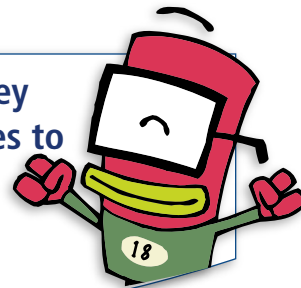


Shelf life

Toronto Public Library News & Views

July 2007

Dewey
comes to
life!
pg 3



LIBRARY CULTURE

Partnership to benefit residents in priority neighbourhoods

Sun Life Financial Museum and Arts Pass free at select library branches

A NEW PARTNERSHIP with Sun Life Financial, the Royal Ontario Museum, the Art Gallery of Ontario, the Textile Museum, the Gardiner, the Bata Shoe Museum and City of Toronto historical museums is allowing families, particularly those in priority neighbourhoods, to get a taste of Toronto's cultural treasures, for free.

Mayor David Miller was joined by City Librarian Josephine Bryant, along with representatives from some of Toronto's leading arts and cultural institutions, to launch the Sun Life Financial Museum and Arts Pass on June 27.

The Museum and Arts Pass

can be borrowed from the Toronto Public Library using a valid library card, much the way someone might borrow a book or a CD from the collection. Each pass provides full admission to a family of up to two adults and five children (admission restrictions vary by venue) to one of the following: Art Gallery of Ontario (AGO), the Bata Shoe Museum, the Gardiner Museum, the Royal Ontario Museum (ROM) or the Textile Museum of Canada.

Said Miller, "I congratulate Toronto Public Library for initiating the Sun Life Financial Museum and Arts Pass, and applaud the library and its

partner cultural institutions for this important and innovative program to broaden access to the city's cultural life – and in particular, those neighbourhoods and communities where access to arts and culture may be more limited. This is a program that our city can be proud of, and I look forward to other arts and culture organizations and attractions coming on board."

The mayor also announced that City of Toronto run historical museums are slated to join the program over the summer. The City pass, available later in July, will

LITERACY

Learners vote for *The Crazy Man*

Literacy conference sessions cover writing, nutrition, rhythm and dance, and the Internet

OVER 175 ADULTS from literacy classes and programs across the city attended 16 workshops which were part of this year's theme, Express Yourself, at the Metro Toronto Movement for Literacy conference. Sessions covered writing, nutrition, rhythm and dance, and the Internet. The conference was sponsored by the library, the MTML, the Ontario Library Association, the Toronto Adult Student Association, CUPE 4400 and CAW Canada.

The conference workshop sessions were held in the morning, followed by a Starbucks lunch, and then everyone gathered for the Golden Oak Award Ceremony. Golden Oak, a reading program aimed at new readers in adult literacy programs across the province, is part of the Ontario Library Association's Forest of Reading. This year, six books were nominated and literacy learners at the conference presented brief summaries of each book. Pamela Porter's portrayal of life in a small Saskatchewan farming town in the 1960s, *The Crazy Man*, is the winner of the 2007 Golden Oak Award.

SEE LIBRARY CULTURE, PAGE 2

SEE LITERACY, PAGE 4

www.torontopubliclibrary.ca



Library Culture

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

allow a family to visit any one of eight city operated sites, including Fort York, Gibson House and Spadina House.

Family museum passes are available for borrowing from each of the 24 branches of the library that serve Toronto's 13 priority neighbourhoods as identified by the City. Families can choose from any one of the museums and galleries participating in the program for their visit.

"One of the library's key strategic goals is to extend Torontonians' access to the civic and cultural life of the city," commented Toronto Public Library City Librarian Josephine Bryant. "So naturally we are thrilled that, together with our partners, we are able to offer our users new ways to discover the world of science, the arts, history, culture, and so much more. It's wonderful that, with their library card, Torontonians can explore some of the best arts and culture that Toronto has to offer. We thank all our generous partners for their enthusiasm and commitment to this program."

"The library can help further," adds Bryant. "While a family is in the library to pick up their Museum Pass, they can borrow books, CDs and DVDs to help them prepare for their upcoming cultural adventure."

In addition to the museums' contribution, Sun Life Financial has generously added its support through sponsorship of the program, continuing its long-standing commitment to making the arts accessible to all.

The Toronto Public Library plans to include additional museums, galleries and cultural venues, and also plans to expand borrowing availability of the Sun Life Financial Museum and Arts Pass to all 99 branches in 2008.

Museum Pass Locations

Agincourt	Malvern
Albion	Barbara Frum
Bendale	Bridlewood
Cedarbrae	Centennial
Dawes Road	Flemington Park
Humber Summit	Jane Sheppard
Kennedy Eglinton	Maria A. Shchuka
McGregor Park	Morningside
Mount Dennis	Richview
S. Walter Stewart	Steeles
Victoria Village	Weston
Woodview Park	York Woods

NEW AT THE LIBRARY

eAudiobooks

Borrow online. Enjoy anywhere.

BORROW AUDIOBOOKS OVER the Internet. Download and listen to your picks on your computer or portable music player (not currently compatible with iPod).

- Over 1,400 titles
- 30 new titles added/month
- Bestsellers - Classics - Book Club Favourites
- Language learning titles
- Unlimited access - 24/7

Visit the library website and click on eBooks and eAudiobooks.

Police Services info at the library

Newcomer outreach DVD now in four languages

DVDS, DEVELOPED BY the Toronto Police Service in an effort to teach new Canadians about the role of the police, are available for

loan in select Toronto Public Library locations in English, Cantonese, Mandarin and Spanish.

"We are pleased to partner with the Toronto Police Service on this important initiative," said City Librarian Josephine Bryant. "For many newcomers, the local library is one of the first stops they make when they come to Toronto. Making the Toronto Police DVD free and readily available is one of the many services we offer new Canadians and new Torontonians."

"The police can help people feel more comfortable accessing the services we offer," explains Toronto Police Service Chief Bill Blair. "Every individual, especially those new to Canada, needs to know what their rights and responsibilities are and what to expect when dealing with police officers."

The Toronto Police Service partnered with OMNI Television to create the voiceover translations for the DVDs.

FOUNDATION NEWS

Volunteers raise \$630,000 for children's literacy

Appreciation dinner celebrates Book Ends library bookstore

OVER THE PAST 13 years, Book Ends, the volunteer-run bookstore at North York Central Library, has raised \$630,000 by selling withdrawn library and donated materials. "When you consider most items sell for 50¢ or \$1 that's pretty amazing," says volunteer and Book Ends manager Judy McCabe.

Every year Book Ends donates their profits to the library's Leading to

Reading program.

Book Ends volunteers held their annual volunteer appreciation dinner on June 12 and McCabe was on hand to award long term volunteers cards and plaques. McCabe, who began her library volunteer career as a tour guide in the North York Central Library when it first opened in June 1987, was herself honoured for 20 years service as a volunteer. Marg Stott,

Book Ends volunteers were honoured at a dinner on June 12. Congratulations to all the hard-working volunteers at Book Ends!



another 20 year volunteer, also started as a tour guide and participated in the many Giant Book Sales that preceded the opening of Book Ends store.

There are more than 2,600 volunteers at Toronto Public Library doing everything

from raising much-needed funds for library services, programs and collections, to helping children and adults learn to read. Find out how to be a library volunteer on the library website www.torontopubliclibrary.ca.

Free pedometers promote health

Torontonians encouraged to borrow library pedometers and get walking

WHEN A LIBRARY system tells its customers they provide “more than just books,” they usually mean they also have movies, CDs, magazines and electronic resources. But the phrase, “more than books,” is taking on a whole new meaning these days at Toronto Public Library. With ancient clay tablets (see May *Shelf Life*, available at the News and Publications link on the library website), the new Sun Life Financial Museum and Arts Pass (see Page 1) and now pedometers, the library continues to explore new ideas and new partnerships with organizations across the city.

“We’ve always promoted the intellectual and social health of our city,” says City Librarian Josephine Bryant. “Now we’re promoting the physical health of our citizens, as well.”

The lending of pedometers began at the library with the official launch of the Walk into Health program, held at the North York Central Library on May 30, featuring appearances by city councillor John Filion, Toronto’s Medical Officer of Health David McKeown and Toronto Public Health representative Carol Timmings.

“Walking is an easy way to become physically active,” says McKeown. “Using a pedometer increases awareness about fitness and is a great motivator to keep on walking.”

The pedometers can be borrowed from Albion, Bridlewood, Cedarbrae, Flemingdon Park, Kennedy/Eglinton, Lillian H. Smith, Malvern, Maria A. Shchuka, Morningside, North York Central, Weston and York

Woods branches. The initiative is supported by a grant from the Ontario government and is part of the Building Physically Active Communities project.

The Active Communities project is a partnership involving Toronto Public Health, Toronto Public Library, CultureLink, Toronto District School Board, Toronto Catholic District School Board, Toronto Parks, Forestry and Recreation and community volunteers. As well as pedometers for loan, other components of the program include:

- Creation and promotion of walking clubs that provide social support to walkers within each community. New walking groups may arise from existing social networks such as English Conversation Circles and ESL classes.
- Leadership and training opportunities for newcomers and recent immigrants to lead walking groups.
- Stairway to Health signage in public places to encourage individuals to take the stairs for their health rather than choosing the escalator/elevator.

Loaned for three weeks, the pedometers come with an information package with walking guidelines, a calendar to track progress, a physical activity sheet and information on walking trails. This information is provided to encourage people to continue with their walking activity after the pedometers are returned.



Children’s services specialist Sharon Moynes escorted KidsSpace mascot, Dewey, to the Ontario Library Association Forest of Reading event in May.

KIDSSPACE

Libraries focus on keeping kids reading this summer

Website mascot makes merry

DEWEY, AN ANIMATION-COME-TO-LIFE from the Toronto Public Library website for children, KidsSpace, is making visits all over the city this summer, encouraging kids to read and to get involved in fun activities at libraries and other places in Toronto.

Dewey’s message: Toronto kids visiting KidsSpace can play games that build literacy, get help with homework, find out about books and the library, see what’s fun in Toronto and more. Toronto parents who log onto KidsSpace can get tips on children’s literacy, on keeping kids healthy and on events around the city. Click on KidsSpace on the library’s home page.

“I haven’t had so much fun in years,” said children’s services specialist Sharon Moynes after she escorted Dewey to the Ontario Library Association Forest of Reading event in May. “We had trouble getting out of there. The kids wouldn’t let us leave.”

Dewey got lots of hugs and, as KidsSpace coordinator Sheilah O’Connor explains, “lots of high threes – Dewey has only three fingers!” There were also countless requests by children to get their picture taken with Dewey. Dewey was so happy it even did a little dance at one point! The kids were happy, too; besides meeting Dewey, they all got buttons, bookmarks and tattoos.

Dewey is scheduled to appear at book sales, customer appreciation days, police picnics, English Can Be Fun parties and other places where kids congregate this summer.

“Summer is a good time for Dewey to jump off the pages of our website and land in locations across the city,” says Toronto Public Library Children and Youth Services Advocate Ken Settrington.

“With the TD Summer Reading Club, Reading Buddies, Leading to Reading, English Can Be Fun and lots of exciting library programs for kids, Toronto Public Library is making sure kids keep reading all summer and have fun doing it.”



Library Board Highlights

June 2007

Alternate service plan for Dufferin/St. Clair and Thorncliffe branch renovation closures

The board approved employment of the services of general contractor M.J. Dixon Construction Limited for the renovation of the Dufferin/St. Clair Branch. The board also approved closure of Thorncliffe Branch for renovation and expansion. Slated to begin during the summer of 2007, the renovations will require the closure of both branches for approximately one year. The alternate service plans for the branches focus on maintaining a strong connection to children, youth and families in the communities and involve the use of the bookmobile, temporary relocation of services and collections to nearby branches and outreach to area schools, daycares and community agencies.

Branch leases approved

The board approved the renewal of five-year leases for premises occupied by Woodview Park, Kennedy/Eglinton and Maryvale branches. Each of the leases includes an option to renew for a further five years.

Cliffcrest Branch relocation/expansion receives board approval

The library board approved the relocation of Cliffcrest Branch into a larger space

in the Cliffcrest Plaza where it is currently located. The relocation/expansion, which requires city council approval, would significantly increase Cliffcrest's ability to meet increasing demand for library service in the area.

Strategic plan consultation process approved

The board approved a consultation process that will see feedback sought in all three phases of the development of a new four-year strategic plan for the library. Phase 1 will focus on an environmental scan and will take place during the summer of 2007. Phase 2 will focus on proposed service priorities and will be ongoing from September to December. There will be stakeholder roundtables, staff focus groups and extensive community consultation. Phase 3 will include consultation on the draft plan and will conclude in March 2008.

Sun Life Financial sponsorship

The board approved the naming of the library's new initiative to bring cultural opportunities to all Torontonians – the Sun Life Financial Museum and Arts Pass. Sun Life Financial will provide \$225,000 over two years in support of the program. See page 1 for more information.

Literacy

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

The Adult Literacy Services Department is committed to developing and promoting library programs, services and collections that support adult learners and adult literacy

practitioners and organizations in Toronto. The department offers free, one-on-one tutoring for English speaking adults who need help with reading, writing and math.

Thanks to Starbucks for providing food and beverages for the conference.

EXHIBITS



Stage Struck: 100 years at the Royal Alex.

July 21 to September 30

A century of entertainment at Toronto's oldest theatre is brought to life through photographs, posters, souvenir books, original designs and more. Celebrate the 100th birthday of King Street's theatrical grand dame. TD Gallery, Toronto Reference Library, 789 Yonge St.

Pirate Adventures and Mermaid Tales

June 9 to September 7

An exhibition of children's books and art about pirates, mermaids, mermen, monsters of the deep and adventure on the high seas.

Osborne Collection of Early Children's Books
Lillian H. Smith Branch, 239 College St.

CORRECTION

THE ARTICLE "Library settlement services help newcomers" in the June issue of *Shelf Life* should have identified Wen Chen as a settlement worker with **Catholic Cross-cultural Services**. www.cathcrosscultural.org/contact.htm, 416-757-7010.