The Ipswich Public Library is pleased to introduce a completely new website at a new address: 
[ipswichlibrary.org](https://www.ipswichlibrary.org)
Planning for the new website has been ongoing for over a year. The most recent upgrade was introduced in 2001. Since then the needs and expectations of the library’s patrons have changed. Most of the graphics used throughout the new site were drawn from the Library’s extensive collection of vintage postcards. At the same time the new website integrates Web 2.0 features that the public has come to expect in a public library website. The vendor chosen for the website design was Extra Mile Design of Pepperell, Massachusetts.

The new homepage delivers easy, clickable links to all the online resources and services that the Ipswich Public Library has to offer. As one hovers on the series of navigation tools above the banner graphics, drop down menus become visible. These menus provide links to interior pages of the site. The horizontal navigation bar just below the banner graphic provides direct links to the catalog, our collection of databases, a calendar of events for the entire library, reservation information for museum passes, and, of course, links to the library’s Facebook and Flickr social media accounts. The placement of all major navigation tools on our homepage is consistent throughout the site.

Each interior page is identified by a unique color and distinctive graphics. For example, the Teens landing page features tabs based upon the Charles Shurcliff watercolor Crane Beach 2010 which hangs in the Teen Scene area of the library.

Some features of our new website include:
- Ability to search the entire website
- Change font size
- Locate materials using the Library Floor Plan
- Purchase Suggestion Form

Library Director Victor Dyer said: “We are excited to launch this new website at the new address that is easy to remember: 
[ipswichlibrary.org](https://www.ipswichlibrary.org)
Thanks to the town MIS Director, Greg Parachojuk, for securing the new Web address for the library. The collaborative approach between our Web designer and Assistant Library Director Genevieve Picard produced an attractive, fully functional and easy to navigate website. The new design is both aesthetically pleasing and delightfully informative. We are certain that visiting our new website will be a productive and enjoyable experience for our patrons.”
Exciting New Email Newsletter Service Brings the Library to You

In April 2011 the Ipswich Public Library introduced a new book recommendation service called NextReads® Email Newsletters. No library card is necessary – just an email address to subscribe to any of the 25 different newsletters, with topics ranging from Biography and Memoir to Fantasy to New York Times Best-sellers. Each newsletter is sent on a regular basis along with brief description of about 12 titles related to the selected topic.

Subscribers can link directly to the library catalog from any title listed to check its availability. NextReads® is a product of EBSCO Publishing in Ipswich.

According to Library Director Victor Dyer: “We see the introduction of the NextReads Email Newsletters service as being an important part of our outreach to the community. Ipswich Public Library will be able to serve better its many library patrons who are less able to visit our facilities in person to browse the shelves and book displays to find something new to read. These newsletters will be our opportunity to bring the library to them – whether they are at work, school, home or on the road, like a “virtual” branch of the library, open 24 hours a day, available 365 days a year.”

To sign up for this new service go to www.ipswichlibrary.org and click on the “Readers” tab at the top of the home page, select “Next Reads,” then scroll to the bottom of the page to select newsletters and subscribe. Please call Reference/Adult Services Librarian Paula Grillo at 978-356-6648 with any questions.

Augustine Heard Helps His Neighbors During the Civil War

Most people who are familiar with Augustine Heard know about his astonishing success as a merchant in the China Trade, and his gift of a public library to the Town of Ipswich.

As we mark the 150th anniversary of the Civil War, let’s also remember Augustine Heard’s support of the troops and his kindness to those left behind. Not only did he make by far the largest contribution ($500) to the war effort in April 1861, when President Lincoln called for troops and financial support for the war, Heard and his nephews established a town fund known as the Heard Fund.

As the Ipswich historian Thomas Franklin Waters explains, “In the dark days of the Civil War, the three brothers [Augustine’s nephews], then in China, John Albert and George, sent their uncle £1000 for the relief of Ipswich soldiers and their families. The exchange value was $7600 and Mr. Heard enlarged the gift to $10,000 and conveyed it to trustees, appointed by the Town to receive and administer it. With the accumulation of interest, nearly $13,000 was disbursed.”

At the June 15, 1863 Town Meeting, citizens passed a Resolution acknowledging that “Mr. Augustine Heard of this town, in conjunction with his nephews, Mr. John Heard, Mr. Augustine Heard Jr., Mr. Albert F. Heard and Mr. George F. Heard, have placed in the hands of trustees ten thousand dollars to be applied for the relief of such persons belonging to this town as may suffer from sickness or wounds incurred in the service of their country in the present Civil war, and for the relief of such persons as may be deprived of support by the loss of relatives engaged in the like service.”

This was Augustine Heard’s public gift, and we will never know how many people he helped privately. Mr. Waters writes, “Mr. Heard was always a generous giver, but for the most part he gave quietly and secretly. Now and then, however, his private papers mention his benefactions … The grateful letters from many recipients of his bounty attest the existence of a multitude whose names were known only to the giver, who were indebted to him in times of need.”

The eulogies to Augustine Heard go on and on. To quote just one from his friend E. H. Faucon: “He knew the true calling of a merchant as one placed here by God to acquire in order that he may diffuse. He never made the fatal mistake of making money as an end. He was one of God’s true secret almoners. Of the many, numberless, kind ways in which he comforted and made others happy, we shall never know. It is unnecessary. But long must be that record kept by the Recording Angel.”

By Bonnie Hurd Smith

Sources: Thomas Franklin Waters: Augustine Heard and His Friends, and Ipswich in the Mass. Bay Colony, Vol. II.

Plants and Flowers from Friends of the Ipswich Library

Seasonal plantings around the library grounds and floral displays in the building are provided by the Louise Johnson Flower Fund which is managed by the Friends of the Ipswich Public Library.

To join, contact Friends’ President, Dorothy Johnson, at 978.356.4440. You may also visit the library website at www.ipswichlibrary.org On the homepage, click SUPPORT, then choose Join Friends from the dropdown menu.
The Art Exhibit Committee proudly presented the 3rd Ipswich Springs Alive With Art — the Library’s annual art exhibit & sale. This juried art exhibit featured a total of 44 original works of 29 Ipswich artists which were on display in the Collins Room, May 13, 14 & 15. The selected artworks included paintings, photography, marquetry, and other decorative arts.

The Ipswich Springs Alive With Art is sponsored annually by the Library Art Exhibit Committee to achieve the following goals:

- To encourage and promote artistic creativity among the residents of the town of Ipswich, Massachusetts.
- 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.

Proceeds from the event provide vital support to maintain and enhance the art collection of our town library.

In a technology move designed to improve services to library users, the Ipswich Public Library, along with 34 member libraries of the Merrimack Valley Library Consortium (MVLC), is pleased to announce that the changeover to Evergreen® was completed on Tuesday, May 31st. This move changed the look of our online catalog with a more user-friendly interface.

Library patrons will now enjoy new features with the Evergreen system, such as a version of the catalog usable on mobile devices, more flexibility in creating user names and passwords for using the online catalog, the ability to update street address, e-mail address, and PIN, as well as expanded bookbag features. Patrons will also have more flexibility and control over their catalog searches with the new system.

The Merrimack Valley Library Consortium will be the first large library system in Massachusetts to move to Evergreen. The changeover is part of a larger project that will see MVLC, along with two other Massachusetts’ library consortia, NOBLE and C/W MARS, migrating to Evergreen by early 2012. These three library networks include approximately half of the public libraries in the Commonwealth along with a number of academic libraries.

For more information, please contact Victor Dyer, Library Director at 978 356-6649 or vdyer@mvlc.org.

GOING “GREEN” — THAT IS

Exhibitors of the 2011 Ipswich Springs Alive with ART

Susan Bamford | Paul Brass
Deborah Cassady | Brian Cody
Ann Fessenden | Martha Frost
Eva Hoffmann | Lynne Holton
Susan Ingram | Nina Lapierre
Linda Laterowicz | Mary Lipman | Andrea Maglio-Macullar
James Maloney | Marie Mancinelli | Paul Manzi
Bob May | Don McDonald
Dorothy Kerper-Monnelly | Kathleen Moore
Mary Pacheco | Maureen Pelletier | David Peterson
Julia Purinton | Erika Sonders | David Stone
James Teele

Library Membership Pass

A new addition to our collection of Passes, Boston by Foot, is available for booking through our website at www.ipswichlibrary.org from May 1 through October 31. The pass admits one group of up to four people to enjoy a BBF tour. Have your library card on hand when placing reservations. For latest information concerning special events, walking tours, and other relevant information visit www.bostonbyfoot.org. Library Membership Pass is funded by the Friends of the Ipswich Public Library, Inc.
The Children’s Room runs summer reading programs from June through August. *One World, Many Stories* is this year’s theme—emphasizing the interconnectedness of our world. Children in pre-school through 6th grade are encouraged to participate in the many programs we offer this summer.

Here are the highlights:

- Rising first-graders through fifth will be issued a passport so they can travel to each of the seven continents. They must find stories or books that relate in some way to each continent before having their passport stamped.

- Younger children will travel the world via fairy tales from different lands, books and stories about animals from all over the world, and story time programs about far-away places.

- Prizes will be awarded to children who consistently engage in the summer reading program.

Registration begins the week of July 5th. Please make a note of it.

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**SPECIAL SUMMER PROGRAMS**

**JULY**

- **Tuesday, 5th** 10 a.m.  
  *An American Salute!* Interactive musical program for ages 6-9 with Therese Armstrong

- **Wednesday, 6th** 6 p.m.  
  Storytime and craft for ages 3-6

- **Thursday, 7th** 9:30-11:30 a.m.  
  Drop-in Craft for ages 8 & up (younger with caregiver)

- **Monday, 11th** 6:30 p.m.  
  Family Bingo Night

- **Tuesday, 12th** 6:30-7:30 p.m.  
  Rising 7th Grade Book Club

- **Wednesday, 13th** 1:30 p.m. Town Hall  
  *Green Golly & Her Golden Flute,* a special musical program for ages 4 & up

- **Tuesday, 19th** 6:30-7:30 p.m.  
  Radical Readers, rising 4th & 5th graders

- **Friday, 22nd** 2 p.m.  
  Friday at the Movies: *Gnomeo & Juliet*

- **Monday, 25th** 6:30 p.m.  
  Family Bingo Night

- **Friday, 29th** 10 a.m.-12 Noon  
  Vehicle Day; Hotdog Cookout with Trustees and Friends of the Library

*Pick up a brochure for complete listing of the Children's Room summer reading activities. You may call the staff at 978.412.8713 for details. Visit us also on the Web.*