Library Now Offers Downloadable eBooks!

Best-selling and classic titles available anytime, anywhere...

The Ipswich Public Library, as a member of the 35-library Merrimack Valley Library Consortium (MVLC), has expanded its services with the addition of eBooks. Library card holders can check out and download this digital media anytime, anywhere by visiting the library website at: www.town.ipswich.ma.us/library. Click on the Collections and then on OverDrive.

Users may browse the OverDrive section of the library’s website; check out with a valid library card; and download to PC, Mac®, and mobile devices such as the Sony Reader or the Nook. To read eBooks, users will need Adobe® Digital Editions. Titles can be enjoyed immediately or transferred to a mobile device. Titles will automatically expire at the end of the lending period or you can even return eBooks early. There are no late fees!

“We are very excited to provide this new service to our patrons. Reading books on electronic devices has been talked about widely in recent magazine and newspaper articles. Our patrons who own Sony Readers and Nooks will now have a wide variety of reading options available free through the public library,” said Library Director Victor Dyer.

This new service, powered by OverDrive, is free for patrons with active library cards.

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Issue 1

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Downloadable Audio Books Available for iPods

Digital audio books have been available for downloading to PCs and MP3 players from the library’s catalog since July 2006. In 2009 downloading to iPods and other Apple® devices, as well as to Zune, became available with the new Overdrive Media Console Version 3.2 free software.

Participating publishers include Random House Audio, Hachette Audio, Tantor Media, BBC Audio Books America, Penguin Audio and Brilliance Audio.

Overdrive Media Console allows users to send MP3 audio books to the iTunes Library and burn audio-book parts to CD. The use of the Overdrive service for downloading audio books has steadily increased over the past four years. In July 2006 twenty-one titles were borrowed, while in March 2010 eighty-six titles were downloaded by our patrons.

To see the available audio books from Overdrive, visit www.town.ipswich.ma.us/library, click on ‘Catalog’ then ‘Access to Catalog.’

Summer Schedule
June 14–Sept 6
Monday thru Wednesday 9 AM–8 PM
Thursday & Friday 9 AM–5 PM
Closed Saturdays & Sundays in summer

www.town.ipswich.ma.us/library
Contacting Us
phone: 978.356.6648
e-mail: ipswich@mvlc.org
Serving ‘Tweens and Teens

Ipswich Public Library received a two-year grant in October 2008 called “Serving ‘Tweens and Teens.” The grant provides $10,000 in each of the two grant years to help provide better services to the young people of our town. These federal funds are provided by the Institute of Museum and Library Services and administered by the Massachusetts Board of Library Commissioners.

Our Teen Library Committee (TLC) has met regularly to come up with ideas for how to best use these funds. They selected a theme for each of the two grant years – “Connecting with Our World” for year one and “Dream Green” for year two. There are three main areas we are working on: improving the young adult area, offering programs for young adults, and buying new books and other materials, often related to the year’s theme.

The TLC voted to call the young adult area “Teen Scene.” As of April 2010 we have installed a new counter for computer use and new shelving for young adult fiction (these items were not done with grants funds). We also purchased a café table with two chairs, four area rugs, two new signs, a new table lamp, and a magazine display stand. More improvements will take place during the second grant year.

Several new programs have been instituted with grant funds. We now offer a seventh-grade book club, as well as clubs for fifth and sixth grade. So far in 2010 we have had a program on Women, India and AIDS in February, a babysitting training program given by the American Red Cross in March, and a kung fu program in April.

Also, we have purchased a Nintendo Wii entertainment center, are developing a collection of games, and hold frequent supervised open houses using the new equipment. We are planning to run Wii tournaments over the summer of 2010.

For more information, please contact Young Adult Librarian Paula Grillo at 978-356-6648 or e-mail her at pgrillo@mvlc.org.

From Our Friends …

Sight and Sound Improvements in the Collins Room

Thanks to the generosity of the Friends of the Ipswich Public Library we now have a full ‘home theatre’ environment in the Collins Room. Brett Emerson of Home Theater Solutions installed a complete surround sound system with ceiling mounted LCD projector and Blu-ray DVD player.

Our staff can now show movies, especially to children, with a large, bright image and surround sound through five speakers. We also have the capability to utilize a wireless microphone.

Two New Museum Passes Now Available

The Friends of the Ipswich Public Library have purchased two new museum passes: The Sports Museum at the TD Garden in Boston and the Institute of Contemporary Art on the waterfront.

To book either of these passes, or any of eleven other passes available, visit the library’s website at www.town.ipswich.ma.us/library and click on ‘the Collections’ and then ‘Booking Museum Passes.’

Need to Postpone Your Online Requests?

Items requested from other libraries remain on our shelves for one week only. If you plan to be on vacation, or otherwise unavailable, you may suspend your requests. Your requests will be filled when you are ready to pick them up.

Go to the IPL catalog at www.town.ipswich.ma.us/library
• Choose “My Account” Type in your library card number and PIN
• Click the ‘Holds’ tab
• Click on the box to the left of the title you want to suspend
• Click on the ‘Change Status’ button

When you are ready for the book or other material you suspended, go back into your account, check off the box next to the item you previously suspended and then click on the ‘Change Status’ button.

NOTE: You will not lose your place in the queue when you suspend an item.
Ipswich Public Library: the Newsletter

Ipswich springs alive with ART

The 2010 Ipswich springs alive with ART exhibition displayed 39 artworks with subjects ranging from Ipswich bridges, beaches, marshes, and other remarkable landscapes to still lifes. These juried showpieces were executed in varied styles and formats such as oil paintings, water-colors, photographs, and mixed media.

The majority of the 27 Ipswich artists who participated in the event were inspired by our town’s natural beauty, the charm of its neighboring areas, and the panoramic views offered in places beyond New England. By all accounts, the works of these contemporary artists were impressively enjoyed by 164 viewers, the Ipswich Public Library’s 2nd annual Art Exhibit and Sale was held on May 14-16 in the Collins Meeting Room. The Art Exhibit Committee sponsored this show, which was free and open to the general public.

Participants in this year’s exhibit were:


Goals of the Annual Exhibit

- To encourage and promote artistic creativity among the residents of the town of Ipswich.
- To provide public venue for the display of artistic works by Ipswich artists.
- To offer a sense of pleasure and pride in the great beauty of our town and its unique place in history through fine arts.

Volunteers Appreciation Breakfast

The small bag of molasses cookies pictured above was the favor we gave out to volunteers at the annual Volunteers Appreciation Breakfast on April 22, 2010 at the Ipswich Bed & Breakfast. The cookies were the award-winning recipe from the ‘Cookie Bake-Off’ contest held in conjunction with Ipswich Reads...One Book! The book chosen this year, Dark Tide: The Great Boston Molasses Flood of 1919, suggested the contest. [See winning recipe on Page 4]

In FY09 our 51 volunteers gave over 1800 hours of their time to the library. Among the many tasks that volunteers perform are shelving, covering books, yard work, and sorting and selling books at the Friends Book Sales. The July book sale, for example, required 140 hours of volunteer time. We are most grateful to our volunteers and Friends for the many hours of service they give to the library.
Soft Molasses Cookies
Recipe makes 42 cookies

¼ cup shortening
1 cup packed brown sugar
1 large egg
½ cup molasses
2 ½ cups all purpose flour
½ teaspoon salt
2 teaspoons baking soda
1 teaspoon ground cinnamon
1 teaspoon ground ginger
1 teaspoon allspice
1 teaspoon nutmeg

Procedures:
1. Cream together shortening and brown sugar.
2. Stir in egg and molasses and mix well.
3. Fold in dry ingredients and stir.
4. Cover and chill until firm (1-2 hours)
5. Preheat oven to 350º.
6. Roll dough into small balls and roll in white sugar.
7. Place on lightly greased cookie sheet.
8. Bake at 350º for 9-10 minutes.*
9. Leave on sheet one minute until set.

* We used a convection oven set at 365º as the 350º setting left the cookies under done; we baked the cookies for 12 minutes.

Credit: Based on a 2009 recipe from Recipezaar; http://www.recipezaar.com
Adapted April 2010 for the Ipswich Public Library Molasses Cookie Bake-off

The Children’s Room is “Going Green”

The Children’s Room Summer Program at the Ipswich Public Library is “going green.” Not only will we be emphasizing the fact that by just using the library we are “recycling” books, but we will demonstrate other ways to help our environment by reusing and recycling materials as we work on our weekly craft projects. There will be several varied and interesting events offered over the course of the summer. The children’s activities will kick off in June with a program entitled “One Earth” that will focus directly on the world around us. In addition to our weekly Evening Storytimes, there will be the ever-popular Vehicle Day and cookout. The Sparky Puppet Show promises to be a delight as well. It should be noted that, throughout the summer, there will be a thematic emphasis upon the interdependence of people and the natural environment. Children from Pre-school through sixth grade will find many things of interest to brighten and enlighten their summer days. Watch our web site at www.town.ipswich.ma.us/library/ipl_cs.html for all upcoming exciting and entertaining events.

A “Going Green” calendar listing all of the fun-filled activities, including the movies, Storytimes and Wii Nights, will be available in June. Registration will be on the week of June 21, 2010. For additional information, call the Children’s Room at 978-356-6648.

Molasses Cookie Bake Off

In conjunction with the Ipswich Reads...One Book! program, the Children’s Room hosted a Molasses Cookie Bake Off. Those who attended the event, which included children and their parents, sampled all baked entries (with milk, of course):

To join the contest, the winner had to agree to bake 100 cookies to be given as favors for the library volunteers. This did not intimidate the Robie Boys, who were the recipient of the “Best Cookie” award. Pictured below is James showing some baked molasses cookies with big brother Tom during the award ceremony.