



Ipswich Public Library

25 North Main Street, Ipswich, Massachusetts 01938

the Newsletter

Board of Trustees Approves New *Plan of Service*

At the June 16th meeting of the Ipswich Public Library Board of Trustees a new *Plan of Service* for 2009-2013 was approved by the Board. The objectives and activities in this 5-year plan are based upon the following five general goals. The Ipswich Public Library will:

- Position itself as the community center for encouraging literacy and lifelong learning through reading of print and electronic resources
- Effectively market the full range of its collections and services to the entire community
- Provide excellent service to all the citizens of Ipswich
- Encourage the appreciation of Ipswich as a unique, historic community with great natural beauty
- Promote free access to information for every member of the community

Three to six objectives were written for each goal with ninety-

seven specific activities outlined for the next five years. These activities will go beyond the standard services every public library offers.

The planning process began last fall when members of the community were asked to serve on a Planning Committee.

The Committee included library patrons Doug Stewart, George Howe, Anne Brown, Nancy Warner, Jim Foley and Laura Hoffman. Also on the Committee was library volunteer Catherine Armstrong, staff member Betsy Johnson and Library Director Victor Dyer. The committee met three times between February and May. Working with consultants from the Northeast Massachusetts Regional Library System (NMRLS) committee members completed a SWOT (Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities & Strengths) analysis of the library, and a 'brainstorming' exercise focused on a vision of Ipswich five years from now.

At the final meeting the Commit-

tee approved five general goals of library service while the Library Director discussed the results of the Community Survey. The survey of the community was included with the March mailing of the Utilities Department bills. The survey was available at the library and also online. Over 500 surveys were completed. During the spring the library staff conducted its own SWOT analysis and then, using survey results and comments, began to suggest objectives and activities that would further the goals agreed upon by the committee. At the beginning of the process library staff provided the committee with extensive background information about the community of Ipswich and the Ipswich Public Library in particular.

The completed *Plan of Service* will be submitted to the Massachusetts Board of Library Commissioners as a requirement for future grant opportunities. Copies of the Plan will be given to members of the Board of Selectmen, Town Manager, Library Trustees & Staff.

Summer 2008
Volume 10
Issue 1

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Summer Hours

Monday & Wednesday
9 am—8 pm

Tuesday, Thursday
and Friday
9 am—5 pm

Saturday/Sunday Closed

Some Highlights from the *Plan of Service*

redesigned website

comfy chairs



landscaping
improvements

'Dad's Read' story times with coffee and donuts

Teen Advisory Board (TAB)



RSS feeds

WIFI

information kiosk

Documentary film series



digital photography
workshop

electronic bulletin board

video games

Researching historic houses

'Fireside Chats'

Photo Gallery

recycling information

Kids workshops

Annual
Open House

Go Green!

The Ipswich Public Library distributed about a thousand free "green bags" in June 2008. Most patrons mentioned that these bags are perfect for books, beach stuff, and grocery items to minimize use of paper and plastic bags.

Go Green! is an awareness project sponsored by the providers of EBSCOhost® databases and the Ipswich Public Library.

Library Dedicates Children's Plaza



Parents & children gathered early morning on the Children's Plaza for the dedication

On Saturday, June 7th the new Children's Plaza was inaugurated at the Ipswich Public Library. More than fifty people attended the event, which featured storyteller J.T. Turner and musician Orville Giddings. The program included Children's Librarian Marilyn Pauley reading stories to the children who sat on blue and green cushions around her new, brightly striped and bell-bedecked 'Storytellers Chair.' The 365 square foot plaza of grey pavers was constructed by Corliss Landscape & Irrigation of Ips-

wich. It is located just off the Children's Room entrance at the side of the Ipswich Public Library, 25 North Main Street.

The creation of an outdoor Children's Plaza was part of the *Ipswich Public Library Plan of Service 2004-2008*. The Plaza was funded by the Trustees of the Ipswich Public Library. Story times and other children's activities will take place on the Plaza. At other times the public is invited to enjoy the benches, bistro tables and chairs arranged on the Plaza. For information about children's summer activities at the Ipswich Public Library call 978 356-6648 or visit the library website at www.town.ipswich.ma.us/library and click on 'Children's Services.'

Want to live green? Go to the library.

As you concentrate on reducing your carbon footprint, take a walk to the library. Literally.

Using a public library is, ultimately, a responsible environmental choice because, when you think about it, the entire enterprise is all about recycling.

Here's an example: The library purchases a copy of a book you want to read, say, *Atonement* by Ian MacEwen. You could get into your car and drive to Borders or Barnes & Noble and purchase the book. That's about 20 miles round trip (when we last checked that would be an additional \$4 per gallon to add to the expense of the book itself in the form of gas money).

Or you could go online and order a copy from Amazon.com. An airplane or a truck would have to ferry the book to Boston. And then a UPS or FEDEX truck would have to bring it to your door. That's a lot of fossil fuel, not to mention shipping costs. So rather than buying the book before you see the movie, you decide to check it out from the library.

Let's say you even walk or bike to the library. Now you haven't driven to Borders, or even down the street for that matter. You have the book. And 78 patrons before you have checked it out and read it and 78 patrons after you may check it out and read it. It's free and it's shared use of a resource. If that's not recycling, what is?

If we don't have the book in, we can usually get it via inter-library loan within a week from another library in our consortium. This service involves hundreds of books literally carpooling to get to

different locations. Rather than having each patron drive to a library in a different town to get a book that is temporarily unavailable in their own public library, the 35 libraries of the Merrimack Valley Library Consortium arrange to have books picked up and delivered daily by a single driver. When your book arrives you are notified by email or phone. Pretty convenient.

And let's face it: the library is an economic refuge in times of fiscal uncertainty. Everything is free. Books, magazines, electronic databases, DVDs and videos.

You don't even have to buy a newspaper if you don't want to. You can hang out in the Rogers Room and read *The Ipswich Chronicle*, *The Wall Street Journal*, *The Boston Globe*, *The Boston Herald*, the *New York Times*, the *Salem Evening News* and more magazines than you can shake a stick at (should you have a mind to shake a stick). And this, too, is recycling, as many hands peruse the pages of each of these publications each day. One copy, many readers.

With no video store in town anymore, a trip to Blockbusters in Rowley can be inconvenient and a waste of gasoline, especially with the large numbers of videos and DVDs available for free in the Children's Room and the adult library.

So take a walk or ride your bike to the one place in town where every one of our products is constantly recycled and every item you bring home is free. There's no more environmentally sound business in town than the Ipswich Public Library.

— Betsy Johnson
Children's Room Assistant

Getting to know you...



With a Master's degree in Library Science from Simmons College in Boston and jobs in various academic settings, Reference & Young Adult Librarian Paula Grillo, was already an accomplished professional when she joined the staff in February 2001. Nowadays, her assignments are varied; she handles readers' services and interlibrary loans, as well as local history and genealogy.

As her colleague, I can confidently attest that Paula enjoys life beyond the walls of the Ipswich Public Library. Her passion for travel brought her to various places in Europe—England, France, Italy, Scotland, just to mention a few. She also delights in spending short vacations in Nova Scotia and Montreal. While vacationing, she especially likes to visit house museums with beautiful gardens.

During our recent conversation, I asked Paula if she could offer advice to women travelers. Here's what she said:

- Wear garments with soft fabric for comfort in overseas flights
- Travel light. Pack black slacks along with classic tops and a few accessories that go well with them
- Stay at a Bed & Breakfast. This type of accommodation gives an experience of being a 'local resi-

dent' while enjoying the camaraderie of fellow guests

- Have lunch as the main meal in a nice restaurant; then buy a sandwich plus little dessert to enjoy later in your room
- Bring something to make you feel at home—your favorite soap or photo, perhaps

For a person who loves taking trips to Europe and Canada, Paula surprisingly prefers Asian food. And of course, tea! It is something she can't go without. If ever you have a question concerning teas, tea services and accoutrements, she's the person to ask. Her other interests include learning about different cultures, especially 20th century Russian history. In July 2008 she is putting together a Browsing Room display on the Romanovs of Russia. In addition, she has studied languages such as Italian, Spanish and French. These skills give her an edge being the coordinator of the conversational English tutoring program at the library.

Growing up in Gloucester, she has fond memories not only of its fine beaches and art galleries but also as the city where her father was a mayor and her mother an English teacher. She often visits her family including her only sister, who after working on Wall Street for many years, now resides in Gloucester. Paula, however, is happy in Ipswich, her home for the past fifteen years.

—Genevieve Picard
Assistant Library Director

Partnership with Ipswich School District



The Library is very happy to announce that beginning this summer students

in Ipswich will have access to the Live Homework Help® online tutoring service from Tutor.com. Library Director Victor Dyer and Ipswich School District Superintendent Rick Korb have worked over the past several months on this cooperative venture. Through Live Homework Help® students in grades 4-12 connect to real tutors via the Internet for one-to-one help with math, science, social studies and English. This service is now available through 1800 libraries all over the country. Tutoring is given through controlled chat, interactive whiteboard and shared web browsing. When available this summer students will connect to the service through the library's website at www.town.ipswich.ma.us/library. Each student will be able to enter their grade level and select a

subject to connect with a live tutor in the online classroom to get homework help.

The Parents' Choice Foundation awarded Tutor.com its PCF Gold Award in spring 2008. "Our committees recognized Tutor.com with a Parents' Choice Gold Award, in part, for the commitment to providing students and parents with an effective and safe online tutoring service," says Claire S. Greene, President, Parents' Choice Foundation.

The Trustees of the Ipswich Public Library have agreed to pay half the subscription fee for access to Tutor.com through its trust funds. Watch for more information about Live Homework Help® in the *Ipswich Chronicle* and on the library's website. Live Homework Help® is a registered trademark of Tutor.com, Inc.

Library Popular with Downtown Visitors

The Town of Ipswich Planning & Development Department conducted a survey recently on how people use the downtown facilities. Over 900+ surveys were returned. In answer to the question: **Why do you visit downtown Ipswich?** over 44% of the respondents listed the **Ipswich Public Library!** Only the post office, banks and restaurants had higher visitation.



Lilac for Jane

The staff of the Ipswich Public Library has remembered longtime volunteer Jane Nove with the gift of lilac bush. Jane, who passed away this spring, volunteered for many years shelving fiction titles. She was a cheerful and much-loved presence in the library. The 'Beauty of Moscow' lilac is a pink/white French hybrid variety. It was planted near the mature 'Sensation' purple/white lilac bush which was donated by Jane in 1999 in memory of her grandson, Joshua.



Wild Reads...

June 2008

Saturday, June 7 **Children's Plaza Dedication**, 10 a.m.
Storytelling with J.T. Turner, music by Orville Giddings,
balloons, bubbles & more!

Monday, June 16 Last day of school!

Monday, June 23 **Sparky Puppet Show**, 10 am.

July 2008

Monday, July 7 **Wild Reads Summer Reading Program** begins.
Sign up in the Children's Room!

Radical Readers, 6:30-7:30 pm, get-acquainted session for old &
new RRs. All rising 4th & 5th graders welcome.

Wednesday, July 9 Bedtime Storytime featuring Ipswich HOPS,
6:30 p.m.

Thursday, July 10 Drop-in Craft, 8 years & up without
adult, 10:30 a.m.

Friday, July 11 **Babies & Books w/ Sharon Grimes**, 9:30 a.m.

Monday, July 14 Radical Readers, Series Fiction Session,
6:30-7:30 p.m. Pizza will be provided.

Wednesday, July 16 Bedtime Storytime featuring Cuvilly
Preschool, 6:30 p.m.

Thursday, July 17 Drop-in Craft, 8 years & up without adult,
10:30 a.m.

Wednesday, July 23 Bedtime Storytime featuring Winthrop
Kindergarten, 6:30 p.m.

Thursday, July 24 **The Turtle Lady**, live turtle
program, 10 a.m.

Friday, July 25 **Vehicle Day & Annual Picnic**, 10
a.m.

Monday, July 28 Sixth-Grade Book Club, 6:45-7:45 p.m.
Dessert will be provided.

Wednesday, July 30 Bedtime Storytime featuring Run-A-Muck
Preschool, 6:30 p.m.



August 2008

Monday, Aug. 4 Radical Readers, 6:30-7:30 pm, Fantasy/Science
Fiction session. Pizza provided.

Wednesday, Aug. 6 Bedtime Storytime featuring Doyon
Kindergarten, 6:30 p.m.

Thursday, Aug. 7 Drop-in Craft, 8 & up, 10:30 a.m.

Monday, Aug. 11 Radical Readers, 6:30-7:30 pm, Historical Fic-
tion session. Pizza will be provided.

Wednesday, Aug. 13 Bedtime Storytime featuring Small
World Preschool, 6:30 p.m.

Thursday, Aug. 14 Drop-in Craft, 8 & up without
adult, 10:30 a.m.

Monday, Aug. 18 **Mountain Mushers**,
live sled dog program, 10 a.m.



Harry Potter Game Night, 6:30-7:45 p.m. Play
the Library's original Harry Potter Game.
Please come if you have read at least one of
the Harry Potter books. New & old Radical Readers welcome. Des-
sert will be provided.

Wednesday, Aug. 20 Bedtime Storytime featuring Ascension
Nursery School, 6:30 p.m.

Thursday, Aug. 21 Drop-in Craft, 8 & up without
adult, 10:30 a.m.

Friday, Aug. 22 **End-of-summer Celebration** of Wild Reads Sum-
mer Reading Program, 10:30 am.

Monday, August 25 Sixth Grade Book Club Planning Session, 7-
7:45 p.m. Dessert will be provided.

Wednesday, Aug. 27 **Creature Teachers**, 10 a.m., live rainforest
animal presentation.

"Summer Sounds" Concert, 6:30 p.m., featuring young local musi-
cians.

