

Friends of the Falmouth Public Library
Newsletter

President:
Leonard Miele

Editor
Marilyn Sanborn

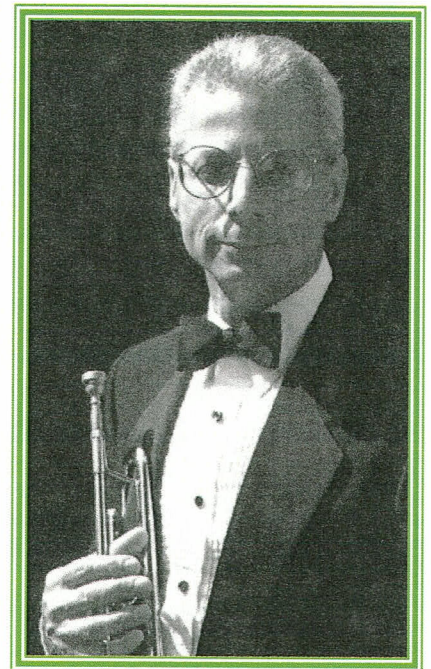
INVITATION

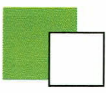
The Friends of the Falmouth Public Library
cordially invites you to attend the
**ANNUAL MEETING and ELECTION of OFFICERS
& LUNCHEON** at the
First Congregational Church
68 Main Street, Falmouth
Saturday, April 16, 2011 at 11:00 AM
A Special Musical Performance at 11:30 AM of
Music Through the Decades
by career musician David Polansky

This musical cabaret will be a fun-filled hour in which the audience is taken on a musical trip through the last hundred years. Using his keyboard and his trumpet, Mr. Polansky will perform the music of George M. Cohan, Irving Berlin, George Gershwin, and Hoagy Carmichael. His audiences often sing, ask questions, and even dance during his performances. A highlight of Polansky's program is his AMAZING impersonation of the legendary Louis Armstrong.

DAVID POLANSKY

David Polansky is a professional musician who has played with Sandler and Young, Phyllis Diller, Henny Youngman, Ray Bolger, Arthur Fiedler, The Platters and The Coasters. His original music is frequently humorous, sometimes serious, and always clever and engaging. Loved by everyone from preschoolers to grandparents, his songs have been compared to those of Stephen Sondheim and Tom Lehrer and have won numerous awards including the coveted Artists' Foundation Fellowship, Music City Song Festival, and Sheet Music Magazine Grand Prize. His Animal Alphabet Songs were spotlighted on Morning Edition on National Public Radio, and his instrumental and choral pieces have been performed by the Springfield Symphony Orchestra, the ZAMir Chorale, and the Tommy Dorsey Orchestra. David has composed many scores accompanying CD-ROM games, as well as background music for educational books and cassette packages. His sensitive and often comical lyrics deal with diverse aspects of human (and sometimes animal) nature to which people of all ages easily relate.





Joy of Learning



The Friends of the Falmouth Public Library will offer six new courses which will begin Tuesday, April 5th, 2011. The classes are free and open to the public.

Tuesdays: 10:15 AM - 11:15 AM at FCTV - April 5, 12, 19, 26

Movies! Movies! Movies! III

Hollywood's Greatest Year featuring three blockbusters from that year. 1. The films of Director George Stevens, featuring **A Place In The Sun, Shane & Giant** 2. **Citizen Kane** - why it really is a work of art, and the genius of Orson Welles 3. The Artistry of John Ford, featuring **The Grapes Of Wrath & How Green Was My Valley**

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

Tuesdays: 11:30 AM - 12:30 PM at FCTV - April 5, 12, 19, 26

Vignettes in American History

1. Thomas Jefferson Complicated and Contradictory **Part I** - Jefferson as Founding Father, prior to his presidency
2. Thomas Jefferson Complicated and Contradictory **Part II** - Jefferson's presidency, from the shores of Tripoli to the Pacific Ocean
3. "The Trail Of Tears" - the forced removal of the Cherokees from southeastern U.S. to Oklahoma Territory
4. Two Crises of FDR: "The Great Depression" and "The Enemy Within"

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

Wednesdays: 12 Noon - 1:30 PM - April 6, 13, 20, 27 & May 4, 11

Five Russian Satirical Plays (PLEASE NOTE: THIS CLASS IS LIMITED TO 20 PARTICIPANTS)

1. The Inspector General
2. The Death of Pazuikhin
3. A Bitter Fate
4. The Storm
5. A Month in the Country
6. The Lower Depths

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

THE FOLLOWING CLASSES HAVE OPEN ENROLLMENT

Wednesdays: Hermann Room 2:00 PM - 3:00 PM - April 6, 13, 20, 27

Making American Foreign Policy (IS THIS ANY WAY TO RUN A COUNTRY?)

The sessions will cover the still existing policy-making apparatus the framers cobbled together in 1787, the distinctive characteristics of American foreign policy, a brief look at some successes and disasters, and where things are likely to go in the future.

MICHAEL T. CORGAN PhD. Associate Professor/Associate Chair:
Department of International Relations Boston University

Thursdays: Hermann Room 10:00 AM - 11:15 PM - April 7, 14, 21, 28 & May 5

World War II: Europe & the Mediterranean - FROM BLITZKRIEG TO BERLIN

This course will cover the major campaigns of the European /Mediterranean theaters, with particular attention given to the Battle of the Atlantic, Operation Torch (the campaign in Sicily & Italy, the Normandy Invasion & the Allied advance into Germany

MICHAEL MCNAUGHT B.A. & M.A. in History Oxford University where he specialized in Military History & Theory of War. School Administrator and teacher for 45 years.

Thursdays: Hermann Room 2:00 PM - 3:00 PM - April 7, 14, 21 & 28

American Painting in the 19TH & 20TH Centuries

Lecture 1: Early primitive & Limner painters ~ **Lecture 2:** Romanticism & the Hudson River School Luminism & Manifest Destiny ~ **Lecture 3:** Homer, Sargent, Eakins, Whistler, Innes & Ryder

Lecture 4: New Beginnings: American Impressionism/New Realism /Magic Realism Abstract Art/Op Art/The Californians/American Abstract Expressionism/Minimalism

WILLIAM ADELMAN Jr. He is a well-known local artist. He is a Member of the Copley Society of Art, Cape Cod Art Assoc., and the Cataumet Art Center. He is a Critic & Lecturer and has exhibited his work at many art and commercial galleries in New England, the Mid-Atlantic states & California.

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
Please keep course descriptions as your record.



Name: _____ Address: _____

Phone: _____

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

(1) MOVIES!

(4) Foreign Policy

(2) American History

(5) WW II

(3) Russian Plays

(6) Painting

2

What's Falmouth Reading?

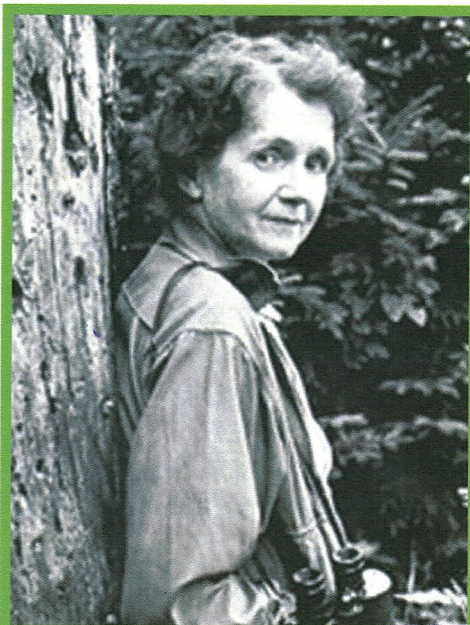
The What's Falmouth Reading? Committee has chosen *Silent Spring* by Rachel Carson as the 2011 town wide read. How many times has a book changed the course of history? *Silent Spring* did exactly that. The book earned marine biologist, Rachel Carson, a place on Time Magazine's list of 100 Most Influential People of the Twentieth Century. She laid out a painstaking description of the hazardous, deadly effects of pesticide use, and issued a rousing call to greater awareness of our environment. The outcry that followed its publication in 1962 forced the government to ban DDT and triggered revolutionary changes in the laws affecting our air, land, and water. Carson's book was vital in launching the environmental movement, and is regarded as one of the landmark books of the twentieth century.

Many of us first read *Silent Spring* in the mid-1960s.

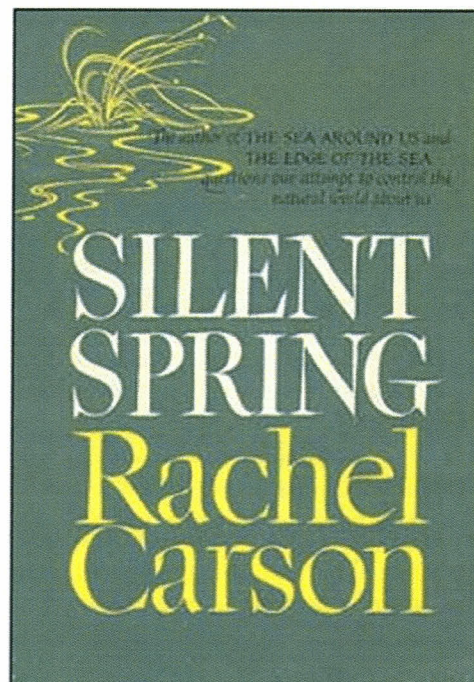
We were appalled at the danger caused by poisons in the environment, the reckless use of pesticides and the seemingly invincible power of the chemical companies to rule agriculture in this country. Back in the 1960s this environmental assault was news to some readers. Why is it important to read *Silent Spring* now? Rachel Carson's straightforward, yet expressive account of the indiscriminate use of pesticides is as shocking now as it was over fifty years ago. But now, readers are shocked to realize how little has actually changed. Despite the hope and promise of the first Earth Day, April 22, 1970 and the creation of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency in December 1970, our nation is again facing ghastly environmental challenges.

Rachel Carson's legacy is even more significant to us in Falmouth because of her long-standing connection to the Woods Hole research community. She first arrived in the summer of 1929 after earning her undergraduate degree to work as a beginning zoology researcher. She

returned in 1932 as a graduate student to participate in zoological research on teleosts (bony fish). After embarking on a career with the National Bureau of Fisheries, she returned again in 1949 for a research cruise aboard the U.S. Fisheries research vessel Albatross. After her first book, *The Sea Around Us* won the National Book Award in 1951, she spent the summer at MBL on leave from the Fisheries Services to continue research for her next book *The Edge of the Sea*. In the summer of 1952, she left the Fisheries Service to write fulltime and returned to MBL. She remained on the MBL faculty for the rest of her life.



**Environmentalist & Author
Rachel Carson**

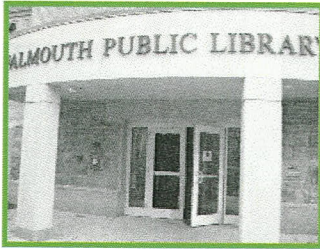


What's Falmouth Reading? is a community based committee which has organized activities supporting a town wide reading experience since 2003. To find out more, go to the Falmouth Public library website: www.falmouthpubliclibrary.org and click on the icon:

<What's Falmouth Reading?>

~Adrienne Latimer - Reference Department~

What's Going On at the Library?



NEW Self Pick-Up Reserves Service

Even more than recent winter weather conditions and IRS 1040 delays, the new "Self Pick-Up Reserves Service" at the library has caused quite a stir and we are delighted to say in a positive way! The new service was carefully considered and researched for nearly a year. "Self Pick-Up Reserves" is a process that many libraries across the country are implementing. It is a creative way for libraries with tighter budgets to improve efficiency for patrons and free up library staff to perform more public oriented work. In fact it is already a success at the Falmouth Public Library. Currently there is a librarian at the help desk in the collection area for a majority of the hours the library is open. He or she is there to answer your questions and introduce you to the self pick-up reserves.

Here is how the self pick-up works: Materials you have reserved by placing a hold on the item are now available for you to pick up on the main floor of the library in the collection area. Look for the balloons on the right as you enter the room. Just behind the new non-fiction shelves you will find your book, DVD or CD. For privacy your material is arranged spine down alphabetically by the first four letters of your last name and the last four digits of your library card number. For even greater convenience, you can checkout your materials at the self-service station located nearby. All you need is your library card and a pin number.

We hope you enjoy this new self-service. Many patrons have asked us why we did not think of it years ago. If there is anyone who feels uncomfortable about picking up his own reserved materials, or has concerns about confidentiality, please speak to a librarian at the checkout desk and they will be happy to help you with other options.

Frequently Asked Questions:

Q. How will I find the book I requested?

A. Look for the Self Pick-Up Holds aisle to the right of the adult new nonfiction area. Items are shelved alphabetically by last name (truncated) and the last four numbers of a library card.

Q. Are my holds already checked out to my record?

A. No. You are welcome to privately check-out your own materials at the Self Check-Out unit. Staff members are also happy to check out items for you at the Circulation Service Desk.

Q. How long do I have to pick up my item?

A. Seven days. After one week, unclaimed items will go to the next person on the waiting list or re-shelved at the owning library.

Q. How will I be notified that my requests have arrived?

A. Patrons will be called or emailed when items are ready for pickup. Please talk to a staff member about adding your email to your library account in order to receive email library notices. Email notifications are very helpful in helping to reduce postage costs and keep phone lines open.

NEWS FROM THE BRABSON TEEN ROOM!

The Teen Room display case has some intriguing pieces of hand thrown pottery created by students at Falmouth High School. Look for the wonderful bright colors of a birdbath, a large orange ewer, and three very different mirrors designed by these very talented teen artists.

Wander into the Teen Room and view the mixed media artwork by Lawrence & Falmouth High School students. You'll find collages, digital photographs, self-portraits and paper fish sculptures! The art display is part of the Falmouth schools Youth Art Month.

You're invited! Meet the artists and enjoy free refreshments (compliments of the Friends!) at a reception on Thursday March 10TH from 4:00 to 5:30 PM in the Teen Room.

Do you enjoy playing Scrabble? Every Friday afternoon from 2:00 -5:00 PM in the Teen Room six boards are available so you can play an informal game with your friends or other Scrabble fans! Open to all ages.

Don't miss the original play/puppet show, The Joseph's Boat on Saturday March 12TH at 2:00 PM presented by The Seriously Fun Theatre & Puppetry Workshop, **The Joseph's Boat** was written and directed by Jacek Zuzanski & Laura Opie. This play and puppet show is an adaptation of a folk story by Elizabeth Reynard about some of the earliest residents of Falmouth, MA. It is great family entertainment! Supported by the Massachusetts Cultural Council, the performance is free! If you cannot make the Saturday show, a second performance will be held at the John Wesley United Methodist Church on Sunday March 13TH, at 2:00 PM.

4 Save the date! Saturday April 9TH from 2:00 - 4:00 PM, enjoy African & Arabian music played by students of Lisa Esperson! Feel that beat & learn a few dance steps!

Put This On Your Bulletin Board

Fifty-Two Ways to Use Your Library Card

1. Get to know your librarian, the ultimate search engine @ your library.
2. Update your Facebook page.
3. Research new job opportunities.
4. Find a list of childcare centers in your area.
5. Learn about local candidates for office.
6. Pick up voter registration information.
7. Check out your favorite graphic novel.
8. Pickup a DVD.
9. Get wireless access.
10. Participate in a community forum.
11. Find out how to navigate the Internet.
12. Prepare your resume.
13. Get new ideas for redecorating your house.
14. Get a list of community organizations.
15. Attend a lecture or workshop.
16. Hear a local author reading his/her latest novel.
17. Join a book discussion group.
18. Attend preschool story hour with your child.
19. Get homework help.
20. Look up all kinds of health information.
21. Research the purchase of a new car.
22. Trek to another planet in a Sci-Fi novel.
23. Call the reference desk if you have a question.
24. Research your term paper.
25. Learn about the history of your city or town.
26. Decide which computer to buy using a consumer guide.
27. Learn a foreign language.
28. Borrow or download an audiobook for your next road trip or commute.
29. Use the library's resources to start a small business.
30. See a new art exhibit.
31. Volunteer as a literacy tutor.
32. Find a new recipe.
33. Ask for a recommended reading list for your kids.
34. Make photocopies.
35. Get a book from interlibrary loan.
36. Enroll your child in a summer reading program.
37. Get help with computer questions.
38. Hear a poetry reading.
39. Take out the latest fashion magazine.
40. Enjoy a concert.
41. Trace your family tree.
42. Browse a special collection of rare books.
43. Check out a legal question or issue.
44. Find out how to file a consumer complaint.
45. Learn about home improvement.
46. Borrow some sheet music.
47. Learn how to use a database or computerized catalog.
48. Find the latest romance paperback.
49. Pick up tax forms.
50. Connect with other people in the community.
51. Find a quiet spot, curl up with a book and enjoy.
52. Check out one of over 300 magazines.

Falmouth Public Library
300 Main Street
Falmouth, MA 02540
508-457-2555

info@falmouthpubliclibrary.org

Text us!

Text 66746 ask fpl

Main Library Hours:

- **Monday 9:30 AM - 5:30 PM**
- **Tuesday 1:00 PM - 8:30 PM**
- **Wednesday 1:00 PM - 8:30 PM**
- **Thursday 9:30 AM - 5:30 PM**
- **Friday 9:30 AM - 5:30 PM**
- **Saturday 9:30 AM - 5:00 PM**

~Donna Burgess - Reference Department~

Movie Reviews

by M. Sanborn

SECRETARIAT

In May of 1973, my husband and I were invited to the Kentucky Derby. We went of course, and we learned all about one particular kind of Southerner, gracious, hospitable and charming as they often are, but this group was also composed of horse breeders and horse racers.

It was contagious as the time drew near for the Derby. We had toured the blue grass country, had wonderful meals at country restaurants and cruised down the Mississippi on the Delta Queen. Now it was time to be off to the most famous of American horse races, the Kentucky Derby.

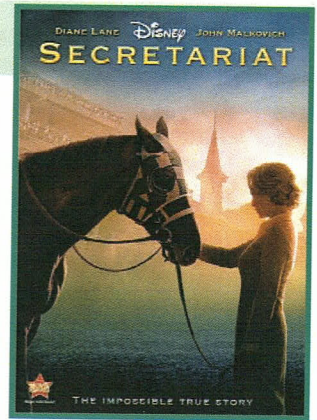
As we took our seats in the stands, I began to hear talk about the favorite for the race. His name was Secretariat. I decided to bet on him and completely ignorant of his background, I just bet \$2. I returned to my seat as everyone stood for the traditional singing of My Old Kentucky Home. I wondered if Northerners would ever be sentimental enough to sing before a horse race. What would we sing? Yankee Doodle?

When I read that they were making a movie about Secretariat, I wanted to see just how great this horse was, and I was not disappointed. "Big Red" as they called him, was perhaps the greatest champion of them all, and the story that the movie has concocted was designed to keep viewers on the edge of their seats, not only during the races, but during the time Secretariat's owner was trying to find the much needed money to enter him in the Derby. That much is true, but Hollywood went a bit further and let audiences think that the farm would be lost if Secretariat did not win. That was pure schmaltz and quite unnecessary when the true story was so remarkable.

Penny Chennery, part owner of Secretariat, is played by the actress Diane Lane. Penny had been a wife and mother for years when the opportunity to take over the family farm and participate in the training of Secretariat came along, and it was just too good to turn down. The rest of the story is her struggle to find the money. She is a hard lady, she negotiates well, and she gets what she wants in spite of a clear prejudice against women. We know what happens next, but it is very exciting nonetheless. Secretariat not only wins the Derby but the other two races comprising the Triple Crown, the Preakness and the Belmont Stakes. Only eleven horses have ever accomplished that feat. The movie shows all three races, and I was ready for more as long as Secretariat was in them.

Diane Lane is a dead ringer for Penny Chennery. Her clothes and her hair are just right. We received a photo album from our hosts when we left Louisville back in 1973, and I borrowed a picture from it to show the resemblance between Penny and Diane.

One last thought. I was in the heart of Kentucky for four days and I never was offered a mint julep. There weren't any in the movie either.



6
Publicity still with Diane Lane (LEFT) and actual photo of Penny Chennery with Secretariat (RIGHT)

Movie Reviews

by M. Sanborn

Waiting for Superman

I watched this DVD, and the next night I watched it again because I wanted to be sure I understood what it was saying. It is a documentary about the failure of the public schools. The latter have had the last rites many times, and they are still around so I wondered what the newest fatal diagnosis was. You had to go through a lot of anecdotal material about specific children and their sad plight before they eventually let you know what they believe the problem is.

Up until recently the condition of the inner city public schools has been blamed on the neighborhoods from which the children come, the poverty, the drugs, the single parent homes (usually the lack of a father), and the lack of supervision. They all seemed to be good reasons why children from these backgrounds had trouble adjusting to school and learning. It was an accepted explanation.

But one man wanted to get to the bottom of it. He was black as are many of the children in this documentary. He came through some particularly bad schools himself, and then he began to study the system with the intention of finding just why they were failing. He found that the children did all right until 4th or 5th grade. They got Bs, but somewhere between the fifth and the seventh grade they began to get Ds. Many quit school soon after this, and that was the end of their education and the beginning of life on the street. As he said, students who saw the Ds in seventh grade felt they were going nowhere, and they were right. Without help from somewhere, anywhere, their futures were bleak, and that accounts for the title of the documentary. They are indeed looking for some kind of superman to help them.

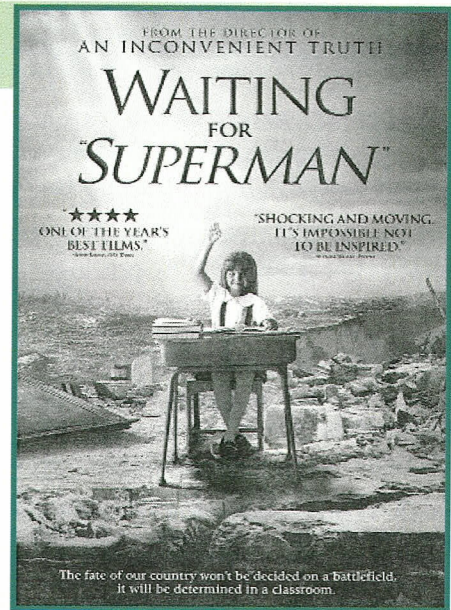
Why did this happen? There are many theories, but nobody has quite put it together yet, although this study is one more try. Because so many of the children are black, and they appear to attend inner city schools, it is fair to say that we are talking about a segment of the public schools, not the entire system. However, this segment is evidently bad enough to pronounce the public schools essentially dead.

Again, we hear that nagging question: "Why do so many children fail in these schools?" If it is not the neighborhoods as was previously thought, what is it? The answer finally is simple. The cause of the problem is the schools, and more specifically the teachers. All of the teachers you might ask? No, not all, but evidentially enough to impede the learning of a great many children. And why do these schools have such inferior teachers? The answer to that is one word: tenure. A poor teacher gets his/her foot in the door, and, as they say in the documentary, he/she has to just manage to breathe for two years, and he/she is home free. He/she is safe for life and she/he can never be fired except under very unusual circumstances.

There is, however, one way out for a child in a failing school and that is the lottery. Each child is given a number and, at a certain time they all gather with their families to hear the numbers called. The winners are transferred to much better schools, in some cases, charter schools. It is a real eye opener to see how aware the children are of what winning means, or, conversely, what losing means.

One statistic stood out in my mind. According to this documentary if only one-third of the inferior teachers were replaced with average teachers, it would greatly improve the chances of success in school for a large number of children.

Now we know where they are going. Get rid of tenure, flush out the "lemons," and replace them with better teachers. Seem simple? Hardly, but it would be a start if there were no such thing as teacher's unions adamantly defending tenure, and it may be that this is just what this documentary is all about. We don't know at this point, but we do know that it has already opened a new dialogue among educators and parents about whether there is a need for tenure among teachers, and whether or not tenure is causing school systems to be flooded with inferior teachers.



(CONTINUED ON PAGE 8)

Movie Reviews

Waiting for Superman (CONTINUED FROM PAGE 7)

And what do we know? We know that the problem is not as simple as getting rid of teachers through tenure. Finding good teachers to replace them will not be easy. How are they going to determine if the teachers are good enough without elaborate testing and observation before they are hired? They will really need special training to work in failed schools if they are to succeed. Where will the money come from to do that? Will they be able to find superior principals to head up a faculty of "good" teachers? Imagine a faculty of good teachers headed up by less than competent principals. That is a recipe for real trouble.

Will the neighborhoods feeding those schools, which were previously to blame for the problem, suddenly become good enough to produce children who are eager to learn? That does not seem likely. Thus, all teachers, good or bad, will still have those problems to deal with.

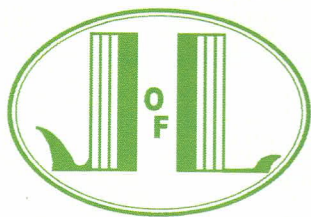
In no way am I suggesting that these schools could not be improved. It is just that history tells us they won't be. When it came to the money needed to overhaul schools, and particularly when gung-ho administrators and professional educators saw the tremendous size of this job, they simply backed off and little happened. Yes, there were exceptions, but they were few. Who wants to be involved in a failure?

Watch it and see what you think. It is available on Comcast and Redboy. There are several copies in CLAMS. It is on order for the rental shelf.

~MARILYN SANBORN

Summer Program in the Children's Department

The Children's Department is excited about our upcoming Summer Reading program. The theme this year will be "**One World, Many Stories.**" We are busy putting together ideas on programs, activities, crafts, room decorations, and of course, books that reflect the many ways people across the world are different, and the many ways we are the same. Our main goal is of course to promote reading for fun, and to encourage children and their families to spend a little time each day reading. So wherever you travel this summer, make sure to take a trip to the Children's Room and travel the world!



Joy of Learning

New Courses starting April 5TH, 2011
SIGN UP TODAY ~ SEE PAGE 2 FOR DETAILS

Friends of the Falmouth Public Library

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SUMMER BOOK SALE

★★ July 1ST - July 5TH ★★