



Connections

August/September 2011



Library Wins National Award!

The Urban Libraries Council (ULC), a membership organization made up of America's premier public library systems and the corporations that support them, recently announced its 2011 Top Innovators at its Annual Conference, June 24-25, in New Orleans. From over 200 applications, a panel of expert judges chose eleven outstanding library programs. "These innovations reflect the real work that occurs in libraries every day-- work that goes well beyond the traditional role of libraries as book lenders," said ULC President and CEO Susan Benton. "The submissions we received this year were all worthy of recognition. These programs emphasize the foundations of 21st century library success and demonstrate how innovative programming can transform communities."

ULC launched its first Innovations Initiative last year to capture and showcase creative programs that have achieved significant results and can be implemented in other libraries. Categories for this year's winning innovations are civic engagement—Calgary Public Library; collections—Johnson County Library, KS; economic and workforce development—Houston Public Library, TX; education—Chicago Public Library, IL; health, wellness, and safety—Pima County Public Library, AZ; literacy—Pierce County Library, WA; organizational change—Edmonton Public Library; operations—San Francisco Public Library, CA; positioning the library—**Springfield City Library, MA** (*details below); sustainability—Greensboro Public Library, FL; user experience—Orange County Library, FL.

***Positioning the Library:** Springfield City Library's *A Brighter Future for Springfield Today* is a long-range planning process which addressed how to reverse the city's downward economic spiral – rather than library needs – leading to a new city-wide focus on building Springfield's "brighter future" and a new library stature as a core public service.

Members of the ULC are leaders committed to the development of strong libraries able to meet changing community needs. As the ULC celebrates its 40th anniversary, members remain intent on helping library leaders develop and use skills and strategies that match the challenges of the 21st century.

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FIRE?!

◇ PINE POINT BRANCH HISTORY ◇

I'm working on a history of the Pine Point Branch Library and need your help... Do you have memories of the April 1970 fire that destroyed the building? If so please call Janet at (413) 263-6828, x422, or email jstupak@springfieldlibrary.org

Thanks!

Beginning September 11, the Central Library will be open Sundays from 12-4 p.m.

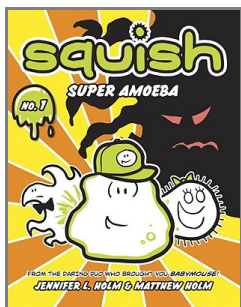
ADULT SUMMER READING CLUB ENDS ON A SWEET NOTE

It's a well-known fact that children are not the only ones who love to read during the summer. Grown-ups are very excited about reading, telling others what they think of the books they've read, and having the chance to win prizes for their effort. This summer Springfield City Library has continued its tradition of offering an Adult Summer Reading Club. For each book read and reviewed, participants are entered into a raffle with a chance to win prizes donated by the Friends of the Springfield Library and local merchants. Among the

prizes are restaurant gift certificates, health club memberships, store merchandise credits and gift baskets. The raffle drawing for the 2011 Grand Prize, a Sony eReader, will take place at the Reading Club's finale event, a **Chocolates Around the World Tasting Party** happening on Wednesday, August 17 at 6 p.m. in the Central Library Community Room. Invitations to this delicious event, which is especially for reading club members, are in the mail! If you have any questions please contact Linda Grodofsky at (413) 263-6840 or

(413) 263-6849, or email lgrodofsky@springfieldlibrary.org

Library staff who've joined the Summer Reading Club are also eligible to win prizes, with a Barnes and Noble Bookstore gift certificate as their special reward.



NEW! Graphic Novel Club for Kids

Children in grades 1-5 are invited to the **Central Library Children's Room** to join in the fun with our new Graphic Novel Club! Kids will have the opportunity to try their hand at drawing superheroes and comic strips, participate in themed scavenger hunts, work on crafts, and enjoy snacks. Come see all the great graphic novels that the library has to offer! The Graphic Novel Club will meet from 11 a.m.-12 p.m. on Saturdays - September 17, October 8, October 29, November 19. Check it out!



September Author Fair

The Springfield Central Library will host its 3rd Author Fair on Saturday, September 17 from 10 a.m.-4 p.m. in the Rotunda. Area authors with recently published pieces will display their work, meet the public to discuss their writing, and sell and sign copies of their books. This all day Author Fair spotlights the literary skill, talent, and inspiration of area residents while helping readers discover a wide range of literature that they may not find otherwise.

Some of the featured authors include Maria Luisa Arroyo (*poet*, Springfield), Eric Bascom (*biographer*, Springfield), Gineen Cooper (*editor and poet*, Springfield), Wayne Dusza (*novelist*, Longmeadow), Carolyn Gibbs (*teen novelist*, Wilbraham), John Hess (*local historian*, East Longmeadow), Blanche Jackson-Hill (*non-fiction writer*, Wilbraham), Kaolin (*non-fiction writer*, Northampton), Judith Kappenman (*biographer*, Chicopee), Joan Morris Reilly (*local interest author*, Springfield), Lori Szepelak (*spiritual author*, Westhampton), Price Van Ray (*poet and children's author*, South Hadley), Jacqueline Williams-Hines (*children's book author focusing on autism*, Springfield) and others. There is room at the Fair for a few more local authors--please contact librarian Matthew Jaquith at (413) 263-6828, ext. 221 for details. Come to the Central Library and join us at the Fair!

BOOK REVIEW: *Zoom: The Global Race to Fuel the Car of the Future*

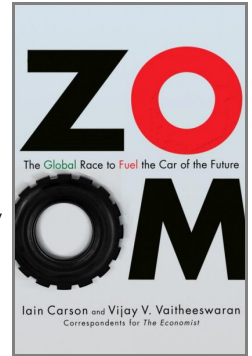
If you are looking for a thought-provoking book to read about the fragile state of the environment check out *Zoom: The Global Race to Fuel the Car of the Future*. *Zoom* is a very good book about the two-headed monster of the automobile and oil industries that have dragged their feet in solving a serious global pollution problem. The book also tries to track technological advances that can wean us from our gluttonous consumption of gasoline in the effort to significantly reduce automobiles' contribution to global warming.

Zoom is not all cutting-edge science on how to produce a fuel-efficient, low-polluting car. The book provides many interesting historical facts that chronicle the growth in popularity of the internal combustion engine. The authors Iain Carson, the industry editor for *Economist* magazine, and Vijay Vaitheeswaran, a MIT-trained engineer, describe a real mess (in more ways than one) in many cities at the turn of the last century, where animals were the main means of transportation. The book states, "New York's prime source of transportation, horse-drawn vehicles, was dumping 2.5 million pounds of manure and 60,000 gallons of urine daily on the streets. I'd hate to be a pedestrian in those days. About 15,000 dead horses had to be dragged off the streets each year." The authors claim that at the beginning of the last cen-

tury, "a third of all cars were powered by steam, one-third by electric, and one-third by gasoline." Thomas Edison built the first rechargeable electric car in 1889. Automobile industrialist Henry Ford gave his wife an electric car for a wedding present in 1908 because at first he didn't see any future in gasoline-powered cars. Gasoline cars had to be started by hand, which was very dangerous. Once a few problems were solved, Ford's Model T, with its internal combustion engine, became the automobile of choice worldwide. The crafty industrialist Ford even tweaked his Model Ts to be flex-cars that ran on gasoline or ethanol so that they could be sold in farm states. The authors make the sobering claim that Model Ts got 25 miles per gallon. It's an eye-opening, disturbing statistic that is identical to the fleet average of American automobiles today!

Zoom does give many signs of progress in the quest to put the internal combustion engine into museums alongside the steam engine. The book describes a new electric car on the west coast called the Tesla that gets an amazing 125 miles per gallon. The authors also applaud Toyota's trailblazing achievement of creating the car with the highest miles per gallon now in mass production, the Prius. The Prius started out as a research and development challenge in 1995 by Toyota to double the miles per gallon of its most fuel-

efficient car at the time, the Corolla. The Prius became the first electric/internal combustion hybrid car.



The authors claim that the 50-mile-per-gallon-capable Prius is just a small stepping-stone in Toyota's effort to produce the best mass-produced zero-emission hydrogen fuel-cell car. The authors write that Microsoft founder Bill Gates' home computers were the biggest revolution in world technology in the last quarter century. They state that the next Bill Gates will be the person to produce the next technological leap in providing clean-burning/non-fossil fuel cars for the masses. That person has a greater chance of being from a company in Japan, Europe, or China, and not Detroit, unless the United States catches up by ending its fatal attraction to the internal combustion engine and the dwindling, costly global oil supply.

Despite some success stories, the authors believe that "if we are to set our energy system on the right course before real crisis hits in a decade or two, we need to start that transition now." This book is a great introduction to what needs to be done.

Review by Reggie Wilson

Overheard at the Library

In June the **Mason Square** Branch Library welcomed several groups from Rebecca Johnson School. Many brought completed forms to

get library cards. They were treated to stories and a tour of the Library. One little girl was heard saying "I can't wait to bring my mom here!"

- August 30 -
Birthday of Mason Square
benefactor
Annie Curran

Behind the Scenes at the Library: Technical Services and You

By Gayle Ball

The Library's Technical Services Department is responsible for ordering, receiving, cataloging, and processing materials for every branch of the Springfield City Library system. The process affects how and when patrons have access to new materials.

When staff in the Acquisitions Division order new materials from vendors, order records are created in the C/W MARS online catalog which allow patrons and staff to know those titles are "on order" and for which locations. In fact, orders are often submitted to vendors a few months before the actual publication date (or "street date") in hopes of obtaining copies prior to the official publication. This allows the staff in Technical Services time to receive, catalog, and process the materials so they can

be made available for circulation by the street date. As a means of getting the materials shipped in advance, often libraries must sign a contract with a vendor agreeing not to release these titles to patrons before the street date.

Once materials are received by Acquisitions, the system will automatically change the "on order" status to "being processed" and the materials are then passed along to the Cataloging Division staff. During the cataloging process, item records are attached to the record in the online catalog with an "in process" status. The items are then sent to the Processing Division for final preparation to make the materials ready for circulation. Titles with a future street date are held in Processing until that date.

As soon as a record appears in

the online catalog, patrons may begin placing holds on that title, but they should be aware that the materials may not be available to circulate immediately due to the advance ordering. Patrons should also be aware of the fact that the current C/W MARS catalog software has a quirk that will not allow online patron requests on titles that have items attached to the record but none of the copies are considered "holdable." This means that once items are cataloged onto a record, if all copies have "in process" or another non-holdable status, the system will block patrons from placing online requests until copies become "available" on the street date. During this time frame, patrons may still request these items by contacting their branch library for staff to handle.

Foundation Center Database Workshop

On Thursday, September 8 from 1-2:30 p.m., Collection Supervisor Donna Goldthwaite will lead a workshop at the Central Library covering the Foundation Center Database, a powerful tool for the nonprofit community. The database provides access to 90,000+ U.S. foundations, grantmaking public charities, and corporate givers, with links to over 7,000 grant maker and corporate websites and IRS 990-PF and 990 returns.

The workshop will review tips and tricks for searching and how to best

use the Databases interface. An introduction to the Foundation Center's website, another powerful resource for grantmakers, will also be provided. Reserved seating is limited to representatives of area nonprofit and grassroots organizations.

To register call Donna at (413) 263-6828, x437, or send an email to dgoldthwaite@springfieldlibrary.org

The Springfield City Library is a Cooperating Collection of the Foundation Center, which is housed at the Central Library, 220 State Street, Springfield. As a member of this nationwide network of libraries, community foundations, and other nonprofit agencies, the

Library provides visitors with free public access to grantmaker directories, books on fundraising and nonprofit management, and Foundation Center's electronic databases: the Foundation Directory Online and Foundation Grants to Individuals Online.

The fully searchable database includes detailed profiles of all active U.S. foundations, plus an extensive file of recent grants awarded by the nation's top funders. Nonprofit and grassroots organizations and other patrons are welcome to use the print collection and databases housed in the Central Library's Wellman Hall. Librarians are available for assistance and we offer wireless access. No preliminary training is required.

Wonderful Artwork Celebrating Summer Reading Club!



Krystian Gilham's groovy giraffe!



Banner at Forest Park created by Delphine.

Kathy and her colorful creation!



Duyen Hua with her whimsical creations!



Banner at East Forest Park by Maureen Tipton.



Volunteers *Kathy Weiner* and *Krystian Gilham*, plus teen volunteer *Duyen Hua*, a student at MacDuffie School, helped staff member Delphine paint the windows at the East Forest Park Branch Library. After the first scheduled day to work on this project was postponed due to the tornado, Kathy and Duyen rose to the challenge of helping Del get the job done! (This is the third year Del has designed a window based on the summer reading theme.) The artwork helps publicize the program, draws people in, and brightens our windows! Many thanks to everyone involved!

LINE UP FOR CHIBICONN VII

By Sarah Hodge-Wetherbe



All you anime fans out there know what the end of summer feels like. All the local cons are over, the big ones we look forward to: Anime Expo, Anime Boston, and Otakon are just memories. It's a big let down. What's a fan to do?

No fear! Chibiconn is here to help ease those post-convention blues. Started in 2004 by library associate Sarah Hodge-Wetherbe, Chibiconn has become the library's most well known anime event.

Sarah's a veteran of the local convention circuit, working for such conventions as Anime Boston and Connecticut on their guest relations

teams (and sometimes as head of the department). She also ran the panels division of the Providence Anime Conference in 2009, so she has seen the ups and down of conventions. But it bothered her that there was no convention nearby for Springfield fans who might not be able to attend the larger cons. So, Chibiconn was born to help make sure the fans of Springfield had a convention to call their own, and 8 years later it's still going strong.

Chibiconn will be held September 10-11, 2011. Our Anime Film Festival will be Saturday, September 10 from 9:30 am-4:30 pm, showcasing

some new titles as well as old favorites. Romance, comedy, horror, action- you'll find something for everyone!

On Sunday September 11 from 12:30-3:30 pm, we'll hold our yearly contests: Anime Art, Cosplay, and an anime trivia contest, all with prizes for our lucky winners.

All events will be held at the Central Library, 220 State Street., and best of all, as it's always been, the event is free and open to the public! Since space is limited we suggest pre-registration through the library's website at www.springfieldlibrary.org, or call (413) 263-6828, x201.



Library Databases Beat Google!

I have a computer and internet access at home, so why should I bother using the library's resources when I can just "google" to find what I need? Anyone who's done an internet search can tell you that it comes up with millions of results--and unfortunately, *too* much information can be a big problem. Then, after you've spent time finding a site that may have the information you want, how do you know the facts on the page are correct? The information found on many websites can easily be published without any verification by experts in that field. Instead of searching through an ocean of information online without a compass, what if it were possible to get just the stream of facts you're

searching for? What if there was one place to get job advertisements, *Springfield Republican* articles, *Consumer Reports* product ratings, and car repair diagrams, as well as podcasts, images, and even videos? The Springfield City Library provides access to dozens of electronic databases, which open the door to a mind-boggling number of reliable sites not available through Google or other search engines. Library databases are updated regularly with information that has been published in books, magazine and newspaper articles, and encyclopedias.

Despite the wide variety of information available, the library's databases also come with tools to help you narrow your search and

find what you're looking for. Database searches can be narrowed according to key words, publication (such as *Newsweek*), and even limited to only show documents with full text available. Most databases will also create bibliographic citation details for students who are doing research (despite the summer heat, fall will soon be here!). Our "digital branch library," at www.springfieldlibrary.org, is open 24/7 for patrons with computer access at home or work. Just click on "Resources" and select "Databases" from the drop-down menu to get started. However, we also encourage you to come to any of our library branches and have a librarian help you find a database that will fit your needs.

For the most up-to-date listing of library programs and activities check our events calendar at www.springfieldlibrary.org

AUGUST

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
31	<p>1 10:30 AM Wee Ones Storytime, Indian Orchard</p> <p>1:00 PM Resume Writing, pt. 1 Computer Lab Central Library</p>	<p>2 10:00 AM Hi!Tech: Computer Basics Computer Lab Central Library</p> <p>10:30 AM Preschool Storytime at the Central Library</p>	<p>3 10:00 AM Preschool Storytime at Mason Square</p> <p>12:00 PM East Springfield Book Group</p> <p>1:00 PM Resume Writing, pt. 2 Central Library Computer Lab</p> <p>5:30 PM Library Commissioners Meeting Central Library</p>	<p>4 10:30 AM Toddler Storytime in the Children's Room Central Library</p> <p>2:00 PM <i>Magic from Around the World</i> at Sixteen Acres</p> <p>6:00 PM Zumba at Brightwood</p>	<p>5 Central Library Closed on Fridays</p>	<p>6 11:15 AM Doggy Storytime at Forest Park</p> <p>1:00 PM Poetry Writing Workshop for Adults Central Library</p> <p>1:15 PM Families READ in the Central Library Children's Room</p>
7	<p>8 10:30 AM Wee Ones Storytime at Indian Orchard</p>	<p>9 10:30 AM Preschool Storytime at the Central Library</p> <p>12:00 PM Noon Hour Book Discussion Group Central Library</p>	<p>10 10:00 AM Preschool Storytime at Mason Square</p> <p>10:00 AM Wednesday Book Group Central Library</p>	<p>11 9:00 AM <i>LittleFest</i> Central Library</p> <p>10:30 AM Toddler Storytime in the Central Library Children's Room</p> <p>1:30 PM <i>Mason Square Summer Reading Club Party</i></p>	<p>12 Central Library Closed on Fridays</p>	<p>13 10:00 AM Health/Medical Help Online: Focus on Vitamins and Supplements Central Library Computer Lab</p>
14	<p>15 10:30 AM Wee Ones Storytime at Indian Orchard</p>	<p>16 10:00 AM Hi!Tech: Advanced Web Central Library</p> <p>10:30 AM Pre-school Storytime at the Central Library</p>	<p>17 10:00 AM Preschool Storytime at Mason Square</p>	<p>18 10:30 AM Toddler Storytime in the Central Library Children's Room</p>	<p>19 Central Library Closed on Fridays</p>	<p>20 1:30 PM Saturday Storytime in the Central Library Children's Room</p>
21	<p>22 10:30 AM Wee Ones Storytime at Indian Orchard</p>	<p>23</p>	<p>24 10:00 AM Wednesday Book Group Central Library</p>	<p>25</p>	<p>26 Central Library Closed on Fridays</p>	<p>27</p>
28	<p>29 10:30 AM Wee Ones Storytime at Indian Orchard</p>	<p>30</p>	<p>31 6:00 PM East Forest Park Wednesday Book Discussion Group</p>	1	2	3

Springfield City Library Connections

220 State Street
Springfield, MA 01103

Molly Fogarty, Library Director

Suggestions or comments?

Please contact Janet Stupak, Community Relations
Coordinator at (413) 263-6828, ext. 422 or
jstupak@springfieldlibrary.org

To join our mailing list email
jstupak@springfieldlibrary.org with Connections
in the subject line.

www.springfieldlibrary.org



For over 150 years, the Springfield City Library (www.springfieldlibrary.org) has provided public library service to area residents. Starting with a single central library in 1857, the Springfield City Library today maintains ten neighborhood branches. Using state-of-the-art technology, the Library provides free and easy access to information and the opportunity for lifelong learning through a variety of programs and services, including internet access at each location.

Springfield City Library – A Brighter Future for Springfield Today.

Our libraries have a comfortable place for you to read and relax.
Which branch is pictured here?



LIBRARY LOCATIONS AND HOURS

Branch	Address	Phone	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat	Sun
Central	220 State St. Children's Room 263-6828, ext. 201	(413) 263-6828	12-8	9-5	12-8	9-5	Closed	9-5	12-4 Starting 9/11
Brightwood	359 Plainfield St.	(413) 263-6805		10-5		1-8		9-1	
East Forest Park	122 Island Pond Rd.	(413) 263-6836	1-5		1-8		10-5		
East Springfield	21 Osborne Terr.	(413) 263-6840	1-5		1-8		10-5		
Forest Park	380 Belmont Ave.	(413) 263-6843		10-5		1-8		11-3	
Indian Orchard	44 Oak St.	(413) 263-6846	10-5		1-8			11-3	
Liberty	773 Liberty St.	(413) 263-6849		1-8		10-5		11-3	
Mason Square	765 State St.	(413) 263-6853			10-5	12-7	1-5		
Pine Point	204 Boston Rd.	(413) 263-6855	1-5		1-8		10-5		
Sixteen Acres	1187 Parker St.	(413) 263-6858		1-8		10-5		11-3	

* Central Library is closed Sundays from June 1-Labor Day.

Read/Write/Now is located at the Pine Point Branch, 204 Boston Road. Please call (413) 263-6839 for hours.