



Connections

June 2011



Krysta Turns the Page

After about four decades with Springfield City Library, Krysta Fyntrilakis will help patrons at the Central Library circulation desk for the last time on Thursday, June 30. What will we do without her? Krysta has seen so many changes over the past 38 years. When she started out as a clerk at the Forest Park Branch Library (June 6, 1973) we were circulating vinyl record albums, using card catalogs, and hand stamping lined cards with due dates for placement in checked out books. Krysta has worked in nine of our library branches, begging the trivia question of “which one has she missed?” She spent the most years living and working in East Springfield (1977-1998) where she helped found the East Springfield Neighborhood Council, and served as its first President. Krysta has been Supervisor of the Central Library Borrowers’ Services Department for the past 13 years, touching millions of books and thousands of lives.

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Mason Square Branch Library Reopens

During National Library Week, April 13-15, the newly renovated Mason Square Branch Library celebrated its grand reopening in exciting fashion. Mayor Domenic J. Sarno and Library Foundation President Charles V. Ryan led the official ribbon cutting ceremony on Wednesday, April 13. Each of the three days began with a formal flag raising ceremony, and was followed by special activities including tours and library resource demonstrations, scavenger hunts, book raffles for teens and adults, performances from local school groups, crafts, a book talk, teen writing programs and a 50's themed party.



April's ribbon cutting ceremony with Mayor Domenic J. Sarno, Library Foundation President Charles V. Ryan, City Councilors E. Henry Twiggs, Clodo Concepción, Kateri Walsh and many others.

Mason Square Branch Library is open Wednesdays, 10-5 pm, Thursdays, 12-7 pm, and Fridays from 1-5 pm.

♥ YEARBOOK MEMORIES ♥

The Central Library has many Springfield high school yearbooks, nevertheless we have a few gaps in our collection. Please consider donating a clean copy to the Library! For more information call Janet at (413) 263-6828, ext. 422.

One World, Many Stories SUMMER READING CLUB begins June 20!

SUMMER READING CLUB IS THE SIMPLE ANSWER

Did you know that if kids don't read over the summer, they fall behind? Kids of all ages need to read for at least 20 minutes a day to keep their reading skills sharp. This summer at the Springfield City Library, we're encouraging children to do just that, and offering them the chance to earn books as rewards. It's simple! Just read for 20 minutes a day (or more!) for 7 days, bring in your tracking sheet, and you'll get a free

book. You can do this as many times as you like throughout the summer. All libraries will also have activities available for children to do over the summer, such as scavenger hunts, storytimes, arts and crafts, and an end-of-summer roller skating party.

We'll also be running a Summer Reading Club program for teens, who will have a chance to earn books by reading. Consider posting a book review on our teen

Facebook page. Stop by any Springfield library to pick up your tracking form. All libraries will also have activities for teens throughout the summer – art projects, trivia, and more!

It's easy to start participating in the Summer Reading Club. Stop by any Springfield City Library starting June 21st to pick up Summer Reading Club materials, or give us a call if you have any questions. (413) 263-6828, ext. 201.



Library Offers Help for Job Seekers

The Springfield City Library is abuzz with new purchases, displays, and adult programs designed specifically for job seekers. New books and DVD's on test preparation, career guidance, interview skills, resume writing and more are featured throughout the Library's ten-branch system and are catching the eye of our users. Fully annotated booklists describing these resources add support and depth to the displays and are helping people on the library's recently created jobseeker webpage (www.springfieldlibrary.org/jobseekers.html) as well.

In May the Forest Park Branch Library hosted the Career Spotlight, a series of roundtable discussions on different fields of work and in June the Central Library will run a three-part series on starting a small business or franchise. Later this summer Central will host a series of computer classes for resume writing; making sense of online applications; finding online job advertisements, and other topics. Please ask a librarian for more details, (413) 263-6828, ext. 213.

Despite the troubled economy, help is available at the Library, and the Springfield City Library is proud to support its users in finding work. Come check it out! These services are federally funded with LSTA funds administered through the Massachusetts Board of Library Commissioners.



Friend us on Facebook to keep up with our events!

Library staff provide excellent customer service...

In mid April a patron struggling with taxes and in need of help approached a staff member at the Rice Hall Reference Desk. I offered him the usual service any of our reference librarians would have offered, but as the patron was homeless and without a telephone (though he did have some earned income this past calendar year) he was not

able to follow-up with calling the agencies he needed to call. Since the tax deadline was approaching, I offered to make the telephone calls for him and did so. As I gathered the information he needed, he teared up and started to cry saying that "no one had helped him that way before" and he was, quite literally, moved to tears.

BOOK REVIEW: *Bossypants*, by Tina Fey

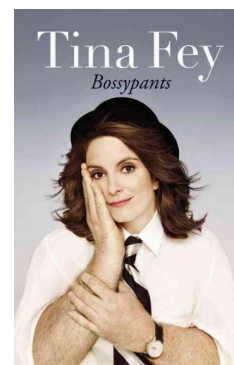
Tina Fey is a celebrity Everywoman. Even though her life includes photo shoots and awards shows and popular television programs, she still manages to seem "normal." She's not tall, or freakishly skinny, she has a scar on her face, and she's funny. That's why Fey's memoir *Bossypants* was hotly anticipated as the book that would allow us to learn more about her life.

Bossypants chronicles Fey's

childhood in suburban Philadelphia, her Chicago's Second City, and her years with *SNL* and *30 Rock* through a series of loosely connected stories. While her narrative is unabashedly written from a female perspective--from her first period to her first trip to Planned Parenthood for a Pap smear to the question of whether she should have a second child--it is also presented in the wry, self-deprecating way that one would expect from her. Fey is

keenly aware of her position as a woman in a male-dominated industry, and *Bossypants* works best when she uses her story to dissect its double-standards and stereotypes. This is not a good book in which to find "dirt" on other celebrities, but it is an excellent glimpse into the life of a smart, hilarious, and driven woman who is balancing a career and personal life, just like the rest of us.

Review by Anna Mickelson



Hotly-anticipated memoir from the star of *30 Rock*

Upcoming Poetry Workshops

Are you interested in learning more about poetry? A new series of workshops, with María Luisa Arroyo, begins in the Central Library Rotunda with a reading of original and/or favorite poems from 1-3 p.m. on Saturday, May 21, appropriate for all ages. Following this will be four workshops, again from 1-3 p.m., starting with the June 4 class dealing with ekphrastic poetry, which is writing poetry in response to paintings. Featured painters are Caren McKenzie, Awilda Oxios, Mirtha Quiroz, and Narelle Thomas. The June 11 workshop focuses on publishing your poetry and it is appropriate for ages 15 and older. Writers over age 18 can practice their techniques with María, a published poet, on Saturday, July 2 and Saturday, August 6 in the Central Library Community Room, 220 State Street. Pre-registration is encouraged for all events. To sign up or for more information please call Matthew at (413) 263-6828, ext. 221, or sign up online at www.springfieldlibrary.org.

Ms. Arroyo is a Puerto Rican poet and educator, and the author of *Gathering Words: Recogiendo Palabras* (2008). A teaching artist, María has facilitated numerous poetry workshops regionally and has performed in various parts of this country including Puerto Rico.



Local author /poet, María Luisa Arroyo

Overheard at the Library

Laura heard from one elderly patron who was sitting nearby while she was reading to some first graders from DeBerry School...

"I'm so glad I was here to listen to you read. You read with such excitement and enthusiasm! This is much better than sitting in front of a TV. I loved it!"



The Memorial Square Inter-generational Community Garden, coordinated by the North End Campus Coalition, on May 16, 2011.

Save the date for a Tour of Community Gardens!

Think summer – think of bountiful baskets of tomatoes, peppers, beans and summer squash, freshly picked from your nearby garden. After our long dreary winter, it's nice to imagine all the locally grown healthy food which will be available over the course of the summer and fall.

Springfield gardeners of all ages and backgrounds are anxious to show off the results of their loving labor and in doing so attract others to the idea of community gardening – work together, benefit by having delicious fresh food for yourself or others and by doing so create a community of neighbors and friends and beautify the city.

By its recent offering of free urban gardening workshops the Pine Point Branch Library has been a willing partner in this endeavor, through partnering with city organizations to help its patrons connect with community gardeners and the resources they need. Community gardens all over the country have gained popularity as individuals want better food, a more sustainable lifestyle, and to enjoy time with their neighbors.

Branch librarian Doris Madsen, in partnership with New Growth Gardens, is organizing a self-guided tour of six community gardens, on Wednesday, August 17, 5-8 p.m., and on Saturday, August 20, 11-2 p.m. Hosts

and hostesses will be available at these sites to provide a quick overview of the gardens. Also planned is a slideshow of community gardens at the Pine Point Branch Library on Wednesday, August 24, 6:30-7:30 p.m.

Additionally Doris is developing a listing of various local community gardens as a resource for library patrons and community gardeners. If you have any questions or would like to provide information for the tour, or suggestions for future urban gardening programs, please contact Doris at Pine Point Branch Library, (413) 263-685, or e-mail to dmadsen@springfieldlibrary.org.

Submitted by Doris Madsen

ART PROGRAM AT THE INDIAN ORCHARD BRANCH LIBRARY

Ten adults and fourteen young participants attended a gathering celebrating the conclusion of the Art Program Series for Kids and Teens. These programs were made possible by the sponsorship from the Hampden Bank Charitable Foundation.

The Teen classes “Introduction to Drawing and Cartooning” were conducted by Michael Cady, a local artist. Six participants ages 12 through 17 years old completed their art pieces.

Numa Navarro, an artist, native from Colombia led the art series ‘TRANSICION/TRANSITION’ using a collage/acrylic technique. He introduced young children ages 6 through 11 years old to the metamorphosis cycle and they created their own butterfly artwork.

Currently the paintings and drawings are being exhibited at the Hampden Bank Branch on Main Street in Indian Orchard. This exhibit was done through the collaboration between Victor H. Rodriguez, Sr., Retail

Banking Manager and Haydee C. Hodis, Indian Orchard Branch Library Supervisor. The exhibit will continue through the end of the June.

Sign up now for a six-week series of art classes running from mid-June through mid-July. For children, A Celebration of Hats! For teens, Not So “Wimpy” Cartoons!

By Haydee Hodis



Library Staff Dressed Up as their Favorite Literary Character...



Maeleah is Pippi Longstocking and SpongeBob looks surprised!



Sarah is Charlotte, but can she spin a web?!



Maureen is Dorothy and brought Toto, too!



Lori is Junie B. Jones and kids love her!

...to celebrate National Library Week

608,946 Number of items circulated last year at all Springfield City Library branches.

567,912 Attendance in all branches of the Springfield City Library last year.

The Magic Tree House Series

Jackie and Annie, a brother and sister living in Frog Creek, Pennsylvania, discover a mysterious tree house in the woods near their home. To their delight, the tree house is filled with books. Each time they open a book, the tree house transports them through time and space!

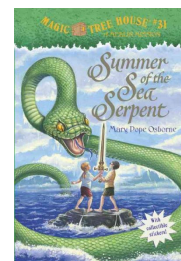
These young explorers visit some of the most important people and places in human history. Their first hand experiences include: visits to ancient civilizations such as Egypt, Greece, Rome, and Japan; famous events in

American history including the Civil and Revolutionary Wars, the San Francisco earthquake, and the first Thanksgiving; different ecosystems such as the rainforest, the Australian outback, and the African jungle and the American Great Plains; and meetings with famous people including Leonardo DaVinci, Thomas Edison and Shakespeare.

The Magic Tree House is ideal for children who enjoy exciting chapter books. Filled with adventure and suspense, they make history come alive for young readers.

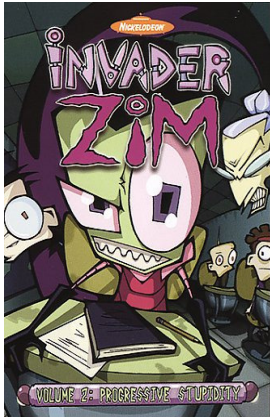
To help families learn more about this fun and educational series, the East Springfield and Liberty branches host a monthly Magic Tree House Club featuring a special project related to one of the books. During July and August, we'll celebrate the summer reading theme of "One World: Many Stories" by visiting the ancient civilizations of Greece and Rome. Drop in for plenty of engaging, hands-on activities!

By Lori Chasen



Not Acceptable Library Drone!

By Sarah Hodge-Wetherbe



Weird, wacky animated series!

Animation's never been just about kids. Sure we all think of Bugs Bunny as Saturday morning fare, until you realize how much political and cultural humor Looney Toons used in their shows. In this spirit, I want to talk about a little gem from cartoonist Jhonen Vasquez called *Invader Zim*. Zim is a member of an alien species that's looking to conquer

the whole universe. The aliens are morons, and Zim's the stupidest of all. With Gir, his robot-dog sidekick who loves to exclaim random statements (the title of this column being my favorite of them), he comes to prepare Earth for invasion, and fails horribly. Looking to stop Zim is Dib, a conspiracy-loving kid who'd fit right in on the X-Files. The series is full of weird humor, cultural refer-

ences and just a little tiny touch of the gross and the dark. When you have a whole episode referencing the classic horror movie "The Fly" with the kids turning into Bologna mutants, you know you've stumbled on something strange and wonderful. *Invader Zim* is perfect for anyone that loves the weird and the wacky.



Automotive Repair Database for Do-It-Yourselfers

After such a harsh winter that seemed to never end, the warmer days ahead are a perfect time for shade tree mechanics to do a little quality work on their cars.

The Springfield City Library provides a great resource for the do-it-yourself person to keep their automobile in peak running order. You don't have to be an ASE certified mechanic or a NASCAR pit crew member to use this database. According to Chilton Library, "We provide Automotive Repair Information for Do-It-Yourself (DIY) people. Chilton has been helping people like you maintain cars and trucks for more than 80 years. We know how to help you succeed. Chilton Library provides exclusive photographs, diagnostics designed by instructors, step-by-step repair procedures, maintenance schedules, wiring diagrams, recalls and Technical Service Bulletins (TSBs) for automobiles and light trucks in one easy-to-use

web site." The database is very friendly for those with little car repair knowledge. If you've crossed your spark plug wires or are frustrated trying to trace an electrical problem, give Chilton's a try. The free database might spare you from paying astronomical mechanic fees as high as \$75-100/hour!

To access the Chilton Library database, use your home computer or the library's free Internet computers and go to: www.springfieldlibrary.org. You should see a panel at the bottom of the page in the lower right-hand corner labeled, Search the Library's Collections. Click the panel and it should take you to [Electronic Databases](#). Scroll down and select the section [Consumer and Education Resources](#) about one half way down the page. [Chilton's Auto Repair](#) should be the second link in that section. Click [Remote Access](#) and then type in your Springfield library card number and click [Proceed](#). You will then be taken

to a wealth of information on repairing and maintaining your car. Don't worry about whether the car is foreign, domestic, or too old because the database covers all major models and years of cars from 1901-2011! All you have to do is enter your car's year, make, and model and you'll be surprised at how comprehensive this database is!

The parts of your automobile that this massive database covers are: body, brakes, chassis, electrical, diagnostics, drive train, engine cooling, electrical, mechanical, and performance. It also has sections on emission controls, fuel system, heating, ventilation and air conditioning, steering, suspension and hard-to-find wiring diagrams. Give it a try and you'll be surprised at all the useful information you will find. If you have limited computer skills, library staff will help walk you through using this database.

Submitted by Reggie Wilson

JUNE

| Sun | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat |
|--|--|--|---|---|--|---|
| <p><i>For the most up-to-date listing of library programs and activities check our events calendar at www.springfieldlibrary.org</i></p> | | | <p>1 12:00 PM East Springfield Book Group</p> <p>1:00 PM Knit-Alongs at East Forest Park</p> <p>5:00 PM Tim Allen Office Hours at East Forest Park</p> <p>5:30 PM Library Commissioners Meeting Central Library</p> <p>6:30 PM Storytime at East Springfield</p> | <p>2</p> | <p>3 Central Library Closed on Fridays</p> | <p>4 1:00 PM Ekphrastic Poetry Central Library Community Room</p> |
| <p>5</p> | <p>6 3:45 PM Travel Club for Children at East Springfield</p> | <p>7 10:30 AM Preschool Storytime at the Central Library</p> | <p>8 10:00 AM Wednesday Book Group, Central Library</p> <p>1:00 PM Knit-Alongs at East Forest Park</p> <p>4:30 PM Teen Art Classes at Indian Orchard</p> <p>6:30 PM Storytime at East Springfield</p> | <p>9</p> | <p>10 Central Library Closed on Fridays</p> | <p>11 12:30 PM Children's Art Classes at Indian Orchard</p> <p>1:00 PM Travel Club for Children at Liberty</p> <p>1:00 PM Poetry Publishing for Beginners-Central Library Community Room</p> |
| <p>12</p> | <p>13</p> | <p>14 10:30 AM Preschool Storytime at the Central Library</p> <p>12:00 PM Noon Hour Book Discussion Group Central Library</p> | <p>15 1:00 PM Knit-Alongs- East Forest Park</p> <p>3:45 PM American Girls Club at East Springfield</p> <p>4:30 PM Teen Art Classes - Indian Orchard</p> <p>6:00 PM Diary of a Wimpy Kid Party - East Springfield</p> <p>6:00 PM Central Library - Starting Your Own Small Business</p> | <p>16</p> | <p>17 Central Library Closed on Fridays</p> | <p>18 12:30 PM Children's Art Classes at Indian Orchard</p> <p>1:00 PM Diary of a Wimpy Kid Party at Liberty</p> <p>2:00 PM Open Mic, Teens/Young Adults-Central Library Community Room</p> |
| <p>19</p> | <p>20 6:00 PM Starting a Franchise- Central Library Community Room</p> | <p>21 10:30 AM Preschool Storytime at the Central Library</p> | <p>22 10:00 AM Central Library Wednesday Book Group</p> <p>10:00 AM Preschool Storytime Central Library</p> <p>1:00 PM Knit-Alongs at East Forest Park</p> <p>4:30 PM Teen Art Classes - Indian Orchard</p> <p>6:30 PM Storytime at East Springfield</p> | <p>23</p> | <p>24 Central Library Closed on Fridays</p> | <p>25 12:00 PM Job Seekers Open House, Central Library Community Room</p> <p>12:30 PM Children's Art Classes at Indian Orchard</p> |
| <p>26</p> | <p>27 6:00 PM Finance Your Dreams: finding money for a small business- Central Library Community Room</p> | <p>28 10:30 AM Preschool Storytime at the Central Library</p> | <p>29 10:00 AM Preschool Storytime Central Library</p> <p>1:00 PM Knit-Alongs at East Forest Park</p> <p>4:30 PM Teen Art Classes - Indian Orchard</p> <p>6:00 PM East Forest Park Wednesday Book Discussion Group</p> <p>6:30 PM Storytime at East Springfield</p> | <p>30 1:30 PM My Life, My Story Collage Craft, Central Library</p> | <p>1</p> | <p>2</p> |

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

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.

Libraries are a window where you can view a world of information.
At which library are these located?

www.springfieldlibrary.org



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 | *12-5 |
| 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.