



FORBES library

NORTHAMPTON'S PUBLIC LIBRARY

Summer 2016

FRIENDS of FORBES NEWSLETTER

Volume 7, Issue 4

How Green Was My Valley



Eight gardens of special distinction are featured this year in and around Northampton in the 23rd Northampton Garden Tour on Saturday, June 11, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. All proceeds from the tour, sponsored by the Friends of Forbes Library, go to Forbes Library.

The tour planners seek to inspire and educate interested gardeners with a variety of appealing landscape styles and collections of garden plantings. This year's gardens are located along a scenic 18-mile route, making the gardens accessible by car and offering a pleasant bicycle ride for the recreational peddler comfortable with varied terrain and distance. Tickets come with driving directions to the self-guided tour. At each garden, there are descriptions of the plantings and volunteer guides on hand to answer questions.

Tour tickets are \$15 and can be picked up in advance at Forbes Library, Bay State Perennial Farm, Cooper's Corner, Hadley Garden Center, North Country Landscapes and Garden Center, and State Street Fruit Store. On the day of the tour, tickets are \$20 and available only at the library.

The tour also includes a raffle for a myriad of prizes such as organic compost, gift certificates, garden supplies, a landscape consultation, and more. Raffle tickets are two for \$5 or five for \$10 and are available at Forbes Library until June 9 as well as at one of the gardens on the day of the tour.

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Forbes Library Director Announces Retirement

Janet Moulding, Director of Forbes Library since 2004, has announced her retirement, effective the end of this year.

Under Ms. Moulding's leadership the library renovated both the Anna Gertrude Brewster Children's Room and the Doland Reference room, making both more attractive and functional for library users. Additionally, the building envelope was restored. Ms. Moulding's goal was always to make the library a more welcoming place for patrons; in 2015 the handicap lift, which was frequently out of service, was replaced by a fully functioning Victorian-style elevator ensuring that the library met her goal of being "accessible to all."

Ms. Moulding served on the C/WMARS (Central/Western Massachusetts Automated Resource Sharing) Executive Committee and the Western Mass Library Advocates Board. She is a member of the American Library Association, the Massachusetts Library Association, the New England Library Association and the Western Mass

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Janet Moulding

LIBRARY BRIEFS

Summertime Is for Reading

A passel of competitions will fuel summer reading at the library this summer for pre-readers, young readers, tweens, and teens. There are so many ways to play (and win)! Register for the summer reading program at any time after Memorial Day in the Children's Department or online, and the adventure will last until Labor Day.



For each age group, there will be three different challenges: gold, silver, and bronze. You'll finish each one in order, and at your own pace, throughout the summer. When you finish a challenge, you'll win a prize! This year's summer reading program will emphasize whole-community participation, and we'll have many events that will be perfect for the whole family. Check out the complete list of events and learn more at forbeslibrary.org/summer.

Big Day of Giving

More than 100 generous donors made the Forbes Library a charity of their choice on Valley Gives Day May 3. During the 24-hour period of online giving, the library raised \$11,882, including a \$5,000 match grant from the Friends of Forbes Library and \$400 in prize money from Balise Auto. All of the proceeds will be used for free programs and special events for the community.

There's Always Something On

A new online streaming movie service, called InstantFlix, debuted at the library recently. Through the Forbes website, patrons can enjoy unlimited access to over 7,000 high-quality shorts, features, documentaries, classic TV shows

and Web series from 85 countries. Programming includes comedies, dramas, horror, documentaries, animations, classic TV, short films, and more.

InstantFlix also delivers films from major festivals around the globe, including Sundance, Cannes, and Tribeca. To find movies, search by language, genre or film length, and the "quick pick" feature allows one to sample movies like one would sample music. InstantFlix can be enjoyed on any Internet-enabled computer, smartphone, or tablet with a Web browser, and movies are also available on Roku, Xbox, and Apple TV. To get started go to forbeslibrary.org/instantflix and create a personal login and password.

Librarians Are Standing By!

Stumped about what to read next? No worries! On the first Friday of each month, from 11 a.m. till 1 p.m., post the title of a book you liked to the library's Facebook page or Twitter feed (@ForbesLibrary). Within a few minutes librarians will respond with two or three suggestions of other titles we think you will enjoy. You can play as many times as you like, and feedback on the suggestions is welcome. For a longer list of suggestions, fill out the Your Next Great Read form on our website at forbeslibrary.org/readers/next-read.

Music in the Air

Forbes will host two free concerts on the lawn this summer. On June 15, the O-Tones, a six-piece swing and Motown band fronted by singer Mary Witt, will offer their tight ensemble playing, complicated harmonies, and wide-ranging repertoire, which ranges from the nostalgia of the big band era to danceable R&B numbers. On July 13, the Pangeans will present their unique World Music groove. Led by multi-instrumentalist and composer Brian Bender, the Pangeans are a group of seven musicians performing Latin jazz, samba, calypso, soca, reggae, funk, and Afro-beat. Come early with a family picnic, or just come for the music. Sweet Spoken Bicycle Patisserie will have

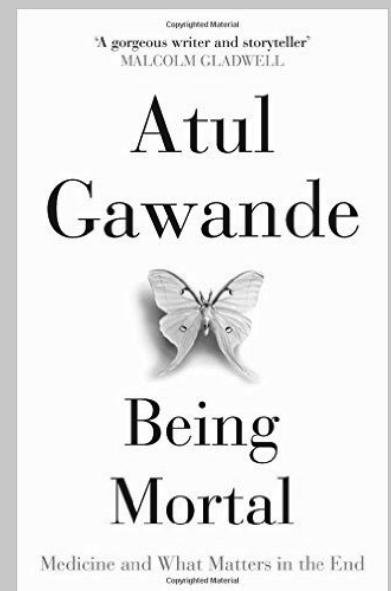
organic cupcakes, cookies, caramel corn, and more for sale. Both concerts are on Wednesday evenings at 7 p.m. In case of inclement weather, the event will be held in the Coolidge Museum.



The Pangeans

The Art of Dying

Forbes Library partnered with Cooley Dickinson Health Care and 14 neighboring communities to present a two-month-long series of programs inspired by the best-selling book, *Being Mortal: Medicine and What Matters Most in the End* by Atul Gawande this past spring. Hundreds of people read the book and attended discussion-based programs that offered opportunities to explore the later stages of life as well as develop a better understanding of the aging process, death and dying, and advanced care planning. "This program helped me to figure out what I want for myself as I grow older and gave me the courage to talk to my aging parents about what they want," said one participant.



Friends Meeting Draws SRO Crowd

The annual meeting of the Friends of Forbes Library, on April 6, was a standing-room-only affair in the Coolidge Museum. The guest speaker, Barry Dietz, gave an illustrated talk on the construction of Interstate 91 called “When the Road Came Through: How Construction of I-91 Changed Western Massachusetts.”



A North Carolinian transplant who currently resides in Bernardston, Mr. Dietz has a distinct Southern accent, which he perhaps laid on a bit thick for his audience. Describing himself as part of the Chautauqua tradition, he frequently speaks on literary and historical subjects. For his talk at Coolidge, Mr. Dietz first drew a broad picture of the American car culture of the 1950s as the Interstate Highway System rolled out. He then made a gradual turn into the local history of 55-mile western Massachusetts section of I-91.

Much was lost as I-91 was built, paved over for the highway or whizzed past by drivers hurrying to their destinations. Mr. Dietz retold the perhaps apocryphal story of Deerfield Academy Headmaster Frank Boyden making a single phone call to stop the road from passing through, and destroying, Old Deerfield.



Before introducing Mr. Dietz, Martha McCormick, Friends board president, reviewed the many accomplishments of the group over the past year. She thanked her fellow board members, Forbes staff and trustees, and the many volunteers who have all worked so assiduously to make the library such a vibrant part of Northampton’s cultural landscape. After the lecture, members of the audience enjoyed refreshments and viewed the artwork in the Hosmer Gallery.



HOSMER GALLERY

JUNE

Jonathan Moldover

B/W & color photo: Botanical portraits



Jennifer Ablard

Color photo: Landscape

JULY

Carol Duke

Color photo: Venice

Big Brothers Big Sisters

B/W photo: Pair portraits



AUGUST

Nina Rossi

Sculptures, 3D wall art, ceramics

Karen Chapman

Oil paintings: Abstract

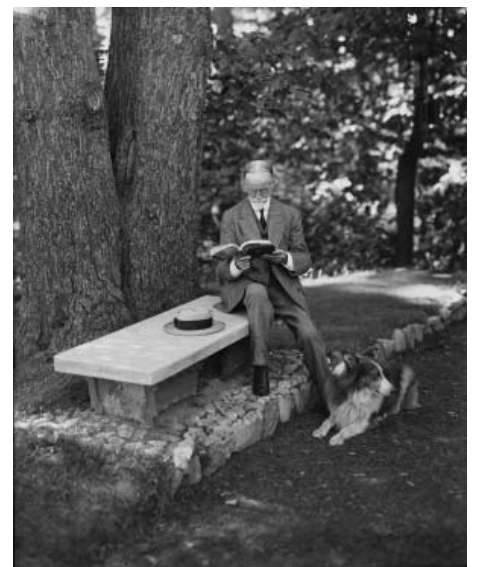


David Andrews

Pencil drawings: abstract

(And We've Got to Get Ourselves) Back to the Garden

In conjunction with the annual Garden Tour and in celebration of summer, here are several vintage photographs from the library's special collection. Our thanks to Dylan Gaffney, Information Services assistant, for providing these historical photos.



Clockwise from upper left: Grace and Calvin Coolidge in their gardens at the Beeches in Northampton; Calvin Coolidge's father in his flower garden in Plymouth, VT; flowers from the Robert P. Emrick Collection; a photograph of common red clover by H. E. Robbins, Pittsfield, MA; and George W. Cable in his garden on Dryad's Green in Northampton.

People Are Talking About ...

Reference librarian Benjamin Kalish takes a break in the staff room, newly and entirely refurbished with funds from the Friends of Forbes Library.



Braving rainy weather to represent Forbes Library in the annual Pride and Parade event on May 7 were, from left, Janet Moulding, Rudy Talaber, Marjorie Hess, Joseph Twarog, Peter Rowe, Naila Moreira, Katie E. Wight, and Mary Fagan, who is holding Fast Eddie.



Folks had fun eating representations of 17 books at the Friends' 10th annual Edible Book fundraiser on April 10. Judges Alisa Klein and Michael Willers were among the most engaging and entertaining of all the celebrity judges presiding over a decade of eating books. Some samples of the wit and wisdom of the entrants and the judges.

Berry Potter and the Sorcerer's Scone, created by Michael Roberts and Emily Thompson. Awards: Punniest; Most



Stoned.

Misty of Chincoteague, created by Claire Christopherson and Janet Moulding. Awards: Wild Pony Playfulness Award;



On a sad note, Simon the Pygmy Goat, a rescue sponsored by the Children's Department which lived at the Farm Sanctuary in Watkins Glen, N.Y., passed away on May 17. The much-loved Simon will be missed, but the staff will support another rescued pygmy goat, named Maggie.



Florence Savings Bank
Customers' Choice
 COMMUNITY GRANTS

The Customers' Choice Community Grants Program is an annual program that allows Florence Savings Bank customers to vote for their favorite local non-profit to receive a share of \$75,000.

Friends of Forbes Library, Inc.

Your Vote Counts!

name of local non-profit

You must be an FSB customer to vote.

Northampton, MA

city/state

your name

e-mail

Mail or drop off at any of our offices or vote online at www.florencesavings.com/vote.

Library Advocates.

“Janet Moulding has given the Forbes a decade of dynamic and forward looking leadership,” said Russell Carrier, president of the Board of Trustees. “She has also provided the Trustees with strong direction and wise counsel. You have only to visit the library to appreciate her legacy. Janet will be missed by all who have worked with her. The trustees feel a deep loss, but wish her a long and healthy retirement.”

Ms. Moulding’s first professional position was as director of the Gaylord Library in South Hadley; she was named the first Librarian (Director) of the Renaissance Center at the University of Massachusetts and later served as Assistant Director at Forbes.

*‘Janet Moulding has given the Forbes a decade of dynamic and forward looking leadership.’
--Russell Carrier,
Trustees President*

Ms. Moulding holds a master’s degree in library science from the State University of New York at Albany; she received a bachelor’s degree from Northwestern University and a master’s in early modern literature from UMass.

After retirement Ms. Moulding plans to spend time riding her horse, volunteering at Forbes, and reading more books.

A search committee has been formed to find her replacement. Members of the committee are trustees Marjorie Hess, chair, and Russell Carrier; library staff members Molly Moss and Dylan Gaffney; and Friends of Forbes Library President Martha McCormick and Vice President Serena Smith.

The tour’s sponsors are, in the Gold Rose category, C.L. Frank & Co. and Treefrog Landscapes; in the Silver Lily category, Greenfield Savings Bank, The Murphys Realtors, and North Country Landscapes & Garden Center; and in the Bronze Daisy category, Bay State Perennial Farm, Cotton Tree Service, Gage-Wiley & Co., George D. Judd & Sons/Goshen Stone, Goggins Real Estate, Hilltown Tree & Garden, Maple & Main Realty, Northampton Cooperative Bank, a Division of Greenfield Cooperative Bank, and Webber & Grinnell Insurance.



Photographs of gardens from last year’s tour pulse with life.

Join your Friends to Support Forbes Library

The Friends of Forbes is a nonprofit organization whose mission is to help and enrich the Forbes Library so it may better serve the public. Through its membership and various fundraising activities the Friends of Forbes provides financial support for programs, projects, events and materials whose costs are not met from the library’s annual operating budget.

We/I wish to join as a new member of the Friends of Forbes Library
 We/I wish to renew my membership to the Friends of Forbes Library

Senior Citizen \$15 Supporting \$50-\$149
 Individual \$20 Sustaining \$150-\$499
 Family \$35 Benefactor \$500-\$1000

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We/I wish to make an additional donation of \$ to the Friends of Forbes Endowment Fund
 Please send more information about the Friends of Forbes Endowment Fund