

From the Top Shelf

A message from Stephen Fulchino, Library Director

Special Events

June looks to be a busy month for Library special events.

The 50th Anniversary Party of the Lawler Branch on June 19th should present a great opportunity for the whole family to have a fun day at the Library's corner of Buttonwood Park.

During the festivities, the Friends of the New Bedford Free Public Library will be holding their first book sale. Donations of gently-used books, CDs and DVDs are currently being accepted for the Friends' book sale at each library location through June 12.

Library book sales tend to be very popular, so here is a hint for those of you who like to get an early jump: Friends' members will have a special preview showing on Thursday, June 17th at Lawler in the evening. Friends' membership forms are available at all Library locations.

On Saturday, June 5th, the Art Museum will have the public opening of the exhibit of 60 of the Library's Audubon prints. They will be on display until September 11th.

There has been a great outpouring of gifts from the greater New Bedford residents and businesses, and from foundations and organizations – especially the Friends of the Library, the Institute of Museum and Library Services, and MassHumanities – to make this exhibit possible. Much of the funds have gone to the preservation of the prints to ensure their availability for present and future residents.

In between these two events, the Casa da Saudade Branch will be opening an exhibit of Portuguese tiles by Maria Leonor Bicudo on June 8th. This should be an exciting presentation of one of the most notable Portuguese arts.

There are more detailed descriptions of these events elsewhere in the Newsletter. I hope you can attend one or more of these free events.

This newsletter is produced by the staff of the New Bedford Free Public Library.
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Excellent Exhibits

Check out these exhibits hosted at or in conjunction with the library this summer.

Main Library, 3rd floor

"Bibliomania: The Art of the Book"

April 10 – May 22

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

"Essence of New Bedford: Photographs by Members of the Whaling City Camera Club"

June 10 – September 25, 2010

Comprised of a group of seriously dedicated amateur photographers, the Whaling City Camera Club encourages its members to further develop their skills and expand their knowledge of photography through lectures, competitions and mentoring. "Essence of New Bedford" highlights the city's rich history and culture as seen through the lenses of these creative members of the local community.

Casa da Saudade Library

"The Mirror of a Culture: Portuguese Handmade Tiles by Maria Leonor Bicudo"

June 8 – September 18

Opening Reception – June 8, 6:30pm

This exhibit will feature hand-made tiles, painted in the style of antique Portuguese tiles found on many of the famous building in Portugal. Ms. Bicudo is an artisan from São Miguel, Açores.

Contact the library for more information.

Howland-Green Library

"Essence of New Bedford: Photographs by Members of the Whaling City Camera Club"

June 12 – July 3

A satellite exhibit of the Whaling City Camera Club's photographs, with an emphasis on images of New Bedford's South End community.

Lawler Library

"Essence of New Bedford: Photographs by Members of the Whaling City Camera Club"

August 7 – September 4

A satellite exhibit of the Whaling City Camera Club's photographs, with an emphasis on images taken by the Club's teen members.

New Bedford Art Museum, 608 Pleasant St.

"Taking Flight! The Birds of John James Audubon"

June 5 – September 11

Opening Reception – June 5, 6 – 8pm (free)

The Library is joining forces with the Art Museum to display 60 Audubon engravings from the Library's collection. John James Audubon's work, *The Birds of America*, redefined the field of ornithological illustration in the early 19th century. In 1866, whaling merchant James Arnold donated four volumes of this work to the New Bedford Library. This is a rare opportunity to see these beautiful, hand-colored engravings, which have not been viewed by the public in more than 30 years. Contact the Museum at 508-961-3072 for more information. (Admission fee)

Kidz Korner

Lawler's New Teen Room

The new Teen Room at the Francis J. Lawler Library was officially opened on Saturday, March 27 with simultaneous snips of bright yellow caution tape by Mayor Scott Lang, Ward 5 City Councilor Jane Gonsalves, Library Director Stephen Fulchino, Rotary Club President David Biggs, and Teen Advisory Board Members Rebekah Bailey and Abishai Savino. The gala event was planned by the teen advisory board under the guidance of Branch Manager Denise Plaskon.

Library Board of Trustees Vice-Chair Carl Cruz served as master of ceremonies and introduced local dignitaries who spoke, including: Mayor Lang, Representative Antonio F. D. Cabral, City Council President Dennis Lawrence, Jr., Ms. Gonsalves, City Councilor Joseph Lopes, Mr. Biggs, Nancy Feeney, treasurer of the Friends of the New Bedford Free Public Library, Mr. Fulchino, Ms. Plaskon, and Teen Advisory Board Members Mr. Savino and Ms. Bailey. Also attending were Library Trustees Mary-Ellen Bergeron, Elsie R. Fraga, and Helen Rogers.

Members of the Teen Advisory Board designed both the invitation and the program to the grand opening with help from Lawler flyer design guru, Matt Moniz. The room was set up to provide glimpses of upcoming events such as duct tape and origami workshops. Refreshments served included delicious pastries baked by Beth Campbell, mother of Teen Advisory Board Member Cali Campbell.

Future programs include: a digital camera workshop, a book club, and a basket making workshop. Movie matinees scheduled are *Stardust* on Monday, May 10th at 3:30 p.m. and *Coraline* on Tuesday, May 25th at 4:00 p.m.

The Teen Room was funded with a LSTA Grant from the Massachusetts Board of Library Commissioners and additional funding from the Rotary Club of New Bedford and the Friends of the New Bedford Free Public Library.



Left to Right: Stephen Fulchino, David Biggs, Abishai Savino, Jane Gonsalves, Rebekah Bailey and Mayor Scott Lang

Lawler's 50th Anniversary Extravaganza!

Join us in celebrating the Lawler Library's 50th anniversary on Saturday, June 19, from 11am – 4pm.

Enjoy music, vintage cars, food, face-painting and more! The Friends of the New Bedford Free Public Library will also hold its first ever book sale. A highlight of the day will be the drawing for the winner of the author autograph quilt, also sponsored by the Friends. For more details about this very special quilt, see below.

Own a One-of-a-Kind Quilt

Has anyone ever asked you for your John Hancock? Of course they want your signature. Autographs have become very collectible whether it's one of a favorite singer, actor, or other public figure.

To help underwrite the cost of the Lawler Library's 50th anniversary celebration, the Friends of the New Bedford Free Public Library are sponsoring an author autograph quilt raffle.

Lawler Library patron Ellen Petrie, a skilled quilter, constructed the quilt and donated the fabric. Library Assistant Janis Gomes compiled a list of authors, composed a letter, found addresses and e-mails and began to solicit signatures. Ms. Gomes even recruited a friend living in California with celebrity connections to obtain autographs.

The goal of 30 signatures has already been surpassed. Such notable authors as David Baldacci, Nora Roberts, Nelson DeMille, Sue Grafton, Linda Howard, Debbie Macomber, Doris Kearns Goodwin, Dave Pelzer, and Maya Angelou have returned signed swatches.

Massachusetts authors Mary Kruger, Sally Gunning, Stuart Frank, and Barbara Delinsky are participating.

Writer-politicians John Kerry and Al Gore have signed swatches and actor-authors William Shatner, Carrie Fisher and Sharon Stone are among the celebrities who joined in.

Raffle tickets are \$2.00 each or three for \$5.00. Tickets may be purchased at all library locations or from members of the Friends.

The quilt will be on display at the Lawler Library; on AHA! Nights, May 13 and June 10, it will be on display at the Main Library. A picture of the quilt will also be on the Friends web site: www.nbfpl.org.

The drawing will take place at the Lawler Library 50th anniversary celebration on Saturday, June 19.

Miss New Bedford Visits Library

On April 22, a class visiting the Main Library from Carney Academy received a special treat when Miss New Bedford 2010, Ashley Hebert, celebrated Earth Day with them. Miss Hebert read to the class and did a special Earth Day craft with them. Children were also able to ask questions about being Miss New Bedford.

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!



May

- Balogh, Mary – *A Secret Affair*
- Child, Lee – *61 Hours*
- Griffin, Emily – *Heart of the Matter*
- Harris, Charlaine – *Dead in the Family*
- Junger, Sebastian – *War* (nonfic)
- King, Stephen – *Blockade Billy*
- Larsson, Stieg – *The Girl Who Kicked the Hornet's Nest*
- Michaels, Fern – *Return to Sender*
- Palmer, Diana – *Dangerous*
- Parker, Robert – *Blue-Eyed Devil*
- Perry, Thomas – *Strip*
- Preston, Douglas – *Fever Dream*
- Sandford, John – *Storm Prey*
- Turow, Scott – *Innocent*

June

- Brashares, Ann – *My Name is Memory*
- Cabot, Meg – *Insatiable*
- Coulter, Catherine – *Whiplash*
- Cussler, Clive – *The Spy*
- Deaver, Jeffery – *The Burning Wire*
- DeMille, Nelson – *The Lion*
- Evanovich, Janet – *Sizzling Sixteen*
- Gerritsen, Tess – *Ice Cold*
- Green, Jane – *Promises to Keep*
- Hamilton, Laurell K. – *Bullet*
- Koontz, Dean – *Frankenstein : Lost Souls*
- Lowell, Elizabeth – *Death Echo*
- Martini, Steve – *The Rule of Nine*
- Neggers, Carla – *The Whisper*
- Patterson, James – *Private*
- Slaughter, Karin – *Broken*
- Steel, Danielle – *Family Ties*
- Thayer, Nancy – *Beachcombers*
- Thor, Brad – *Foreign Influence*

July

- Burke, James Lee – *The Glass Rainbow*
- Connelly, John – *Whisperers*
- Davidson, MaryJanice – *Undead and Unfinished*
- Gardner, Lisa – *Live to Tell*
- Isaacs, Susan – *As Husbands Go*
- Jance, J.A. – *Queen of the Night*
- Johansen, Iris – *Shadow Zone*
- Kava, Alex – *Damaged*
- Lackey, Mercedes – *Sleeping Beauty*
- McCall Smith, Alexander – *Corduroy Mansions*
- Roberts, Nora – *The Search*
- Silva, Daniel – *The Rembrandt Affair*
- Turtledove, Harry – *West and East: The War That Came Early*
- Wiener, Jennifer – *Fly Away Home*

Trustees of the New Bedford Free Public Library: Mayor Scott Lang, Carl Cruz, Rev. Constantine S. Bebis, Mary-Ellen Bergeron, Dr. John Fletcher, Elsie R. Fraga, James L. Henry, Helen Rogers, Dr. Joseph Silva, Jr., Barry G. Trahan

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

May

Lawler	May 11 @4pm – Teen movie: <i>Stardust</i> May 15 @11am – <i>Ratatouille</i> May 18 @2pm – <i>Precious</i> May 25@4pm – Teen movie: <i>Coraline</i>
Wilks	May 22 @11am – <i>Bolt</i> May 24 @3pm – <i>Sherlock Holmes</i> (2009)
Howland-Green	May 22 @2pm – <i>2012</i> May 29 @2pm – <i>Hotel for Dogs</i>
Casa da Saudade	May 15 @2pm – <i>Underdog</i> May 17 @3pm – <i>Bright Star</i>
Main	May 12 @6pm – <i>Where the Wild Things Are</i> May 19 @2pm – <i>Mama Mia</i> May 19 @6pm – <i>The Princess and the Frog</i>

June

Lawler	June 1 @2pm – <i>Mona Lisa Smile</i> June 8 @4pm – Teen movie: <i>I am Legend</i> June 12 @1pm – <i>The Princess and the Frog</i> June 15 @2pm – <i>The Blind Side</i> June 22 @4pm – Teen movie: <i>Race to Witch Mountain</i>
Wilks	June 12 @11am – <i>Aladdin</i> June 19 @11am – <i>Inkheart</i> June 21 @11am – <i>Confessions of a Shopaholic</i>
Howland-Green	June 12 @2pm – <i>The Princess and the Frog</i> June 26 @2pm – <i>Tyler Perry's I Can Do Bad All by Myself</i>
Casa da Saudade	June 12 @2pm – <i>Planet 51</i> June 14 @3pm – <i>Behind the Sun</i> (in Portuguese)
Main	June 16 @6pm – <i>How to Eat Fried Worms</i> June 16 @2pm – <i>West Side Story</i>

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!

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 da Saudade – Portuguese story hour – Tuesday, May 25 @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
- Thursdays @6pm
- Casa da Saudade Library
- Wednesdays @11am
- Saturdays @11am

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

Exhibits

See page 2 for a listing of exhibits and related events.

May

- 6 **Writers' Group** – Come discuss your work and get tips and feedback. All writers welcome.
Wilks Library; 6 – 7:30pm
- 7, 10, 20, 25 **Scrabble Scramble** – Come play Scrabble!
➤ Lawler Library; 1 – 3pm
- 8 **Teen Book Club** – May's book is *Do Hard Things* by Alex and Bret Harris
➤ Lawler Library; 6pm
- 11 **Lawler Library Book Club** – May's book is *The Heretic's Daughter* by Kathleen Kent.
➤ Lawler Library; 2 – 4pm
- 18 **Wilks Library Book Club** – May's book is *The Book Thief* by Markus Zusak.
➤ Wilks Library; 6 – 7:30pm
- 20 **Teen Digital Camera Workshop**
➤ Lawler Library; 5:30pm

June

- 3 **Teen Book Club** – Book to be decided.
➤ Lawler Library; 6pm
- 4, 10, 14, 22 **Scrabble Scramble** – Come play Scrabble!
➤ Lawler Library; 1 – 3pm
- 5 **Film: *The Haunted Cry of a Long Gone Bird*** – Richard Wheeler presents his documentary that follows 1500-mile kayak trek from Newfoundland to Massachusetts along the migration path of the extinct seabird the Great Auk. Followed by a walk to the New Bedford Art Museum for more discussion and to see the Audubon exhibit.
➤ Main Library; 2pm
- 5 **Opening Reception – "Taking Flight! The Birds of John James Audubon"**
➤ New Bedford Art Museum, 608 Pleasant St.; 6 – 8pm
- 8 **Lawler Library Book Club** – June's book is *The Wild Girl* by Jim Fergus.
➤ Lawler Library; 2 – 4pm
- Opening Reception – "The Mirror of a Culture"**
➤ Casa da Saudade Library; 6:30pm
- 10 **Writers' Group** – Come discuss your work and get tips and feedback. All writers welcome.
➤ Wilks Library; 6 – 7:30pm
- 15 **Wilks Library Book Club** – June's book is *A Tree Grows in Brooklyn* by Betty Smith
➤ Wilks Library; 6 – 7:30pm
- 19 **Lawler's 50th Anniversary Party and Friends Book Sale** (see page 4 for more details)
➤ Lawler Library; 11am – 4pm

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

3rd 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

3rd 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

Monday:	10am – 6pm
Tuesday:	12pm – 8pm
Wednesday:	10am – 6pm
Thursday:	12pm – 8pm
Friday:	closed
Saturday:	9am – 5pm

Lawler

745 Rockdale Ave.
508-991-6216

Monday:	10am – 6pm
Tuesday:	12pm – 8pm
Wednesday:	closed
Thursday:	12pm – 8pm
Friday:	10am – 6pm
Saturday:	9am – 5pm

Bookmobile

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

History of Lawler

The first branch library to serve the West End of the New Bedford was not the Lawler Library. The first West End library, shown in the photograph below, was opened on September 14, 1907 above a police station erected in 1898 at the northeast corner of Kempton Street and Cedar Street.

In 1933, the Police moved out and the library relocated to the first floor. During the Second World War the upper floor of that building was used as a USO servicemen's club and later still it was the clubroom for the West End Youth Center.

Later the library was moved to a building at the southeast corner of Kempton Street and Rockdale Avenue and opened there on January 23, 1950.

After the war, the city expanded westward, and it was clear that area needed improved library services. The funding for a new library building came from a bequest of Sylvia Ann Howland Green Wilks, daughter of Hetty Green. In January 1958, the Park Department approved a site for the Lawler Branch at Buttonwood Park. The former library site at the corner of Kempton and Rockdale was later used as a pharmacy, and now is a T-Mobile store.



The laying of the cornerstone for the Francis J. Lawler Library took place on March 17, 1958 and the Library was dedicated on March 27, 1960.

Cut here for an Hours & Locations bookmark