

Main Library

323 Broad St.

(860) 285-1910

Gaye Rizzo,

Director

Wilson Branch

365 Windsor Ave.

(860) 247-8960

Robert Kinney,

Branch Manager

Laura Rossignol, Editor

Next time you are in our lobby waiting to check out your materials be sure to take a peek at our new LCD display. Current highlights include our wonderful READ videos from local Windsor celebrities.

Visit Your Library Without Leaving Home

by Gaye Rizzo

Stuck inside on a wintry day? Don't forget all the wonderful remote services your Windsor Public Library has to offer through your home computer. We call it Windsor's Virtual Public Library. Simply go to windsorlibrary.com and click on the link that interests you. There are lots of research sources such as iConn databases that help you find magazine or newspaper articles or Learning Express that provides study guides and access to Job Search and Skills Workplace Learning. There's even an EBSCO Auto Repair Reference Center to help you fix your car or learn about recall information.

Are you finally finding time to curl up with a cup of hot cocoa and that mystery novel you checked out 3 weeks ago but just received an E-Mail "almost overdue" notice?

Don't despair. From that same library homepage click onto "my account," then "renew." You'll need to type in your card and pin # to view your account, place items on hold or renew that mystery novel you're not ready to part with.

If you're in the mood to listen rather than read that new best seller, simply plug your MP3 player or iPod into your CPU, find a title in electronic format from the thousands listed in our online catalog and download it. It's that quick and easy.

Nothing can replace a visit, in person, to your Windsor Public Library. A friendly and knowledgeable staff is waiting to serve you. There are thousands of books for you to peruse, a large DVD collection, music CDs, books on CD or MP3, photocopiers, fax machine, voter registration and tax forms, meeting and quiet study rooms and an array of programs for every age and interest. On those days when just can't get to the library, though, Windsor's Virtual Library is one way to take advantage of some of its services from the comfort of your home.

Giving Us Your Email Address Can Save You \$\$\$

By providing the library with your email address we can help you in many ways...

- ◆ Receive almost overdue notices to avoid overdue fees
- ◆ Receive first notices and bills
- ◆ Receive hold notifications
- ◆ And, very soon, you will be receiving this very newsletter!

Here are a few tips as you begin to receive these notices...

- ◆ For your almost overdue notices, you may renew your materials by simply clicking on the link within the email. This will bring you directly to our webpage. Click on "My Account."

Looking for a Great Movie?

The Windsor Public Library and the Wilson Branch Library both have extensive DVD and videotape collections. We get the newest titles and we have a wonderful selection of the old classics. In the library catalog you can find movies by title, actor and director. And there is also a "new DVD list" that gives you just the most recently added titles. Some are new 2009 releases including "Gigantic," "Battle for Terra" and "Obsessed." And some of our "new" titles are DVD releases of classic oldies like "The Odd Couple" and "Adam's Rib."



Kids Corner

Grandparent Packs

Kidspace has a wonderful aid for grandparents when their grandchildren come for a visit: Grandparent Packs. These are canvas bags filled with entertainment for the children. Each bag contains age appropriate books, toys, videos, and music cassettes. We are currently planning to update the bags, so that future Grandparent Packs will have up-to-date DVDs and music on CD, as well as books and toys. Age levels are 0-12 months, 12-36 months, 3-5 years, and 5-7 years. It's cost-free "one-stop shopping." Surprise your grandchildren with a big bag of fun the next time they visit!

Nutmeg Mania

Another Nutmeg year wraps up in January, culminating with our Nutmeg Mania Voting Party on January 27. Since March, 4th-6th graders have been reading the ten Nutmeg nominees for 2010. During the last week in January, they will have the chance to vote for the winner. Only 4th-6th graders can help choose the ONE book to win the intermediate Nutmeg Award for 2010. Don't be left out; here's your chance to join with 20,000 other Connecticut kids in choosing the 2010 Nutmeg Award winner.

Fab-U-lous Fun

If the winter doldrums are getting you down, let Kidspace perk you up. Starting in January, boys and girls with a competitive spirit, who love to read, can compete against each other in the "Girls vs. Boys Book Club" for grades 3-5. Then in February, warm up with some Fab-U-lous February Fun during school vacation week with Farmer Minor & Daisy the Pig, Danny Magic, Sparky's Puppets, and a return of the popular Bonus Book Bingo. Winter has never been so exciting.

Heads Up Gamers!

The Windsor Public Library is now lending out video games for PlayStation II & III, Wii, and Xbox 360 game systems. The games are available for a one week loan, and are located downstairs in the YA area of the library. If you like your gaming a little more social, teens are also encouraged to join us every other Thursday from 3:30 – 5:00 PM to play the library's Xbox 360 on the BIG screen.



Teen Talk

In November, the Teen Zone went on the road to Sage Park Middle School to work on a collaborative project with teacher Mrs. Shirley Cowles and her students in the Challenge program. For the second year in a row, our YA Librarian Amy McCue met with several classes each day for a week. During these classes, they explored the idea of "judging a book by its cover" (we all do it!), subject vs. theme in literature, and the Nutmeg Book Award process. While the main focus of the discussions were the teen-level 2010 Nutmeg Nominee Books, dozens of books were excitedly suggested and borrowed. These same students are planning on reading enough of the Nutmeg Nominees to vote for a winner this upcoming January, and many of them are looking forward to the Windsor Public Library's Nutmeg Book Blitz Voting Party to be held at the library on January 26th. (This event is open to all students who read at least two of the teen-level Nutmeg Nominees.)

Did you ever wonder how libraries acquire all those books that are on the shelves?

At Windsor Library we add 13,000+ new items to our collection each year. This means a lot of work goes on behind the scenes getting materials into the library and ready to be borrowed. As part of the job, librarians read a number of magazines and newsletters that are collections of pre-publication reviews. These reviews are released months before the books are actually on sale. We read the reviews, mark the ones that sound great and would be helpful and interesting to our patrons. Then we place the orders through an online service. We use specific book sellers who have submitted bids to a state-wide committee, guaranteeing Connecticut Public Libraries get the lowest book prices and free shipping.

The books arrive near their official release dates. We check in the items, put on the barcodes and mark each one as belonging to Windsor Public Library. We put covers on as necessary and we type up the spine labels. Then a librarian trained in cataloging must enter all of the title, author, subject and publication information into our online catalog. From the time we read a new book review till we get our copy and have it ready for loan the process could have taken 2-3 months. And, if for some reason we haven't pre-ordered a book you want, just ask. We'll try our best to get it for you, one way or another.

Need help? Have a question? Looking for a good book or DVD?

There are lots of ways you can contact us at the main library...

Adult and Teen materials? Call 860-285-1918

Kids materials? Call 860-285-1914

Check our webpage at: windsorlibrary.com

Email us at library@townofwindsorct.com

GPS and Book Readers coming soon!