

# Ipswich Public Library: the newsletter



## Library Director to Retire

Victor Dyer, Director of the Ipswich Public Library since 1999, will retire in January 2015. Mr. Dyer came to the library when the major addition and renovation project was just about finished. Prior to assuming responsibility for the library in Ipswich, Mr. Dyer was Assistant Director of the Abbot Public Library in Marblehead. He worked also for the Chicago Public Library. At Boston College he majored in psychology. He earned his library degree at the Graduate Library School of the University of Chicago. Mr. Dyer also holds a Certificate of Special Studies in Administration and Management from the Harvard Extension School.

“It has been a pleasure and a privilege to serve this community as Library Director,” Mr. Dyer said. “I will miss the beautiful work environment of our historic library building, and I will miss especially the daily interaction with staff, Trustees, Friends, Volunteers, Department Heads and the library patrons I have come to know over the past 15 years.”

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**Mark Your Calendar:** The Friends of the Ipswich Public Library will host a reception for Mr. Dyer on Sunday, January 11, 2015 from 1:30 PM to 3:30 PM in the Rogers Room of the Library, 25 North Main Street. The general public is invited. Come join us!



The Ipswich Public Library has recently launched a new online service. **Flipster** offers quick and easy access to more than one hundred forty top magazines currently published. Ipswich patrons can connect to this service from a computer, laptop, or any mobile device with Internet connection.



The Flipster app (available through the iTunes store) allows offline browsing of your downloaded digital magazines. To use this service, visit [www.ipswichlibrary.org](http://www.ipswichlibrary.org). On the homepage, choose COLLECTIONS and then click on the **Flipster®** link. Login with your 14-digit Ipswich library barcode.

Magazines popular with our patrons include *Consumer Reports*, *Kiplinger's Personal Finance*, and *Food Network Magazine*. Access to **Flipster®** is made possible through the generosity of EBSCO Publishing, 10 Estes Street, Ipswich, MA 01938.

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## Director to Retire . . . *continued from Page 1*

There have been many changes in the library during Mr. Dyer's tenure. New collections such as DVDs, Blu-rays, Play-aways, downloadable e-books and audio books have been developed and are now popular among patrons. Freegal®, a downloadable music service; and Flipster®, a digital magazine collection are the two most recent additions to our digital collections. The availability of so many specialized databases is impressive for a town the size of Ipswich, due in part to the generosity of EBSCO Publishing. Wi-Fi is available throughout the building. Library hours have expanded to include Sunday afternoons from September through May. Services for children, in particular, have grown to include many age-specific book clubs and special story times and activities for very young children and even infants (Mother Goose on the Loose). Ten years ago the library began a yearly celebration of community-wide reading called *Ipswich Reads... One Book*.

Mr. Dyer noted, "Public Libraries are vital community resources that promote reading and inquiry for all, regardless of age or means. The Ipswich Public Library is blessed with outstanding staff members who are known for their helpfulness and interest in every patron's needs."

When asked what he especially enjoyed about being Library Director, Mr. Dyer mentioned the satisfaction he has felt in choosing books and other materials for the collection. He went on to say: "I love to see engaged and excited children who come to be read to or to choose books for themselves, to visit the fish or to create something to bring home to their parents. I love to have a patron tell me that she discovered among the new books something unexpected that gave her great pleasure. I love to see a patron sitting down with a staff member who patiently teaches him how to download books to his Kindle. I love to see people from Ohio who crowd into our Archives in the fall to track down family members who emigrated west in the 19<sup>th</sup> century."

Mr. Dyer will continue as Library Director until mid-January. The Town Manager has organized a committee to advertise, interview and select a new Library Director for the Ipswich Public Library.

### Another Retirement..

Ms. Paula Grillo will retire from her position as Reference/Adult and Young Adult Services Librarian on February 26, 2015. She has worked at Ipswich Public Library for the past 14 years and has been a resident of Ipswich for 21 years. Originally a native of Gloucester, Paula received a B.A. in English from Colby College in Waterville, Maine and an M.S. in Library Science from Simmons College in Boston. Her previous library jobs were with The Governor's Academy in Byfield, MA; Randall Library in Stow, MA; Montserrat College of Art in Beverly, MA; and Bradford College in Haverhill, MA.

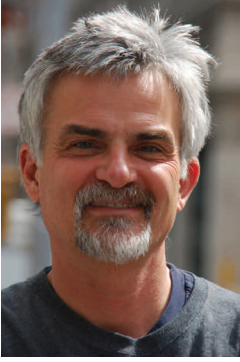
After retirement, Paula hopes to spend more time with her family and friends, to travel and to do some watercolor painting. She'll miss all the wonderful people she's met at Ipswich Public Library, but she hopes to see them around town!



### Reference Books to Circulate

Most of the reference books located in the circulation area and the Reference Room are now available to check out for 7 days (no renewals). Simply bring the book to the Circulation Desk and check it out as usual. Approximately 50 reference books will remain for use in the library. They are clearly marked with a label on the spine which says "DOES NOT CIRCULATE". If you have any questions, just ask a staff member.

## Massachusetts Author Series



The Ipswich Public Library welcomed Roland Merullo on October 7, 2014 as the first author to speak in the **Massachusetts Author Series**. Forty-one people attended the event which ran from 7:00-8:30 PM in the Collins Room.

Mr. Merullo talked about his childhood in Revere, Massachusetts and his varied experiences in life until eventually

he became a writer by profession. He explained how he selects subjects to write about. “I am interested in many different things in life,” Merullo said, “and that reflects in my writings.” Since 1999, Roland Merullo has made his living solely as a writer. An accomplished author, he has published eleven novels and four books of non-fiction—most of which are award winners. His *Revere Beach Elegy: A Memoir of Home and Beyond*, won the 2003 Massachusetts Book Award in Non-Fiction.

Merullo’s talk in October marked the beginning of the **Massachusetts Author Series**. These lectures are free and open to the general public. This bi-annual event (fall and spring) is sponsored by the Board of Library Trustees in conjunction with the *Plan of Service 2014-2018*.

## Cloud Computing

Greg Page from the Merrimack Analysis Group will give a talk on technology trends on Monday, November 17<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 PM in the Collins Meeting Room.

During this hour-long presentation, Greg will explore some of the latest headline-grabbing technology trends, including: The Internet of Things; Bitcoin and Mobile Payments; 3-D Printing; Cloud Computing and Wearable Tech. He will explain the meaning behind the related buzzwords, and explain the relevance of each of these emerging tech fields for individuals, small businesses, and society in general. Cloud computing issues, including fee-based services vs. freebies, privacy issues and platforms, will be covered in his presentation.

The Merrimack Analysis Group works with institutions and individual clients on issues of online identity and security. Greg Page, CEO and co-founder, holds an Ed.M. from Harvard University (2003) and a B.A. from Stanford University (2002). Motivated by the attacks of Sept. 11, Greg joined the US Navy as an Intelligence Officer. He served three overseas tours supporting ground units in Iraq. Greg is now a Captain in the United States Army Reserve, and an Adjunct Computer Science Lecturer at Boston University – Metropolitan College.

## Art Programs

The Library Art Committee hosted an Open House on Friday, October 17. It featured two local artists: E. Heywood (Ellie) Norris and Dorothy K. Monnelly. Ellie Norris is one of the founders of the Ipswich Arts Association. Around town she is well known for her expertise in picture framing—a craft which she practiced for more than 25 years in her gallery at Bruni’s Marketplace. She also paints watercolors as time permits. Her subtle brushstrokes and color palette exude natural beauty and serenity. The School of the Museum of Fine Arts in Boston provided her formal education in the arts.

Dorothy Kerper Monnelly is widely acclaimed for her large-format gelatin silver prints. She has published two books: *Between Land and Sea: the Great Marsh*, and *For My Daughters*. She has had a passion for photography since her childhood. Her lens has captured many awe-inspiring photographs of the marshes and wetlands in Massachusetts, including Ipswich. Some of her works are in the permanent

collection of the National Museum of Women in the Arts. Both artists spoke of Ipswich and how its beautiful, natural landscape inspired their art. An appreciative group of thirty-five people heard two interesting speakers with different styles in a comfortable and beautiful setting. It was simply a delightful evening at the library!

In July 2014, the Art Committee also sponsored a Gelatin Print Workshop presented by graphic designer Maddie Burke. Nine patrons participated in the workshop which was designed for ten people.

The art programs were presented to the general public free of charge in conjunction with the *Library Plan of Service 2014-2018*.





## A to Z the World

Ipswich Public Library has an exciting new online service for its patrons — a database called **A to Z The World**, which provides a wealth of detailed information about 175 countries. It is easy to use and is especially helpful for travelers and students — or anyone interested in learning about culture and customs around the world. Over 100 topics are covered for each country, with a general overview and many specific topics, such as Business, Culture, Climate, Communications (good for phone use), Food (including recipes), Health and Medical, Holidays, Language (including lists of im-

portant phrases with translations and pronunciation), Maps, Money, Music, and Security Briefings. There are many colorful photos on every page, and the information is updated regularly. Lesson plans are provided for teachers.

To begin exploring, go to [www.ipswichlibrary.org](http://www.ipswichlibrary.org) and click on the **Databases** tab on the green bar. Scroll down to **A to Z The World** and click on the link. On the next page, enter the 14-digit number on the back of your Ipswich Public Library card in the library login code box, then click “Go” and select a country. For help or more information, call Reference/Adult Services Librarian Paula Grillo at 978-356-6648.

## Children’s Room News

June, July and August found 2,455 participants in 82 Children’s library programs.

- The summer theme for Massachusetts Libraries was Fizz! Boom! Read! and it introduced a new element of learning in the Children’s Room. New England Biolabs and Umesh Bhuju of Zumi’s funded the purchase of a complete set of Bill Nye science videos.
- The Lion’s Club recently donated money to the Children’s Room for the purchase of a rug for use in children’s programming in the Collins Room and some blocks for the play area.
- Cindy and Craig Burnham of Salem, Massachusetts donated 100 of their Tornado Tubes, a plastic tube that creates a vortex in a bottle, for prizes for summer readers.
- The Topsfield Fair once again donated tickets packets to the Fair, a few ride tickets and a coupon for a hot dog and a cold drink for young readers who met their summer reading goals in the Read and Win program.
- The Ipswich Public Library Board of Trustees approved the purchase of an AWE Early Literacy Station. Loaded with 75 programs, including Spanish



language applications, this computer has been well received by the children visiting the library.

- The Friends of the Ipswich Library hosted programs such as The Whalemobile, Sciencetellers and Zach’s Drum Studios. The Friends are also funding, in part, the Mother Goose on the Loose program for newborns through 2-year-olds and their caregivers to ensure that it continues twice a week for the rest of the year.
- Vehicle Day was an enormous success with the participation of Ipswich Police, Fire and Rescue, Department of Public Works, School Transportation, Action Ambulance and the Red Cross. The hot dog picnic was provided by the Board of Trustees and the Friends.
- Ipswich Middle School teacher Scott Jewell and his wife, Kristin, assisted Maureen Fay with a special program to celebrate the 150th anniversary of the Gettysburg Address. Thanks to help from Ipswich ICAM, the footage of the recitation appears on the web site for Ken Burns’ Gettysburg Address Challenge.