

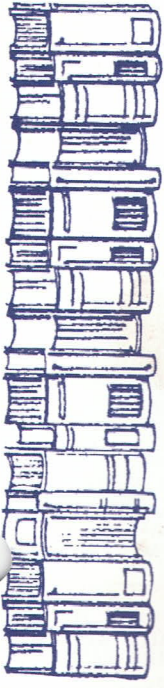
*Friends of the Falmouth Public Library*

# Newsletter

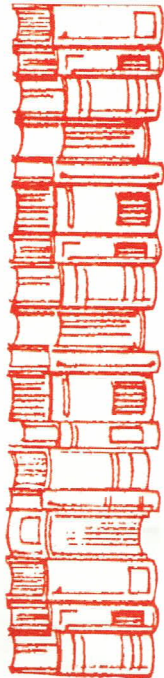
President  
Nancy English

Editor  
Marilyn Sanborn

**YES! It is that Time Again**



**The 22<sup>ND</sup> Annual Monster  
Summer  
Book Sale**



**Wednesday, July 2nd through Sunday, July 6th  
from 10 AM to 4 PM and  
Monday, July 7th from 10 AM to 1 PM**

**Come One, Come All - Tens of Thousands of Books  
★ ★ Thousands of Customers ★ ★**

In 1992, The Friends of the Falmouth Public Library held a small sale of books donated by members of the Falmouth Community, but it grew like Topsy and now it is the biggest used book sale in the Solar System.

## **How Does a Successful BOOK SALE Happen?**

Every August The Friends of the Falmouth Public Library starts collecting used books for the annual book sale the following summer. Residents, visitors, friends and family all donate books, which volunteers sort and price. Most of the donated books are boxed for the Summer Sale, but many go to the Book Nook for immediate sale. The more valuable ones are listed on Amazon, and a few even enter the Library's collection. By December the Friends' room is chock-full of boxed books so they're off to the Eastern Bank for storage in the bank's basement. Enter Tom Parker, Keith Schwegel, and Willy Lochsted with their pickups who, along with many volunteers, moved over 800 boxes of books to the bank.

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 2)



## How Does a Successful BOOK SALE Happen? (CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1)

In January, Bob O'Toole, our very efficient director of the **Summer Book Sale** for the past ten years, ordered the rental tents we need for July. Then it's more sorting, pricing and packing. Sixteen volunteers work on Mondays and Thursdays to keep up with donations. Pat Parker is our Champion Volunteer she comes in after work during the week and works many hours on Saturday. Volunteers spend over 6,000 hours every year working for The Friends. In March Tom and Keith, with visiting family, moved another 400 boxes to the bank, filling the basement. In April, with the Friends' room full again, Tom and his family moved yet another 120 boxes of books to Thelma Siegel's garage that she has graciously allowed us to use.

In the meantime Paul Dreyer and Bill English have been making new signs for the tables. These will be anchored in sand-filled milk bottles so they will stay put and book buyers can easily find the categories they are looking for. At the same time Thelma Siegel has been calling volunteers to work the sale. The day before the sale we need people to move the books from the boxes onto the tables; then the six days of the sale we need cashiers, book straighteners, tarp handlers, and empty box collectors. We have so many books this year that Bob and Jorge Muxica had to measure the front lawn of the library to find the best location for the tents, which this year will be on the east side of the lawn to accommodate our extra large 40 x 80 tent, two 20 x 40 tents, and three 10 x 20 tents.

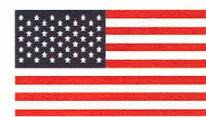
On Monday, June 30 the rental company will set up the tents, then the tough guys will set up the tables and put plastic under them to prevent moisture from damaging the boxes of books that have to be stored there. On Tuesday professionals will move the boxes of books from the bank to the library lawn. Four paid young adults and a dozen teenagers will move the boxes from the library basement and the moving van to the correct tables. At the same time a swarm of volunteers will unpack the boxes onto the tables. If you would like to volunteer give Thelma a call at 508-548-9461.

We have the books and the volunteers. Sunny days and happy shoppers will do the rest. If you want to take your books home in a sturdy purple shopping bag with aqua library graphics, these are available for two dollars.

We thank all of you for whatever you have done for us. We also appreciate the beautifully kept grounds where we will be holding our sale.



## We Need You!



The greater the membership of The Friends of the Falmouth Public Library, the more we can do for the Library. If you would like to become a member or renewing your membership has just slipped your mind, the categories are

- |   |                   |      |                            |       |   |
|---|-------------------|------|----------------------------|-------|---|
| ★ | • Individual..... | \$15 | • Individual Lifetime..... | \$120 | ★ |
| ★ | • Family.....     | \$20 | • Family Lifetime.....     | \$150 | ★ |

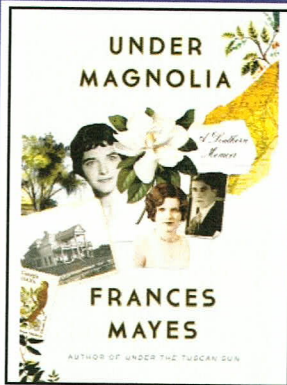
Pick up a membership application at the circulation desk of the main Library, East Falmouth, or North Falmouth, or send your check along *with*

*your name and address to The Friends of the Falmouth Public Library, PO Box 480, Falmouth MA 02541.*



# UNDER MAGNOLIA ~ Book Review

by Frances Mayes



**Memoirs have been all the rage** for quite some time now. Some are good. Some are not so good. Mayes's book is very good. We all wanted to move to Tuscany and renovate an old house after reading *Under The Tuscan Sun* and *Every Day In Tuscany*. She still lives there with her husband for half the year. During the other half she lives in North Carolina.

**In this latest book**, Mayes has returned to her childhood and teenage years in a tiny backwoods town in Georgia called Fitzgerald, a place none of us would wish to live including Mayes and her mother Jackye. It gets tiresome labeling families dysfunctional, but what else can you say when the parents argue constantly while their youngest daughter covers her ears and hides in her bedroom. It is almost a relief when her father dies at 48 and the mother takes to drink. And, if you are dealing with a Southern family, there are scads of relatives who contribute to the mayhem. They may mean well, but they just yak away constantly with unhelpful advice. The grandfather, Daddy Jack, is a stereotype of all Southern rednecks, penurious, sometimes cruel, racist, contemptuous of the civil rights movement and loud in his condemnation of Frances and the life she leads. Like her father, we are relieved when he too dies.

**Frances is a product of** this motley group, but she seems to have escaped her parents' and grandparents' most destructive genes. She is very precocious, and also stable enough to manage a college education which nobody wants to pay for. She spends four boy-crazy years at Randolph Macon, a legendary school for young southern ladies who need to be molded into the kind of southern matrons who wear their white gloves, play bridge, dance at the Country Club and are eager to share their best recipes. Some Southern women still find this role attractive, but they appear to have made progress much faster toward being their own woman. The refinements of womanhood have always had a far more stubborn hold on the South. It is still alive and well although Mayes says that it was blown off the map when the pill became available.



Frances Mayes



Frankye & Garbert

**I often have asked myself** this question: Why is it that there have been so many great women writers in the South? Did being compressed into a mold for so long activate the need to write about it? Did the living memory of losing the Civil War leave women in particular with the desire to prove themselves? Whatever the reason, members of the reading public, particularly women, are grateful.

**Of the many things that could be said about this book**, one stands out. Frances Mayes is very bright. As a young girl she was thrilled by the love poems of John Donne, at home with Gerard Manley Hopkins and a great fan of T.S. Eliot. Poetry was, and is, her first love and it is evident on every page of *Under Magnolia*. To write prose as if it were poetry is an art, and Mayes was born with it.

**After learning about her childhood**, I intend to go back now and read one of her Tuscany books once more. There was also a movie of *Under the Tuscan Sun* as I recall. *Under Magnolia* is available from CLAMS. ~ Marilyn Sanborn ~ Editor



## The North Falmouth Branch Renovation



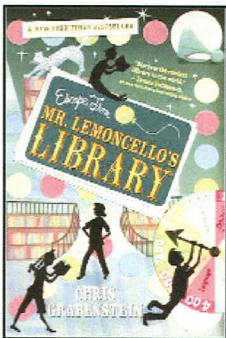
After being closed for several weeks, on February 24<sup>th</sup> the North Falmouth Branch of the Falmouth Public Library opened the doors of a newly renovated and greatly transformed branch library. The official celebratory opening took place on Friday, the 28<sup>th</sup>. Attendees were very pleased with the metamorphosis of the building from a rather tattered, worn and tired library to a vibrant, bright and pleasant place.

The beautiful transformation was a result of the support of several different groups acting in partnership to bring to completion what turned out to be an amazing accomplishment. The Town, under the direction of Shardell Newton and using funds set aside in Falmouth's Capital Budget, replaced floors, walls, electrical fixtures, lighting, and added a new window. The Community Service Department of the Sheriff's Office contributed the labor to complete the alteration. The Board of Library Trustees provided the funds for the new carpeting and the storage units for the books and furniture while the work was being done in the library's interior. The Friends of the Library funded much needed new shelving for the branch. This was an exciting project that may have been delayed for years because of the expense. It proved that groups working together cooperatively can really make a difference.



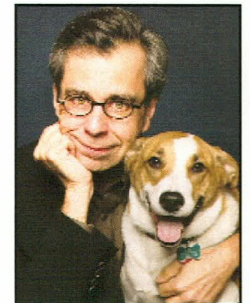
If you haven't visited the branch since its facelift, please stop by. You will be amazed with the metamorphosis. Thanks to all of the Friends for their support of this wonderful project and for your support of the library throughout the years. *We couldn't do it without YOU!* ~ Leslie Morrisey

## Escape from Mr. Lemoncello's Library ~ Book Review ~



by Sara Hines, Marketing and Events Director ~ Eight Cousins Bookstore

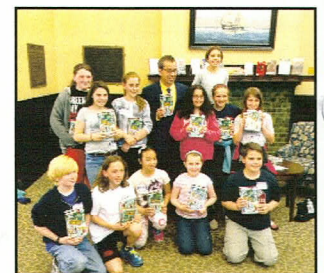
*Escape from Mr. Lemoncello's Library* is like a love letter to children's book. It is *Charlie and the Chocolate Factory* meets *The Westing Game*, but in what is sure to become known as "the best library ever - EVER." The story is crammed with fun references to children's books old and new. Do not miss this phenomenal book!



**Jill Erickson, Head of Reference and Adult Services** at the Falmouth Public Library, partnering with Sara of Eight Cousins and Liz Abbott, the Librarian at the Morse Pond School, imagined a possible library lock-in for 12 twelve-year-olds who win an essay contest.

Over the course of the next eight months the "logistics" were worked out and the plans were set. The author agreed to attend the event that started as an overnight at the library, but ended up being a five and a half hour library extravaganza. The contest was open to all children between the ages of ten and twelve. Thirty-eight essays were received and winnowed down to the twelve winning entries.

The evening itself began at 5:00 PM, when all twelve children arrived and Stone L'oven donated a stack of piping hot cheese pizzas. One of the winners had previously been in the library after hours, when his father brought him to the 24-hour-read of *Moby Dick* in 2010. Another one of the contest winners had previously been featured on the library Flickr page as the child that drew the winning entry in a 2009 contest to throw out the first pitch at FPL Night at the Falmouth Commodores game.





## Escape from Mr. Lemoncello's Library - CONTINUED

**Library Director, Leslie Morrissey**, welcomed the contest winners, and read a quote from the novel: "One last thing," announced Dr. Zinchenko. "We, of course, want our winners to have fun tonight. However, I must insist that each of you respect my number one rule: Be gentle. With each other, and most especially, the library's books and exhibits. Can you do that for me?"

**Then it was on to the pizza**, during which time the library was officially closed to the public. The closing announcements asked everyone to leave the library except the following people: *Abby Morris, Caleb Gartner, Emily Gallagher, Grace McKnight, Helena Marschall, Mariah Vincent, Miranda Van Mooy, Olivia Evans, Ryan Waite, Shu-tong Murray, Taylor Cabral, Trevor Hodgson.*

**Each child was delighted** to hear his or her name announced. Following the pizza, there was a research challenge in the Children's Room. Then all came upstairs for the duration of the evening. First was a visit with the author (in which they received copies of the book that the author autographed specifically for them), then a scavenger hunt, a trivia challenge and balloon games. They also made bookmarks while they were waiting for their turn with the author while he autographed their books.

**Chris Grabenstein had a great conversation with the children.** He talked about growing up in a community that had no public library, about being bullied as a kid, and how important books were to his immigrant parents. He asked the children about particular characters, and whether or not they liked or did not like them. He also gave a big hint as to how to solve the last puzzle in his book.

**As an aside**, we learned that Chris Grabenstein's wife, J. J. Myers, spent three summers singing with the College Light Opera Company in Falmouth. She was delighted to be able to revisit Highfield Theatre while she was here, and showed her husband the house in West Falmouth where she spent three summers. We also learned that she is a wonderful audio book narrator, including *The Orchid Thief* by Susan Orlean.

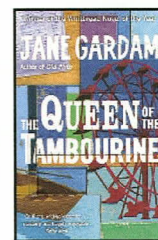
**We hope that** Abby, Caleb, Emily, Grace, Helena, Mariah, Miranda, Olivia, Ryan, Shu-tong, Taylor and Trevor remember their night at the library fondly. Who knows . . . one of them may even grow up to be a librarian.

## We asked the FFPL Board . . .

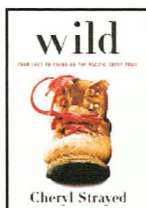
### "Tell us what you have been reading."



**Yang Conley ~ Joy of Learning Coordinator** - Am now reading Jane Gardam's - *The Queen of the Tambourine*, which I find very interesting. I am a Gardam fan; loved *Old F.I.L.T.H.* - I also read Diana Gabaldon's *Outlander* on a flight to Wisconsin. Read it years ago and decided to read the first book again before undertaking the sequels.



**Recently read** William Trevor's *The Hill Bachelors* (short stories) - very good. I also read Anton Chekhov's *The Seagull*, watched the excellent film and then reread the play with greater understanding and enjoyment. I didn't like Maeve Binchy's *A Week in Winter*, so it will be in the book sale for Binchy fans. Mysteries: I'm listening on tape to Tony Hillerman's *Joe Leaphorn*, a Jim Chee book. Very good "read," with lots of interesting insights into the Navajo culture. *The Strange Death of Mistress Coffin* is a well written mystery set in New England in the 1640s. This is another old book published in the 1990s that will be in the book sale. Princess Elizabeth's *Spy* is a well-written mystery set in England during WWI. I enjoyed it, particularly the setting: Windsor Castle. This book will also be in the book sale. I am also listening to The New Testament from the Great Courses series.



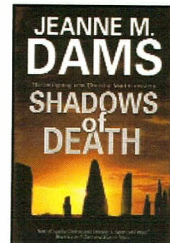
**Avis Grosslein ~ FFPL Member at Large** - I've just read *WILD* by Cheryl Strayed, recommended by my adult granddaughter and found in the FPL collection. Ms. Strayed hiked solo over 1,000 miles on the Pacific Crest Trail, coping with truly dangerous situations plus thirst, pain, heat, cold, and exhaustion. She's a bit too "hot pantsy" for my generation, but this trek has stayed with me

(More FFPL Board Member responses on page 6)



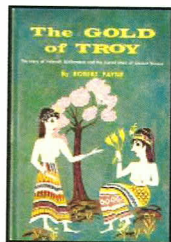


## More from FFPL Board Members “Tell us what you have been reading.”



**Kathleen Murray ~ Trustee Liaison to the Friends** - What makes a cozy mystery may differ from person to person. They normally take place in a town or area with a limited number of likeable characters and never overly gory. Cozies often tend to be a series; adult situations are hinted at but not explicit. You can start in the middle of a series, but it is more fun to start at the beginning and watch the main characters develop and besides there may be an occasional reference to a previous book. Agatha Christie is considered the grande dame of the cozy, but there have been many authors since then.

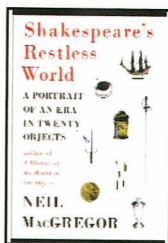
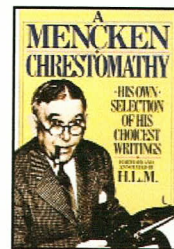
**I often like to unwind** at the end of the day with a cozy. The author I last read was Jeanne M. Dams with her Dorothy Martin heroine. I read *Shadows of Death* from the new section and then ordered two previous ones to reread. I did learn a lot about archeology in *Shadows of Death* and moved up the Orkney Isles on my places I would like to visit after this read.



**Nancy English ~ President of the Friends** - While sorting books in the Friends Room, I noticed *The Gold of Troy*, the story of Heinrich Schliemann, who unearthed the ruins of Troy and the shaft graves of Mycenae. This was a book I couldn't resist because when we visited Mycenae some years ago we stayed in a small hotel, La Belle Helene, in the same room that Schliemann stayed in while he was excavating there. A plaque on the door actually points that out, and any archaeologist who visits always wants that room.

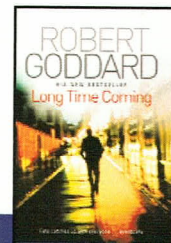
**All his life Schliemann** was a fanatic about reading Homer, but near the end he became greatly impressed by the poetry of Friedrich Holderlin. So I decided to read some of Holderlin. There are no copies in the Clams network, but through an Inter-Library Loan I managed to get *Hyperion*, a political, philosophical novel from Wheaton College in Norton, MA. Now from Regis College, I'm reading *Holderlin's Major Poetry: The Dialectics of Unity* by Richard Unger. You never know where a donated book will lead you, definitely into realms I didn't dream of. I shall put the biography of Schliemann into the Book Nook soon.

**Bill English ~ Membership Chairman of the Friends** - Currently I'm reading *A Mencken Chrestomathy*, a collection of essays, book reviews, and miscellaneous pieces by H. L. Mencken, who from 1916 to 1934 wrote regularly for the *Baltimore Evening Sun*, *American Mercury*, and *Smart Set*. He is famous now for his seminal work, *The American Language*, but back then he was known as a curmudgeon who is great fun to read because he wrote so well even though one may disagree vehemently with what he said (he believed America needed an aristocracy). Mencken was also known for his cogent definitions, such as: “*Puritanism is the haunting fear that someone, somewhere, may be happy.*”



**Isabelle Mort ~ Recording Secretary for the Friends** - *Shakespeare's Restless World* by Neil MacGregor. Several months ago, during our long winter, I read a wonderful non-fiction book about artifacts. This is Neil MacGregor's, Director of the British Museum, second book about artifacts. This time he tells about 20 objects (some of them uncovered at the Globe Theater), and he transports you back to the 1600s. Understanding the era in which Shakespeare wrote makes Shakespeare's plays more understandable and fascinating. This book has great background information for all of us who enjoy the Bard.

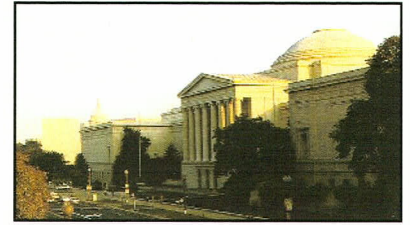
**Jane Hewitt ~ FFPL** - I recently reread *Long Time Coming* by Robert Goddard, published in 2012. While not a mystery, it has an intricate plot. Goddard, a best-selling author in the UK, also has an elegant style with atmospheric settings and good character development.





# What to See in D.C.

**The faux Memorial Day weekend** found me off on one of my once, sometimes twice-a-year sightseeing trips with my Maryland daughters. My fears about the always possible 90 degree weather in May were allayed when the temperature that day rose only a little over 80 degrees. I hate the heat.



**Suzanna** had had some difficulty planning our day so she called me with lists online of Washington restaurants including descriptions. French, which I prefer, are not that easy to find any more but we finally found one that sounded perfect. It was called **Et Voila**, a Belgian French Restaurant that was located in a less well known area of Washington called the Palisades. I ordered Flemish beef stew which was delicious. I took some home and looked forward to finishing it the next day, but my grandson got to it first. C'est dommage.

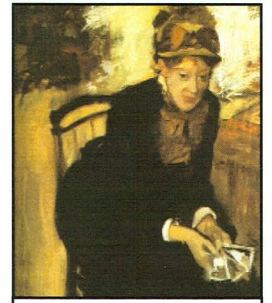
**Before our 6:30 pm reservation** for dinner, we visited once more the National Gallery of Art in the heart of downtown Washington. It was made noisier than usual by who knows how many motorcyclists on their annual trip to the capital apparently for the purpose of tearing around the busiest streets and making it all but impossible for pedestrians who wished to cross the street.



"Little Girl on a Blue Armchair"

**We had singled out a particular show** we wanted to see. It was not a blockbuster by any means, but featured chosen paintings by Mary Cassatt and Edgar Degas with the idea of highlighting their particular relationship. The show brings together some 70 works in a variety of media to illustrate the artistic dialogue that developed between the two artists.

**From the time of Cassatt's debut** with a group of Impressionists in 1879, her name has been linked with Degas. She felt that his art "changed her life" and, upon seeing her art, Degas said, "there is someone who feels as I do." They both were realists. They both preferred the human figure and painted almost no landscapes at all. Later on, when their art went in different directions, they continued to admire and support each other.



Mary Cassatt portrait by Degas

**One small note of discord.** One of the portraits Degas painted of Cassatt at the Louvre was admired at the time by Cassatt, but later she had it removed. I don't blame her. I would have had it removed also had it been mine. *Marilyn Sanborn ~ Editor*

*~ CLAMS has many wonderful books about Degas and Cassatt ~*

## Message from the President

**The Friends thanks everyone** who donated books, boxes, CDs, DVDs, video tapes or time to help us with our annual Summer Book Sale. We even received three lovely bookends from Lois Galvin for use in the Trustees Room. If anyone else has a "special" bookend he would like to donate, bring it to the Friends Room or leave it at the circulation desk.

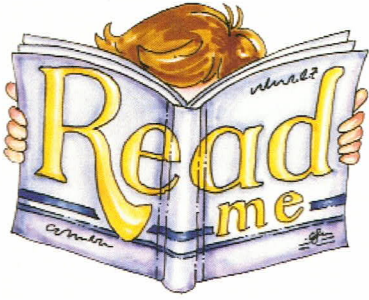
**New Guidelines for Donations:** We do not accept encyclopedias, textbooks below the college level or phonograph records as they do not sell well and occupy too much space in our small room. If you have any you no longer want, tear off and discard the hardcovers and recycle the pages. Any books that are moldy or dirty should be discarded. Books with any type of personal writing should also be recycled like the encyclopedias.

**We hope to see all of you at our Summer Sale.** We also hope you enjoy reading the books you buy.

*~ Nancy English ~ FFPL President*



# From the Children's Room



**Summertime and the Reading is Easy.** Experience as a librarian and mother, as well as professional reading has assured me that a love of reading will benefit children immeasurably as they advance through their academic careers and into their adult lives. The best way to encourage them is to make reading a positive experience. So bring them to the Children's Room early and often to discover things they want to read. Sure, they probably have summer reading assignments from school, but once those are taken care of, turn them loose on whatever interests them. Let us point them at the stuff they WANT to read, whether it's comic books, truck books, or the same books they read LAST summer. Our goal is to encourage a LOVE of reading and, unlike junk food, pleasure reading is JUST as nutritious as "good" reading.

**Encourage them to read what they WANT** to read for the summer, and before you know it they'll be ready to read what they NEED to read for school. Need help finding those fun books? Ask the staff in the Children's Room at the main Library or the North or East Branch for suggestions. Chances are we've got the perfect book for YOUR child.



*Laura Ford, Children's Librarian Falmouth Public Library  
300 Main Street, Falmouth, MA 02540 [lford@falmouthpubliclibrary.org](mailto:lford@falmouthpubliclibrary.org)*

**BOOKSALE**  
Wednesday July 2<sup>ND</sup> through Sunday, July 6<sup>TH</sup>  
10 am to 4 pm  
Monday, July 7<sup>TH</sup>  
10 am to 1 PM

*Friends of the Falmouth Public Library*  
P.O. BOX 480  
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