



South Hadley Public Library News

Winter 2009

A Note on the Winter Parking Ban

The Town of South Hadley's winter parking ban is a *residential* parking ban. Parking is allowed for local businesses and for the library. Short-term parking is allowed on Bardwell Street for library use. The ban does not affect parking on Carew or Gaylord streets.

A Safe Return on Your Investment

As citizens and taxpayers, every resident has a share in our library. The library accounts for 1.3% of the total town budget, or roughly \$40.14 of the average family's annual tax bill. Are you getting the most from your investment?

Did you borrow a movie, saving almost \$5 from each video store rental?

Did you borrow a book, saving almost \$20 from each purchase?

Did you listen to an audio book on CD, saving almost \$40 each time?

Did you attend one of our many programs for children or adults, with

no admission charge?

Have you received professional assistance with a job search, genealogy request, homework, or technology question?

From 2008-2009, the library budget increased by 3% while circulation increased by 9%! The number of library cards approached 9,000 while attendance at public programs reached 2,000 children and 800 adults.

We hope you got more than your \$40 worth and look forward to being a wise and sound investment by the community.

Instant (Inter-Library Loan) Messaging

Have you placed a request for materials from other libraries? The library handled almost 25,000 requests last year! We wish it were instant, but requests can take anywhere from a couple of days to a couple of weeks depending on availability. Library staff run reports at least twice daily to keep track of items being requested from our library, and this process is repeated at libraries across the state. Some items go directly to the hold shelf

for you, while others are sorted and bundled for delivery to other libraries. The Western Massachusetts Regional Library System provides daily delivery to our library, but may visit smaller libraries once or twice per week. You can check your record online by going to the library catalog and logging in to view your requests. If something has arrived for you, it will show **"Ready for Pickup."** The status of **"Available"** means it's not checked out at the

owning library, but may not have been pulled from their shelf to come our way yet. An **"In Transit"** message means the item is on the delivery van (but not necessarily for you!) while **"On Holdshelf"** means it is set aside for someone (but again, not necessarily you!). If you have any questions about the process or feel you've been waiting a long time for something, please ask at the Reference or Circulation Desk and we'll be happy to look into it.

Adult Programs: Mark the Calendar

- * January 12—Red Cross Blood Drive
- * January 27—Dollar Scholar Solution Hour
- * January 31—Library Lovers Appreciation with the Friends of the Library
- * February 11—Author Janina Stankiewicz Chung
- * February 18—Spirits, Hauntings, & Messages
- * February 24—Dollar Scholar Solution Hour
- * March 9—Nature Musical Slide Show
- * March 30—Red Cross Blood Drive

Party Time in Youth Services—You're Invited!

If it's winter then that means party time in the Youth Services Department! It all begins on Monday, January 26th at 6:00PM when we celebrate the start of the **Chinese New Year** with Chinese crafts and refreshments. Monday, February 23rd will be our annual **Mardi Gras** fun at 6:00PM. There will be games, King Cake and doubloons for all. Then on Monday, March 23rd at 6:00PM is our annual **Beach Party**. Come in your beach attire and dance to the Beach Boys. The only thing missing will be the sun and sand. For more information on the parties or to register stop by the library to sign up for the fun!

In conjunction with PBS and WGBY we will again be offering two science related programs for children ages three through six. PBS's hit television show for pre-school age children entitled "**Sid the Science Kid**" encourages children to explore the world of science. At both of the programs, children will participate in investigations using hands-on science where they will learn how to answer a question such as "Why does ice cream melt?" The programs will be held on Tuesday, January 27th at 10:00AM and 11:00AM and Tuesday, March 31st at 10:00AM and 11:00AM. To register your child for one or

more of the sessions call or stop by the library.

Chess Club with chess master Andy Morris-Friedman will be offered again this winter. Classes will be held on the Wednesdays in January from 3:30PM to 5:00PM. Children of all ages are invited to attend. For children under the age of 10 a parent or guardian will need to be in attendance.

Back by popular demand on Tuesday, February 17th at 2:00PM will be Julie Collier of **Wingmasters** who will delight the audience with live birds of prey. Ms. Collier always has a standing room only crowd for her programs. Included in the menagerie will be a golden eagle along with an assortment of other birds that are being rehabilitated. This program is open for patrons age five through adult. Please, no babies or pre-school age children. Due to the keen senses the birds have, the activity and noise level of young children disturbs the birds.

Don't miss these fun-filled activities. For more information you can ask Meg Clancy, Youth Services Librarian or check the Youth Room activities board on the ramp near the Youth Room.

Public Computers and Your Privacy

Hundreds of people use our computers. Help protect yourself against identity theft by taking the following steps:

- For Email and other online accounts, make sure there is no "*Remember Me On This Computer*" or other similar message box checked off
- Don't leave scraps of paper with personal information on them
- Never share your credit card or library card number and passwords with others
- Only shop from trusted online retailers; if the price from an unknown website is too good to be true—it probably is
- If you find another person's information pre-typed on your screen, please alert library staff immediately

Winter Book Discussions

Mondays @6:30 pm:

January 15—*An Arsonists' Guide to Writers' Homes in New England*

by Brock Clarke

February 9—*Uphill Walkers*

by Madeleine Blais

March—To be announced: this year's

SOUTH HADLEY READS title!

South Hadley Public Library

27 Bardwell Street

South Hadley, MA 01075

Phone: 413-538-5045

www.shadleylib.org