



Vol. 29, No. 2 *Underwritten by the Friends of the Blackstone Library* Spring 2006

What's New @ the Blackstone?

Terry Elton, Anita Visentin-Perito, and Julie Francis have recently joined the Blackstone's Board of Trustees, bringing the number of trustees to twelve, the maximum number of members.

Terry Elton is the head of the Department of Economic Development for the Town of Branford. He and his wife, local attorney Betsy McMahon have four children. Anita Visentin-Perito is an adjunct faculty member of the Quinnipiac University School of Law. She and her husband Jim, an attorney in New Haven, have three children. Julie Francis is the owner of *Sound Runner with No Boundaries* in the center of Branford. Her husband,

Bob Francis, is Associate Vice Chancellor at UMASS Amherst. Julie has three sons.

All twelve Board of Trustee members adopted our Strategic Plan on March 2nd. This plan will enable us to move forward with many exciting opportunities for the library and the community. *We heard you* and know what you feel is important for your library. We plan to acquire many more new books, media, and periodicals for the education and enjoyment of our patrons. We will be taking an in-depth look at our children's department to see if the

area can be reconfigured in such a way as to improve service and programming in that area. Along with these changes

... to make Blackstone Library a viable and pleasant place ... to gather, learn, and discover.

we will be adding coziness to the library through comfortable seating and lighting. We are also investigating the addition of vending machines, and the idea of having a used bookstore within the library. If you haven't already noticed, we have many more stations for internet searching bringing the total to 23 Internet workstations for the public. We are also a

by Kathy Rieger, Library Director
 Wi-Fi spot with free internet access with a laptop anywhere in the library. We will be migrating to a new catalog system in the fall and look forward to a state-of-the-art product to use for our collection. This new system will include a self-check station for those who want to obtain materials and quickly check out and be on their way.

The Strategic Plan gives us a road map for our immediate future and also tells us what we need to know to continue to make Blackstone Library a viable and pleasant place for the community to gather, learn, and discover. Blackstone Library is committed to being your *bridge to tomorrow* and will endeavor to help make your journey through life an enjoyable passage.

Library Hours

Monday - Thursday
9:00 a.m. - 8:00 p.m.

Friday & Saturday
9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Sunday Hours

(Oct. 30, 2005—May 21, 2006)

1:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Friends of JBML

Book Sale

Sept. 15, 16 & 17, 2006



Renew

&

place holds online

www.blackstonelibrary.org

Questions or problems?

Call us at 203.488.1441

@ the Blackstone**Professional**

Development—Kathy R., Barbara and Alaina attended the Public Library Association's Conference in Boston in April; Barbara participated in two workshops: *How to Read a Book in 5 Minutes* (sponsored by Reader's Advisory Roundtable) and *Mining the Web for Business Information and Tools* (sponsored by Business Services Roundtable); Debby participated in *Dreamweaver MX* workshops; Kathleen, our new Youth Services Librarian, attended *This Land is Your Land Summer Reading 2006*, in Newtown, sponsored by the Children's Roundtable; Gennett and Deirdre have been attending cataloging and circulation committee meetings at LION (Libraries ONLINE) headquarters in Middletown in preparation for LION's systemwide migration of its software from the current *Dynix* to the web-based *III*, or *Innovative Interfaces, Inc.*

Our **YA Club** (for Grades 5-8 only, please) meets every Tuesday evening from 6:30-7:30 in the Youth Services Department. Bring your friends and join us for food (yes!), fun, crafts and games. A great time is guaranteed.

Welcome Kathleen Feeney

Kathleen Feeney has joined the Blackstone Library staff in our children's department as Associate Librarian for Youth Services. Kathleen most recently worked at the Farmington Library and was a full-time Associate Service

which is part of Key Service Systems.

from Southern Connecticut State University. She has

brought many new ideas and a new level of energy to the library. It is a pleasure to have Kathleen on board. Stay tuned for the Summer Reading Program, *This Land is Your*



Director for Individual and Family Support

She received her Master of Library Science degree

Land, which will be launched on June 10th!

Staff Picks

☞Linda: *Circle of Quilters* by Jennifer Chiaverini; *Dark Assassin* by Anne Perry; Martha's Vineyard mystery series by Philip Craig

☞Sandre: *Bleeding Hearts* by Susan Wittig Albert; *The Tooth of Time* by Sue Henry

☞Debby: *The Last Templar* by Raymond Khoury; *Prior Bad Acts* by Tami Hoag

☞Mary: *Alice in Wonderland* by Whoopi Goldberg; *The Fifth Horseman* by James Patterson

☞Kathy R: *The Glass Castle: A Memoir* by Jeannette Wall; *She Got Up Off the Couch: and Other Heroic Acts from Mooreland, Indiana* by Haven Kimmel; *Girls of Tender Age: A Memoir* by Mary-Ann Tirone Smith

☞Megan: *Cell* by Stephen King; *The Tenth Circle* by Jodi Picoult

☞Patricia: *Sea Glass*, *Light on Snow* & *A Wedding in December*—all by Anita Shreve

☞Barbara: *Shiksa Goddess* by Wendy Wasserstein; *Red-Tails in Love: A Wildlife Drama in Central Park* by Marie Winn

☞Kate H: *Dave Barry's Money Secrets* by Dave Barry; *Candyfreak: A Journey through the Chocolate Underbelly of America* by Steve Almond

☞Kathy B: *700 Sundays* by Billy Crystal; *Teacher Man* by Frank McCourt; *Before You Were Born* by Nancy White Carlstrom (children's book)

☞Deirdre: *Borkmann's Point: A Van Veeteren Mystery* by Håkan Nesser; *Haunted Ground* by Erin Hart; *The City of Falling Angels* by John Berendt

☞Gennett: *1776* by David McCullough

☞Nancy: *Hypocrite in a Puffy White Dress* by Susan Jane Gilman; *The English Teacher* by Lily King



A Good Time Was Had By All

The music of *Eight to the Bar* combined with excellent food donated by Avra Grille made for a good time under the dome of the rotunda. We had a large crowd of *Eight to the Bar* followers and library supporters come out for an evening of dancing and dining on January 28th. The music was wonderful and the food and drink topped off the event. The library raised some extra money toward the purchase of books for the collection which was a great bonus. We are in hopes of doing more events like this, so keep your dancing shoes out of storage for the next event "under the dome."

New Cards

Great big thanks to the Friends of JBML for underwriting the cost of our new library cards and key tags. Thanks also to Marcus Santora (Furniture and Design) of New Haven for donating his graphic design services.

Book Conservator Needed

Blackstone Library is looking for a book conservator who would be interested in volunteering in repairing our books. Please contact Deirdre at the library if you are interested.

Thin is In

Thanks to the generosity of an anonymous donor, the library was able to purchase six new computers to be used for internet access. The "thin clients" located in the library rotunda are network computers which attach to a server and eliminate the need for a hard drive or floppy disk drive. They are easy to set up and maintain yet provide complete and speedy access to the internet. The public (and staff) are extremely grateful and excited about this new addition.

New Schedule



With this Spring issue, *Marble Columns* begins a new quarterly publishing schedule, with issues due out (approximately) in January, April, July and October.

Thank you craftsmen

Many thanks to the Giordano Construction Company and its master woodworkers, Larry McKenna and Kevin Mustaro, for their donation of time and materials for our new computer table in the rotunda and the renovations

Patrons Say the Darndest Things

The following list of misquoted titles and research queries encountered by librarians has been pulled from various internet listservs:

- Tequila Mockingbird (*To Kill a Mockingbird*)
- Where's Roald Dahl? (*Where's Waldo?*)
- I Left My Heart at Broken Arm (*Bury My Heart at Wounded Knee*)
- Pebbles on the Beach (*The Shell Seekers*)
- Women Who Dance with Wolves (*Women Who Run With the Wolves + Dances with Wolves*)
- Salad at a Bad Restaurant (*Ballad of the Sad Café*)
- Photographs of Archimedes
- Satin Verses and Satanic Nurses (*Satanic Verses*)
- English translations of *The Taming of the Shrew* and *Romeo & Juliet*
- Too Short Too Live (*Life is Too Short* by Andy Rooney)
- The Philistine Prophecy (*The Celestine Prophecy*)
- Mice are Gay (*My Sergei* by Ekaterina Gordeeva)

We're Wi-Fi!
Bring your laptop to the library for free internet access.

@ the Blackstone

It's Hip to Knit meets every Wednesday from 5:30—7:45 in the Reading Room. This informal knit and purl jam is for all knitters, from the beginner to the expert.



The **Mystery Book Club** meets in the Lucy Hammer Room from 3-4 p.m. on the first Wednesday of the month. New members are always welcome; please contact Tom Wilson at 483-6653.



Our **new magazine subscriptions** include *Reader's Digest Large Print* and *Sunset*.

Reader's Advisory— The newest booklets for Blackstone readers eager for new authors and genres are now available. Choose from *Dinner and a Murder*, *Medieval Mysteries*, *Skinny Books*, *Crafty Criminals*, *If You Like . . . You Might Enjoy . . .* (in two parts), or any of our other reader guides, available in the new fiction area and in the rotunda.

Novel Ideas

The following is a partial list of new and forthcoming fiction and mystery titles that are available at the Blackstone Library or will be in the coming months.

Note: Please remember to place a hold, either online (access from our homepage) or in person, to assure yourself a copy of new and/or high demand books. Blackstone Library is one of twenty-one libraries in the LION consortium, which provides reciprocal borrowing privileges with other LION members. This means that if no Blackstone patron has a hold on one of our books, that particular copy can be sent to another library to fill their patron's hold.

The Secret Supper by Javier Sierra

Triangle by Katherine Weber

The Cold Moon by Jeffery Deaver

The Hummingbird's Daughter by Luis Alberto Urrea

The Prodigal Son by Kate Sedley

Twelve Sharp by Janet Evanovich

The Shape Shifter by Tony Hillerman

London is the Best City in America by Laura Dave

The Girl of Lost Things by Ann Brashares

The Husband by Dean Koontz

The Foreign Correspondent by Alan Furst

The Queen of Babble by Meg Cabot

Meet the Authors
A Celebration of Branford
Authors with R.J. Julia owner,
Roxanne Coady
Thursday May 25, 5 - 7 p.m
@ JBML's Cultural Center.
Co-sponsored by WWML

Pegasus Descending by James Lee Burke

Beach Road, and Judge & Jury by James Patterson

The Dead Hour by Denise Mina

The Tale of Cuckoo Brow Wood by Susan Wittig Albert

Hit Parade by Lawrence Block

Sins and Needles by Monica Ferris

Dead in Vineyard Sand: A Martha's Vineyard Mystery by Philip Craig

Blind Willow, Sleeping Woman, short stories by Haruki Murakami

The Messenger by Daniel Silva

Rise and Shine by Anna Quindlen

The Stabbing in the Stables by Simon Brett

Saks and Violins: A Bed-and-Breakfast Mystery by Mary Daheim

Crisis by Robin Cook

Coming Out by Danielle Steel

Sandcastles by Luanne Rice

Death Ship of Dartmouth by Michael Jecks

Killer Dreams by Iris Johansen

Dick Francis is back on the publishing track with *Under Orders*, due out in the fall. *Cold Mountain* author Charles Frazier new novel, *Thirteen Moons* is also set for publication in the fall. Geraldine Brooks won this year's Pulitzer Prize for fiction for *March*.

Check our website for the latest program information:

www.blackstonelibrary.org