A Night to Remember . . .

Joined by more than three hundred well-wishers, the Newark Public Library bid a fond farewell to Dr. Alex Boyd, our Director for sixteen years, at a tribute dinner, entitled Booked for the Evening, on November 10th at Nanina’s in the Park.

Through active community involvement, Dr. Boyd increased the visibility of the Library. His notable accomplishments include serving as President of the New Jersey Library Association and as President of the American Library Association’s Black Caucus. Dr. Boyd’s legacy of innovative and visionary leadership will continue to enhance Newark’s diverse community for years to come.

At the festivities, the Library also presented special recognition awards to Irene Daniels, Executive Director of The Newark Literacy Campaign, and to Barbara Kukla, retired Editor of The Newark Star-Ledger’s Newark This Week section. These community leaders were recognized for their many contributions to the educational and cultural fabric of the City of Newark.

Ms. Daniels is responsible for a continuum of literacy services for children and adults in the greater Newark area. At the Weequahic Branch of the NPL, she founded the Little/Big Readers Book Club and the South Newark Literary Society. She is an active member of the Newark community where she serves on several boards.

Barbara J. Kukla retired in January 2004 from The Star-Ledger. She is the author of Swing City: Newark Nightlife, 1925–50. Ms. Kukla is President of the Friends of Barbara Kukla Scholarship Fund, Inc., which benefits Newark high school students. She was the first woman selected by the Friends of the Newark Public Library to deliver the John Cotton Dana Distinguished Lecture.

Many dedicated individuals helped to make Booked for the Evening a true success, including the dinner chairpersons Thomas P. Giblin, Business Manager of International Union of Operating Engineers—Local 68, and Frank E. Ferruggia, Esq., Partner at McCarter & English, the members of the dinner committee and those who provided financial support.

Proceeds from the event will benefit the NPL Annual Fund, which enables the Library to continue providing unique collections, specialized programs and outstanding services.

Please see pages 6 and 7 for additional photos from the dinner and an acknowledgement of those who added to the success of the event.

In this Issue

2 The Director’s Journal 4-5 BHM Calendar 8 Commentary
3 On the Branches 6-7 Booked for the Evening 9 Nell Irvin Painter Collection
11 Literary Society Discussions
12 Friends of NPL
In this column in the previous issue of The Second Century, Dr. Alex Boyd bid farewell to colleagues, staff and friends as he announced his retirement. On November 10, many of those individuals assembled for our “Booked for the Evening” gala that included a tribute to Dr. Boyd for his service to the Library over the past sixteen years. While many hands contributed to the success of the event, I take personal pleasure in acknowledging the outstanding leadership and commitment of the Dinner Committee Chairs, Mr. Tom Giblin and Mr. Frank Ferruggia, and their committee members. Their hard work will long be remembered and appreciated.

For the past several months I have been privileged to serve as Acting Director and have enjoyed the opportunities and challenges that have come with my new role. It is a pleasure to work in an institution that has been steeped in the culture and history of the City for more than a century, but at the same time is an institution that is forward looking. As the Library continues to provide a host of traditional services and programs for its patrons, it is also embarking on a path of progress and change that will ensure an information-rich environment for the residents of Newark well into the future.

At this time, I invite you to join us in celebrating Black History Month. Check our website (www.npl.org) for a complete calendar of events, including youth and family programs at the Main Library and at our community Branches.

It is a pleasure to work in an institution that has been steeped in the culture and history of the City for more than a century, but at the same time is an institution that is forward looking.

Dwayne Ashley is Chief Executive Officer and President of the Thurgood Marshall Scholarship Fund. He leads its overall strategic direction to raise funds for merit scholarships and programmatic and capacity-building support to the 45 Public Historically Black Public Colleges and Universities in the United States. His vision has moved the Fund to the forefront of being a higher education authority.

A member of the Library’s Board of Trustees since January 2004, he does not see challenges, only opportunities for the Newark Public Library . . . the greatest being expanding the connection between the philanthropic/corporate communities and the Library. “It’s important for them to see how they benefit when they support the Newark Public Library,” Mr. Ashley emphasized. He also plans to take an active part in securing the funding for the Main Library’s renovation and expansion.

Ashley’s career includes more than fifteen years as a fundraiser and nonprofit executive. Prior to joining Thurgood Marshall, he served as the National Executive Director and Chief Professional Officer of the 100 Black Men of America, Inc.—one of the nation’s largest and oldest mentoring organizations. He also was area Development Director for the United Negro College Fund and a Campaign Manager for the United Way. In addition to the Library, Mr. Ashley serves on the boards of The Gallup Organization and the New York-based Evidence Dance Company. He holds a masters degree in Governmental Administration from the University of Pennsylvania’s Fels School of Government and graduated cum laude from Wiley College with a BS degree.
On the Branches

Many exciting events are taking place at the Branches in the months ahead. We have begun a new year of special Saturday programs for children—thanks to another grant from the Newark Public Schools—and will hold special Black History Month programs at Springfield and Weequahic. Stop by or call your Branch for more information.

Correction: In our last issue, the “map grid” did not correspond with the numbering of the Branches. We apologize for any confusion this may have caused. We have renumbered the listings with the correct information.

Get it. Use it.

The NPL concluded its “Library Card Sign-up Month” festivities on September 30 with a Friends-sponsored event at the Main Library. Special guests included Mayor Sharpe James and students from 18th Avenue School (a Project GRAD school).

Before receiving a gold library card and a certificate detailing the Friends’ 100 Books A Branch campaign, Mayor James spoke about his childhood days in the Newark Public Library and the importance of having and using a library card.

Remember: Anyone who lives, works, or goes to school in Newark can have a free library card. Get it. Use it.

Students from 18th Avenue School display oversized library card. Pictured with them are Wilma J. Grey, Acting Director; Patricia Bender, President of the Friends; Felicia Sanders, their teacher; and Mayor Sharpe James.
Exhibition

The Jewels: The History of Prince Hall Masonry in New Jersey portrays examples of the community work of this charitable and mentoring organization; curated by the Right Worshipful Dr. James Clark, Assistant Grand Historian.

Second- and Third-Floor Galleries
January 27 through March 12

February

Tuesday
1 Opening Reception for exhibition and programming. Guest speaker is M.W. Thomas Porter Caldwell, the Grand Master of the Prince Hall Masons for the State of New Jersey.

Centennial Hall; 6:00pm

Wednesday
2 A lecture and book signing with Herb Boyd, author of We Shall Overcome: The History of the Civil Rights Movement As It Happened. Herb Boyd brings to life the stories and struggles of those who battled for social justice and equality, including Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., Rosa Parks, Stokely Carmichael, Ella Baker, and Fannie Lou Hamer.

Springfield Branch Library, 50 Hayes Street; 6:00pm

Saturday
2 The Frances E.W. Harper Literary Society is hosting a book signing and lecture with Dr. Cecil Clarke, author of Marriage, Divorce and Remarried. Dr. Clarke is the bishop in the Tabernacle Church of God, Pillar and Ground in the Truth of England.

Centennial Hall; 2:00pm

Tuesday
8 A book signing and lecture with Tonya Lewis Lee and Crystal McCrary Anthony, authors of Gotham Diaries.

Centennial Hall; 6:30pm

Thursday
3 A musical performance with Wincey Terry, entitled Black Wax. Set in a museum of Black wax figures, this play portrays the African American influence on science, the arts, and sports. Learn about the Underground Railroad and African ancestral accomplishments. Schools, senior citizen centers, and other groups are welcome. Call 973-733-7837 for reservations.

Centennial Hall; 10:30am
Thursday

A slide presentation and lecture by Giles R. Wright, Historian, New Jersey Historical Commission, entitled New Jersey and the Underground Railroad. A discussion of the overall scope and significance of the Underground Railroad with a special focus on the routes, sites, and persons associated with the Underground Railroad’s operation in New Jersey.

Centennial Hall; 7:00pm

Saturday

A lecture and book signing with Grace F. Edwards, author of The Viaduct and the Mali Anderson mystery series that includes Do or Die, No Time to Die, A Toast Before Dying, and If I Should Die.

Centennial Hall; 2:00pm

Saturday

Celebrate the richness of the African-American traditions in a program, entitled Raps, Rhymes ’N Reasons, from the Hooray for Children series. Join Sharon McGruder as she combines movement, songs and real life experiences with a variety of African tales, myths and stories.

Centennial Hall; 2:00pm

All programs are free and open to the public.

For more information, please call (973) 733-5411 or (973) 733-7837, or visit www.npl.org. In case of inclement weather, please call (973) 733-7784 to determine whether the NPL is open.
The Newark Public Library wishes to extend sincere thanks to those who helped make the 2004 Booked for the Evening tribute dinner a great success.

**DINNER CHAIRPERSONS**

- Frank E. Ferruggia, Esq.
- Thomas P. Giblin

**DINNER COMMITTEE**

- Kathleen P. Galop, Esq.
- Jeffrey Greenberg
- Steven Greenberg
- Joyce Wilson Harley, Esq.
- Ellen B. Marshall
- Howard Millendorf
- Victor Parsonnet, M.D.
- Kathleen Regan
- Joseph R. Romano
- Victoria J. Snoy
- Arthur Stern
- Valerie Wilson Wesley
- Mark Yeager

In addition to these key persons, the meticulous efforts of many of the Library’s staff enabled the evening’s events to progress seamlessly.

**A Heartfelt Thank You**

The contributions of countless individuals, corporations and foundations added to the success of the event. The NPL especially appreciates the generosity of the following key Dinner Sponsors.

**PULITZER**

- Cogswell Realty Group, LLC
- Independence Community Bank
- Prudential Financial

**NATIONAL BOOK**

- Advance Realty Group

**LITERARY**

- Arkay Construction, Inc.
- International Union of Operating Engineers—Local 68, 68A, 68B, 68C
- Johnson Jones Architects
- Lanier Worldwide
- McCarter & English, LLP
- New Jersey Devils
- PSEG Services
- Rutgers Institute on Ethnicity, Culture and the Modern Experience
- Thurgood Marshall Scholarship Fund, Inc.
- Mr. Jeffrey Vanderbeek

**FRIENDS**

- 550 Broad Street Associates, LLC
- The Gale Company
- Ms. Trish Morris-Yamba
- The Newark Museum

Frank E. Ferruggia, Esq., Dinner Chairperson, pictured with Dinner Committee member Ellen B. Marshall from Independence Community Bank.

Wilma J. Grey, Acting Director of NPL, with Gloria Hopkins-Buck, a longtime member of the Friends of NPL.

Mary Puryear, of Prudential Financial, enjoys the evening with her husband.

Dinner Committee member Frank LePera, of Cogswell Realty Group, with Danny Gale, from URBAN SOLUTIONS.

Members of the NPL Board of Trustees, Alberto Coutinho and Timothy Crist, extend warm wishes to Dr. Boyd.

Irene Daniels, award recipient, receives gift from Frank E. Ferruggia, Esq., Dinner Chairperson.

Several library leaders joined the celebration: Patricia Tumulty, NJLA; Norma Blake, State Librarian; Dr. Alex Boyd; Lynn Randall, Caldwell College Library; Cindy Czesak, Paterson Public Library; Cheryl O’Connor, Infolink.

Barbara J. Kukla, award recipient, receives congratulations from Thomas P. Giblin, Dinner Chairperson.
.com-mentary

We have expanded the topics covered in this column to include not only “dot-coms,” but also some of the NPL’s extensive print collections and e-resources.

Need more information, faster? Your library has the answer.

A powerful new tool, JerseyClicks, is just a click away. It simultaneously searches up to fifteen online databases that cover news, reviews, business, education, health, history, popular culture, science, and much more. This single search eliminates the need to look through sources one at a time.

From any NPL facility, or at a remote location with your NPL card number, access is fast and easy. Visit www.npl.org/Pages/InternetResources/index.html and select JerseyClicks. Follow the easy directions for your simple or advanced search. Once again, your library card proves to be a great bargain.

If you do not find what you need, take advantage of yet another time-saving resource. A button on the JerseyClicks welcome screen invites you to speak right away with a librarian at QandA NJ, the statewide real-time virtual reference service. Click the link and let a professional librarian go to work at finding your information. JerseyClicks and QandA NJ (both funded by the New Jersey State Library) are available 24/7.

For extra help, simply call an NPL reference librarian: Arts & Humanities (general reference), 973-733-7820, Business, Science, & Technology (including social sciences), 973-733-7779, New Jersey Information, 973-733-7775. Or email us at reference@npl.org.

Exhibitions @ the NPL

The exhibition now installed in both galleries of the Main Library, which is entitled The Jewels: The History of Prince Hall Masonry in New Jersey, is in celebration of Black History Month. It portrays examples of the community work of this charitable and mentoring organization. Curated by the Right Worshipful Dr. James Clark, Assistant Grand Historian, it is on view from January 27 through March 12. For further information, call Dr. Clark at (973) 677-3329.

The two forthcoming exhibitions are New Jersey in World War II (second-floor gallery, March 22 to May 14), and From Beethoven to the Beatles and Beyond (third-floor gallery, March 18 to May 21). For more information, visit www.npl.org and click on Programs & Exhibits.

The Crown and Apron of a Royal Arch Mason.

2004 Annual Fund Exceeds Goal

The Newark Public Library wishes to thank the generous donors who helped us raise more than $125,000 toward the 2004 Annual Fund. The success of this fundraising campaign can be attributed to the outpouring of support from individuals, corporations and foundations.

We would like to extend a special thank you to the Independence Community Foundation who contributed $25,000 in matching funds through the Independence Challenge. Funds from the Independence Challenge will be used to purchase books for children and seniors, while the remainder of the Annual Fund dollars will be used toward general operating expenses at the Library.

Additional Annual Fund support was garnered through the Library’s “Book Classic” golf tournament in July and the “Booked for the Evening” tribute dinner in November. The overwhelming response to these events enables the Library to continue enriching lives and expanding horizons through countless educational and informational programs and services that are offered to the public—free of charge!

We encourage you to help us continue this fine tradition of support by making a contribution to the 2005 Annual Fund Campaign through the enclosed reply envelope, or by joining us at one of this year’s exciting fundraising events. Please look for event details in upcoming issues of The Second Century.

The Nell Irvin Painter Collection

The Library has received an outstanding collection of books from a leading historian of the United States: Nell Irvin Painter, Ph.D. The collection comprises numerous volumes, the majority of which focus on African-American studies.

As important as is the scope of the collection, the persona of the donor is equally impressive.

Nell Painter is the Edwards Professor of American History at Princeton University. She served as Director of Princeton’s Program in African-American Studies from 1997 to 2000. Her current work is interdisciplinary: as well as traditional courses in American history and African-American studies, she teaches on the social construction of gender, race, and personal beauty. In addition to her doctorate in history from Harvard University, she has received honorary doctorates from Wesleyan, Dartmouth, SUNY-New Paltz, and Yale.

As a scholar, Professor Painter has published numerous books, articles, reviews, and other essays. She has served on numerous editorial boards and as an officer of many different professional organizations, including the American Historical Association, the Organization of American Historians, the American Antiquarian Society, the Association for the Study of Afro-American Life and History, and the Association of Black Women Historians. She is currently a Councilor of the prestigious Society of American Historians.

Professor Painter is also widely known as a mentor of younger scholars. She has advised more than twenty dissertations at four major universities. In 2000, the American Historical Association awarded her the Roelker Mentorship Award as recognition for this work.

The Newark Public Library is honored to include among its collections such a prestigious donation.
Robert Illig receives the Pierson Pitcher

Robert Illig, a Newark police officer by profession and a Newark and New Jersey historian by avocation, recently became the fourth recipient of the Newark Public Library’s Pierson Pitcher. He was honored for his enormous contribution to the NPL’s New Jersey Information Center, and for his dedicated efforts in collection building. Previous recipients were Elizabeth Henderson, Bernard Bush, and John T. Cunningham. The Pierson Pitcher was named in honor of Abraham Pierson, first minister of the Old First Church who brought to Newark its first library.

Mr. Illig has spent much of his life gathering important, interesting, and sometimes obscure information about New Jersey and its largest city, and assembling it into manuscript or book form, and then presenting it to the Newark Public Library for use by present and future patrons. Among other achievements, he coauthored *The Civil War and Denville*, for the Rock Ridge Lake Bicentennial Society, and *The History of Rock Ridge Lake*.

Present at the ceremony were Charles F. Cummings, Assistant Director for Statewide Outreach and Special Collections, Bruce Ford, Assistant Director for Access Services, Acting Director Wilma J. Grey, Mr. Illig, Mrs. Veronica Illig, Robert L. Blackwell, Principal Librarian.

In recognition of the NPL’s foresight and vision, Lanier Worldwide, Inc. presented the Library with its Customer Vision Award. Pictured are Wilma J. Grey, Acting Director, and Scott Braynard, Vice President of LPS Sales.

John Giordano, President and founder of the Ironbound Community Block Watch, Inc. and Joyce Rudinski, Vice President/Secretary (far right), present a check to Acting Director Wilma J. Grey. Looking on is Susan Blake, now-retired Children’s Librarian of the Van Buren Branch. The donation was for the Friends’ “100 Books A Branch” initiative.

In case of inclement weather, please call (973) 733-7784 to determine whether the Library is open.
The Frances E.W. Harper Literary Society is dedicated to discussing books on the African Diaspora. Six programs remain in its 2004-05 season. All programs are held on Wednesday and begin at 6:30pm. They are free and open to the public. Be sure to set aside these important dates:

- **February 2**—Celebrate Black History Month by remembering their voices: Barbara Jordan, Frances E.W. Harper, John Brown, Langston Hughes.
- **March 2**—Celebrate Women’s History Month with a discussion of *From Rage to Reason: My Life in Two Americas*, by Janet Langhard Cohen with Alexander Kopelman.
- **April 6**—The Society celebrates National Poetry Month with a program entitled “The Voice of the Poet.”
- **May 4**—A discussion of Kareem Abdul Jabbar’s *Brothers in Arms: The Epic Story of the 761st Tank Battalion, World War II’s Forgotten Heroes*.
- **June 1**—Celebrate the Black Diaspora with a discussion of Piri Thomas’s *Down These Mean Streets*.

For more information on the Society and its programs, call the James Brown African-American Room at (973) 733-5411, or visit www.npl.org and select Programs & Exhibits.

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Not just for children

The ever-popular Hooray for Children program series presents live performances by puppeteers, storytellers, magicians and theater groups. These programs are for the enjoyment of the entire family—not just children. Each is on a Saturday and begins at 2:00pm—promptly!

Four programs remain till May and the conclusion of the 2004-05 season. Be sure to set aside these dates for an entertaining afternoon for your family.

- **February 26**—Celebrate the richness of African-American traditions as Sharon McGruder presents *Raps, Rhymes ’N Reasons*.
- **March 19**—Join Beth and Scott Bierko for an American collection of funny and original songs adapted from favorite children’s books and folktales in their presentation of *Singable Songs Across America*.
- **April 23**—Master magician Bob Conrad presents *New Trails With Magic*, in which he leads the way hiking over the mountain and through the woods—from across America, to the Rain Forest of Brazil, and to the African plains—using magic, music, puppets and ventriloquism.
- **May 7**—The Happy Times Children’s Theatre presents *Puss in Boots*, the classic folktale of the gallant Master Cat who plays tricks on others to help his poor master find true love and fortune.

For a calendar of the Library’s children’s programs visit kidsplace.npl.org/calendar.html.

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Winter is almost over. That means the Friends’ 14th Annual Book Sale is just around the corner. So mark your calendars for these important dates: April 28 to 30.

The dates and hours for the public sale are 11:00am to 8:00pm on Thursday the 28th, and 9:30am to 4:00pm on Friday the 29th and Saturday the 30th.

The members-only pre-sale will be held on Wednesday, April 27, from 5:30pm to 8:00pm.

Those individuals and organizations wishing to help sort the book sale items before and/or during the sale should leave a message for Jerry Caprio by emailing friends@npl.org, or by calling the Library at (973) 733-7837.
**Lecturer links “Dana, Newark, and Me”**

Dr. E. Alma Flagg presented the 2004 John Cotton Dana Distinguished Lecture to a large, attentive gathering. Dr. Flagg, who is a lifelong resident of Newark, an esteemed educator, civic leader and poet, gave the audience a wonderful insight into her career and what it meant to her and the people of Newark.

“You provided me with an opportunity to connect Dana, Newark, and me,” she explained, “while reviewing my own experiences and expressing my concerns and hopes.”

Five Project GRAD students from Warren Street School—Asante Abdullah, Victoria Mayers, Rachel Brown, Stephen Fisher, and Stephanie Fisher—acted as hosts for the evening and presented Dr. Flagg with flowers. Ms. Royster and Ms. Fischman were the chaperones.

The Friends of the Newark Public Library sponsor the yearly lecture, which is presented by Newarkers who have distinguished themselves in the State or the nation. The lecture is named for John Cotton Dana, nationally recognized leader in library science and community affairs, who was the NPL’s Director from 1901 until his death in 1929.

For more information about the Friends visit: friends.npl.org.

**Friends Celebrate Success of 100 Books A Branch**

At a special “Children’s Book Week” event at the North End Branch, Patricia Bender, President of the Friends, presented the NPL with a check for $11,000. The donation was the result of the Friends’ 100 Books A Branch campaign to purchase children’s books for all 10 Branches and the Main Library. Angel Juarbe, Principal of Elliott Street School, along with Mrs. Pita and her Pre-K class took part in the program.

“This generous contribution from the Friends enabled the Library to purchase new copies of many award-winning books,” stated Michele Cappetta, Youth Services Coordinator. “We selected such titles as The Polar Express; The Snowy Day; Don’t Let the Pigeon Drive the Bus; Bud, Not Buddy; Holes; and Thunder Rose.”

After the ceremony, Heather Rivera, North End Branch Children’s Coordinator, invited the students to check out a selection of the brand new books to share with their families.

It is not too late to send in your contribution to the 100 Books A Branch campaign. Visit friends.npl.org or call 973-733-7837 to request a form.