



*Friends of the Falmouth Public Library*

# Newsletter

*SPRING 2013*

President:  
Jane Hewitt

Editor  
Marilyn Sanborn

*The Friends of the Falmouth Public Library*

*cordially invites you to attend the*

## **ANNUAL MEETING, LUNCHEON, and ELECTION of OFFICERS**

*in the*

**Hermann Room of the Falmouth Public Library**

*300 Main Street, Falmouth*

*Saturday, April 20, 2013 at 11:00 AM*

Photograph by AMY RADER



Followed at 11:30 AM by  
*A Special Musical Presentation*

### **“Broadway Bites: Songs to Soothe Your Hunger & Thirst”**

With Local Singing Favorite

**Stephenie Miele**

Accompanied by Pianist **Alice Carey**

and Bassist **John Wall**



# Joy of Learning

## Spring Schedule 2013



Please See Details Inside

# Friend of the Falmouth Public Library Special Event Saturday ~ April 20th ~ 11:30 AM



Stephanie Miele, Vocalist  
Alice Carey, Pianist and  
John Wall, Bassist (back)

## **Broadway Bites:** **Songs to Soothe Your Hunger & Thirst**

*with*

**Stephanie Miele accompanied  
by Pianist Alice Carey and  
Bassist John Wall**

Many composers and lyricists such as Jerry Herman, Leonard Bernstein, Fats Waller, and Kander and Ebb, to name a few, have been inspired to write songs about the glories of food and drink. *"Broadway Bites: Songs to Soothe Your Hunger and Thirst"* will provide a taste of several of these songs. This program is just the dessert to accompany the reading of Barbara Kingsolver's

**Animal, Vegetable, Miracle: A Year of Food Life**, this year's What's Falmouth Reading selection.



**Stephanie Miele** is a graduate of the High School for Performing Arts in New York City and Boston University. She has been active in community theater and has sung in several choral groups including the Handel and Hayden Society and the Wintersauce Chorale.



**Alice Carey** was a music specialist in the Middleboro Public School system and has had extensive experience as choral director and music accompanist for musical productions at Bridgewater State University, Brockton High School, Falmouth Academy, and the town of Middleboro.



**John Wall** has music degrees from the New England Conservatory of Music and the University of Lowell. John has been a member of many local orchestras including the GBYSO, the Brockton Symphony, the Indian Hill Symphony Orchestra, and the Worcester Symphony, where he is the principal bass.



**Stephanie, Alice, and John** have performed in numerous productions for the Brockton Community Theater, at Heritage Museum and Gardens in Sandwich, the Summer Serenade Series in Yarmouth, at Highfield Hall in Falmouth, the Brewster Ladies Library, and First Night Chatham.

### NOTICE OF INTENT TO CHANGE THE BY-LAWS

Article IV, section 3 of the FFPL by-laws states that, "Dues shall be established by the officers and board of directors and ratified by the general membership." Therefore, the board of directors presents the following changes in the dues structure for ratification by the general membership at the April 20, 2013 meeting:

- Individual membership from \$10.00 to \$15.00
- Family membership from \$15.00 to \$20.00
- Individual life membership from \$100.00 to \$120.00
- Family life membership \$150.00



# Joy of Learning



The Friends of the Falmouth Public Library will offer four new courses which will begin Tuesday, April 2<sup>ND</sup>, 2013. The classes are free and open to the public.

## **Tuesdays: 10:15 AM - 11:15 AM in Bay Room - April 2, 9, 16, 23**

### ***Movies! Movies! Movies!***

#### **Ingredients of Great Movies**

The course will focus on the words, imagery, music, openings and endings and memorable moments, characters and laughs in great movies

*Fred Gitlitz BA Colgate, MA Columbia University, PhD. Columbia University*

## **Tuesdays: 11:30 AM - 12:30 PM in Bay Room - April 2, 9, 16, 23**

### ***Vignettes in American History***

**Lincoln Mania** - Building on the wonderful movie "Lincoln" - A two-part reprise on Lincoln (previously shown several year ago) and "Ike" a two-part look at Dwight D. Eisenhower, soldier and president

*Fred Gitlitz BA Colgate, MA Columbia University, PhD. Columbia University*

## **Wednesdays: 12 Noon - 1:30 PM in Bay Room - April 3, 10, 17, 24 & May 1 & 8**

### ***Russian Literature*** (PLEASE NOTE: THIS CLASS IS LIMITED TO 20 PARTICIPANTS ENROLLED ON A FIRST COME FIRST SERVE BASIS. PLEASE SIGN UP AT THE REFERENCE DESK)

*This spring our course will feature the following seminal works by the giants of 19th century Russian literature:*

**Notes From the Underground ~ Dostoyevsky, Death of Ivan Ilich ~ Tolstoy**

**First Love or Asya ~ Turgenev, Ward Six ~ Chekhov, Twenty-Six and One ~ Gorky**

*Robert Szulkin, Professor Emeritus Brandeis University, MA Harvard University, PhD. Harvard University*

## **Thursdays: 10:00 PM - 11:15 PM in Hermann Room - April 4, 11, 18 & May 2**

### ***A World Undone: World War I***

This course will trace the origins of the First World War - a war which nobody wanted, yet that took 30 million lives and became the sixth deadliest conflict in world history. It will cover the major campaigns of the Western and Eastern fronts, the Balkans, the Middle East and Africa, and examine the successes and failures of the world's leading civilian and military leaders.

*Michael McNaught earned BA and Ma degrees from Oxford University where he specialized in Military History and the Theory of War and an MA from Columbia. He was an independent school teacher and administrator for 44 years.*

All classes held at the Falmouth Public Library. Tuesday and Wednesday classes will be held before the regular Library hours. You will enter on Katharine Lee Bates Road by the door at the end of the library close to the trash enclosure.

*Registration forms are available to the public at the circulation desk at the Main Library and at the branches as well.*

CUT OUT HERE

**TO REGISTER:** Send your selections with your name, address and phone number to:  
Joy of Learning, Post Office Box 480, Falmouth, Massachusetts 02541 or drop off at Reference Desk.  
Please keep course descriptions as your record.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

I wish to enroll in the following course (or courses):

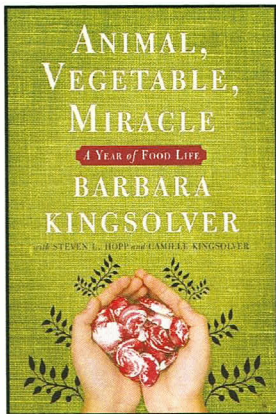
(1) MOVIES!

(3) Russian Literature

(2) American History

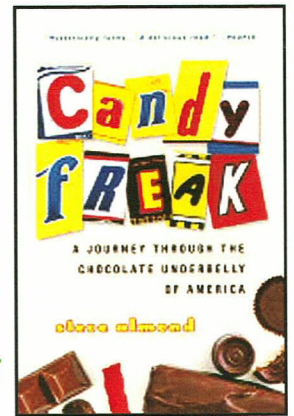
(4) World War I

# What's Falmouth Reading? ~ 2013



## This year we are reading about FOOD!

Since 2003 the town of Falmouth has been reading together every year. The goals of What's Falmouth Reading? are to encourage an appreciation of reading and books in our community and to promote access to a variety of books for all ages. The Committee is celebrating local food in 2013 with the selection of Barbara Kingsolver's **Animal Vegetable, Miracle: A Year of Food Life** and Steve Almond's **Candyfreak** as the town-wide reads.



Barbara Kingsolver's **Animal, Vegetable, Miracle: A Year of Food Life** describes her family's move to their land in the

Appalachians and their decision to revive it as a family farm. For neighborhood book clubs, sets of discussion questions are available at the Falmouth Public Library Reference Desk, Tel. 408-457-2555, x-6.

**Candyfreak** author Steve Almond comes to Falmouth on Saturday, April 6 at 2 PM to talk about his book, his unnatural love of candy, and the challenges facing small regional candy makers. Almond is the author of 10 books of fiction and non-fiction, and is a journalist whose work appears regularly in the Boston Globe, Wall Street Journal, and the Huffington Post.

**A Saturday afternoon REEL FOOD FILM FESTIVAL** kicks off on Saturday, February 16 at 2 PM and will run for six weeks.

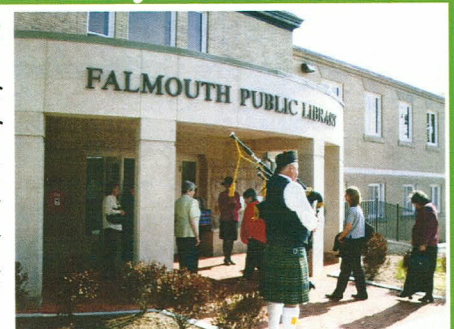
The committee has planned a wide range of programs through May to promote reading of the books. Programs scheduled for March include sessions on garden planning and raising backyard chickens, and a "Poems and Pints" celebration at Liam Maguire's. On March 27, a panel featuring Geoffrey Andrews (Strawberries), Ann Sears (Cranberries), and Stanwood Ingram (New Alchemy) will discuss Falmouth's agricultural heritage. In April there will be a culinary series at Highfield Hall. For more information, call the Falmouth Public Library at 508-457-2555, x-6 or go to the Falmouth Public Library Website: [www.falmouthpubliclibrary.org](http://www.falmouthpubliclibrary.org) and click on the **What's Falmouth Reading?** link.

Several events for children and families are also scheduled, including a children's Souper Story Supper on March 27. For more information on children's programming call the Children's Room at 508-457-2555, x-5.

*~ Submitted by Adrienne Latimer, Reference Librarian*

## The Numbers Tell the Story

Without a doubt, the Falmouth Public Library is the busiest spot in town. At the January meeting of the Friends of the Falmouth Public Library, Linda Collins, the Assistant Director of the library, presented a list of statistics highlighting the popularity of the library and its importance to the Falmouth community. During the past year, an average of **1,300** people entered the library on a daily basis, and over a half million items were circulated among library patrons. There are **30,000** registered borrowers, with borrowing privileges extended to over **9,500** summer visitors.



The library sponsored **298** programs throughout the year that were attended by **8,000** members of the community, and the three meeting rooms were used by more than **100** non-profit community groups for meetings and lectures. And in this ever-growing technological age, the library provided computer and internet access for **1,000** people each week.

The Children's Department offered **372** programs that were attended by **10,000** children and adults, and over **118,000** items were circulated within this department. It is interesting to note that the East Falmouth branch of the library circulated **50,000** items last year, while the North Falmouth branch which is open only 12 hours a week circulated almost **45,000** items.

# Library now has online subscriptions to Consumer Reports

**Consumer Reports (CR)** is an expert, independent, nonprofit organization whose mission is to work for a fair, just, and safe marketplace for all consumers and to empower consumers to protect themselves. The organization was founded in 1936 when advertising first flooded the mass media. Consumers lacked a reliable source of information they could depend on to help them distinguish hype from fact and good products from bad ones. Since then CR has filled that vacuum with a broad range of consumer information. To maintain its independence and impartiality, CR accepts no outside advertising and no free samples and employs several hundred mystery shoppers and technical experts to buy and test the products it evaluates. According to the Consumer Reports mission statement, "Consumer Reports is one of the top-ten-circulation magazines in the country, and ConsumerReports.org, has the most subscribers of any website of its kind, in addition to two newsletters, Consumer Reports on Health and Consumer Reports Money Adviser. They have combined subscriptions of more than 8 million. All of CR's work is informed by the more than 1 million readers who respond to our Annual Ballot & Questionnaire, among the largest and most comprehensive consumer studies in the world. In 2008, CR also launched several initiatives, including ConsumerReportsHealth.org and the Consumer Reports Health Ratings Center, which serve to educate and empower consumers to make more informed health-care decisions and to help change the market."

As you know the library has subscribed to **Consumer Reports (CR) magazine** for a number of years. Our print collection goes back to 2005. We are delighted to report that we now have an online subscription, **ConsumerReports.org!** This edition features much more information than the magazine and has the most subscribers of any website of its kind.

## ConsumerReports.org:

- 1,000+ Ratings, reviews, expert buying advice, product comparisons, consumer user reviews, and product video clips
- Proven product reliability data
- Complete product specifications
- Frequently updated information
- Quick recommendations
- A ShopOnline feature
- 100% unbiased ... take no outside advertising

## ConsumerReports.org Cars Best Deals

PLUS

## Consumer Reports Bottom Line Price

- Rebates, incentives and holdbacks
- Unlimited Price Reports on new and used cars
- Test Track Notes from expert engineers
- Enhanced Side By Side model comparisons
- "Best Deal" negotiation advice



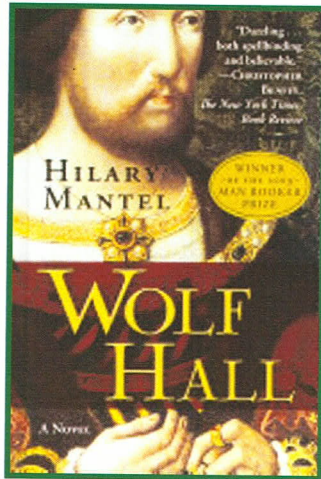
**Take a moment to navigate through the online version of CR.** Learn how they test products. Watch a video tour of one of the labs. Read some of the very informative articles on a variety of topics. The most recent issue includes an article, "Bill Gates Reinvents the Toilet!"

**The history of the organization** is in video format & has interesting facts and some great vintage photos.

**You can access CR on the library's homepage** [www.falmouthpubliclibrary.org](http://www.falmouthpubliclibrary.org). Scroll down to Library Databases, click on the link. The General Databases are in alphabetical order, scroll to Consumer Reports. From home you will need to enter your Falmouth Public Library card.

~ Submitted by Donna Burgess, Reference Librarian

# Book Review: *Wolf Hall* by Hillary Mantel



**Wolf Hall is a big, gold embossed best seller** that is also something of a literary triumph. Winner of the prestigious Mann Booker prize and written by the distinguished British author, Hillary Mantel, the novel has created quite a stir on both sides of the Atlantic.

**There are two stories in the book.** One is the well known saga of Henry VIII and his quest for an heir, and the second story interwoven with the first, is the life of Thomas Cromwell, Henry's close advisor.

**Mantel had more than one way** to interpret Cromwell's life. She might have agreed with history that he was an evil man and that Machiavelli paled in comparison. The son of an ale house owner, Thomas was a cruel, unscrupulous, brilliant schemer, first as Cardinal Wolsey's lawyer, and then when Wolsey falls out of favor, the advisor to Henry VIII. The list of horrors committed in his name is long. It amounts almost to a reign of terror, and it was all done to increase the power of the king. As Henry's power increases, so does Cromwell's.

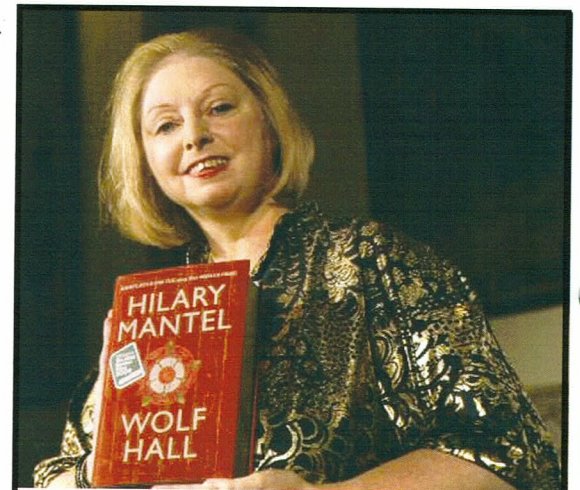
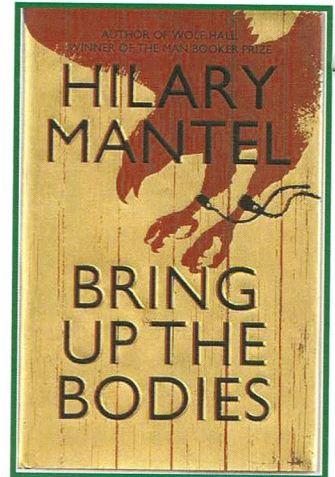
*Has Mantel confused her readers by rewriting history?*

**To most readers, Cromwell is an important figure in the book,** but he is seen as a lackey of the king. His future depends on Henry's whims. Mantel characterizes him neither as evil or dependent on Henry. She has chosen to paint him as a wise minister and a decent man. Has Mantel

confused her readers by rewriting history? Perhaps. Is she a revisionist? Yes, but *Wolf Hall* is a work of fiction and she is not required to present only the facts as history has decreed them.

**Having been successful with this novel,** she has gone on to publish the second volume, *Bring Up the Bodies*, which also won the Mann Booker prize. She is in the process now of writing the third volume of the trilogy. It will be called *The Mirror and the Light*.

~ M. Sanborn



Author Hillary Mantel with a copy of *Wolf Hall*



Henry VIII



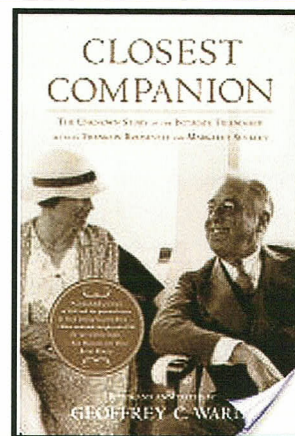
Anne Boleyn

# Book Reviews: Closest Companion

## The Unknown Story of the Intimate Friendship between Franklin Roosevelt & Margaret Suckley

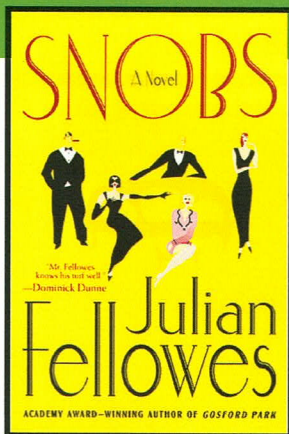
Edited by Geoffrey C. Ward

I found this book in the Friends donation box. Thinking Margaret Suckley might be one of the women featured in the new movie about President Roosevelt, **Hyde Park on Hudson**, I was prepared for lots of gossip, but it is anything but. Daisy, as Margaret is called, was a sixth cousin of Franklin's and he seems to have plucked her out of nowhere to become the only true confidante he ever had. When she died in her nineties, a battered suitcase was found under her bed containing her diaries and her correspondence with FDR. Seen through Daisy's eyes, the president becomes a lovable, lonely man constantly pursued by those who wish to take up his time, but also a great man who helped greatly to win WWII by his amazing ability to get along with the other great men of the world, particularly Winston Churchill and Josef Stalin.



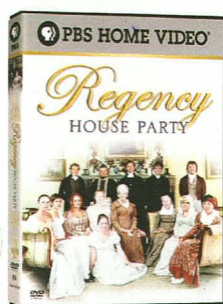
I have always found diaries boring but not this one. Even when you know his life quite well, you are amazed to find so much you didn't know, both personal and otherwise. For instance, FDR constantly feared that Russia would sign a separate peace with Germany, a deathblow to the allies without question. In regard to his health, we knew that he was not well, but who but a very few knew how much he suffered during the last year of his life. He had congestive heart failure (*today he would have been given a blood thinner, oxygen, maybe a pacemaker*) and he was constantly tired and wishing to sleep. There were days when he could not get out of bed but managed anyway. Daisy knew his condition and did all she could to help him but that was of limited value. He had high blood pressure and there was no medication then. He was a dying man, a fact his doctors knew but never voiced, not even when he decided to run for a fourth term. It could not happen today. Those kinds of secrets are not kept any more. Is this book biased? Of course it is. Daisy worshipped President Roosevelt. ~ *M. Sanborn*

## Book Review: Snobs by Julian Fellowes



Recently on the mantle across from **Circulation at the main library**, there was a small collection of books and DVDs that were linked to *Downton Abbey* in some way. **Snobs**, by Julian Fellowes (also the author of *Downton Abbey*) must have great fun writing this book as he is clearly writing about his own people, which, being one of them, he is allowed to do. You know how it is. Black people can say the "n" word but nobody else can. Fellowes analyses his class up and down and it is scathing. He makes it clear that the poor souls who think that class is no longer of such great importance in the England of today are fools, and he certainly proves it in this very funny informative book about the aristocracy. Don't ever try to be one of them unless you are, because they will easily ferret you out and expose you. ~ *M. Sanborn*

## DVD Review: Regency House Party



Also on the mantle was a DVD called **Regency House Party**. The picture on the cover is similar to the cast of *Downton Abbey*, but the characters are from the present day. They are a group of carefully chosen, single young men and a group of eligible young women who must live in an English country manor for "nine sunny summer weeks" as though the time were the 19th Century. Their goal is to find a mate. It sounds intriguing doesn't it? It starts off fine, but soon bogs down with the chaperons making it all but impossible for the two groups to meet. The men work out their frustrations with athletic activities while the women wait and wait, gossiping and doing their embroidery. According to the cover of the disk, passions were unleashed as it built to an explosive climax. I must have been asleep.

Try it if you are wondering how it ends. It is a six hour long DVD and there is a copy at the main library, which is very much in demand I might add. ~ *M. Sanborn*

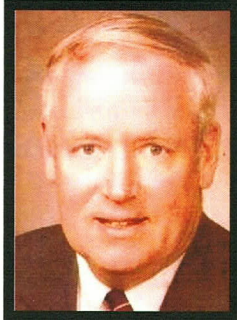
# From the Editor

*To those of you who chose to take offense at my article on Yellowstone in the last issue of this newsletter . . .*

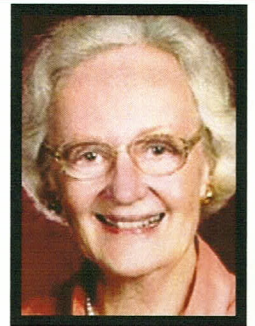
**There appears to be two distinct groups of people regarding camping:** those who love it and those who don't. The former like the big outdoors, nature in all its forms, hiking through it, wild animals who inhabit these areas, and roughing it in tents. The non-camper may have possibly tried it once and declared, as the couple in the famous New Yorker cartoon did several years ago, "We're not coming back next year."

**If you love Yellowstone, as thousands do,** you will be unhappy if it is criticized. When a friend of mine called Cape Cod "a peninsula going nowhere," I was indignant. In the end we can become angry with those who do not agree with us, but it's really a case of "to each his own." As George and Ira Gershwin said in one of their well known songs, "Let's Call the Whole Thing Off" and end this argument about which place is better than another.

*For an article on **Hiking the Utah Canyon Lands** by Friend member Nancy English, see the Summer 2011 issue of this newsletter. It might have also been called **Beyond Yellowstone**.*



## Remembering Ned Nolan & Esther Irish



**We first came to know Ned** when we were publishing our first newsletters. We had asked for contributions, and whenever a good new history book was published the editor would find a review in her folder. It would always be an excellent review by a retired history professor by the name of Ned Nolan. We knew Ned as a history teacher in our Joy of Learning program and then as a respected library trustee. We will miss his contributions to the library and to the **Friends**. **We will miss Ned.**

**Esther was a jewel.** She was, with her husband, one of the **Friends** earliest members. She worked very hard sorting books in our first sorting area, soon to be called the dungeon. It was people like Esther who gave us hope that we did have a loyal group of people willing to volunteer for the **Friends** and to believe in what we were trying to do.

**We hope that we will always have Friends like Esther.**

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*Friends of the Falmouth Public Library*

New Courses starting April 2<sup>ND</sup>, 2013  
SIGN UP TODAY ~ SEE PAGE 3 FOR DETAILS

*Joy of Learning*

