### Children’s Activities
**by Betsey Martel**

**Highlights**

Spring is rapidly approaching and that means a new session for all children’s programming. Registration will begin March 20 for Story Time, Lullaby Lap, Small Adventures, Story Explorers, Family Fun Night and Story Spinners. To ensure your child’s place, please call early.

Homeschool Family Fun Day has a new format! Check out Small Adventures for ages 3-6 and Story Explorers for ages 7-12. Small Adventures will include stories, crafts, games and loads of fun. Story Explorers will develop library skills through games, activities and crafts.

The theme for Family Fun Night this month; Thursday March 16, will be music. Join us for Story Time, Lullaby Lap, Small Adventures for ages 3-6 and Story Explorers, Family Fun Night and Story Spinners. To ensure your child’s place, please call early.

- **Small Adventures (ages 3-6)** and **Story Explorers (ages 7-12)** and their families meet for stories, activities, crafts and more! These groups meet the second Wednesday of the month at 10am.

- **Family Fun Night for ages 4-3rd grade** is an evening story time where we share themed stories, songs, crafts and activities. FFN meets the third Thursday of the month at 6:30pm.

- **Story Spinners for grades 3-5** is held the first and third Tuesdays of the month at the Ferry Street Annex from 3:30-4:45. We read and discuss a book from a series, do themed crafts and have a snack. Diverse reading abilities welcome.

- **Story times for 3-5 year olds:** choose from one of two weekday story times on either Mondays or Thursdays at 10am. We read stories, sing songs and make a craft. Parents stay with their children and participate. Each session runs 8-10 weeks. If someone misses two weeks in a row without calling to keep their place, we must call the next person on the waiting list. Those waiting have first opportunity to register for the new session. All participants must re-register for each new session.

- **Lullaby Lap** for 0-2 year olds will meet every Friday for eight weeks. Complete with tickle songs, nursery rhymes and poems, this program lasts about 45 minutes with the last 15 minutes set aside for parents to read to their child.

- **Craft Days** are held the first and third Saturdays of the month. Come into the Children’s Room any time during the day and make or take a craft (while supplies last).

*Check out our Children’s web page: [http://www.hillsml.lib.nh.us/childrens.asp](http://www.hillsml.lib.nh.us/childrens.asp)*

**Wishing you the luck O’ the Irish!**

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### Reference & Information Department
**by Gayle St. Cyr**

**Announcing Witches, Rakes & Rogues…**

Boston just celebrated the 350th anniversary of its founding. Author D. Brenton Simons, CEO of the New England Historical & Genealogical Society presents us with a new vision of the town’s early history. In his new book, Witches, Rakes & Rogues: True Stories of Scam, Scandal, Murder, and Mayhem in Boston, 1630-1775, Simons convincingly demonstrates the twisting streets of colonial Boston which were crawling with suspected witches, murderers, imposters, con men, and other lowlifes. Most people think of the age previous to the American Revolution as an era of puritanical Bostonians and patriotic colonists. As he notes, Bostonians may have been prayerful, but they were also prurient and violent. He tells us twenty forgotten, but true tales from Boston’s past. Included are a series of colonial witchcraft trials of four local women and digging into the city records, uncovers the startling truth about Boston’s first documented serial murder in “Murder by Arsenie: The Ill-Fated Greenleaf Children.” Also revealed are some family skeletons and skirmishes of the colonial gentry, scandalous affairs, kidnappings and more. This fascinating book is available in the main/adult room. (Call #: 974.46 SIMONS)

**Other Titles of Similar Interest Available:**

- **Black Mass: The Irish Mob, the FBI, & A Devil’s Deal (364.1066 LEHR)**
- **The Boston Stranglers: The Wrongful Conviction of Albert DeSalvo & the True Story of 11 Shocking Murders (364.1523 KELLY)**

**Deadly Greed: The Riveting True Story of the Stuart Murder Case that Rocked Boston & Shocked the Nation.** (364.1523 SHARKEY)

**Witchcraft, Magic & Religion in 17th Century Massachusetts** (345.744 WEISMAN)

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The Fifty-One Percent Minority:

March is Women’s History Month, celebrating the contributions of scholars, scientists, activists, entrepreneurs, queens and presidents, and mothers, daughters and sisters everywhere. Started in Sonoma County, California in 1978 as Women’s History Week, the week quickly gained national recognition and grew to National Women’s History Month. This year’s theme is Women: Builders of Communities and Dreams. For more information on projects and study guides on this topic visit the National Women’s History Project at: [www.nwhp.org](http://www.nwhp.org) For more information, quizzes and helpful links check out the pages from Infoplease.com at: [www.infoplease.com/spot/womenhistory1.html](http://www.infoplease.com/spot/womenhistory1.html) and from reference book publisher Thompson Gale at: [www.galegroup.com/free_resources/wmh/index.htm](http://www.galegroup.com/free_resources/wmh/index.htm)
**Director’s Desk**
*by Toni Weller*

**Tax Season Help**
It’s that time of year again: Tax Season! The Library has reproducible Federal IRS tax forms as well as NH State and Massachusetts State tax forms. We also have the 2006 J.K. Lasser’s Your Income Tax book which you can check out to help you with the paperwork.

AARP offers free tax assistance around the state, and there is a nifty web-locator for the sites they offer at [https://locator.aarp.org/vmis/sites/tax_aide_locator.jsp](https://locator.aarp.org/vmis/sites/tax_aide_locator.jsp)

**Vote March 14**
The Board of Trustees have submitted one library warrant article on the March 14 ballot which they hope will receive favorable consideration by the voters. Warrant Article 9 asks for a 3.5% increase in wages and benefits for employees of the HML.

**College Scholarship**
The Leonard A. Smith Memorial Scholarship will be offered again by the Friends of the Hills Memorial Library. This $500 scholarship is available to a graduating senior who plans to attend college in the fall of 2006. Applicants must be a resident of Hudson and submit their application by May 5, 2006. Application forms can be obtained at the Alvirne Guidance Office. Application forms can also be downloaded from the Library website, [www.hillsm.lib.nh.us/friends.asp](http://www.hillsm.lib.nh.us/friends.asp)

**Adult & Youth Services**
*by Amy Friedman*

**Student Poetry Contest**
To celebrate “Young People’s Poetry Week” April 10-16, the Hills Memorial Library will be holding a poetry contest for Hudson students in pre-school-grade 12. Each student may enter one poem in any format. There will be prizes awarded in four age categories, grade 2 and younger, grades 3-5, grades 6-8 and grades 9-12. Winning poems will be published in The Telegraph and other local newspapers and winners will receive a gift certificate to a local bookstore.

Deadline for the contest is March 24. The winners will be announced the first week in April. Public school students can give their entries to their school librarian. Others can drop their entries off at the library. Please have students put their name, grade and telephone number on the back of their poem.

If you have any questions, please contact us at the Hills Memorial Library, 886-6030

**Scrapbooking Workshop for Adults and Teens, March 13**
Join us on Monday, March 13 at 7 p.m. for a Scrapbooking Workshop. Bring 6-10 pictures on a theme and make them into beautiful scrapbook pages. There is a $10 materials fee for this workshop, tools and materials will be provided. The workshop will be held at 49 Ferry Street, two houses up from the library. Pre-registration is requested. Call 886-6030 ext. 26 or stop by Annex II. This workshop will fill up fast. We are taking names for a waiting list and will plan another workshop in the future for people who are not able to attend.

**Play Reading Circle**
The library holds a monthly play reading circle. Multiple copies of play scripts will be available and participants can take on the roles of characters from the monthly play selection. You may also come and listen to the play reading by others. This is a wonderful chance to listen to great works of theatre come alive vocally, instead of just reading them on the page.

This month we are meeting on Thursday March 30 at 6:30 p.m. to read Woody Allen’s comedies “God” and “Death”. Call 886-6030 ext. 26 for more information or to suggest future plays.

**NEW**

**Morning Book Discussion Group**
“The Five People You Meet in Heaven”

We are starting a new book discussion group for people who are available in the morning. The group will be meeting the third Tuesday of the month at 10 a.m.

This month we will be discussing the bestselling novel *The Five People You Meet in Heaven* by Mitch Albom author of Tuesday’s *With Morrie*. Upcoming discussions include *Seabiscuit* by Laura Hillenbrand on April 17 and *Angela’s Ashes* by Frank McCourt on May 15. Books are available in Annex II. Call 886-6030 ext. 26 for more information or to add your name to our book group mailing list.

**Evening Book Discussion**
“Devil in the White City: Murder, Magic and Madness at the Fair That Changed America”

This month’s meeting is on Tuesday, March 28 at 7 p.m. we will be discussing Erik Larson’s non-fiction book *Devil in the White City: Murder, Magic and Madness at the Fair That Changed America*, the story of the visionary architect behind the Chicago World’s Fair and the murdering madman who preyed on the innocent fairgoers. Books are available in Annex II.