

FROM THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S DESK

Greetings! As we near the mid-point of 2010 and the close of this fiscal year, Hartford Public Library's ten locations are as busy as ever. Although HPL—and indeed the entire nation—continues to face financial challenges, 2010 has been an exciting and productive year for the Library thus far.

- The Board of Directors and the Library's leadership team have embarked on a forward-thinking strategic planning process that is fully committed to the changing and growing needs of the citizens of Hartford.
- The Downtown Library is reorganizing its interior space to provide better service to our visitors, thus ensuring a positive and productive experience.
- HPL continues to have more than 800,000 visits each year at its ten facilities throughout the City – that's nearly 6.6 visits per resident per year.
- HPL has become the City's de facto center for immigration, providing a wide array of services to immigrants and refugees to ensure successful integration into American culture and society.
- HPL is a founding partner in **Hartford Learn**, an initiative funded by the Hartford Foundation for Public Giving to address the extreme and complex issues associated with adult literacy in our City.
- In partnership with Hartford Stage and the Mark Twain House, HPL is sponsoring **THE BIG READ: *The Adventures of Tom Sawyer*** from April through June with 22 other public libraries in Connecticut.
- In June, the **ArtWalk** at Hartford Public Library will present the treasures of the Hartford History Center and an exhibition of the work of noted Hartford artist, Richard Welling, who died earlier this year.

The Library is also planning its eighth annual major fundraising author event **One Unforgettable Big Summer Night**, June 24, 2010 at the Connecticut

Convention Center. The event will feature *New York Times* best-selling author Julie Powell, who wrote *Julie & Julia*, which inspired the popular movie of the same name.

I hope to see you there.

Best regards,




NEWS from your Library



Caroline M. Hewins Scholarship Award—The Caroline M. Hewins Scholarship Fund was established in 1926 as a tribute to Ms. Hewins. Ms. Hewins was the first trained Children's Librarian at Hartford Public Library, and for 50 years served as Chief Librarian. An annual scholarship of \$4,000 is awarded yearly to an individual who plans to specialize in library work with children; who has received, or is about to receive a four year undergraduate degree; and who has been admitted to or is attending a library school accredited by the American Library Association. To learn more visit www.hplct.org/hewinsscholarship.htm.

"It was a wonderful honor to be selected for Hartford Public Library's Caroline Hewins Scholarship. With the scholarship covering a portion of my tuition, I have been able to focus more on my coursework and to look forward toward my future as a children's librarian." - **Emma Carbone, 2010 recipient**

Teen Leader Angelica Ortiz, helps students with math homework at the Ropkins Branch.

Teen Leaders is a positive youth development and employment program funded in part by The Travelers.



Did you know that
U. S. PASSPORT SERVICES
are available and convenient at the Downtown Library!

Bring 2 passport photographs, proof of U. S. citizenship, and a valid form of photo identification. Passport photos can be taken at time of application. **Downtown Library, Service Center, Main Floor.** Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays, & Thursdays, 4:00-7:30 p.m.; Saturdays, 10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

SERVICIOS DE PASAPORTES

Para obtener un pasaporte necesitará traer dos fotos de pasaporte, prueba de ciudadanía estadounidense y una identificación válida con foto. Las fotos de pasaporte se tomarán el día. **Centro de Servicio, Piso Principal.** Lunes, martes, miércoles, y jueves, 4:00-7:30 p.m.; sábados, 10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Mary Brennan Coursey, local business owner and Hartford Public Library corporator was pleasantly surprised with the experience she had obtaining passports for her family of seven. *"I was thrilled at how easy the process was and how quickly we received our passports. I have been recommending the Library's passport services to my friends and business associates."*



"One of my goals as board president of Hartford Public Library is to spread the word about all the wonderful things happening here. As the cultural and educational center for the city, the Library is changing the lives of people every day by giving them access to information and ideas. I am committed to insuring the Library has the resources and talent to continue helping all people. Stop by and check out the Library for yourself. We are proud of it and you will be too!" **Greg Davis,**

Hartford Public Library Board President



500 Main St., Hartford, CT 06103-3075



ARTWALK
at Hartford Public Library
Art and Artifacts on the **ArtWalk**
Through Sept. 30 Downtown Library, Mon.-Thur. 10am - 8pm,
Fri. & Sat. 10am - 5pm

MEET YOUR CANDIDATES FOR GOVERNOR, SECRETARY OF STATE, AND U.S. SENATOR!

Let your voice be heard! Much will be at stake in the upcoming elections. This is a unique opportunity to meet and talk with your Connecticut candidates before the primary election in August.

Sponsored by the *Hartford Votes ~ Hartford Vota Coalition.*

Downtown Library, Main Floor

Governor: Tuesday, June 8, 2010, 6:00 p.m.

Secretary of State: Tuesday, June 15, 2010, 6:00 p.m.

U.S. Senator: Tuesday, June 22, 2010, 6:00 p.m.

Join us as we (re)read

The Adventures of Tom Sawyer
National Endowment for the Arts'
2010 The Big Read

please check out www.hplct.org/bigread
We don't want you to miss anything!



Be sure to save
June 24th for

One unforgettable
Big Summer Night

Special Guest: Julie Powell
author of *Julie & Julia*
Thursday, June 24, 2010
6:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.
at a new location:
Connecticut Convention Center



Proceeds from the evening benefit the thousands of adults, children and families served by the Library.

To learn more, or purchase tickets, visit:
www.hplct.org/onebigsummernight

GOLD SPONSOR: **TRAVELERS**

SILVER SPONSOR: **THE HARTFORD**

MAY/JUNE 2010
CALENDAR
OF EVENTS



Look inside for what's happening at YOUR library!

ARTWALK
BABY GRAND JAZZ
PLUS:
Youth & Family
Adult
Hartford History Center

DOWNTOWN LIBRARY
500 Main St., 860-695-6300

ALBANY
1250 Albany Ave, 860-695-7380

BARBOUR
281 Barbour St., 860-695-7400

BLUE HILLS
649 Blue Hills Ave., 860-695-7420

CAMP FIELD
30 Campfield Ave., 860-695-7440

DWIGHT
7 New Park Ave., 860-695-7460

GOODWIN
460 New Britain Ave., 860-695-7480

MARK TWAIN
256 Farmington Ave., 860-695-7540

PARK
744 Park St., 860-695-7500

ROPKINS
1750 Main St., 860-695-7520

LIBRARY ON WHEELS
860-695-6340
and...www.hplct.org

YOUTH & FAMILY

MAY

May is the month to enjoy NATURE! Read about butterflies, plant a seed, press a flower, enjoy a natural snack, enjoy another fresh and lively program.

ABUELA

All ages. Listen to the story *Abuela*, by Arthur Dorros, and make a special gift for your grandmother, or a grandmotherly friend!

Ropkins Branch: Friday, May 7, 3:15 p.m.

EXPLORE HARTFORD

Ages 8 and up. Join us for field trips exploring the natural beauty of Hartford! Permission slips required.

Goodwin Branch: Wednesday, May 19, 3:15 p.m. (Park River): Wednesday, May 26, 3:15 p.m. (Elizabeth Park)

MAGIC BEANS

Ages 5 and up. Hear *Jack and the Bean Stalk* and enjoy a planting activity - with magic beans, of course!

Mark Twain Branch: Thursday, May 20, 3:00 p.m.

NATURAL ART

Ages 5 and up. Bring leaves, flowers, twigs, or pinecones to the branch, make a placemat decorated with your finds, and take it home!

Camp Field Branch: Thursday May 20, 3:30 p.m.

NATURE SERIES

Ages 5 and up. Enjoy nature poems and stories, plus a variety of crafts that celebrate nature's beauty.

Downtown Library, Children's Room: Tuesdays, May 11, 18, and 25, 3:45 p.m.

NIGHT OF THE FIREFLIES

All ages. Arnold Adoff and Jerry Pinkney's *In for Winter, Out for Summer* is a listening and viewing pleasure. Enjoy a finger painting activity after the reading.

Barbour Branch: Thursday, May 13, 3:30 p.m.

PAPER BEADS

Ages 12 and up. Join us for earth-wise bead making, using recycled materials.

Albany Branch: Tuesday, May 11, 3:00 p.m.

PUZZLE MANIA!!!

Ages 10 and up. Crazy about puzzles? Bring your own puzzle to share, or take our puzzle challenge: complete a puzzle of 500 pieces and win a cool prize!

Dwight Branch: Monday, May 17, 3:30 p.m.

TELL ME A STORY, MAMA!

Ages 6 and up. Celebrate Mother's Day with a story, and make a special gift to take home.

Park Branch: Friday, May 7, 3:30 p.m.

JUNE

School's out! Relax into summer with great films made from books and other fun activities, while you look forward to fall by starting your summer reading.

CELEBRATE FLY-A-KITE DAY!

Ages 8 and up. Make and fly your very own kite, with bragging rights for the person who makes the highest flyer.

Albany Branch: Tuesday, June 15, 3:00 p.m.

Mark Twain Branch: Thursday, June 17, 3:00 p.m.

END-OF-SCHOOL PARTY

All ages. Enjoy the last day of school by watching a popular movie and having a special treat.

Ropkins Branch: Friday, June 11, 3:15 p.m.

GREAT BOOKS - GREAT FILMS

Ages 5 and up. Enjoy extraordinary movies that started as books.

Downtown Library, Children's Room:

Tuesdays, June 1, 8, 15, and 22, 3:45 p.m.;

Barbour Branch: Thursdays, June 3, 10, 17, and 24, 3:00 p.m.

ISLAND DREAMING

Ages 5 and up. Join us for a fun Caribbean-themed party with coconut bowling and fruity delights!

Goodwin Branch: Thursday, June 10, 3:30 p.m.

SO FRESH!

Ages 6 and up. Observe "National Fresh Fruits and Vegetables Month" with fresh foods and activities.

Park Branch

Tuesday, June 15, 3:30 p.m.

SUMMER READING CLUB

Ages 6 and up. Get a head-start on summer reading by sharing books and fun book-based activities. Refreshments served!

Camp Field Branch: Mondays - Thursdays, June 1-30, 1:30 - 3:30 p.m.

TEEN MOVIE NIGHT

Ages 13 and up. Enjoy a challenging film based on a true story.

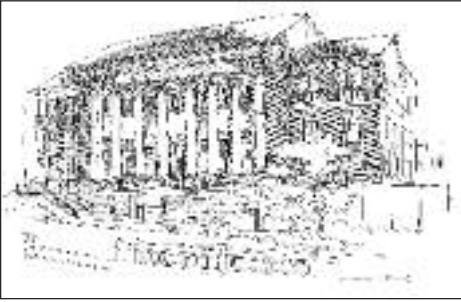
Dwight Branch: Monday, June 14, 1:00 p.m. and 3:00 p.m.

This issue is printed on paper that is 50% post consumer fiber with vegetable based inks.

HARTFORD HISTORY CENTER

MAY/JUNE

Hartford History Center is the special collections and archive of the Hartford Public Library. It holds more than 100,000 collection items that convey community life in Hartford dating back to the 1700s. It is open to the public Tuesday through Saturday, 1:00 - 5:00 p.m. Hartford History Center at Hartford Public Library, 500 Main Street Hartford. For more information call (860) 695-6297 or visit www.hplct.org/hhc.



Hartford Times Building, pen and ink by Richard Welling, Welling Collection.

HARTFORD TREASURES:

ART AND ARTIFACTS ON THE ARTWALK EXHIBITION JUNE 4- SEPTEMBER 30, 2010 OPENING RECEPTION JUNE 4, 6:00-8:00 P.M.

This summer, Hartford Public Library will showcase some of the wonderful holdings in its Hartford History Center in an exhibition entitled Hartford Treasures: Art and Artifacts on the ArtWalk. Like a modern "cabinet of curiosities," Hartford Treasures: Art and Artifacts on the ArtWalk emphasizes the rich variability of a public archive and reminds us that history is a collection of stories from which more stories are told. The exhibition will include a tribute to Hartford artist Richard Welling (1926-2009), whose drawings chronicled Hartford's changing skyline. Hartford Treasures: Art and Artifacts on the ArtWalk is free and open to the public and can be viewed at the Downtown Library Monday - Thursday, 10:00 a.m. - 8:00 p.m. and Friday and Saturday, 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. June 4 - September 30.



Giving to the Red Cross, 1945. Tony DeBonne Collection.



Botanical specimens in the City Parks Collection herbarium, c. 1900. City Parks Collection.

NEW ACQUISITION FOR THE HARTFORD HISTORY CENTER

Gary E. Wait donated his Gideon Welles Collection to the Hartford History Center. This exceptional collection includes a rich assortment of letters, books and pamphlets that provide insight into the life and times of Gideon Welles (1802-1878). Welles was a Hartford editor and Secretary of the Navy during the Civil War. In the mid-1800s, he broke with the Democratic Party over the issue of slavery and helped organize the Republican Party in Connecticut. Staunchly supporting President Abraham Lincoln's policies, Welles became Lincoln's Secretary of the Navy on March 7, 1861. He was also co-founder of the Republican newspaper Hartford Evening Press (1856). Gary Wait's gift to the Library includes issues of the *Hartford Evening Press*, Feb. 27, 1856 through Feb. 26, 1857.

COLLECTOR'S CORNER - WHY DID YOU COLLECT GIDEON WELLES' MATERIAL?

"I started collecting historical books when I was in junior high school, with a particular interest in Lincoln and the Civil War. At that time I had never heard of Gideon Welles (my loss, of course!) I haunted all the used book and antique stores I had access to, looking for items I could afford. . . . At one of these, I found a copy of David D. Porter's *Naval History of the Civil War*, and several contemporary works on the War at prices I could afford. . . . Luckily, I was able to make a few trips to the city library, and there I discovered Gideon's diary (the 1911 J.T. Morse edition) . . . I was captivated by Gideon's trenchant commentary on the times, and his associates and colleagues—and his early and loyal respect for Lincoln. Well, I was 'hooked' on Gideon Welles from that time forward."



Collector Gary E. Wait

ADULTS

MAY/JUNE

COMPUTER CLASSES

Various times of day and days of the week, in English and in Spanish, Downtown and at many of the neighborhood branches. See fliers and/or the online calendar (www.hplct.org/calendar) for details. Registration requested.

TWIG WREATH WORKSHOP

Learn basic wreath-making techniques as you create a natural twig wreath. Your finished wreath will be approximately 3 feet across. Decorate it with dried and/or silk flowers. Make a wonderful Mothers' Day gift or keep it and change the decorations with each season. All materials will be provided free of charge. Seating is limited. Registration required.

X-Room, Main Floor Saturday, May 8, 2:00-4:00 p.m.

BREAST CANCER SCREENING

Hartford Hospital's mobile mammography unit will be at the Library. If you are between 35 and 40 and have never had a mammogram, or are over 40 and haven't had a mammogram in over one year, you are eligible for this screening. Your insurance will be billed and co-pay will be your responsibility. If you have no insurance, the Hospital has donated funds that are available to pay for your mammogram. Registration is required in-person or by calling 860-695-6295.

Downtown Library, 2nd floor: Wednesday, May 19, 10:00 a.m.-1:30 p.m.

FOOD, INC. (FILM SCREENING)

Join us for a community screening and discussion of the Academy Award-nominated documentary, *Food, Inc.*, a disturbing exposé of America's food industry. Presented in collaboration with Hartford Food System and Active Voice.

Downtown Library: Thursday, May 20, 5:00-7:45 p.m. (Film starts at 5:45 p.m.)

ENCORE OPPORTUNITIES: WORK OPTIONS FOR 50+ ADULTS

Age Strong! Live Long! In keeping with this celebratory slogan of Older Americans Month (May), representatives from several organizations that have work options and information available to 50+ adults will be at the Library. At 11:00 a.m., keynote speaker Marcia LaReau, an expert in finding employment in tough times, will speak. Registration requested.

Downtown Library: Saturday, May 22, 10:00 a.m.-12:30 p.m.

STARTING A NONPROFIT: MYTHS AND REALITIES

Learn about the advantages and disadvantages of forming a nonprofit organization and seeking tax-exempt status. Also, discuss the best structure for a new organization, the obligations of the board of directors, conflicts of interest concerns, and other filing and compliance issues. Presenter: Priya Morganstern, Director, Pro Bono Partnership, Inc. Registration required.

Downtown Library, Program Room, 3rd Floor: Wednesday, June 9, 10:00 a.m.-noon

BEYOND OVERLOAD: 10 SECRETS TO GET BACK CONTROL

Overloaded? Overtired? Overworked? Overwhelmed? Abby Marks Beale, a corporate productivity specialist, will teach you strategies to reduce personal and work-related stress, manage your time, email, and reading workloads better, and make smarter health choices. You will leave with immediately usable ideas to save time and reduce stress, whether at home, at school, or in the workplace. Registration requested.

Downtown Library, Program Room, 3rd Floor: Tuesday, June 15, 6:00-8:00 p.m.

WORLD REFUGEE DAY

Commemorate World Refugee Day - an occasion to raise awareness of the millions of people displaced from their homes each year because of war and fear of persecution. Presented in collaboration with Catholic Charities Migration and Refugee Services. See flier for details.

Downtown Library: Saturday, June 19

New Music Hartford-Contemporary Music in Hartford

Downtown Library, Atrium

Saturday, May 8th, 2010- New Music Hartford presents a concert of contemporary music in Hartford, CT. The goal is to enrich the community with new, well-crafted, experimental music. New Music Hartford presents works by composers from around the world and locally.

This concert will feature classical music written in the 21st century including lullabies and dances performed by Boston guitarist Aaron Larget-Caplan, a performance by Boston pianist Trevor Berens, and new works composed and performed by Hartford musicians.



"As a daycare provider, I bring Taylor almost daily to the Camp Field Branch after school. Taylor loves to work on her letters. If she is having difficulty learning a new letter, we spend time practicing and using the alphabet puzzles. Taylor spends a lot of time looking at books and then she'll pick one or two out and we read together.

The library is a wonderful place to spend time and explore the world."

Nidia Zullo, Hartford resident and daycare provider

The mission of the Hartford Public Library is to promote and support literacy and learning; to provide free and open access to information and ideas; and to help people participate in our democratic society. Hartford Public Library traces its roots to 1774.

Nidia has found her public library to be much more than books. For her, and thousands more, Hartford Public Library's nine branches and Downtown location are community centers, educational resources, homework havens, and safe places for inquiring young minds.

To continue to provide the resources and services that thousands of city residents have come to count on from Hartford Public Library, we are asking you to help support our Annual Spring Appeal. Your donation helps fund the Library's top priorities: purchasing books, expanding resources, and maintaining adequate staffing.

Please make a donation to the Library today and help Hartford's children continue to make discoveries that help them learn, grow and be part of our larger world. Donate online at www.hplct.org or send your check to: Hartford Public Library, Development Office, 500 Main Street, Hartford, CT 06103-3075

For further information please contact Mary Crean, chief development officer at (860) 695-6360 or by email at mcrean@hplct.org.

FOR MORE INFORMATION VISIT: www.hplct.org TODAY!

