

## From the Top Shelf

A message from Stephen Fulchino, Library Director

### Expanded Service with Limited Funds

When it comes to the budgets of government agencies, being level-funded is a major accomplishment in this economy. The Library, like all City departments, has had to institute some small reductions this year. Next year looks no better.

Nevertheless, the Library is in the process of instituting four new services with the help of outside agencies.

Our big news in March is the opening of the Teen Room at the Lawler Branch, supported by a state grant and other local organizations\*\*.

In late February, the Library began Conversation Circles to help people for whom English is not their first language improve their English skills. This is also supported by a state grant\*\*.

In March, the Wilks Branch began a family literacy program called Family Adventures in Reading (FAIR). This program is supported by the Massachusetts Foundation for the Humanities. If it is successful, there is a very good chance that three similar programs will happen in various parts of the City next year.

The Library will also soon have its own cable access show. Beginning in April, our monthly show "Check It Out!" will highlight features, services and events at the library. You'll be able to catch this show on channel 17.

The Trustees and staff of the Library will continue to look for ways to support programs and add services for the residents of New Bedford outside the City budget.

\*\* The creation of the Teen Room and the Conversation Circles project are supported by an LSTA grant awarded by the Massachusetts Board of Library Commissioners with funds from the Institute of Museum and Library Services of the federal government. Additional support for the Teen Room comes from the Greater New Bedford Rotary Club and the Friends of the New Bedford Free Public Library.

This newsletter is produced by the staff of the New Bedford Free Public Library.  
Contributors: Paul Cyr, Geoffrey Dickinson, Judith Downey, Dale Easton,  
Stephen Fulchino, Janis Gomes, Janice Hodson, Mary Kruger, Denise Plaskon  
and Karen Stefanik

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## Check It Out!

# Taking Flight! The Birds of John James Audubon

In 1820, John James Audubon embarked on what would be the defining experience of his life – the study and rendering of every bird species from eastern to central North America. The culmination of his work, *The Birds of America*, redefined the field of ornithological illustration by creating images that combined a creative sensibility with scientific observation. The liveliness and immediacy of Audubon's approach captured the public's imagination in a way no similar work had, before or since.

The New Bedford community is fortunate to be one of the approximately 81 public venues in the United States to have the full collection of 435 original hand-colored engravings, donated to the Library in 1866.

The New Bedford Free Public Library and the New Bedford Art Museum have joined forces under the banner of the Audubon Preservation Partnership to bring these beautiful engravings to the public. The exhibition *Taking Flight! The Birds of John James Audubon* will display 60 of Audubon's engravings at the New Bedford Art Museum (608 Pleasant St., New Bedford). Curated by Janice Hodson, curator of the library's art collection, and Louis Doherty, a founder of the New Bedford Art Museum who has extensive experience with Audubon's work, the exhibit opens June 4 and runs through September 11.

Several special events have been planned around the Audubon exhibit will be offered through September. A complete list of events can be found on the Art Museum's Web site: [www.newbedfordartmuseum.org](http://www.newbedfordartmuseum.org).

**Bird Walks** – From March through September Mass Audubon's Allen's Pond Wildlife Sanctuary, located at 1280 Horseneck Road in Westport, will be offering bird walks focusing on native birds represented by Audubon. The first two walks are scheduled for Saturday, March 13 and Saturday, April 10, starting at 8:30am with coffee and muffins at the Sanctuary, with the walks beginning at 9:00am. Admission is \$5.00 and walks last approximately two hours. Please contact Allen's Pond Wildlife Sanctuary at 508-636-2437 for details.

**Lecture** – On Thursday, April 8 (AHA! Night), at 6:30pm and again at 7:30 pm, the public will have a chance to learn more about the treatment process involved in preparing Audubon's birds for exhibit. Project conservator and Fellow of the American Institute for Conservation Robert Hauser will discuss how poor matting, framing and handling practices can jeopardize works of art on paper, and the specific work on the Audubon engravings. This lecture will be held in the Main Library's Art Room. Call 508-979-1787 for more information.

**Tour** – On Tuesday, April 7, a special tour of an exhibit of the work of one of Audubon's assistants will be held. *Isaac Sprague & the Art of Discovery* at the Mass Audubon Visual Arts Center, 963 Washington Street in Canton, MA, highlights the work of one of the greatest, yet largely unknown, American bird and botanical artists of the nineteenth century. Originally from Hingham, Sprague accompanied Audubon on the latter's 1843 trip west to sketch animals for Audubon's *Viviparous Quadrupeds of North America*. For twenty years Sprague was illustrator for botanist Asa Gray. See the New Bedford Art Museum's web site for details.

**Fundraiser** – On Saturday evening, April 24, Audubon's birthday will be celebrated during a fundraiser for the *Taking Flight!* exhibit at the Wamsutta Club, former home of James Arnold and his *The Birds of America* folio. Guests of honor will be 10 of the engravings, newly matted and framed. See the New Bedford Art Museum's web site for details.

# Kidz Korner

## New Releases for Young People

- Cast, P.C. – *Burned (House of Night)* (4/10)
- Hunter, Erin – *Warriors: Omen of the Stars #2 – Fading Echoes* (3/10)
- Korman, Gordan – *The 39 Clues – Book 8* (4/10)
- Meyer, Stephenie – *Twilight: The Graphic Novel* (3/10)
- O'Connor, Jane – *Fancy Nancy and the Late, Late, LATE Night* (4/10)
- Patterson, James – *Fang (Maximum Ride)* (3/10)

## Teen Center Opens at the Lawler Library

The Lawler Branch Library will celebrate the grand opening of their new Tween and Teen Room on Saturday, March 27<sup>th</sup> at 2:00 p.m. Highlighted by a ribbon-cutting ceremony, the festivities will include tours of the space, remarks by local dignitaries and refreshments.

Branch Manager Denise Plaskon has been meeting with an advisory board of young people to select furniture and plan programs.

The group chose a small couch, comfortable bean bags chairs, several chairs shaped like giant hands, free form interlocking tables and colorful multi-use stacking chairs which are arranged on abstract print rugs. Amenities also include two computers reserved for teen use only and a flat-screen television to play games such as Wii.

Lawler Library volunteer Charles McCarthy, a retired engineer, designed the layout of the room.

Upcoming programs include: teen book and poetry clubs; workshops on creating with duct tape, origami, making string bracelets and digital photography; a knitting group; and screening movies.

Sign-up sheets will be available for tweens and teens interested in participating in any of these activities.

The former book sale room at the Branch was converted with a \$20,000 grant from the federal institute of Museum and Library Services through the Library Services and Technology Act, administered by the Massachusetts Board of Library Commissioners. Additional sums were donated by the Friends of the New Bedford Library and \$1250 was donated by the Rotary Club of New Bedford to supplement the grant.

For more information about the grand opening or to learn more about the Tween and Teen Room, call the Lawler Library at 508-991-6216.

## Who Do You Think You Are?

Maybe you've seen the new show on TV called *Who Do You Think You Are?* This show features celebrities tracing their family trees using such tools as the U.S. Census, local records and the database Ancestry.com.

Inspired to trace your own family tree? You don't need to be a celebrity to have access to the same tools they use on the show – just come to the library and you'll be the celebrity!

The Main Library features genealogy resources to help you on your way.

Ancestry.com lets you type in a family member's name to find documents (if available) related to that person. These documents may include census records, birth and death records, and immigration records. Ancestry.com is available, at no charge, in the Genealogy Room and certain public Internet computers on the second floor of the Library.

The U.S. Census counts all people living in the United States every 10 years. The information in a census record includes the individual's name, address and job, date and place of birth, parents' names and birth places and more. The more recent censuses have additional information.

Use census records to help you discover older generations on your family tree. The Main Library has census records from 1790 to 1930 on microfilm. Census records are kept on the Library's second floor in the Reference Department.

The library's collection is tailored for the needs of researchers in this area with church records and passenger lists from the Cape Verde Islands, as well as the Azores and Madeira, marriage records from Canada, lists of crewmembers of whaling vessels, records of child laborers in textile mills, information of early African-Americans and Native-Americans and much more.

Don't forget the most valuable resource available to you – librarians! Head to the third floor's Genealogy Room where librarians can help you get started or give you a push in the right direction.

You may contact the Genealogy Department at 508-991-6276. Hours for this department can be found on page 8..

**Museum Passes:** Don't forget to take advantage of the free and discounted museum passes offered by the New Bedford libraries! All libraries have free passes to the Buttonwood Zoo. The Main Library also has discounted passes to:

- New Bedford Whaling Museum
- Boston Children's Museum
- JFK Presidential Library & Museum
- Museum of Fine Arts
- Museum of Science
- New England Aquarium
- Plimoth Plantation
- Ocean Explorium

Call any library or you can reserve your passes through our Web site!

## The Hot List (Upcoming Books)

These popular authors are publishing new books in the next few months. They might not be in bookstores or libraries yet, but if they are in our catalog, you can still put them on hold and be near the top of the list!



### March

- Allen, Sarah Addison – *The Girl Who Chased the Moon*
- Barclay, Linwood – *Never Look Away*
- Bass, Jefferson – *The Bone Thief*
- Bernhardt, William – *Capitol Betrayal*
- Burke, Alafair – *212*
- Cannell, Stephen – *Pallbearers*
- Childs, Laura – *The Teaberry Strangler*
- Coben, Harlan – *Caught*
- Crusie, Jennifer – *Wild Ride*
- Cussler, Clive – *The Silent Sea*
- Fairstein, Linda – *Hell Gate*
- Jackson, Lisa – *Without Mercy*
- Kellerman, Jonathan – *Deception*
- Mosley, Walter – *Known to Evil*
- McEwan, Ian – *Solar*
- Perry, Anne – *The Sheen on Silk*
- Picoult, Jodi – *House Rules*
- Rivers, Francine – *Her Mother's Hope*
- Robards, Karen – *Shattered*
- Romney, Mitt – *No Apology* (nonfic)
- Scottoline, Lisa – *Think Twice*
- Spelling, Tori – *Mommywood* (nonfic)
- Winspear, Jacqueline – *The Mapping of Love and Death*

### April

- Allende, Isabel – *Island beneath the Sea*
- Baldacci, David – *Deliver Us from Evil*
- Berg, Elizabeth – *Last Time I Saw You*
- Butcher, Jim – *Changes*
- Chiaverini, Jennifer – *The Aloha Quilt*
- Clark, Carol Higgins – *Wrecked*
- Clark, Mary Higgins – *The Shadow of Your Smile*
- Dekker, Ted – *The Bride Collector*
- Feist, Raymond E. – *At the Gates of Darkness*
- George, Elizabeth – *This Body of Death*
- Grimes, Martha – *The Black Cat*
- Kelley, Kitty – *Oprah: A Biography* (nonfic)
- McCall Smith, Alexander – *Double Comfort Safari Club*
- Miller, Sue – *The Lake Shore Limited*
- Patterson, James – *The 9<sup>th</sup> Judgment*
- Peters, Elizabeth – *A River in the Sky*
- Robards, Karen – *Shameless*
- Roberts, Nora – *Savor the Moment*
- Trollope, Joanna – *The Other Family*
- Woods, Stuart – *Lucid Intervals*

### May

- Child, Lee – *61 Hours*
- Griffin, Emuly – *Heart of the Matter*
- Harris, Charlaine – *Dead in the Family*
- Junger, Sebastian – *War* (nonfic)
- Larsson, Stieg – *The Girl Who Kicked the Hornet's Nest*
- Michaels, Fern – *Cross Roads*
- Perry, Thomas – *Strip*
- Preston, Douglas – *Fever Dream*

### June

- Evanovich, Janet – *Sizzling Sixteen*
- Koontz, Dean – *Frankenstein : Lost Souls*

## It's Show Time!

All the New Bedford libraries have movie licenses and will be bringing you a mix of old and new films for adults and children every month

### March

Lawler	March 2 @2pm – <i>The Five Pennies</i> March 16 @2pm – <i>Julie &amp; Julia</i> March 30 @2pm – <i>The Time Traveler's Wife</i> Cartoons will be shown every Saturday before story hour
Wilks	March 17 @3pm – <i>The Proposal</i> March 20 @1pm – <i>Toy Story</i>
Howland-Green	March 6 @2pm – <i>Horton Hears a Who</i> March 20 @2pm – <i>The Hours</i>
Casa da Saudade	March 13 @1pm – <i>Cat in the Hat</i> (Mike Myers version) March 15 @3pm – <i>State of Play</i>
Main	March 10 @6pm – <i>Harry Potter and the Half-Blood Prince</i> March 17 @2pm – <i>Oklahoma!</i>

### April

Lawler	April 13 @2pm – <i>The Pursuit of Happyness</i> April 27 @2pm – <i>Casablanca</i> Cartoons will be shown every Saturday before story hour
Wilks	April 13 @3pm – <i>Fame</i> (2009) April 17 @11am – <i>Cirque du Freak: The Vampire's Assistant</i>
Howland-Green	April 3 @2pm – <i>G-Force</i> April 17 @2pm – <i>Tyler Perry's I Can Do Bad All by Myself</i>
Casa da Saudade	April 10 @1pm – <i>Peter Pan</i> April 12 @3pm – <i>Carlos Saura's Fados</i>
Main	April 14 @6pm – <i>Tuck Everlasting</i> April 21 @2pm – To be decided

### School Vacation Week – April 20-24

Lawler	Thursday, Apr. 22 @1pm – <i>Up</i>
Wilks	Tuesday, Apr. 20 @1pm – <i>Where the Wild Things Are</i>
Howland-Green	Saturday, Apr. 24 @2pm – <i>Cloudy with a Chance of Meatballs</i>
Casa da Saudade	Wednesday, Apr 21 @2pm – <i>The Princess and the Frog</i>
Main	Wednesday, Apr. 21 @6pm – <i>Planet 51</i>



## It's That Taxing Time of Year Again!

Pick up the basic state and federal forms, schedules and instructions at your local branch.

# What's Going On?

## Ongoing

**Story Hours** - Spring story time runs from March 29 to June 5

- Wilks - Wednesdays @10:30am
- Howland-Green - Thursdays @3:30pm
- Casa - Portuguese story hour - Tuesdays - March 23 and April 27 @6pm
- Main Library - Saturdays @11am
- Lawler - Saturdays @1pm

**Matinee Magic** - Free movies at every library. See page 6 for movies and times.

**Conversation Circles** - Got English? Come practice speaking English and meet others who are learning too.

- |                       |                         |
|-----------------------|-------------------------|
| Howland-Green Library | Casa da Saudade Library |
| • Tuesdays @1pm       | • Wednesdays @11am      |
| • Thursdays @5pm      | • Saturdays @11am       |

Additional sessions to be added - please call 508-991-6218 for further information.

## Exhibits

### "Bibliomania: The Art of the Book"

April 10 - May 22; Main Library, 3<sup>rd</sup> floor

A showcases some of the oldest volumes in the Library's Special Collections, as well as later limited editions.

## Lecture

### "Preserving Audubon's Birds" (AHA! Night)

April 8 @6:30pm & 7:30pm; Main Library, Art Room

See page 2 for more details.

## March

- 5, 8, 18, 23 **Scrabble Scramble** - Come play Scrabble!
  - Lawler Library; 1 - 3pm
- 6, 13, 27 **FAIR (Family Adventures in Reading)** - Read books together as a family and come to the library to see those books retold by professional storyteller Karen Chace.
  - Wilks Library; 1 - 2:30pm
- 9 **Lawler Library Book Club** - March's book is *The Reliable Wife* by Robert Goolrick.
  - Lawler Library; 2 - 4pm
- 11, 25 **Writers' Group** - Come discuss your work and get tips and feedback. All writers welcome.
  - Wilks Library; 6 - 7:30pm
- 16 **Wilks Library Book Club (Book Bites)** - March's book is *The Cater Street Hangman* by Anne Perry.
  - Wilks Library; 6 - 7:30pm
- 27 **Teen Room Grand Opening**
  - Lawler Library; 2pm

## April

- 3, 10, 17 **FAIR (Family Adventures in Reading)** - Read books together as a family and come to the library to see those books retold by professional storyteller Karen Chace.
  - Wilks Library; 1 - 2:30pm
- 5, 6, 16, 29 **Scrabble Scramble** - Come play Scrabble!
  - Lawler Library; 1 - 3pm
- 8, 29 **Writers' Group** - Come discuss your work and get tips and feedback. All writers welcome.
  - Wilks Library; 6 - 7:30pm
- 20 **Lawler Library Book Club** - April's book is *Whaling Wives* by Emma Mayhew Whiting.
  - Lawler Library; 2 - 4pm
- 20 **Wilks Library Book Club (Book Bites)** - April's book is *The Good Earth* by Pearl Buck.
  - Wilks Library; 6 - 7:30pm

# Hours & Locations

## Main Library

613 Pleasant St.  
508-991-6275  
TTY: 508-991-6258

- |            |               |
|------------|---------------|
| Monday:    | 9am - 9pm     |
| Tuesday:   | 9am - 9pm     |
| Wednesday: | 1pm - 9pm     |
| Thursday:  | 9am - 9pm     |
| Friday:    | 9am - 12:30pm |
| Saturday:  | 9am - 5pm     |

## Genealogy Department

3<sup>rd</sup> floor of Main Library  
508-991-6276

- |            |                      |
|------------|----------------------|
| Monday:    | 9am - 9pm            |
| Tuesday:   | 9am - 9pm            |
| Wednesday: | 1pm - 9pm            |
| Thursday:  | 9am - 5pm            |
| Friday:    | 9am - 12:30pm        |
| Saturday:  | 9am - 1pm; 2pm - 5pm |

## Art Room

3<sup>rd</sup> floor of Main Library  
508-979-1787

- |            |                      |
|------------|----------------------|
| Monday:    | closed               |
| Tuesday:   | 1pm - 5pm            |
| Wednesday: | 1pm - 5pm            |
| Thursday:  | 1pm - 5pm; 6pm - 9pm |
| Friday:    | 9am - 12:30pm        |
| Saturday:  | 9am - 1pm; 2pm - 5pm |

## Casa da Saudade

58 Crapo St.  
508-991-6218  
**Wilks**  
1911 Acushnet Ave.  
508-991-6214

- |      |            |
|------|------------|
| Mon: | 10am - 6pm |
| Tue: | 12pm - 8pm |
| Wed: | 10am - 6pm |
| Thu: | 12pm - 8pm |
| Fri: | closed     |
| Sat: | 9am - 5pm  |

## Lawler

745 Rockdale Ave.  
508-991-6216

- |      |            |
|------|------------|
| Mon: | 10am - 6pm |
| Tue: | 12pm - 8pm |
| Wed: | closed     |
| Thu: | 12pm - 8pm |
| Fri: | 10am - 6pm |
| Sat: | 9am - 5pm  |

## Bookmobile

The Bookmobile visits schools, neighborhoods and adult centers throughout New Bedford. For the Bookmobile schedule, please call 508-991-6214.

# And the Winners Are...

Every year at its midwinter meeting, the American Library Association (ALA) selects books that represent the best in children's and young adult publishing for the previous year.

The 2009 winners, chosen at ALA's meeting in Boston, are:



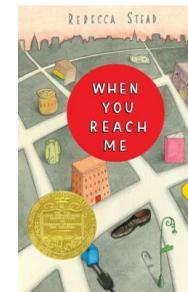
## Caldecott Medal (for picture books):

Winner:

- *The Lion & The Mouse* written and illustrated by Jerry Pinkney (JE Pinkney)

Honor Books:

- *All the World* written by Liz Garton Scanlon and illustrated by Marla Frazee
- *Red Sings from Treetops: A Year in Colors* written by Joyce Sidman and illustrated by Pamela Zagarenski (JE Sidman)



## Newbery Medal

(for children's literature):

Winner:

- *When You Reach Me* by Rebecca Stead (J FIC Stead)

Honor Books:

- *Claudette Colvin: Twice Toward Justice* by Phillip Hoose (JB Colvin Hoo 2009)
- *The Evolution of Calpurnia Tate* by Jacqueline Kelly (J FIC Kelly)
- *Where the Mountain Meets the Moon* by Grace Lin (J FIC Lin)
- *The Mostly True Adventures of Homer P. Figg* by Rodman Philbrick (J FIC Philbrick)

Ask for these books or other award-winners at your local library.

Cut here for an Hours & Locations bookmark