The Newark Public Library is embarking on the first stage of a complete restoration, renovation and expansion of the Main Library building. After rejuvenating the Branch Library system during the last decade—thanks to more than $5 million in city funds and comparable generosity of other benefactors—it’s the Main Library’s time to shine. Renovation of the first floor will be the first step in upgrading the century-old structure.

Continued support from two generous benefactors is making the “first step” possible: the Prudential Foundation has given the Library a $1 million grant, and the New Jersey State Library has added its support of $289,733.

The key elements of this project are:

- Reconfiguration of the main entrance and circulation service areas to allow transfer of video and sound recordings from closed stacks to open browsing shelves and a self-service checkout;
- Conversion of the empty space in the atrium to a browsing and reading area that will provide a new home for current

Continued on page 4

Frequent readers of The Second Century may have noticed that the newsletter has a new design. We hope this change in format achieves the intended benefit of enhancing its readability.

To keep our patrons better informed of the Library’s expanding services and programs, we are increasing the number of issues to four a year. Scheduled printing dates are January, April, July and September. The January and September issues will be expanded to twelve pages instead of the customary eight.

The back page of each issue now has a place to correct your mailing address, should the information change. Simply note the new data on the form provided and mail the form along with the old label to the Library.

Should you have any comments about the new format or articles you would like to see in future issues, please address them to Editor/The Second Century, c/o The Newark Public Library, POB 630, Newark, NJ 07101-0630.
The Governor's Journal

While the generosity of the City of Newark’s appropriation results in approximately ninety percent of the Library’s $11,000,000 operating budget—for collections, building maintenance, technology, salaries and other expenditures—there exists more than a $1 million shortfall.

For each of the past several years, The Newark Public Library has raised in excess of $2 million in grants. One might ask, “Why then does the Library still need to ask its patrons for donations?” That is an excellent question, and I would like to address the answer in this column.

Grants from the New Jersey State Library, various foundations and corporations enable us to bridge much of the financial gap in our ability to provide valuable services for our patrons. These grants, however, are often “project specific,” enjoining how we expend them. Unless the allocations help meet the “shortfall,” certain services and collections remain unfunded. That is why we depend on the generosity of our patrons—not only those in Newark, but across the state and country.

The Newark Public Library is one of the city’s major cultural and educational institutions. We need your continued support so that we may provide you with the easiest and widest possible access to information services.

Please take a moment and use the enclosed envelope to offer your financial support—directly to the Library, or through a membership to the Friends of The Newark Public Library.

Board President’s Message

The Newark Public Library is at a crossroad. We are faced with unprecedented opportunities and challenges.

In response to much needed renovation at the Main Library, we will embark upon a major restoration project. This will be the second such effort in the history of the Main Library. Our intent is to complete the restoration of the historic structure this year. You have already read about how the opportunity to complete this phase was made possible by the generosity of the Prudential Foundation and the New Jersey State Library Construction Bond Fund. We also owe a debt of gratitude to the patrons, community partners, and staff who participated in the three-day design charrette. Their efforts yielded a work product that was both timely and responsive to the community’s needs.

Now, the growing demands for the library collections and services require us to consider expansion of the Main Library. We can no longer appropriately house our enormous collections or accommodate the need for community meeting and program space. As a cultural anchor in the City of Newark, we are committed to expanding our facility to better serve the community. We will continue to seek additional benefactors for this expansion project and provide you with progress reports.

Finally, in the wake of the September 11th tragedy, I join my fellow Trustees in rededicating ourselves to the service mission of The Newark Public Library. I also want to commend Dr. Boyd and his staff for their response to this tragedy and recommend to all of you the Recover, Rebuild, Restore: The Wake of September 11th page on the Library’s website (www.npl.org).

John Cotton Dana, one of The Newark Public Library’s pioneers, once said, “Among the things which continually make for happiness, order, and prosperity in the community, count the library as one.” Your continued support of The Newark Public Library helps us be true to those words.
Treasures of the Library

In this installment of a continuing series of articles on the Library’s treasures, our focus is on Syvella Copeland, Supervisor, Library Assistant. She has been a staff member for nearly fifty years.

Syvella is one of the behind-the-scenes members of the New Jersey Information Center, handling most of its administrative functions. She began her career at the Library with the Center when it was “just” a collection of New Jersey materials. Years later she witnessed it evolving into the New Jersey Division, and then becoming the New Jersey Information Center. Now it houses a research-level collection of books, archives, newspapers, pictures, documents and 2500 maps relating to New Jersey (particularly to Newark and Essex County).

Assistant Director Charles F. Cummings, in his recommendation of our latest treasure, said: “Syvella understands treasure. She understands preservation. She is one of the most important people in the history of our ‘New Jersey collections.’”

Along with the materials growth of the Center, Syvella has experienced the technological growth. “I remember when we scribbled notes on scraps of paper and cards,” she commented. “Now it’s all done with computers—making things better for the patrons and the staff.”

Syvella was born in Georgia and raised in Newark. She’s a graduate of Barringer High School. So from her upbringing to her employment, one can easily call her a “New Jersey gal” and an “NPL Treasure.”

Programs abound in “Black History” celebration

The Newark Public Library held a reception on January 31, opening the exhibition Original Prints by African-American Artists Plus Unique and Related Works on Paper. The event inaugurated the Library’s programming in celebration of Black History Month. William J. Dane, Keeper of Prints and Posters, curated Original Prints from the Library’s Special Collections. It is on view in the Main Library’s second-floor gallery through February 28.

The exhibition features works by Romare Bearden, Jacob Lawrence, James L. Wells, James E. Jones and Benny Andrews, among many others. A highlighted item is The Flight, an original woodblock print by African-American artist James Lesene Wells, who was born in 1902 in Atlanta, Georgia. Mr. Wells was a painter, lithographer, etcher, illustrator and teacher who eventually received wide recognition for his work.

In addition to prints, the exhibition includes selected autographs, historic posters and books relating the history of African-American art.

A complete listing of programs for “Black History Month 2002” may be found on pages 6 and 7.

Funding for this festive celebration has been provided in part by The New Jersey State Council on the Arts/Department of State, a Partner Agency of the National Endowment for the Arts and administered by the Essex County Division of Cultural and Historic Affairs, and by the New Jersey Martin Luther King, Jr. Commemorative Commission.
Set Your Sites on These!

Internet enthusiasts frequently ask librarians for lists of the best sites about various topics. Often we direct them to the Library’s “guides,” which were created by staff in answer to reference questions.

The guides range from African-American studies to college and scholarship information; from senior services and homework help to New Jersey interest. Patrons may find these guides listed at www.npl.org/Pages/InternetResources/SubjectGuides/.

Here is a sampling of the sites:

- All-Music Guide
- American Authors on the Web
- America’s Job Bank
- Bartlett’s Familiar Quotations
- City of Newark (official site)
- History of Puerto Rico
- Homework Central
- On-Line English Grammar
- This Day in Black History
- Women’s History in America

Although the list of sites covers forty guides, it is not comprehensive. For more suggestions, visit My Virtual Reference Desk (www.refdesk.com) or About.com (www.about.com). Patrons may also ask one of our librarians by calling (973) 733-7820 or by emailing reference@npl.org.

“A house without books is like a room without windows. No man has a right to bring up children without surrounding them with books... Children learn to read being in the presence of books.”

- Heinrich Mann (1871-1950)

First floor is first step

Continued from page 1

books and periodicals, benches, and six “express” Internet and e-mail access and public catalog computers;

- Restoration of the colonnade around the atrium, including the marble flooring;
- Restoration and/or replacement of necessary windows and skylight;
- Reconstruction of the main entrance and public rest rooms for ADA accessibility;
- Relocation of the security desk and sensor system.

The project will provide for ADA accessibility with the reconfiguration of the front stairs and installation of a handicapped ramp and related equipment. Automatic door operators for the two sets of doors in the main entrance and vestibule will also be installed. The public rest rooms will be reconstructed and made ADA accessible.

The Library celebrated “National Children’s Book Week” (November 2001) by encouraging children to design their own bookmarks. From the more than 200 entries received, the top 3 winners are pictured, from left: 2nd Place, Armando Lopez, Springfield Branch Library; 1st Place, Janine Delaney, Van Buren Branch Library; 3rd Place, Katherine Villegas, Van Buren Branch Library. Congratulations to all of the “200-plus” winners. Patrons may view selected entries at the following URL: www.npl.org/Pages/KidsPlace/cbw2001.html.
On the Branches

Our Branch Library system provides a variety of services that touch each part of New Jersey’s largest city: Club Success, Black History Month programs, the Summer Reading Challenge, Gospel Music Month, pre-school activities, to name a few.

However, each of the Branches offers much more—with collections and services customized to meet community needs. As a way of better informing our readers and patrons of the programs, services and collections at each location, future newsletters will highlight a few Branches in each issue. This will enable everyone to be more aware of what The Newark Public Library has to offer—system wide.

The graphic in this article pinpoints the locale of each Branch—with nearby intersections—and lists the address and phone number of each site.

Be sure to keep an eye out for the “On the Branches” article in the next newsletter, which will be printed by the end of April.
Black History Month Celebration

Exhibition
Second Floor Gallery
Through February 28

JANUARY
17 The Library remembers and celebrates the life of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. with a lecture and book signing by Quinn Eli, author of African American Wisdom: An Anthology of Quotations and Proverbs, and Many Strong and Beautiful Voices.
Centennial Hall; 6pm

19 Experience the richness of African-American traditions as Sharon McGruder combines movement, songs and real-life experiences with a variety of African tales, myths and stories in this Hooray for Children program.
Centennial Hall; 2pm

17 January

FEBRUARY
2 A showing and discussion of Legacy, a film which reveals the incredible struggles of an inner-city ghetto family to achieve success against overwhelming odds. A stunning chronicle of three generations of African-American women as they free themselves from welfare and poverty.
Auditorium; 2pm

5 A keynote address by author E. Lynn Harris and a roundtable/panel discussion of such topics as Family Issues, Employment, Community Responsibility, Sex Education and Relationships.
Centennial Hall; 6pm

6 Join us for “Café Newark-The NPL Juke Joint” for a live history of the blues featuring Cynthia Thomas and Eldrick Bashefull.
Auditorium; 6pm

7 A roundtable/panel discussion of “Hip Hop Fashion and Rap Music” featuring various hip hop dancers and recording artists.
Centennial Hall; 6pm

8 Professionals from CNB and Investment Corp. will discuss becoming financially stable for the future in a talk entitled “Putting Your Finances in Order.”
Auditorium; 6pm

9 A showing and discussion of Big Mama. This film chronicles an 89-year-old grandmother as she struggles to prove to the Los Angeles child welfare system that she can care for her 9-year-old grandson.
Auditorium; 2pm

13 Programs are free and open to the public. For more information, call Herb Williams at (973) 733-3610, or visit the Library’s home page at www.npl.org.
A showing and discussion of *Out of Obscurity*, which is one of the many little known, but nonetheless important, episodes in civil rights history. In the 1930s public facilities were segregated throughout the South. Blacks were banned from using the libraries. Recognizing the importance of public libraries as centers of information and a place where poor people could educate themselves, a handful of brave youths decided to challenge this ban.

**Auditorium; 2pm**

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**14** The Library presents a tribute to Billie Holliday with a dual program: a **book lecture** and a **musical**. The lecture will be by David Margolick, author of *Strange Fruit - Billie Holliday, Café Society, and An Early Cry for Civil Rights*. The musical, entitled *Lady Day at Emerson’s Bar and Grill*, is part cabaret/part biography, in which Suzzanne Douglas plays legendary jazz singer Billie Holiday in this extraordinary performance featuring the songs that made her famous.

**Centennial Hall; 6pm**

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**19** A program on “Health and Fitness.” Speak one on one with health and fitness experts and dietitians to discuss what’s right for you. The program includes free blood pressure and body fat testing; also home cooking for health!

**Centennial Hall; 6pm**

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**21** Enjoy music from the Motor City with “Black Tie.” The sultry sounds of this musical group will lead you down memory lane with songs from popular Motown groups.

**Centennial Hall; 6pm**

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**23** Join storyteller Julie Pasqual in this **Hooray for Children** program as she brings favorite stories and traditional folktales to life.

**Centennial Hall; 2pm**

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Celebrate African-American History on stamps. The Ebony Society of Philatelic Events and Reflections will share an exciting display of African-American stamps past, present, and future. Free information and materials on stamp collecting will be distributed.

**Auditorium; 3:30pm**

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**16** Join professional singers from Opera Ebony as they bring you the best of Negro spirituals and African folk music.

**Centennial Hall; 6pm**

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**26** An evening of African-American poetry and spirituals with The Bobby Lewis Ensemble. Be sure to bring your poetry and writings to share.

**Centennial Hall; 6pm**

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**27** A “Teens Read Newark” program, featuring native Newarker Jackie Hardrick, in which local high school and college students come together to examine and discuss her novel, *Imani in Young Love and Deception*. Lunch will be provided for students.

**Centennial Hall; 10am**

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**25** A program of African folk songs, spirituals, gospel and opera presented by the trio *New Renaissance*.

**Centennial Hall; 6pm**

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Funding for this festive celebration has been provided in part by The New Jersey State Council on the Arts/Department of State, a Partner Agency of the National Endowment for the Arts and administered by the Essex County Division of Cultural and Historic Affairs, and by the New Jersey Martin Luther King, Jr. Commemorative Commission.
Check out these books

**Authors at the Library**

In recent months several authors and other notable figures have visited The Newark Public Library and donated their works. Pictured here are some of these memorable events.

A partial list of recent donations directly from authors/publishers:

- *Ayla's Paradise* by Esther Slade
- *The Stars of Las Vegas* from M*M Graphics Company
- *Breaking Through the Wall: A Marathoner's Story* by Dolores E. Cross
- *Through Mem'ry's Haze, A Personal Memoir* by William S. Beinecke
- *A Visual Artist’s Guide to Estate Planning* from The Marie Walsh Sharpe Art Foundation
- *The Journey From Here* by Senator Bill Bradley
- *Undaunted, Second Chair, Trouble In Trinidad, and Brash Endeavor*, all by William Manchee

William Manchee signs one of the group of books he donated during an East Coast book-signing trip.

Jesse Branson (left) donates a history of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity (Alpha Alpha Lambda Chapter) to Dr. Alex Boyd, Library Director.

Gus Henningberg (center), notable Newarker and nationally known community affairs advocate, Library Director Dr. Alex Boyd (left) and Assistant Director Charles F. Cummings discuss donation and archival project of collection marking Mr. Henningberg’s career.

Dr. Mauro Lorenzini, Vice-Consul of Italy, Newark, pictured with Nino (Antonio) Del Duca. Mr. Del Duca read one of his poems at the ceremony marking Dr. Lorenzini's donation of twenty books by contemporary Italian authors.
Each year, The Newark Public Library receives a variety of grants. These funds enable us to provide valuable services to our patrons, as well as to add to our collections and to hold free public programs. Following is a sampling of the grants received for the period 2001-2002.

Club Success
This project provides focused homework assistance for Newark’s students in grades one through eight. It renders assistance in the areas of mathematics, language arts literacy, science, social studies and reading. Approximately one hundred schools are represented in the program, which is in its eighth year of operation. The Clubs meet at all Library locations during the school year, on Mondays through Thursdays. Several funding sources have made Club Success the widely praised program it is: the Newark Public Schools, The Lucent Technologies Foundation and the Geraldine R. Dodge Foundation.

Mapping Newark
This project, funded by the New Jersey Historical Commission, is designed to digitize the Library’s extensive collection of Newark maps to create a web-based cartographic database and a series of historical photo essays documenting the diverse neighborhoods of Newark. It is part of a joint venture with University Heights Science Park High School to present Digital Newark: Mapping our Future for the Digital Millennium. The Dana Library at Rutgers University is a cosponsor of the project and is providing matching funds.

Traveling Science Program
As one of the Club Success Initiatives funded by The Lucent Technologies Foundation, the Liberty Science Center in Jersey City will take its “Science Circus” on the road to each of the Library’s Clubs. (Check with your Branch for the date at that location.) The Science Circus is the Center’s most popular and versatile program. It explores the positives and negatives of static electricity, the sub-zero temperatures of liquid nitrogen, the states of matter and the intense pressure of air.

Poetry Festival
The Library received another generous grant from the Turrell Fund. This one is for a comprehensive educational programming series for children in celebration of National Poetry Month and Children’s Poetry Week in April. The programs will be held at six Branch Libraries: Weequahic, North End, Van Buren, Roseville, Springfield and Clinton.

Sound Choices
The Ann Earle Talcott Fund is supporting Sound Choices, a series of social issues theater performances for primary school children and their families.

NJSL Projects
In addition, the New Jersey State Library continues to provide substantial funding for a number of continuing grants that have been chronicled in past issues of The Second Century:

• Hub Libraries—enables the Library to provide technical support to more than a dozen local libraries, as well as offering free Internet access, saving the member libraries more than $1 million annually.

• MultiMAC—the role of our Multilingual Materials Acquisition Center is to help libraries meet their patrons’ needs for materials and services in eleven languages. The Center also publishes annotated selection lists, complete with cataloging, which may be found at www.npl.org/Pages/Multimac/Booklist/index.html.

• Technology Bond Fund—enables the Library to provide a myriad of technological services, from training to hardware/software needs.

• Statewide Services—enables the Library to provide New Jersey libraries with valuable reference services and to lend thousands of items not available locally.
Paul Anthony Stellhorn, Ph.D., 1947 - 2001

On January 29, 2001, Paul A. Stellhorn died. He was a distinguished historian and the Library’s Assistant Director for Development. More than that, he was a true professional and a friend to everyone he met.

Paul Stellhorn was an historian of “New Jersey,” earning a Ph.D. in Urban Studies from Rutgers University. Previous to the Library, he was Director of Research for the New Jersey Historical Commission, and he was Assistant Director of the New Jersey Council for the Humanities during much of the 1980s.

Due to Dr. Stellhorn’s leadership and amiable personality, he and his staff raised more than $9 million in grants and donations for The Newark Public Library in the five years previous to his death . . . and nearly an equal amount in the preceding years to 1987, when he became an Assistant Director.

As a way of honoring him, the Friends of The Newark Public Library are planning a lecture series that would serve as a memorial to his life and work—while drawing attention to, and encouraging the use of, The Newark Public Library’s resources for the study of New Jersey and urban history. A future issue of The Second Century will detail the particulars of the proposed lecture series.

Move over Jeeves and Yahoo!

Why ask Jeeves? Or Yahoo? Meet Q and A NJ. This new virtual reference service from the NJ Library Network lets you get answers live online. The site combines the information smarts of librarians with the speed and convenience of the Internet. The Newark Public Library has joined two dozen other libraries throughout the state participating in this new service.

Q & A is available 24/7. Free-of-charge! From the comfort and convenience of your home, school, or office.

Visit www.qandanj.org for more information.
The Internet can be a fine place to find information quickly, but sometimes the quantity can be overwhelming and the quality can be difficult to ascertain. HealthyNJ (www.HealthyNJ.org) is a website that organizes high-quality health information and links to sites to make it easier to research health issues. Librarians at the University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey select the sites.

What makes HealthyNJ unique is the focus on New Jersey topics and resources. Click on the “Health in New Jersey” section to find a collection of health-related websites specific to the state—as well as links to hospitals and other health care facilities in every county of the state.

“Health & Wellness” includes informative articles. Links to related New Jersey resources, online discussion groups and recommended websites supplement each article. The “Diseases & Conditions” section includes topics such as carpal tunnel syndrome and the common cold, with articles also available in Spanish.

The “Reference Desk” provides links to pharmaceutical information sites, full text medical journals, dictionaries, directories and online medical books.

The HealthyNJ site is also searchable, making it easy to locate information from all the sections of the site. UMDNJ, The New Jersey State Library, The New Jersey Library Association and Verizon sponsor HealthyNJ.

NPL cardholders may also use the specialized full-text periodical database, EBSCO Health Source. From the Library’s home page (www.npl.org) click on Internet & Electronic Resources and then follow the link for using EBSCOhost from home or work. Choose “Health Source Plus” to search for articles.

For more information about health topics, call the Business, Science and Technology Reference Center at (973) 733-7779, or visit the Center on the third floor of the Main Library.

Technology Plan

Approved at a recent meeting of the Board of Trustees, the Library’s technology plan supplements our Service Plan for 2000-2002. The fifteen-page document specifies ways in which the Library will use technology to achieve many of the service objectives into 2003.

The Technology Plan focuses on current and future programs for patron training. Classes are held at selected Branch Libraries and at the Main Library. The “Computers and Classes” Web page (found at www.npl.org/Pages/Computers) has a schedule and descriptions of upcoming classes.

Another part of the plan covers current technology-based services: Computers with adaptive technology for blind and low-vision users; a Spanish-language workstation for electronic resources and Internet browsing; dedicated computers for Club Success homework assistance; access to electronic resources; free Internet access; and workstations for word processing.

The entire Technology Plan may be found at the following URL: www.npl.org/Pages/AboutLibrary/techplan.pdf.
Friends announce Book Sale dates; seek volunteers

The Friends will hold their Eleventh Annual Book Sale from Thursday, April 4, through Saturday, April 6. This ever-popular event—which is one of the two major yearly fundraisers for the organization—has raised more than $15,500 in the last three years. The Friends use the monies raised as the foundation for the grants they bestow, benefiting the Library’s services and collections.

Hours for the public sale are 11am to 8pm on Thursday, and 9:30am to 4pm on Friday and Saturday. The members-only pre-sale will be held on Wednesday, April 3, from 5:30pm to 8pm. Those who are not current dues-paying Friends members may join the organization by using the enclosed “giving envelope,” or on the evening of April 3 in order to gain access to the members-only pre-sale.

As usual, the event will feature hardcover books, paperbacks, reference works, records, videotapes, cassette tapes, CDs and posters.

In addition to material donations, Jerry Caprio, Book Sale Chair, is seeking volunteers before, during and after the sale to help sort the thousands of donated items. Individuals and organizations wishing to volunteer may leave a message for Jerry Caprio by calling the Library at (973) 733-7793.

Due to limited storage space, those wishing to donate items (no magazines or “condensed” books, please) are asked to wait until March before bringing them to the Main Library. Also, please be sure that the items are in good, sellable condition.

Friends of The Newark Public Library

The Friends’ recent support to The Newark Public Library came in the form of grants totaling $11,000. Their generosity aided the Library in four specific areas:

- $1,000 for the Non-Profit Conference
- $2,500 for the Images of America series of photographic books
- $3,200 for new acquisitions to the Special Collections Division
- $4,300 for new acquisitions to the Popular Library Collections at the Main Library

The Library is appreciative of this financial support, as well as the countless hours of volunteer assistance the organization provides the Library.

Those wishing to join the Friends of The Newark Public Library may do so by printing out an application form at the following URL: www.npl.org/Pages/AboutLibrary/friends.html. Individuals may also call the Development Department at (973) 733-7793 and request a membership form be mailed to them.