

CHECK IT OUT

Spring 2009

A Publication of
The Friends of the
Raynham Public Library, Inc.

*The Friends of the
Raynham Public Library
help make our library a
thriving community center
for intellectual discovery
and lifelong learning.*

Friends

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Raynham Public Library

<http://raynhampubliclibrary.org>

760 South Main Street

Raynham, MA 02767

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Eden Fergusson, Director
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Library Hours

Monday-Thursday, 10 a.m.-8 p.m.

Friday, 10 a.m.-5 p.m.

Saturdays, 10 a.m.-3 p.m.

Welcome to the first
publication of *Check
It Out*, a newsletter
designed to keep library patrons
informed about events, activities
and news from the Raynham
Public Library.

The newsletter is brought to you
by The Friends of the Raynham
Public Library, Inc. a group of
library enthusiasts who work to
provide programming of interest to
the community, raise money to
enhance the work of the library,
and support the library's efforts in
these difficult financial times.

Our library is facing a very
difficult financial future. Library
funding is dependent on state and
town support and is in danger of
serious cuts at a time when
demand for library services grows.

Enter The Friends, a membership
organization that asks for little but
can give so much. Membership is
inexpensive and gives patrons the
opportunity to support all that the
library gives to each one of us:
books, videos, CDs, computer
access, research assistance,
children's programming, museum
passes, and more. As more and
more people use our library, it
becomes equally imperative that
we, as a community, must support
what we so highly value.

Support your library. Become a
member of The Friends.

Book sale May 23

The Friends is hosting a book sale
on Saturday, May 23, 10 a.m. to 3
p.m. Donate books by dropping
them off at the library Wednesday,
May 20 through Friday, May 22
during library business hours.

The sale will offer great deals on
great books, as well as baked
goods donated by town Girl Scout
troops #80444, #80989 and #436.

All proceeds from the sale will
help pay for the library's much
used Museum Pass program.

Library funding is cut by 3 percent

The Raynham Public Library will
probably have to work with a 3
percent budget cut --- a loss of
\$8,400 --- in the coming year.

Raynham's municipal budget,
which was approved by the
Finance Committee and will go to
voters at the Town Meeting on
May 18, calls for a 3 percent
reduction in library funding for
fiscal year 2010, following two
years of level-funded budgets.

The cut will force a reduction in
library hours, beginning July 1.
The library will close at 6 p.m. on
Thursdays and 2 p.m. on Saturdays.
As part of the cut, the library will
also lose \$5,000 from its book
budget, resulting in a further
reduction of \$5,000 in state aid,
bringing next year's total budget
loss to more than \$13,000.

The Library Board of Trustees is
concerned that the cutbacks could
jeopardize the library's state
certification, which would affect
state aid and the ability of
Raynham residents to borrow
books from other area libraries
through the SAILS program. The
trustees have recommended that
the town apply for a waiver of the
Municipal Appropriations
Requirement from the
Massachusetts Board of Library
Commissioners. The waiver would
allow the town to defer meeting
the state requirements for one year.

"We recognize that times are
difficult," says Library Director
Eden Fergusson. "The waiver
process allows us to continue the
quality of service our patrons
expect. Our commitment to our
users will in no way diminish."

If you would like your name added
to or removed from our newsletter's
email list, contact us at
friendsoftheraynhamlibrary@gmail.com

Friends launches One Book-One Community in June

One Book - One Community Programs are cropping up in towns all over the country. They bring people together around a single topic, to share and discuss a common experience.

In June, The Friends will launch the town's second One Book - One Community program with *A Walk in the Woods: Rediscovering America on the Appalachian Trail* by Bill Bryson. This New York Times bestseller follows Bryson on the Appalachian Trail as he encounters nature in often hilarious situations.

The Raynham Read will include a guest speaker from the Appalachian Mountain Club, a literary discussion of the book, group walks and a children's event. Share your thoughts on the book at <http://raynhamreads.wordpress.com/> or by going to the library's website at <http://raynhampubliclibrary.org>.

Did you know?

More than 350 families have used the library's museum passes this year, saving more than \$8,000 collectively. Did you know that the library purchases those passes at a cost of more than \$2,000 per year?

Help The Friends defray that sizeable cost by contributing to our May Book Sale. All proceeds will benefit the library's valuable museum pass program. Book sale details are on the preceding page.

What's it worth?

How much do you and your family save by using your library? Find out what your library is worth. Check it out at <http://raynhampubliclibrary.org>.

Bookmark contest winners announced

The Friends launched its inaugural bookmark contest, with the help of PTOs from the town's three schools. Children were asked to design a bookmark around the National Library Week theme of Worlds Connect @ Your Library. More than 70 entries were received.

Thanks to all of the children who entered the contest. Winners received book fair or store gift certificates, generously donated by the Parent-Teacher Organizations of the three schools in town. Winning bookmarks are on display at the library or by going to the library website at <http://raynhampubliclibrary.org>.

Preschool

Talia Blake

Alyssa Sterling

Grades K-1

1st place: Amelia Greenlee

2nd place: Julia Ehrenzweig

3rd place: Nathan Putignano

Grades 2-4

1st place: Michael Tomase

2nd place: Hannah Rose Cady

3rd place tie: Adam Whitehill

3rd place tie: Madison Smith

Grades 5-8

1st place: Gianna Scalisi

2nd place: Lindsey Thomas

3rd place: Haley Wayne

Who are we?

A Friends membership is an investment in your library. Here's who belongs. We hope you'll join.
Donald and Norma Bernard
Catherine Bettencourt & Family
Paul and Cheryl Bowen
Pauline M. Breen
Antionette and Dennis Carvalho
Madeline Coelho
Shelley Coelho
Steve and Leslie Damish & Family
Donna Dion
Constance Fleming
Mary Jo Foley
Allison Gingras & Family
Mark Gocal & Family
Kelly & Steve Greenlee & Family
Karen Jackson
Julie and Tim Johnson
Gemma Kochan
Elaine Kyranos
S. LaPlante
Elsie Laverty
Julie Leonard
Lorraine Levy & Family
Diane McGuire
Louis and Marianne Miller
Janice Murphy
Louise Perkins
Paul and Donna Riendeau
Diane Ross & Family
Susan Smith
Alison Wade & Family
Patrice White
Karen Wholley
Tom Wilbur & Family
Mary Zunino

Yes, I would like to become a Friend of the Raynham Library.

Name

Address

City, State, Zip

Home Phone

Email Address

2008-09 Annual Dues:

Family (\$15)

Individual (\$10)

Senior (\$7)

Supporter (\$25)

Please make checks payable to: Friends of the Raynham Public Library, Inc. 760 S. Main Street, Raynham, MA 02767. Friends is currently seeking not-for-profit status. Your membership is good through December 31, 2009.