



FORBES library

NORTHAMPTON'S PUBLIC LIBRARY

September 2012 to November 2012

AUTUMN NEWSLETTER

Volume 4, Issue 3

LOCAL HISTORY/LOCAL NOVELISTS *2012/13 Reading and Lecture Series*

The Connecticut River Valley is rich in both novelists and history. Forbes Library is a place where novelists come to research and write alongside others interested in local history and literature. The Local History/Local Novelists series, now in its third year, invites the community to enjoy and join in the conversation between history and fiction that both engages and creates our changing cultures.

During the upcoming fall and spring, Forbes Library will be presenting a reading and lecture series exploring links between local history and contemporary novelists, to be held the first Wednesday of the month at 7 pm in the Coolidge Room, November through May. (The bonus cemetery tour on Sunday, October 7 and the event on Wednesday April 10 are the exceptions to the first Wednesday rule.) Curated by Forbes Writer in Residence Susan Stinson, the series includes evenings focused on the nineteenth century novelist Henry James; twentieth century novelist and essayist James Baldwin; Jewish Writers, History and New England; and the histories of three specific local houses. There will also be a panel discussion with authors selected by the editor of the literary magazine *The Common: A Modern Sense of Place*. Forbes Writer in Residence Susan Stinson will give a tour of Bridge Street cemetery focused on the

see SERIES, page 4

Silent Cal's



Silent Auction

Coming on October 24th

The Friends of Forbes will present a Silent Auction of art by local artists and craftspeople who repurpose and recycle to create unique furniture and art pieces

7-9 pm in the Coolidge Room
with refreshments and music by Peter Blanchette
Don't Miss It !

HOSMER GALLERY

SEPTEMBER

Imaginary Landscapes: Oil Paintings by Trina Sears Sternstein
Etchings by Liz Chalfin



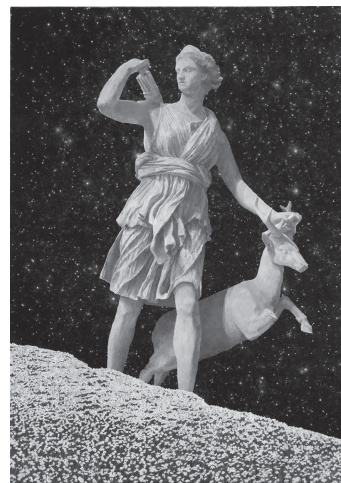
Etching by Liz Chalfin

OCTOBER

Young @ Heart Chorus Retrospective

NOVEMBER

Sandra Matthews, Magdalen Matthews, Rina Goldfield:
Three generations of women artists



Artwork by Rina Goldfield

NEWS FROM THE FRIENDS

Flowers and blooming plants of all kinds were in abundance at the annual Friends of Forbes Garden Tour in June. The weather was cooperative for the increasingly popular event, and the benefit to the Friends and the library was very significant -- \$5,000.

Retiring board members Kari Knapp and Christine Nolan left the board in April, each having served 12 busy years, including terms as president. Nick Kachulis also left the board over the summer after serving 5 years. We are grateful to all for their hard work and dedication.

Incorporation of our organization, which will enable us to undertake a greater variety of fund raising events, is now complete. Thanks to all for your patience.

Everyone deserves access to our library. To this end, the Friends have contributed the \$2,500 received in the Florence Savings Bank ballot last spring to help replace the always ailing lift at the entrance to the library with an elevator.

New board member Jo Ellen MacKenzie joined us in April. A native of Northampton, she taught and served as vice principal at JFK Middle School before retiring. Welcome, Jo Ellen!

Donations to the Friends of Forbes are what make it possible for us to continue the level of support we give to the library. We are grateful for all donations and urge you to join us if you are not already a member. Forms are available at the Circulation desk and www.forbeslibrary.org/friends.

Silent Cal's Silent Auction. Save the date of Wednesday, October 24th for a Silent Auction of art pieces and an Artists' reception with refreshments and music by Peter Blanchette. The Friends are planning this event to be held in the Coolidge room. Stay tuned for more information about this exciting event!

Martha McCormick, President of the Friends of Forbes

Serena Smith, Vice President of the Friends of Forbes



2012 VOLUNTEER APPRECIATION BBQ

Our volunteers help in so many ways including shelving books, serving on committees, fundraising, teaching classes, reading books to kids, and so much more. The library has over 250 volunteers who served for almost 6000 hours last year. Thank you!

Take a LOOK at our NEW TOYS!



Thanks to a generous donation from a local family we have been able to add *new trucks, rain tubes, new walkers and lots of baby/toddler items* that are sure to please and entertain.

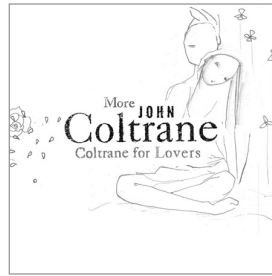


Check out our new *"Insect Sand Table"* near the front of the desk! This will keep the kiddos' from going buggy while they are waiting for you to check out!

We have also added many new baby/toddler toys to our Tummy Time and Baby Play Group toy collection.

Stop by...stay and play awhile!"

Fall is in the Air!
MOVIES and MUSIC



More John Coltrane:

Coltrane for Lovers (Music CD)

Featuring the song "Autumn Serenade", this ten song collection is all about love, and they are all played with the inimitable-and unforgettable-John Coltrane touch. JAZZ C722mj



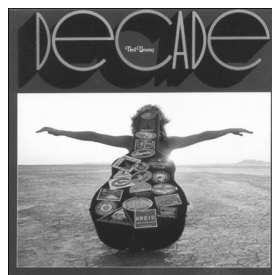
Something Else by the Kinks

This collection includes "Autumn Almanac" along with one of the most poignant singles in rock history "Waterloo Sunset". ROCK K621so



Sarah Vaughan's Golden Hits (Vinyl Record)

Do you still have a record player? You'll need it to play this fabulous album which includes "Autumn in New York". V4655g

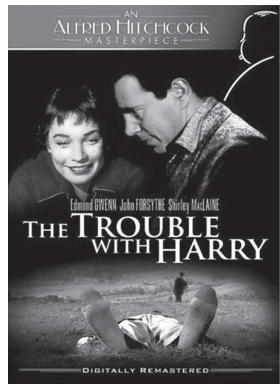


Decade by Neil Young (CD)

The first stop for anybody new to Neil Young's music, this 34-song set (originally released in 1977) traces his growth from Buffalo Springfield and Crosby, Stills, Nash & Young to Crazy Horse to his Harvest band, the Stray Gators. ROCK Y86d



Dead Poets Society (DVD)
Set in fall at a New England Boys School, Robin Williams portrays English professor John Keating, who, in an age of crew cuts, sport coats and cheerless conformity, inspires his students to live life to the fullest, exclaiming "Carpe Diem, lads! Seize the day. Make your lives extraordinary!"
 YF 1989 DVD

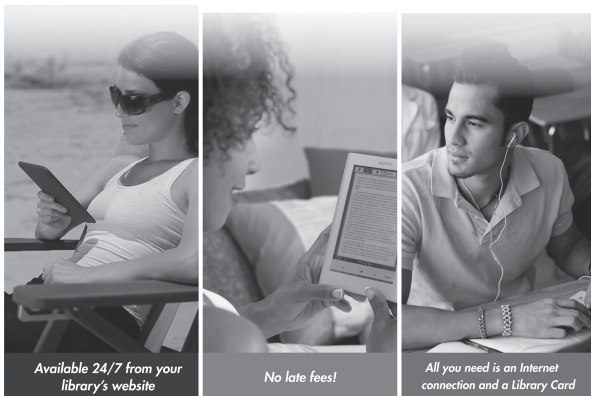


The Trouble with Harry (DVD)
Harry's corpse is found in the autumnal New England woods. While no one mourns his death, several people feel responsible for it. The body is unearthed several times, humorous situations occur, and love affairs develop before the real cause of Harry's death is revealed in this Alfred Hitchcock classic.
 YF 1955 DVD

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story of Jonathan Edwards in Northampton, along with others such as Sally Maminash and Sylvester Graham. Finally, there will be two evenings in celebration of local novelists.

Some evenings will include a presentation about the historical topic by one or two knowledgeable speakers along with a contemporary writer reading from his or her own work. Thirteen novelists will speak in the series, along with poets, nonfiction writers, playwrights, and some whose work crosses genres. Participants include Michael Gorra, Smith College; Elise Bernier-Feeley from the Hampshire Room for Local History at Forbes; Jennifer Acker, editor of The Common; local historian Lu Banks; teacher at The Care Center, poet and author Tzivia Gover; Mistinguette Smith, executive director of The Black/Land Project; and historian Michael Hoberman. Participating novelists include Marianne Banks, Michele Barker, Corinne Demas, Carole DeSanti, Amity Gaige, Roger King, Claire Messud, Joann Kobin, Zane Kotker, Victoria Redel, Suzanne Strempek Shea, lê thi diem thúy, Karen V. Williams and Jane Yolen.

Other participants include Lenelle Moise, playwright, poet, and performance artist; and Richard Michelson, Northampton Poet Laureate. For more information, see: <http://www.forbeslibrary.org/events/localseries.shtml>.

Stinson said, "We thought a lot about a sense of place when putting events together this year. For instance, there is an evening in which three writers take very different approaches to exploring the history and present of three specific houses. Also, the dazzling abundance of novelists here – from Henry James in the nineteenth century, James Baldwin in the twentieth century, through all of the fiction writers reading throughout the series – is one of the defining qualities of this place. I think that's a little underappreciated, but it's true."

Forbes Writer in Residence Susan Stinson is the author of three novels and a collection of poetry and lyric essays. Awarded the 2011 Outstanding Mid-Career Novelist Prize from the Lambda Foundation, she is also a writing coach, freelance editor, and gives cemetery tours. SPIDER IN A TREE, her novel about Northampton in the time of 18th century Calvinist preacher Jonathan Edwards, will be published in 2013. Her website is <http://susanstinson.net/>.