

# HAMDEN LIBRARY NEWS

Hamden Public Library at 3 locations: Miller Memorial Central Library · 2901 Dixwell Avenue · 287-2680  
 Brundage Community Branch · 91 Circular Avenue · 287-2675  
 Whitneyville Branch · 125 Carleton Street · 287-2677



## Teen & Media Renovation Begins



Please excuse our disarray! Painting, carpet and shelving installation and a redistribution of space is scheduled for our new Young Adult and Media Area in the coming weeks. We ask patrons to bear with us during this process, particularly those who borrow audio and video materials from the library.

Plans for this project which is funded by a Public Library Construction Grant, the Hamden Library Board, the Friends of the Hamden Library and the Town of Hamden, include shifting media materials to a variety of open spaces in the library during the renovation. If you can't find what you're looking for, please ask our staff. We thank you for your patience. Be sure to watch for the grand reopening of the new area!

## Library Usage Rises in Face of Economic Downturns

In tough times people turn to their libraries. Libraries, of course, provide free Internet access, job hunting information, up-to-date local, national and financial news. In addition, they are a place to gather, a source for children's activities, recreational reading, they provide support for life-long learning and education and make free entertainment available in the form of DVDs, audiobooks and more. As the 2008-2009 fiscal year drew to a close, reports from each location and department show that Hamden residents, indeed have been using their libraries more than ever.

Total circulation of **446,177** items at all three locations was **up 20,634** from the previous year. In the Children's Department alone, **6,452 more items** circulated during this fiscal year. **Nearly**

**4,000 more** borrowers are now registered to use the library, bringing the total number of users to **56,459**. Computer use within the library and remotely was up as well. The three libraries logged approximately **2,000 additional** in-house sessions. Our website was accessed more than **68,000 times** between February and June while the remote access databases accommodated more than **10,000 searches**. iCONN, Connecticut's statewide "ReSearch Engine" was viewed **31,381** times by Hamden users.

Hamden, along with other libraries across the state, is currently awaiting word on library funding appropriations as they are determined by the final version of state budget. This legislative action will decide the fate of many popular library services in the coming year.

## Online Toolbox



The Hamden Public Library provides a variety of online services to its patrons, a majority of which can be accessed from home via the Internet. In each issue the newsletter profiles one of these services. Ask library staff for a demonstration or help with any of our online services or databases.

**TITLE:** Ancestry Library

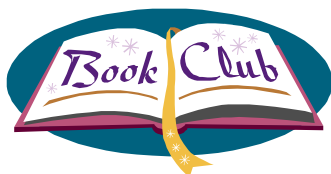
**SUBJECT:** Genealogy research

**HOW TO FIND:** Use in library only

**HOW TO USE:** Ancestry Library is a commercial database available by subscription only. Although basic home subscriptions cost between \$12.95 and \$29.95 per month, Hamden Public Library makes access to this database free to anyone using it at any of the 3 library locations. Included are vital records, immigration, land, census, voter, tax, and military records, wills and trusts, financial records and newspaper archives. They are searchable by name, geographic location and year. In addition to the information included in these records, it is possible to view photocopies of the actual documents online. This information is invaluable to family history researchers.

## Noteworthy:

### BOOK DISCUSSIONS:



The monthly Library Book Discussion Group, planned and organized by Reference Librarian Pam Ross with financial support from the Friends of the Hamden Library, will meet on Monday, September 28<sup>th</sup> to discuss Mary Ann Shaffer & Annie Barrows' *The Guernsey Literary and Potato Peel Pie Society* and on Monday, October 26<sup>th</sup> for a discussion of *Broken Window* by Jeffrey Deaver. Meetings begin at 7 pm. Copies of both books will be available for circulation prior to the discussions.

### **Quotable:**

Craig Silverstein, Google's director of technology and the first employee hired at Google says: "My guess is it'll be about 300 years until computers are as good as, say, your local reference library in doing search. – *UIC Library News*.

### HOW DO YOU LIKE YOUR AUDIOBOOKS?

In addition to our classic books-on-tape, we have, of course expanded to books-on-CD and, more recently, Playaways—all of which may be checked out from the library. Now, thanks to the Connecticut State Library, patrons may download a variety of classic and popular audiobook titles to their home Mac or PC from the Internet via the Hamden Library website at [www.hamdenlibrary.org](http://www.hamdenlibrary.org). Users will also need to download a free plug-in to transfer the audio files to their computer, iPod or other mp3 player or burned to CD. Each audiobook will be available for a lending period of 7 or 14 days.

Sign-up for  
**Library News** in  
your **e-mail**.

Ask for a form at any  
public service desk.

### **The Mission of The Hamden Public Library**

The Hamden Public Library, the community's information center, provides a variety of library resources, access to innovative technology and a knowledgeable staff to improve the quality of life and meet the informational, educational and cultural interests of the entire Hamden community.

## Nutmeg Nominees @ Your Library

Each year 10 juvenile books are nominated for the intermediate level Nutmeg Book Award in Connecticut. Students in grades 4 to 6 are urged to read as many of the books as possible and cast a ballot for their favorite in statewide voting held in January. In Hamden, these books are included as summer reading choices for public school students.

This fall Hamden Public Library will launch two new activities to foster reading and discussion of this year's nominees among Hamden students. 4<sup>th</sup> to 6<sup>th</sup> graders are invited to add their thoughts on the nominees to the library's Nutmeg Book Blog at [hamdennutmegreaders.blogspot.com](http://hamdennutmegreaders.blogspot.com) or through the children's section of the library's webpage at [www.hamdenlibrary.org](http://www.hamdenlibrary.org). In addition, Brundage Community Branch will hold a series of five informal discussions of the Nutmeg nominees beginning in October for neighborhood children in grades 4 to 6. Call the library at 287-2675 or watch for more information on dates and times of these discussions.

Greater New Haven celebrates  
**Magic Week**

See magician and mentalist,  
**Keith Zalinger**  
perform @ your library

(Watch for further information.)

## Drop-in Storytimes

You missed out on storytime registration day at Miller Library? You're on the waiting list? You can't commit to a specific time or day, but you'd like your preschooler to have the experience of library storytimes? Then drop-in storytimes are for you! Both library branches offer drop-in storytimes for preschoolers on a weekly basis. **Brundage Community Branch** at 91 Circular Ave. has drop-in storytimes on **Mondays at 10:30 a.m.** while **Whitneyville Branch** at 125 Carleton Street offers drop-in storytime on **Tuesdays at 10:45 a.m.** No registration is needed.

## HotFlashes!!!

Forthcoming books by your favorite authors. Reserve a copy today.

### September

Atwood, Margaret	The Year of the Flood
Beaton, M.C.	There Goes the Bride
Brown, Dan	The Lost Symbol
Cain, Chelsea	Evil at Heart
Dawkins, Richard	The Greatest Show on Earth
Doctorow, E.L.	Homer & Langley
Ellroy, James	Blood's A Rover
Ferguson, Craig	America on Purpose
Gabaldon, Diana	An Echo in the Bone
Lethem, Jonathan	Chronic City
Lindsay, Jeff	Dexter by Design
McCall Smith, A.	The Lost Art of Gratitude
Mitchard, Jacquelyn	No Time to Wave Goodbye
Niffenegger, Audrey	Her Fearful Symmetry
Paretsky, Sara	Hardball
Patterson, James	The Murder of King Tut
Patterson, Richard N.	The Spire
Sandford, John	Rough Country
Shreve, Anita	A Change in Attitude
Sparks, Nicholas	The Last Song
Woods, Stuart	Hothouse Orchid

### October

Byatt, A.S.	The Children's Book
Connelly, Michael	Nine Dragons
Cornwell, Patricia	The Scarpetta Factor
Evans, Richard Paul	The Christmas List
Ferris, Monica	Blackwork
Fletcher, Jessica	A Fatal Feast
Fluke, Joanne	Plum Pudding Murder
Flynn, Vince	Pursuit of Honor
Harris, Charlene	Grave Secret
Harris, E.Lynn	Mama Dearest
Irving, John	Last Night in Twisted River
Johnsen, Iris	Blood Game
Kellerman, Jonathan	Evidence
Koontz, Dean	Nevermore
Lethem, Jonathan	Chronic City
Parker, Robert B.	The Professional
Rice, Anne	Angel Time
Saul, John	House of Reckoning
Steel, Danielle	Southern Lights

**Miller Library Storytime Registration**  
Thursday, Sep. 10<sup>th</sup> @ 10 a.m.

*Hamden residents only may register on this day,*  
(Residents of other towns may register beginning Sep 11)

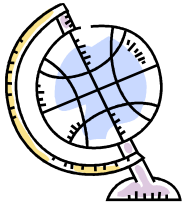
**Time for Twos:** Tues. 10:15 age-appropriate stories, songs & musical activities. Parents actively participate.

**Wonderful Ones:** Wed *or* Thurs 10:15. Rhymes, finger games, and stories. Parents actively participate.

**Thrilling Threes & Fours:** Thurs 11:30. Stories & craft activities. Parents do not participate. They may remain in the room or visit other parts of the library, but they may not leave the building.

*For further information call 230-3770*

Our summer reading game's done for another year. That means new school assignments soon will be here. The Hamden Library Children's Room is ready for you. When you need to find answers or learn something new. Just come in and ask us for help—we'll gladly comply—So you can give each school project your very best try.



# CHILDREN'S CORNER

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**Special Children's Programs**  
at Miller Library  
(September-October 2009)

Tuesday Sep 15 **Fall Craft** 4:15 (ages 4-10)

Wednesday Oct 14 **Halloween Craft** 4:15 (ages 4-10)

Tuesday Oct 20 **Science Snoopers: Go Batty!** 4:15  
(ages 5 & up)

Thursday Oct 22 **Dental Health/Free Toothbrush!** 10:30  
(ages 3-5)

Tuesday Oct 27 **Creative Drama** w/ Ingrid Schaeffer  
6 pm (ages 4-6)  
7 pm (ages 7 & up)

Wed Oct 28 **Pumpkin Decorating** 4:15 (ages 4 & up)

*Registration is required for all programs.*  
Call 230-3770 for more information.

## Friends Group to Host Fall Programs

On Thursday September 17, 2009 at 6:30 pm at the Miller Memorial Central Library, 2901 Dixwell Ave., The Friends of the Hamden Library and the Harbor Program of Maple Woods Assisted Living Center will present an interesting program entitled "Moments Count: Living With People With Memory Impairment". Mary Hershkowitz, MA Harbor Program Consultant and Patricia Liljedahl, TRD Program Director, Maple Woods, Hamden will share helpful tips for every family struggling with memory impairment. Learn about the warning signs, Alzheimer's and other dementias, how to spend

quality time with your loved one, and local resources available to help you relieve caregiver stress. Q & A to follow.

On Saturday October 17, 2009 at 2:00 pm at the Miller Memorial Central Library, 2901 Dixwell Ave., The Friends of the Hamden Library will present mystery writer Evelyn David. Ms. David is the author of "Murder Off The Books" and "Murder Takes The Cake". Author David will give her audience and insider's view of the mystery business, the writing process, and the development of a successful series. Her books will be available for purchase and signing at the end of the program.

*Visit the Library on the Web at [www.hamdenlibrary.org](http://www.hamdenlibrary.org)*