online at www.curtislibrary.com/sciencesurvey (see page 10 for a description). — DMc

KIDS BOOK SALE

If you have children in your life who love books, we've got a treat for you! Our fifth annual Curtis Kids Book Sale, sponsored by Curtis Friends, is coming up!

Quality used books, CDs and DVDs for children from preschool to middle school age will be available for purchase at bargain prices. Board books and paperback books will be 50¢; hardback books, CDs and DVDs are only \$1. This event is the perfect opportunity for parents, teachers, grandparents, caregivers and children to beef up their collections. It is also a good time to start shopping for the holidays.

Charlotte Agell, a well-known children's author and illustrator, will again be on hand to sketch portraits of kids 10:00 am—noon, for which donations will be accepted.

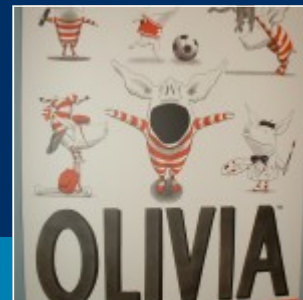
All proceeds from the sale and the portrait donations are used for children's materials, programs, and services. Last year's Kids Book Sale proceeds helped purchase the great poster collection now on the walls in the picture book rooms.



DON'T MISS IT!
Saturday, November 13
9:30 am—12:00 noon

Mark your calendar for this very special event.
— CS

NEW POSTERS IN THE PICTURE BOOK ROOMS



SCIENCE SURVEY

Do you or your family members enjoy and learn more about science by reading library books, watching library DVDs or attending science programs at the library?

Your answers to these and other questions on our new survey will help us develop our science programming and services over the next few years. You can fill out the paper survey included in this issue of the newsletter and return it to the library. Paper copies are also available at the library or you can fill the survey out online at www.curtislibrary.com/science-survey.

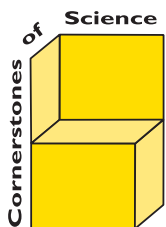
Cornerstones of Science (COS) has designed this survey to answer these questions:

- What science topics interest you or your family?
- How often would you like us to offer COS programs?
- Who in your family uses library science materials?
- How do you find out about science materials and programs at the library?

We will use your anonymous answers to plan future science programs and purchases for the library collection. This includes speakers we will invite and types of programs the library will offer throughout the year.

Thank you for taking the time to tell us what you think and helping us to guide future COS programming! — LO

Sponsored by Cornerstones of Science



The Community Health Information Partnership (CHIP) partners want you to know about a free online survey to help you assess your health risks.

Healthy Maine Partnerships and the Maine CDC designed the survey at www.keepmewell.org as a simple tool which takes only 10-15 minutes to complete. This survey is designed for Maine residents 18 years and older. All information entered is anonymous.

The survey has questions about diet, exercise, free time spent in front of the television or on the computer, tobacco and alcohol use, age, height and weight. It also asks about blood pressure, screenings for cholesterol and diabetes, recent physicals, visits to the dentist or eye doctor and if you get a flu shot.

After you take the survey, you will immediately receive a report that lets you know if your health profile: 1) is on target; 2) points to the need for caution or improvement; or 3) raises a warning and points you to health issues that need attention. The report also suggests local community programs that could help, such as low-cost exercise activities and nutrition programs.

This January, registered nurses from Mid Coast Hospital and Parkview Adventist Medical Center will make appointments at the library to discuss survey results or to work with anyone needing help to complete the survey. Dates will be posted on the library calendar.

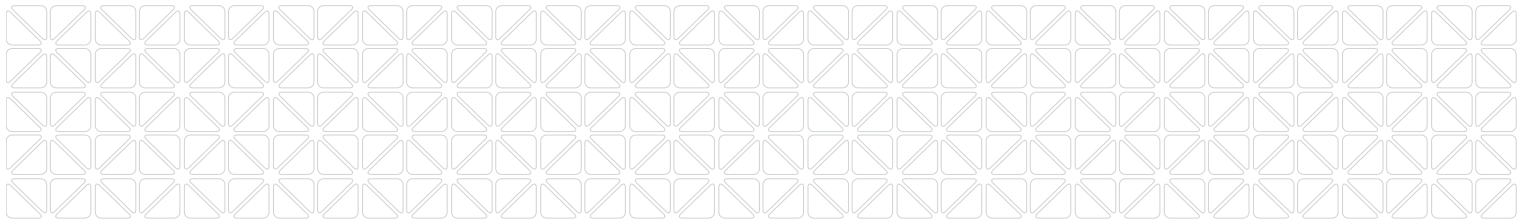
CHIP UPDATE

Orr's Island Library patrons can now find new CHIP books about health topics and healthy lifestyles selected by Library Director Joanne Rogers. Cundy's Harbor Library will soon have their collection ready for borrowing. Items were selected by Director Samuel Schwartz and volunteer Leslie Bradbury. Look for the CHIP spine labels. More CHIP books are available for check out at Curtis Library. — LO



**CURTIS
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A World of Possibility

CHIP is a partnership of Curtis Memorial Library, Mid Coast Hospital and Parkview Adventist Medical Center.



eBOOKS ARE COMING!

Our Download Library services will soon expand to include eBooks. The Maine InfoNet consortium plans to add a collection of downloadable eBooks to the Overdrive online library within the next few months.

Access to downloadable audio books is already available to all Curtis Memorial Library cardholders through the Maine InfoNet Download Library. This is an online service funded by Maine libraries, including Curtis Memorial Library, who pay to belong to the service.

Maine librarians are at work now selecting and purchasing the opening day collection of downloadable eBooks. The Overdrive site will have instructions and frequently asked questions (FAQ) to help library members download and use the eBooks. Cardholders will be able to download eBooks to computers and devices that support ePub and PDF formats.

As of this writing compatible devices include the Sony eReader, the Barnes and Noble Nook, the Borders Kobo and other e-readers, as well as Windows PCs and Mac computers. One device that is not supported is the Amazon Kindle because Amazon does not currently plan to work with services like Overdrive. The Overdrive downloadable collection does not currently work with the iPad, but Overdrive is working on an app for iPads and hopes to include devices such as iPhones and Droid based phones.

The opening date is not yet set, but Maine InfoNet staff members think this process could move along quickly. Keep an eye on the Curtis website. We'll have an announcement as soon as we know! — LO

CHAMBER MUSIC & PSQ

The Portland String Quartet offers this year's program in three sessions:

A Listener's Guide to Chamber Music:
Common Threads: From Rags to Riches
Music in three genres
Ragtime, Dance, and The Art of the Fugue

Mondays, November 8, 15 and 22, 2010

7:00—8:30 pm
Morrell Meeting Room

Pianist Virginia Eskin will join the PSQ for the first session, "Ragtime, American Originals!" Together they will explore the fascinating history and continuing variety of ragtime music.

The second session, "Dancing with the Stars", will trace dance music in the chamber repertoire from the Renaissance to the modern era.

The final session will feature Musicologist Steven Saunders of Colby College as he and the PSQ explore the compositional genius revealed in Bach's culminating achievement, "The Art of the Fugue".

Registration is \$45 for all 3 Sessions, or \$18 per individual session. Contact LARK Society for Chamber Music at (207) 761-1522 or www.larksociety.org for registration and more details.

This program is cosponsored by the library. Some scholarship assistance is available from the Lark Society for those unable to pay the full registration fee.

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All of the proceeds from the Collectible & Special Book Sale go directly into purchases for the Curtis Library collection. It's a gift that gifts twice!

Would you like to help our fledgling project grow? We are always looking for volunteers. Please contact Pamela Bobker at 725-5242 ext. 237 or pbobker@curtislibrary.com for more information. — JV



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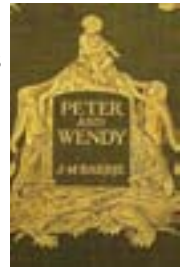


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Book bags are still available at the Lending Services desk in the lobby. These sturdy canvas bags with strong handles sport the Curtis

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