



BAILEY PUBLIC LIBRARY NEWSLETTER

39 BOWDOIN ST. WINTHROP, ME | WWW.BAILEYLIBRARY.ORG

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UPCOMING EVENTS

Wednesday, July 1

Music Time w/ Prof. Smarty Pants 10:30am

Bailey Yoga Night 6pm

Tuesday, July 7

Story Hour w/ Ms. Jenn 10:30am

Wonderful World of Bats 3pm

Wednesday, July 8

Animal Hero Day 3pm

Friday, July 10

Amazing Maine Birds 2pm

Tuesday, July 14

The Untold Story of Louisa May Alcott

w/ Eve LaPlante 6:30pm

Wednesday, July 15

Kids Yoga 10:30am

Title Waves Book Group 6pm

Saturday, July 18

Friends Booksale 9am-2pm

Mr. Harley Summer Party 3pm

Tuesday, July 21

Music Time w/ Buster B 10:30am

Friday, July 24

Marvelous Mammals 2pm

Saturday, July 25

Superhero Training 2pm

Tuesday, July 28

Songman Stan 10:30am

Greek Party Pt. One 3pm

Wednesday, July 29

Greek Party Pt. Two 3pm

Friday, July 31

Chewonki 2pm

Expanded Bailey Opens After a Decade of Planning

Guest Column by Barbara Walsh



Photograph by Richard Fortin

Every time Joan Wing passes the Bailey Public Library she gets goose bumps.

"It really is a dream come true," said Wing, a life-long Winthrop resident. "For years people tried to raise money and expand the library, but now it's finally happened and it couldn't be more beautiful."

On June 1, after a decade of planning and five years of fundraising that garnered \$1,020,000 in private money, the Bailey welcomed patrons after closing its doors and temporarily relocating.

Wing and more than 200 people gathered to celebrate the library's grand reopening. They gazed at the new wooden shelves, the windows that looked toward Main Street, the space that has more than doubled. "Wow," many of them whispered. Others wiped tears from their eyes as they declared, "Oh my God, this is our library."

"A lot of people have been pretty emotional about it," said Shane-Malcom Billings, director of adult services. "Their faces light up as soon as they hit the lobby."

Over 800 people visited the library at 39 Bowdoin Street during the first week it reopened. The number of teenagers using the library has tripled. Director Richard Fortin says the teens are grateful for their new area with booths, chairs and a young adult book section.

"They have their own space now and that is crucial," Fortin said.

Fortin also boosted the library's collection of graphic novels (literary comic books), which are flying out the door.

"Before we had no room for these books," he said. "Now we have 300 of them and 200 have already been checked out."

Both young and old patrons marvel at the library's new design that allows readers to quickly find books or movies by topic. Novels, biographies and memoirs are no longer crammed onto portable carts or stacked on windowsills.

"In the old library we had room for about 20,000 books, but we owned 30,000," said Fortin, who along with resident Dale Glidden, served as the library's project manager. "Now, we have space for 40,000 books. We have room to grow."

The library's children's room, which had been in the basement, is now on the second floor with a spacious play room and ample shelving. Large model planes soar over stacks and stuffed animals perch from shelves.

Expanded Bailey Opens After a Decade of Planning

Guest Column by Barbara Walsh

"The kids come in and say 'This is cool,' " said Cindy Hinkley, children's librarian. "There's more light, more space."

The expansion has also drawn more children to the Stephen and Tabitha King Event Room. The first floor area, named for the Kings who donated \$50,000 toward the expansion, seats up to 200. No longer will kids be crowded into the basement when authors, musicians or animal trainers visit.

"We used to get six families come for these events," Hinkley said. "But now we've been getting 25 or more. The kids get to run around, sing, dance and have a good time."

The event room will also host adult authors and poets. On August 11, Richard Blanco, the nation's fifth inaugural poet, will visit the Bailey. President Obama chose Blanco to read his poem "One Day" at Obama's January, 2013 inauguration.

On September 22, Stephen King's son, Owen, will read from his debut novel. Fortin expects Blanco and King to draw hundreds.

In the past, the library would not have been able to accommodate such large crowds. When other best-selling authors visited, several patrons had to be turned away.

"We would have so many people we'd nearly be breaking the fire code," Fortin said. "Now that won't be an issue."

Library patrons are not the only ones benefiting from the Bailey's expansion. Local businesses have seen an increase in customers.

"The library is bringing more people downtown," said Kim Phinney, owner of the newly opened Café @130 Main. "The Bailey's expansion is affecting the whole community. People are excited to see that things are happening in downtown Winthrop again."

In 2016, the Bailey Public Library will mark its 100th year on Bowdoin Street. And residents like Joan Wing could not be more excited to celebrate the milestone.

Five generations of Wing's family have borrowed books from the library over the past century. The library's expansion (designed by local architect Phil Locashio) ensures that Wing's family and hundreds of other Winthrop residents will enjoy the Bailey for centuries to come.

"Every time I go by the library I'm just one big goose bump," said Wing, who along with her husband Bill helped fundraise. "Nobody gave up on the expansion. Once the ball got rolling, people got behind it. Richard, the trustees, the town, businesses all gave their support. My gosh, it's just amazing what we've done."



Teens reading in the new Teen Area



Joan Wing, far right
Four generations pictured on the Bailey steps in the early 1960s

Lakes Region Forum: Eve LaPlante

The library will host award winning biographer Eve LaPlante on Tuesday, July 14th at 6:30pm in the newly renovated Bailey Library in downtown Winthrop. LaPlante's talk will focus on her newest book "Marmee and Louisa," which the Washington Post described as "engrossing," and NPR characterized as "eye opening" and "marvelous."

In "Marmee & Louisa," author Eve LaPlante, recreates their shared story from diaries, letters and personal papers, some recently discovered in a family attic, and many others that were long thought to have been destroyed. Louisa May Alcott was one of the most successful and bestselling authors of her day. Her classic "Little Women" has been a mainstay in American literature since its release nearly 150 years ago.

LaPlante will also be speaking about another of her books, "My Heart is Boundless: Writings of Abigail May Alcott."

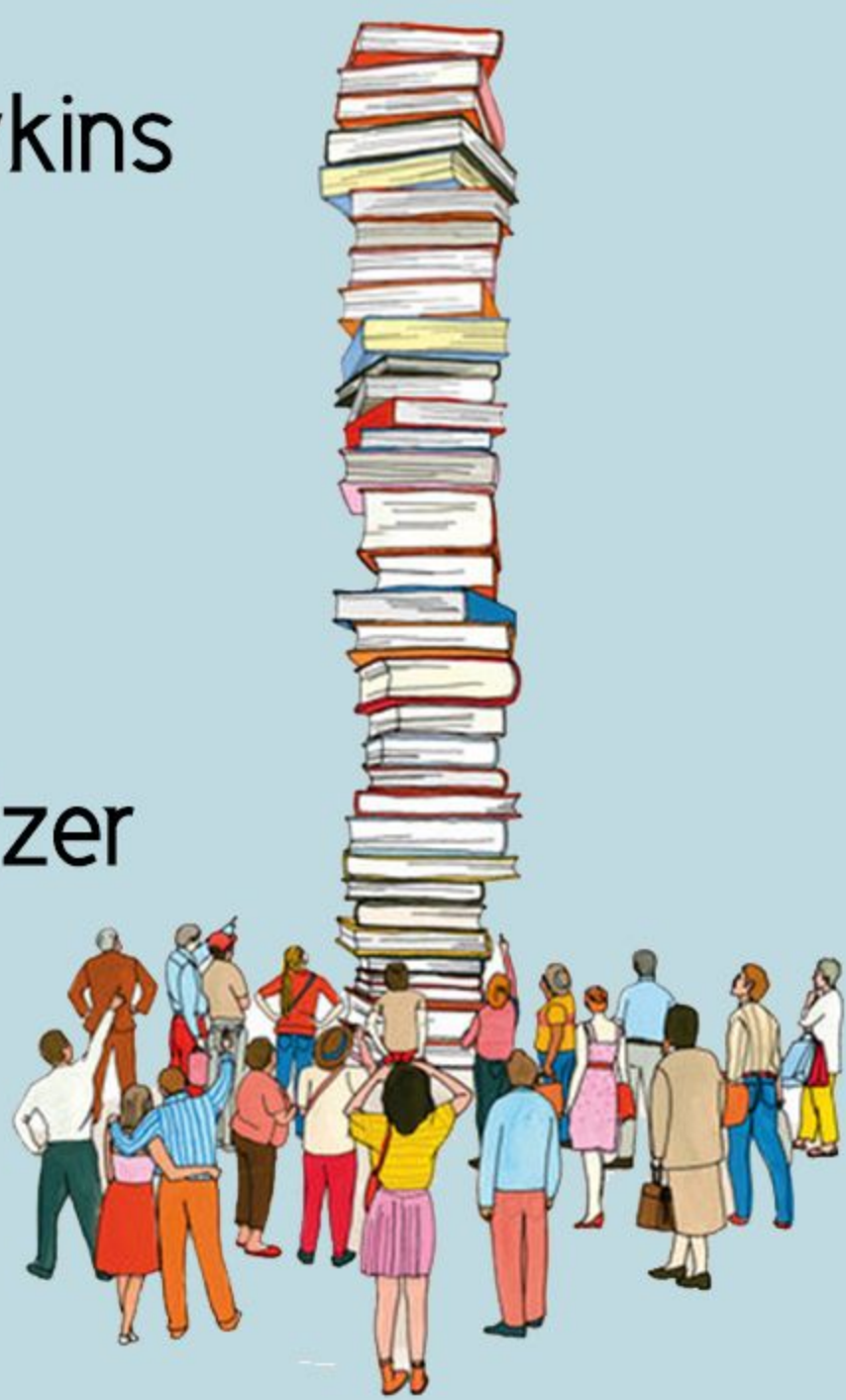
A New Englander with degrees from Princeton and Harvard, LaPlante has published articles, essays, and five nonfiction books. She is a cousin of Louisa May Alcott, and a great-niece of Abigail May Alcott. Eve's second biography, "Salem Witch Judge," about the 1692 judge, who became a feminist and an abolitionist, won the 2008 Massachusetts Book Award for Nonfiction. She divides her time between Massachusetts and Maine with her husband and four children.

The event is free and open to the public. For more information call the library at 377-8673 or visit baileylibrary.org.

Bailey's Most Wanted

Last Month's Most Requested Items

1. White Dog Fell from the Sky by Eleanor Morse
2. The Girl on the Train by Paula Hawkins
3. All the Light We Cannot See by Anthony Doerr
4. The Precipice by Paul Doiron
5. Memory Man by David Baldacci
6. Still Alice directed by Richard Glatzer
7. American Sniper directed by Clint Eastwood
8. Finders Keepers by Stephen King
9. Truth or Die by James Patterson
10. Once Burned by Gerry Boyle



Notable Coming Soon

Adrift by Paul Griffin

Circling the Sun by Paula McLain

The Diver's Clothes Lie Empty by Vendela Vida

The Hand That Feeds You by A.J. Rich

Killing Monica by Candace Bushnell

The Redeemers by Ace Atkins

