

## RESOURCES, SERVICES & EVENTS TODAY

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### Volunteer Needed

The library would like to begin a preservation project on newspaper clippings about the Town of Ipswich. We have a large collection of clippings on Ipswich topics that are deteriorating. We would like to copy these clippings on acid-free paper and arrange them chronologically in new folders. If you could help us with this project please call Victor Dyer, Library Director, at 356-6648.

# MISSION STATEMENT

## OF THE IPSWICH PUBLIC LIBRARY

The Ipswich Public Library is a vital resource for ideas, information and recreation for all members of the community. The mission of the Ipswich Public Library is to provide information on topics of interest to the community and guidance in how to use and evaluate information sources; to promote learning and personal growth throughout life; to support the enjoyment of reading for pleasure as well as work and school; to preserve and make available for study the historical record of the Town of Ipswich.

### NEW ASSISTANT DIRECTOR APPOINTED

Genevieve Picard was appointed Assistant Director and Information Systems Librarian in January 2001. Ms Picard replaces Susan Wilkish, who retired in October 2000. Genevieve joined the staff of the Ips-

wich Public Library in 1996 as Reference and Young Adult Librarian. She holds a Master of Science in Library and Information Science degree from Simmons College. Before joining the staff of

the Ipswich Public Library she was Reference Librarian at Endicott College in Beverly and Technology Librarian at the University of Negros Occidental-Recoletos in Bacolod City, Philippines.

### LIBRARY OFFERS NEW CATALOG TRAINING

The Library now offers training sessions for the public in the use of its new public access catalog, known as iPac. The new PC-based catalog has many features patrons will enjoy. Books can be requested from any library in the region from home PCs. Borrowed materials can be renewed from home as well. There are four levels of searching available on the catalog, including searches by location, language, year of publication and format (book, video, sound recording, etc.). The most advanced search method, Expanded Search, allows the use of Boolean operators. The staff offers training in the new iPac catalog from Monday through Friday on a scheduled basis. Patrons should plan to sign up in advance for training sessions, which will take about 30 minutes. The Ipswich Public Library phone number is 356-6648.



## NEWS FROM THE CHILDREN'S ROOM



The Children's Room now produces a monthly calendar of activities which you can take home. The calendar lists story hours, special programs, etc.

The popularity of the CD ROMs we borrowed from the Regional Library System last summer made us aware of the need to start our own collection for home use. We are now building an entertaining collection of our own which includes games and instructional CDs. We are also beginning to build up a collection of music CDs. These are shelved at the rear of the Children's Room in the toddler area. A recently purchased CD/cassette player is now available for in-house use. Come and enjoy these new features!

Please feel free to talk to staff members about materials or programs that you would like us to offer. We are always open to new suggestions.

## BEST WEBSITES FOR KIDS

The American Library Association has created a terrific website for parents and kids:

([www.ala.org/parents/greatsites/amazing.html](http://www.ala.org/parents/greatsites/amazing.html)).

The site is divided into a section

for children and another for parents, caregivers, teachers and "others who care about kids".

Over 700 websites are included in categories such as 'People Past and Present' and 'Science and

Technology'. A special committee of the American Library Association follows definite criteria before listing a site. Criteria include authorship, purpose of the site, design and stability and content.

## DOW GOES UP...

Actually, two new Dow paintings have been hung at the library. The two paintings, by Ipswich artist Arthur Wesley Dow, *Les Sables de Raguenes* and *Au Soir*, are on loan from the Ipswich Public Schools. The School Committee, working with the Dow Committee, decided to display the paintings at

the Ipswich Public Library so that everyone in the community could enjoy them. The paintings now hang high up on the brick wall of the Gaunt Reference Room. A reception to celebrate the public viewing of these lovely works of art will take place on Friday, April 6th from 3:00 PM to 5:00 PM in the Gaunt Reference Room.

## Friends of the Library Hold Lectures

The Friends of the Ipswich Public Library have announced their spring lecture series. On April 11<sup>th</sup> Wayne Castonguay, Northeast Regional Ecologist for the Trustees of Reservations, will present a slide lecture on the history, agriculture and trails of Appleton Farms. On May 9<sup>th</sup> Frank Ferrell, Director of the Ipswich Performing Arts Center, will discuss his plans for the town's new arts facility. On June 13<sup>th</sup> Tara Morrison, Underground Railroad Coordinator for the National Park Service, will deliver a lecture entitled "Network to Freedom." All Friends lectures take place in the Collins Meeting Room of the Ipswich Public Library at 8:00 PM.

## *Paula Grillo Named Reference & Young Adult Librarian*

Ipswich resident Paula Grillo joined the staff of the library in February as Reference and Young Adult Librarian. This position became vacant when Genevieve Picard was promoted to Assistant Director. Paula was offered the job after interviews with several other candidates. She has lived in Ipswich for the past nine years and worked in the Ipswich Department of Planning and Development during 1997 and 1998. Paula is from Gloucester originally and has many years of library experience, including positions at Bradford College, Montserrat College of Art, Randall (Public) Library in Stow, and Governor Dummer Academy. Having been a patron of the Ipswich Public Library herself before joining the staff, she says she had no idea how extremely busy the library is. "Seeing the library for a 10-minute or even an hour-long visit, it's not possible to see the big picture. People of all ages just keep pouring in! It's great to know that the library's excellent resources are being used so heavily and that our tax dollars are so well spent." Paula is happy to be working in Town again and hopes that you'll stop by the Reference Desk with your information requests—or just to say hello!

## *Services*

**Libraries are usually thought of as great places to find books and information. The Ipswich Public Library has a book collection of over 80,000 volumes, but we also offer many other services to our public such as:**

Preschool programs (Stories, Crafts)	Internet and word processing PCs	Copy machine
Reading club for 5th graders	Reference services	Homework Center
Library Newsletter	Children's Room activities calendar	Meeting rooms
Interlibrary loan service	Outside book drop	Archives on Ipswich History
Library web page	Children's live concerts	Quiet study room
Monthly New Books Lists	Circulating collections of videos, DVDs, etc.	Telephone renewals
Instruction in the use of automated resource	Museum passes	Handicapped accessibility
Summer reading program for children	Reserve requests for materials	Comfortable reading areas



### "Reference on Call" Service



By dialing 1-866-Ref-On-Call, library patrons now have access to telephone reference service during hours when the Ipswich Public Library is closed. This new service provides toll-free access to a reference librarian. The "Reference On Call" service hours are Monday through Friday 8:00AM-9:00AM and 9:00PM-11:00PM and Sunday 1:00-11:00PM. At other times you may call the Ipswich Public Library at 356-6648 for reference help.

Reference-On-Call also has a website at [www.referenceoncall.org](http://www.referenceoncall.org) for round-the-clock online access from home PCs to full-text newspapers, health, business, legal and many other library databases. Your Ipswich Public Library card number is your password for 24/7 home access to over 250 online database titles. The website also allows you to email a question to "Reference On Call." There is no charge for Ipswich Public Library users.

Reference On Call services are provided to the residents of Northeast Massachusetts by the Northeast Massachusetts Regional Library System (NMRLS) through state funding administered by the Massachusetts Board of Library Commissioners in cooperation with the Ipswich Public Library, the Merrimack Valley Library Consortium (MVLC) and the North of Boston Library Exchange (NOBLE).

## Director's Report

### Ipswich Public Library 2000

Victor Dyer, Director

Collections: New books added: 2848 (Adult) 1144 (Children). New media added: 423 (Adult) 164 (Children). Large type, video and audio collections were enhanced with funds provided by the Coburn Charitable Society and the Friends of the IPL. Books on CD in the children's department and DVDs in the adult department are new formats added this year. Weeding of adult medical and health collections was accomplished.

Technology: All 'dumb' terminals were replaced with PCs in 2000. This change was necessary to accommodate the new Horizon software now used for all library automation functions. Additional new equipment included 3 receipt printers, 4 barcode scanners, a printer and a UPS. A contract was negotiated with a new photocopy company which provides for unlimited photocopies for library use. Wiring was installed and a new PC purchased for the Archives. A second PC was wired for Internet access in the Children's Room. The library received from EBSCO Publishing a donation of six new Gateway PCs for public use in the Gaunt Reference Room.

Staff: A library bargaining unit was organized this year with 7 members (AFSCME Local #2905). Susan Wilkish retired as Assistant Librarian after 41 years of service. Genevieve Picard, Reference and Young Adult Librarian, was appointed Assistant Director and Information Systems Librarian. Richard Grover retired as Custodian after 16 years with the library. New staff include Linda Pucci (Administrative Assistant), Thomas Geddis (Custodian) and Emilie Bamford and Christopher Fay (Pages).

Volunteers: This year Volunteers donated 1411 hours to various library projects and activities.

Board of Trustees: Virginia Jackson left the Board after 19 years. Anne Brown was appointed to the Board. The Board approved the 'Plan of Service 2000-2004' and the 'Library Mission Statement'. The Ipswich Rotary Club donated \$15,000 to fund improvements in the HVAC system in the Ipswich Room. The League of Women Voters donated \$1,000 for historic document preservation.

Planning: A major accomplishment this year was the publication of the *Ipswich Public Library Plan of Service 2000-2004*. This initiative involved a planning committee of citizens, Trustees, staff, consultants from NMRLS, and a survey of patrons to determine library goals and objectives for the next five years. The Plan was approved by the Board of Trustees and accepted by the Massachusetts Board of Library Commissioners.

Friends: The Friends supported the library in many ways this year, including funds for book and media purchases and children's programs.

Bequests: A bequest from Betsy Robertson Cramer in memory of her mother, Kitty Robertson, was used to buy books on the marine environment, sailing, boat building and explorations. Donations to the Book Fund were received in memory of Alice Shurcliff, Helen Lang, Elsie Eustace and Christine Solomonides.

Programs: Children's Librarian Marilyn Pauley and Library Associate Maureen Fay continued to offer popular programs for children throughout the year; 264 programs were run with 5426 children participating.

Circulation: Total circulation in 2000 was 112,111 items.

Dedication: On March 11, 2000 the new reference room was named the Gaunt Reference Room in honor of former library director Eleanor 'Penny' Gaunt.

Grants: The IPL was awarded \$1,025,135 towards the construction costs of the 1998 library addition. These construction funds from the Commonwealth of Massachusetts are administered by the Massachusetts Board of Library Commissioners. This grant resulted from the successful grant application prepared by former library director Eleanor Gaunt in 1997. The library was also awarded a \$7500 customer service grant which was federally funded with LSTA funds through the Massachusetts Board of Library Commissioners.