

Community Connections



**News for the Schools
from the Monson Free Library**

May /June 2009

A Note from Hope...

Welcome teachers and administrators to the maiden voyage of our library newsletter designed especially with you in mind. The goal of producing this document each month is to keep you informed of library programs, services and resources that may be of interest to you and your students.

We want to hear what resources you may need in the classroom. We want to hear about your homework assignments and reading lists. Tell us what you are doing and we will try to help! Please email me, Hope Bodwell, at hbodwell@cwmares.org with any comments or suggestions. In the meantime, enjoy this May/June edition and enjoy your summer vacations. We will be back again in September with more great news to share!

Summer Reading...for fun, for school, for the community!

Summer reading is really getting kicked up a notch this year! Not only is there summer reading requirements for the schools, and the annual summer reading program at the library, we've also added a "Read Around Town" series to include the community!

First, for all you teachers reading this...please get us a copy of your required summer reading lists as soon as possible. When we have those in hand, we gather all the required books and dedicate a special area where the students can browse. If our copies are out or we do not own the book, we can borrow copies within a few days from libraries all over western and central Massachusetts. For reluctant readers we also offer many books on audio, either on CD or on a Playaway (a MP3 player loaded with one book....very cool!)

As far as our annual library reading initiative, we are getting ready to blast off with the statewide theme of Starship Adventures @ Your Library. I like to think of it as an out of this world experience!

While you are celebrating the last day of school on June 16, the library will be opening early at 11:00 am to entice the students to a Summer Reading Kick-Off Party! We tried this last year and it was so successful we had to do it again! There will be games, crafts and refreshments and of course, the ability to sign-up for our program. Our annual initiative inspires the younger children to read at least 15 minutes per day and our teen and adult programs allow you to read up to a baker's dozen of books, receive raffle tickets for what you've read and then you are in the running for some great prizes thanks to the generosity of the Friends of the Library. There will be special events such as music, tie-dye and a star lab scattered throughout the summer to keep you entertained!

Finally, Dr. Spitulnik and I have been devising a great Read Around Program to motivate Pre-K through 4th grade students to continue reading during the summer as well as introduce them to prominent people and places in our community. Once a week for the eight weeks of summer we will be visiting such places as Dean Pond, Monson Savings Bank, the Police and Fire Departments, Adams, Westview Farms and many more! The children will be entertained with stories and get a chance to meet some community leaders and get a tour of their facilities.

Keep a look out for the calendar we are creating with all these great events as well as the library card drive that will be held at the schools in early June to get everyone, students and teachers alike, ready for a summer of reading fun!

Database of the Month This month we are featuring **FACTS FOR LEARNING**.

Facts for Learning teaches your students research skills using the sources they already use and enjoy, like Weekly Reader Classroom magazines, Issues & Controversies On File, The World Almanac and Book of Facts and The World Almanac for Kids.

The Facts For Learning Elementary School Module teaches younger students how to ask questions, use core reference resources, understand indexes, choose research topics, search online, and read charts and graphs.

The Facts For Learning Middle School Module also provides core reference content for middle school students of all levels. The more sophisticated interface and subject matter respect their abilities, but still deliver content written for students in grades 5-8.

Visit our website, www.monsonlibrary.com , click “On-line databases” then select **FACTS FOR LEARNING and type in your library card number OR go directly to <http://www.factsforlearning.com/remlib.asp?library=monson>**

**ADL “No Place for Hate”® grant helps promote
Diversity, Understanding , and Acceptance**

Thanks to an ADL “No Place for Hate”® grant awarded to the Monson Community Relations Committee, with matching funds provided by the Monson Free Library and the Monson Arts Council, the library is proud to be involved with two great projects focusing on the Monson Schools.

The first project is an Acceptance Mural that will be designed and created by ten middle school students under the direction of artist, Shelly Shicoff. The design of the mural will reflect Acceptance, and when completed will be hung at Granite Valley Middle School as a permanent fixture. Shelly directed the creation of the mural that hangs outside of Adam's supermarket, and also the Diversity Mural that was created last summer by high school students and that is permanently hung at the Monson High School. The mural will be created on the dates of July 20-23, and July 27-30 (Monday-Thursday), from 9:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m. each of those days. Applications will be available at GVMS starting the week of May 18.

The second project funded by this grant is the purchase of anti-bullying resources for a variety of age levels that will be available for school and community use at the Monson Free Library. To coordinate with the anti-bullying initiative at the schools, the library has worked with guidance counselor Amy Scully to determine the needs of the teachers, students and parents.

On the next page is a list of the *NEW* resources we have recently purchased, but don't forget, we do have much more that is not listed here! Visit our on-line catalog at www.monsonlibrary.com and then click “on-line catalog” on left . Type in “bullying” in the keyword search to see what is available!

NEW Anti-Bullying Resources available soon at the Monson Free Library

<u>Title</u>	<u>Grade/Age level</u>
Are You a Good Friend series by Joanne Mattern Includes: Do You Help Others, Do You Listen, Do You Share, Do You Take Turns	(gr. K-2)
Be Confident in Who You Are (Middle School Confidential)	(gr. 5-8)
The Bully, the Bullied, and the Bystander by Barbara Coloroso	Adult
Bullying by Sally Hewitt	(gr. 3+)
Bullying: the Rainbow Club by Annette Aubrey	(gr. 2+)
Cyber bullying – bullying in the digital age by Robin M. Kowalski	Adult
Good-bye Bully Machine by Debbie Fox / Allan Beane	(ages 8+)
Just Kidding by Trudy Ludwig	(ages 9-12)
Making Friends by Sarah Leveté	(gr. 2+)
My Secret Bully by Trudy Ludwig	(ages 5-11)
Nobody Knew what to do by Becky Rae McCain	(ages 4-8)
PBS Growing Up Online DVD	(gr. 7-12)
PBS Taking a Stand, Bullying Prevention DVDs Includes: A Teacher's Guide to Bullying Prevention, Bullies, Cyber Bullies, Bully Girls	(gr. 7-12)
Racism by Jen Green	(gr. 2+)
Say Something by Peggy Moss	(gr. K-5)
Simons Hook by Karen Burnett	(ages 4-8)

Current Library Hours and Contact Information:

Monday and Wednesday 10:00 —5:00

Tuesday and Thursday 1:00—8:00

Friday 10:00— 6:00

Saturday 10:00—2:00

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