

A Publication of  
the Friends of the  
Cora J. Belden  
Library  
33 Church St.  
Rocky Hill, CT  
06067

### Library hours

Monday-Thursday:  
10 a.m.-8 p.m.  
Friday:  
10 a.m.-5 p.m.  
Saturday:  
10 a.m.-5 p.m.  
Sunday:  
Noon-5 p.m.

**Mary Hogan**  
Library Director

### Contact the library

Phone:  
(860) 258-7621  
Reference:  
(860) 258-7623

### Web site:

[www.rockyhilllibrary.info](http://www.rockyhilllibrary.info)

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# The Library Window



Cora J. Belden Library

Issue 34

Spring 2010

## Library Offers Books – And Lots More

By Marjorie Ruschau

**L**ibraries have come a long way since the days people used them only for checking out books.

There are still thousands of books for adults and children alike but that is not all. Today people come to the Cora J. Belden Library for all sorts of reasons. In February the library decided to ask why.

One family said, "My entire family uses the library as an important resource. My children also see the library as an alternative to TV."



Library staff members Ann Tyszka, John Crowe and Barbara Wysocki reviewing some new books.

Still another person listed all the ways she uses the library: "Borrow a book. Borrow a DVD. Quiet place to

*(Continued on page 3)*

## Focusing Some Light On Mark Twain

In honor of the 100th anniversary of the death of author and Connecticut resident Mark Twain and the selection of "Tom Sawyer" as the Big Read, the library has scheduled these events for April:

**Thursday, April 15, 7 to 8 p.m.** – The Lodge at Cold Spring, 50 Cold Spring Road will host discussion and dramatic reading by the Rocky Hill Youth Theater from "The

Adventures of Tom Sawyer." Please call or register online at [www.rockyhilllibrary.info](http://www.rockyhilllibrary.info).

**Friday, April 23, 2 p.m.** – Library will host the movie "Tom and Huck"

**Monday April 26, 6:30 to 8 p.m.** – At the Library, Craig Hotchkiss of the Mark Twain House, and Sonya Green of the Harriet Beecher Stowe Center, will speak on "Twain and Stowe: Effecting Social Change."

## Friends of the Cora J. Belden Library Scholarship

A \$500 scholarship will be awarded by the Friends of the Cora J. Belden Library to a resident of Rocky Hill who will graduate from high school in 2010 .

Further information and applications are available at the Rocky Hill High School Guidance Department and the Cora J. Belden Library. The winning essay on “Why our public library is important to me and our community” will be published in the next edition of The Library Window.



Three students work with the computers in the children’s department.

**“Other parents and I get to have kids learn new things in a positive environment.”**

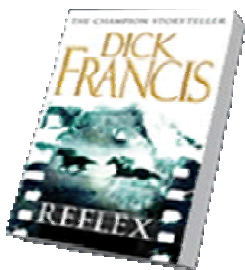
**— Library user and mother**

### It’s All In The Numbers

— How did people use the Cora J. Belden Library in February?

Visits to library.....	12,494	Reference questions answered.....	1,759
Number of items checked out.....	22,562	Internet users.....	757
Items checked out per hour.....	104	Events.....	34
New library cards.....	105	Number attending events.....	625
Interlibrary loans.....	606	Electronic searches.....	22,044

### What Do You Think About That Book?



The library now offers two monthly book discussion groups at 7 p.m., open to all. Books that the fiction group members plan to discuss are:

Thurs. April 22 – **“The Guernsey Literary and Potato Peel Pie Society”** by Mary Ann Shaffer and Annie Barrows

Wed. May 19 – **“Olive Kitteridge”** by Elizabeth Strout

Thurs. June 24 – **“The Thirteenth Tale”** by Diane Setterfield

Books that the mystery group members have chosen are:

Wed. May 5 – **“Reflex”** by Dick Francis

Wed. June 2 – **“Death in a White Tie”** by Ngaio Marsh



Librarian Barbara Wysocki introduces Playtivity entertainers Virginia Anderson and Craig Norton.

## Lots More

(Continued from page 1)

read. Read a magazine. Bump into friends. Research. Re-energize”.

Children said they like to come to the library, and not just for story hours. “It is great for when I have a lot of homework. It’s a silent place,” said one young person.

Adults and children can enjoy the children’s department together, settling in to read the books or picking some to take home. Teachers find books to check out for their classrooms. Children can experiment with computer programs designed especially for them. And then there is the DVD collection.

In addition to thousands of books – 54,889 as of the end of the 2009 fiscal year – there are magazines and newspapers to look at, books on CD to listen to on car trips, computers to use to communicate with friends on e-mail, DVDs and videos of the latest movies and classics and computer databases to help track down your family’s history.

“My library has the largest reference collection in the immediate community,” said

one man. “This is a place to find current news, both national and local, as well as updates on professional topics for work.” But it isn’t just the books in one building.

“I use the interlibrary loan system frequently,” said one woman. I search for large print books to check out for my mother. Today’s book, *The Missing*, came from the South Windsor Library.”

With economic times being what they are, people turn to the library for solutions, finding it “a way to save money – check out books instead of buying them.” Said another, “I love that my library has all the latest titles.”

“It’s warm and cozy like my living room,” said a patron. “It is comfortable, light and airy. Everything I need is here. I love this library.”

“The library is the essence of the community with all of the programs they run,” said one woman. “They have inspired my children to love books and reading and learn about their world. The staff at the Rocky Hill library is wonderful!!!!”



From left, volunteers Babs Wheeler, Tim Boardman, Jean Holmes, Laurel Cole and Midge Sword review books donated for sales.

**In honor of National Volunteer Week - a big thank you to all the Friends who volunteer and help raise money to make our library the wonderful place it is.**

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33 Church St., Rocky Hill, CT 06067

## BECOME A FRIEND

Name:

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Address:

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E-mail:

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### Annual Memberships

- Household.....\$10
- Sponsor.....\$25
- Patron.....\$50
- Business.....\$125
- Life member.....\$200

New .....

Renewal.....

The Library Window is published three times a year by the Friends of the Cora J. Belden Library, 33 Church St., Rocky Hill, CT 06067-1515. Subscriptions are free to members. Please submit address changes to the address above. For more information, call 860-258-7621.

Newsletter edited  
and designed by  
Marjorie Ruschau

## The Library Window

# Friends of the Library Book Sale

New and gently used books,  
audiobooks, magazines, videos, CDs  
and more for adults and children

**May 22 and 23**

**Saturday:**

**10 a.m. to 11 a.m. Friends Members only**

**11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Open to All!**

**Sunday: Noon to 4 p.m. — \$5 a bag**

Volunteers needed. Please call Ann Dobmeier at  
860-721-7658.

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