

FEBRUARY 2010



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Friends of Boyden Library

10 Bird Street, Foxborough, MA 02035 (508) 543-1245

From the Director

Do libraries have a future? Questions about the future of libraries has become a recurring theme. The questions are phrased in several different ways—"Why do we need to build a new library when books are in a state of decline," "Will there be any books twenty years from now," or "Why do we need a library when everything is on the internet?" To some, in this era of ready internet access, wireless connectivity, and ever-proliferating electronic resources, the idea of spending several million dollars on a "brick and mortar" library does not seem to be a wise use of scarce tax dollars. How-

ever, the trustees and staff of the Boyden Library—along with the thousands of library patrons using the library each year—respectfully disagree. Library circulation reached an all-time high in the fiscal year ending June 30, 2009—circulation went over the 200,000 mark for the first time, topping out at 206,201. Nearly 133,000 people visited the library and more than 3,800 attended Children's Room programs. Public internet computers were accessed over 10,000 times by library patrons, and library meeting rooms were used more than 500 times by community groups and or-

ganization, as well as town boards and committees. Boyden Library patrons had access not only to the 100,000—plus item collection at Boyden, but also to the 3.5 million item collection of the SAILS library network—and those patrons made good use of the SAILS collection, requesting nearly 28,000 items from other libraries. Boyden's collection was in demand as well—Boyden loaned nearly 30,000 items to other network members. Please note that we are talking about "items,"—not simply "books."

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Spring Book/Bake Sale

The annual Book sale is scheduled from May 6-8

Thursday, May 6th	6:00pm-8:00pm	Friends of the Library
Friday, May 7th	10:00am-6:00pm	Public
Saturday, May 8th	10:00am-4:00pm	Public

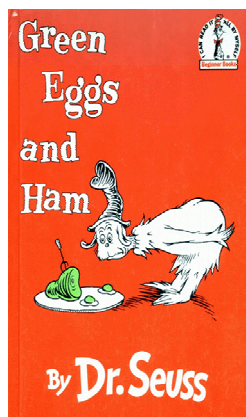
Book Donations for Sale

The Friends are currently accepting "clean and gently used, saleable" books. These can be dropped into the Donation Bin located at the entrance of the lower library.

Bake Sale

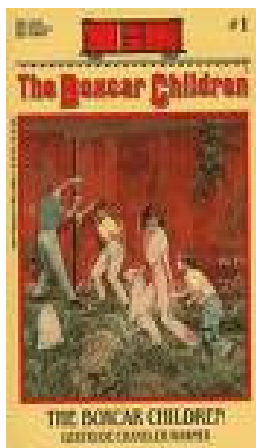
There will also be home made baked goods (cookies, breads, ect.) available for sale all days of the book sale. We are looking for volunteers to bake for this event. Donations of baked goods can be dropped off at the library on Thursday, Friday, or Saturday.

From the Children's Room



"The more that you read, the more things you will know. The more you learn, the more places you'll go."

— Dr. Seuss, *"I Can Read With My Eyes Shut!"*



The Boyden Library is happy to now offer a Playaways for kids. A Playaway is a new type of audio book with the digital content pre-loaded on one small listening device. Users need only to supply their own earbuds or headphones and AAA battery before enjoying a complete story. Playaways check out of the library for two weeks at a time. The Children's Playaway kits are made up of the Playaway on a lanyard, the book, and a teacher's guide. The first collection of Playaways include titles that appear on the Foxborough Public School's summer reading list:

- Island of Blue Dolphins by Scott O'Dell
- Adventures of Tom Sawyer by Mark Twain
- The Man who was Poe by Avi
- Among the Hidden by Margaret Peterson Haddix
- The Face on the Milk Carton by Caroline B. Cooney

Don't forget, story time is free and open to all whom would like to attend. Registration is no longer required.

Children up to the age of 3 are welcome to join the Mother Goose on the Loose Program, which meets Tuesdays at 11:00am or Thursdays 10:30am. Mother Goose on the Loose Programs are also offered one Saturday a month. Youngsters must be accompanied by grown-ups who will guide their children through the activities. These activities include, but are not limited to: stories, music, movement, and rhymes.

Story time for 3-5 year olds meets on Tuesdays at 10:00am and Wednesdays at 1:30pm. Story time activities include: stories, music, movement activities and a simple craft.

Drop by the Children's Room for a schedule or check out the website at:

www.boydenlibrary.org and click on Children's Services.

Many thanks to everyone who contributed to the Foxborough Discretionary Fund Book Drive. Over 160 children's books were collected this year (an all-time high!)

"Go Green @ Your Library" will be the theme for the 2010 state-wide Summer Reading Program.

Stay tuned for details and a list of events.

From the Director-Continued from page 1

While the bulk of the Boyden Library collection is still comprised of books, there are dozens of other kinds of materials to borrow—with a number of them being borrowed electronically, and not at the library circulation desk. Boyden Library collections include books, magazines, books-on-tape and books-on-CD, DVDs, videocassettes, music CDs, college courses on CD. Cassette, or DVD, language-instruction material, study-guides for various tests, picture books, books for beginning readers, puppets, puzzles and more.

So, even if books are on a decline, it's quite clear that there's a great deal more to today's libraries than simply books. Libraries have been in the forefront of adapting technology changes for years—and will continue to in the future. Automated circulation systems and online catalogs have been a staple of public library life for nearly 30 years. It's difficult to find free public internet access anywhere other than a public library; you can sample Boyden's wireless internet connectivity without having to by a cup of coffee.

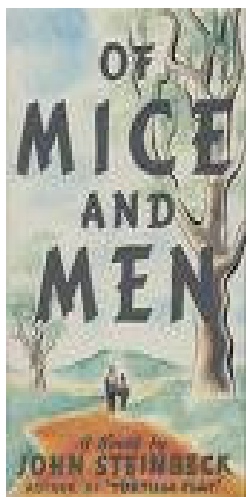
While we've been wringing our hands over the demise of books, we've seen several other media formats come and go—8-track tapes, cassettes, LP records, videocassettes, and several early versions of electronic book readers. Throughout all that, books have remained a popular choice for thousands of readers. The book—portable, inexpensive, software free, and battery less—remains an efficient and effective vehicle for information transfer. While books are gradually yielding their leading role in media, there are few, if any, libraries willing to follow the lead of that Central Massachusetts private school, which has abandoned books in favor of electronic technology—and, yes, a \$12,00 espresso machine. We at the Boyden Library think that the library—and the services it provides—is here to stay for quite some time. But don't ask us—ask those 130,000 people who came in to borrow over 200,000 items last year.



**“The things I
want to know
are in books; my
best friend is a
man who'll get
me a book I ain't
read.”**

-Abraham Lincoln

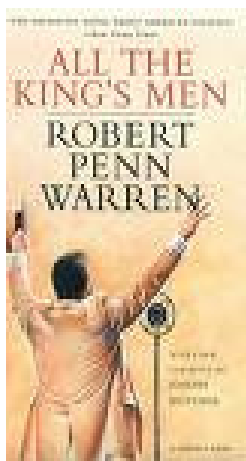




"Books are the legacies that a great genius leaves to mankind, which are delivered down from generation to generation as presents to posterity of those who are yet unborn."

— Joseph

Addison



Who are the Friends?

The Friends of Boyden Library is a non-profit organization providing support and enrichment to the Public Library in the community of Foxborough, MA. The Friends are a group of volunteers who support the Library. Through membership dues, proceeds from book and bake sales, donations and other fund raising programs, the friends provide funding for many materials and activities not covered by the Town of Foxborough budget.

Membership Drive

The "Friends" Board is in need of new members. They would especially love having new member with young children, since most of the funds they collect go toward funding Children's programs.

The Board meets the 1st Wednesday of every month at 7:30pm. This meeting is located in the Bluemer Room on the third floor of the Boyden Library. All are welcome!

If you would like to become a member, or know anyone that would like to become a member of the Friends of Boyden Library, please fill out the application on the following page.

Member Application

Please Print

Name

Address

Phone

E-mail Address

Contribution Category

- | | |
|--|-------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Senior | \$5 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Individual | \$10 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Family | \$25 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Patron | \$50 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Business | \$50 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Individual Life | \$100 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Family Life | \$150 |

Please make your **tax deductible** contribution payable to **Friends of Boyden Library** and drop it off at the Boyden Library or mail to Boyden Library, 10 Bird Street, Foxborough, MA 02035.

Your contributions are critical to our efforts to provide support to the Boyden Library. Thank you!!!

E-mail Delivery of Newsletter

In order to save money on printing, envelopes and postage, the Friends have been mailing newsletters by e-mail to members who have provided us with their e-mail address. In order to ensure that you receive our newsletter please provide us with an updated e-mail address, if you have changed it recently. For those of you who still haven't provided us with your e-mail address and wish to receive the newsletter by e-mail, please forward your address to: bobbeleonardi@yahoo.com or include it when you send in your dues for 2010. Please note that we will not use your e-mail address for any other purpose. Thank you!