

Fall 2011

Dear Friend of the Library,

You play an important role as our partner in success. This year our services expanded to include online resources such as **downloadable eBooks and audio books**. With your help, we hope to further expand technology and online resources. In October and November two Technology Petting Zoos will be offered to familiarize patrons with the new eBook and audio book service.

The Library bustled with activity this summer as 286 children participated in the summer reading program, *One World, Many Stories*. They logged 858 library visits and read a total of 5,596 books! The summer program was a collaborative effort between the Library, the Superintendent's Reading Challenge and Mayor Bingham's Boundless Bookworms.

Programs continue to make the library a **downtown destination point**. In June, *A Night at Hogwarts* was a spectacular event and was highly praised by both children and parents. The series *Women in History @ your library* drew 165 participants, and musical programs attracted over 125 visitors. Writing, poetry and other hands-on workshops also remain popular.

Young Adult programs were expanded and a new Teen Advisory Board was created to increase teen participation and awareness of library resources. The Library is now on Facebook which has proven very popular with our patrons.

Our new ILS system, *Library.Solution*, has benefited both staff and patrons with more efficient workflow and expanded services. Simply by providing the library with an email address, cardholders can now receive:

- *The Bookworm* newsletter;
- eBlasts announcing upcoming events;
- Reminders of pending due dates on borrowed materials;
- Overdue notices;
- Ready Hold notifications;
- Reminders of library card expiration dates.

Through their online library account, cardholders can:

- View current checkouts;
- Renew materials;
- Place Holds;
- Create title lists;
- Save searches.

How can you help? Expanding services and keeping pace with the demand for new technology and resources is essential to our mission, but a burden to our limited resources. **The City of Torrington's annual budget appropriation to the Library remains at 77 cents per capita, which is 4% of our total operating budget. This means that your support is more vital than ever.** Won't you make the choice to support the Library's service to the community? Your tax deductible gift will be greatly appreciated. Thank you.

Sincerely yours,

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Charles W. Roraback, President

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Karen B. Worrall, Director