Give Us Your Best

This issue of Connections is full of what we think are the newest and best books, features and resources at the library this year. But we’d love to hear what you like best about the library. Maybe there’s a helpful staff person you’d like to tell us about. Or you want to share your love of convenience features like online book renewals. It could be a special collection of materials or one of the many programs we offer. Whatever it is, we’d really like to know so we can use that information to make the library better for everyone.

You can always pass on comments to our staff or fill out comment cards, found in various places around the library. Or, go to our online Give Us Your Best page at www.cantonpl.org/yourbest/ and email your favorite library features to us. Online submissions will earn a gift certificate for two paperback books from Secondhand Prose, the Friends of the Library used bookstore. We can’t wait to hear from you!

Read All About It!

From the Abilene Reporter to the Yakima Herald, or even the Miami Herald, keep up on the news from across America with the latest expansion of our electronic news database.

The America’s Newspapers database now boasts 750 full-text newspapers from across the nation, all in one easy-to-search database. Each paper provides coverage of local and regional news so you can read about business, politics, sports, cultural activities and people in the community. It’s available on our Internet Branch so you can keep up with your hometown news from your home computer. Just log on with your library card to www.cantonpl.org/database/index.html and search your favorite local or regional paper.

What’s Best @ Your Library

Look for the Smart Card to find other “bests” that you can explore at the library with the help of your library card, the Smartest Card in your wallet.
A Guide to the Best Books of 2006 (so far)

As you might expect, the staff at the Canton Public Library are voracious readers. As 2006 draws to a close, we just can’t wait to share some of the very best books we’ve read this year. These are the books that fascinated us, were creepy good, beautifully illustrated, made us stop and think, were immensely informative, made us laugh and cry and, best of all, kept us turning pages to the very end.

Here we offer a sneak preview of our Canton Public Library staff recommendations. Stop by the Reference Desk in December for your free bookmarks of staff picks which offer many more suggestions from Fiction, Nonfiction, Movies and Audiobooks.

Be sure to look online at our Books and Reading Subject Page (www.cantonpl.org/subjects/books_reading/) for other suggestions we didn’t have space to list here.

Fiction
Adverbs by David Handler
Black Swan Green by David Mitchell
Eye of Vengeance by Jonathan King
Isolation Ward by Joshua Spanogle
Left Bank by Kate Muir
Library Lion by Michelle Knudsen
Talk Talk by T.C. Boyle
The Faithful Spy by Alex Berenson
The Girl from Charnelle by K.L. Cook
The Night Gardener by George Pelecanos
The Ruins by Scott Smith
Triangle by Katharine Weber
Walking in Circles by Merrill Markoe

Nonfiction
An Infinity of Little Hours by Nancy Maguire
Lapdogs: How the Press Rolled Over for Bush by Eric Boehlert
Manhunt: The 12 Day Chase for Lincoln’s Killer by James L Swanson
My Life in France by Julia Child
The River of Doubt: Theodore Roosevelt’s Darkest Journey by Candice Millard
Saddam’s Secrets by Georges Sada
The Worst Hard Time by Timothy Egan

Better Technology for Better Service

Technology is supposed to make our lives easier. That’s the idea behind the recent innovations at the library. Our goal is to use the latest technology to provide even better customer service for you. Some of this year’s accomplishments:

- The library’s Internet Branch (www.cantonpl.org) was totally revamped with new features, including more than 20 subject pages (www.cantonpl.org/subjects/), each with a wealth of librarian-selected resources on a given topic.

- Online registration (www.cantonpl.org/services/signup) that makes it easier and more convenient for you to sign up for childrens, teen and tween programs as well as many adult activities. It was accompanied by an improved online Events Calendar (http://calendar.cantonpl.org).

- Enhancements were made to MyAccount, the service that allows you to place holds and renew materials—to better manage your library borrowing activity-online.

- New computers were installed in Teen Place, the Internet Lab and elsewhere in the library, bringing enhanced computing power, speed and support for multimedia.

Four New Features From Technical Services

MelCat Interlibrary Loans
Borrow from other libraries and have the books sent here! Go to http://elibrary.mel.org/search.

New self-check machines
Four fast new machines that check out materials and unlock your AV loans.

Updated telephone notification system
Sophisticated technology that you might not even have noticed to contact you by phone.

Put feature films on hold
A result of numerous patron suggestions, we now accept holds on videos.
Cover to Cover

Lunch and a Book
No registration required.

The Boy on the Bus by Deborah Schupack
November 9, 12 noon
Noting strange differences in the boy who returns home from school that makes her suspect he is not her son, Meg Landry is unable to get support for her fearful theory from her husband or her rebellious teenage daughter.

Evening Book Discussions
Sponsored by Friends of the Canton Public Library.
No registration required.

The Dive from Clausen’s Pier
by Ann Packer
November 20, 7 p.m.
Suffocated by her unexceptional life, Carrie Bell longs for a chance to begin again, and is granted that chance, terribly, when her fiancé is injured in an accident. This is a riveting novel about self-knowledge and the conflict between who we want to be to others and who we must be for ourselves.

The Street Lawyer by John Grisham
December 18, 7 p.m.
When up-and-coming attorney Michael Brock is taken hostage by a homeless veteran who is later killed by a police sniper, Brock’s troubled conscience forces him to take a closer look into the man’s past. He discovers a dirty secret involving his law firm and a mysterious file folder that sends him on the run, searching for answers and hiding from danger.

Learn to...With Friends

Learn to Write and Publish a Romance Novel®
November 2, 7 p.m.
Romance writers Margaret Carroll, Gail Gaymer Martin, Kathleen Nance, Cindy Spencer Pape and Michelle Celmer will share their secrets as well as their books. Have you ever dreamed of becoming rich and famous with this popular genre? Now is your chance to learn from the pros.

Learn to Remix Your Décor®
December 7, 7 p.m.
Learn to REMIX your décor with Marlene Prater and get a great look for your holiday table and fireplace mantle. Prater will show you how to take what you have around the house and re-work those items into a “decorator-inspired” look.

Friends, Authors & Others

David Trotter, Shipwreck Expert®
November 16, 7 p.m.
Dive into history with David Trotter, renowned shipwreck discoverer. Trotter will introduce us to Titans Clash!!! Then Death in the Abyss!!, the story of the discovery of the 436-foot steamer, Frank H. Goodyear, that sank in heavy fog on Lake Huron in 1910, taking 18 of her crew with her. Come hear the story of how this discovery changed Great Lakes marine history.

Best Hideaway @ Your Library
Hidden away in a little nook by the Adult Large Print shelves is an inviting corner; a perfect place to sneak away with a book and cup of coffee from the Library Café. Enjoy the viewing garden and fountain, another feature that’s new to the library this year.

Best Hideaway @ Your Library
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Monday Night @ the Movies
Election Fever
All the President’s Men (rated PG)®
November 13, 7 p.m.
Washington reporters Bob Woodward and Carl Bernstein uncover the Watergate break-in and scandal that occurred during the Nixon administration.

Holiday Fun
A Christmas Story (rated PG)®
December 11, 7 p.m.
Set in Indiana in the 1940s, this twisted tribute to the traditional, all-American Christmas will have you laughing until your sides ache. Share the holidays with Ralphie and his quirky family.
Computer Classes

Excel I®
**November 8**, 6:30-8:30 p.m.
Get instruction on the basics of spreadsheet creation for a family or personal budget.
- Prerequisites: Mouse and keyboarding skills

Excel II®
**November 15**, 6:30-8:30 p.m.
Learn more ways to work with data, pivot tables, graphics and charts, and customizing toolbars.
- Prerequisite: Excel I or equivalent

Internet I®
**November 7**, 10-11 a.m. or
**November 29**, 7-8 p.m.
This class focuses on the basic features of Internet Explorer.
- Prerequisite: Mouse skills or equivalent

Internet II®
**November 14**, 10-11 a.m. or
**December 6**, 7-8 p.m.
Learn how to better search the Web, the library catalog and online databases.
- Prerequisite: Internet I

MS Word I®
**November 7**, 6:30-8:30 p.m. or
**December 7**, 9:30-11:30 a.m.
Learn basic word processing terminology and skills, including text creation, formatting, printing and saving.
- Prerequisite: Mouse and keyboarding skills

MS Word II®
**November 14**, 6:30-8:30 p.m. or
**December 14**, 9:30-11:30 a.m.
Learn to add tables, header and footer, insert symbols, and other commands to manipulate text.
- Prerequisite: MS Word I or equivalent

MS Word III®
**November 21**, 6:30-8:30 p.m. or
**December 21**, 9:30-11:30 a.m.
Learn to create text boxes, multiple columns, column breaks, and manipulate paragraphs to make a newsletter.
- Prerequisite: MS Word I or equivalent

MS Word Graphics I®
**November 11**, 9:30-11:30 a.m.
Learn to create text boxes and columns, use the color palette and various graphic Word Art features for your newsletters, flyers, invitations and more.
- Prerequisites: Mouse and keyboarding skills

MS Word Graphics II®
**November 18**, 9:30-11:30 a.m.
Further explore using various graphic art in Word.
- Prerequisites: Mouse and keyboarding skills

PowerPoint I®
**November 9** or **December 5**, 9:30-11:30 a.m.
Learn to create multimedia presentations using Microsoft PowerPoint.
- Prerequisite: Mouse and MS Work skills

PowerPoint II®
**November 16** or **December 12**, 9:30-11:30 a.m.
Learn more tricks to make fancier presentations.
- Prerequisite: PowerPoint I

Yahoo! Email®
**November 30**, 9:30-12:00 noon
Learn to open a Yahoo! account, practice sending and opening mail and attachments.
- Prerequisite: Keyboarding and Web skills

Best Online Spot @ Your Library
Our newly redesigned Internet Branch, www.cantonpl.org, has lots of fun places to discover but among the best new features are the Subject Pages. Start there to explore subjects from Consumer Technology to Religion and Spirituality. Our librarians have gathered the most accurate and useful resources and update them often.
Teen Programs

Make Your Own Holiday Cards®
December 7, 4 p.m.
Add a personal touch to your cards this year by making your own greeting cards.

Make Your Own Holiday Ornament®
December 12, 4 p.m.
Get into the season by creating a holiday ornament for your tree.

Make Your Own Gingerbread House®
December 16, 2 p.m.
A gingerbread house is a fun and tasty decoration.

Ongoing Teen Programs

2/4 Saturdays Open Mic
Every second and fourth Saturday, 2-5:30 p.m., is Open Mic time for teen and young adult performers. Share your talents and exchange ideas with others or just come hang out. Upcoming dates are November 11 and December 9.

Teen Advisory Board
Earn volunteer hours for school and help make the library a better place for teens. Meet November 16 and December 14 at 4 p.m.

Chess Club
Every Thursday from 4-6 p.m. join teens in open chess play.

Teen Tuesdays
Come in on Tuesdays from 3-5 p.m. for games, fun, crafts and snacks.

Book and Pizza Club®
Our monthly teen reading club combines lively discussion with tasty pizza. Get a copy of the book two weeks before the discussion date.

Heir Apparent by Vivian Vande Velde
November 18, 12 noon
While playing a total immersion virtual reality game of kings and intrigue, 14-year-old Giannine learns that demonstrators have damaged the equipment to which she is connected, and she must win the game quickly or be damaged herself.

Feed by M.T. Anderson
December 16, 12 noon
In a future where most people have computer implants in their heads to control their environment, a boy meets an unusual girl who is in serious trouble.

Teen Night @ the Movies

An American Haunting (PG 13)®
November 4, 2 p.m.
Based on the true story of the Bell Witch of Tennessee, a spirit which attacked the wealthy and highly respected Bell family for four years, eventually causing the death of one of its family members.

Enjoy these special events just for Tweens—the ages in between. If you’re a 5th or 6th grader, you’ll love these activities planned exclusively for you!

Tween Programs

Create Holiday Cards with Stamps®
December 7, 5 p.m.
Add a personal touch to your cards this year by making your own greeting cards.

Make Your Own Gingerbread House®
December 16, 1 p.m.
Decorate your house with a homemade gingerbread house.

Get Your Game On @ The Library
December 28, 6 p.m.
Bring some friends and drop in for extremely fun board games Thursday nights. No registration required.

Tween Book and Pizza Club
Get together with other tweens, eat some pizza and talk about a great book. Register and pick up a copy of the book two weeks before the discussion at the East Reference Desk.

Heartbeat by Sharon Creech
November 18, 2 p.m.
Twelve-year-old Annie ponders the many rhythms of life the year that her mother becomes pregnant, her grandfather begins faltering, and her best friend (and running partner) becomes distant.
**Children’s Programs**

**Storytime**

**ABC Activity Time**
Drop in for sensory activities, puzzles, nesting and matching games, alphabet cubes, flip books and the LeapPad Learning System with your young child.

Ages: Birth to age 5 with caregiver  
Dates & Time: **November 17** or **December 15**, 10 a.m.-12 noon

**Children 18 Months to Not Yet 4-Years-Old®**
Bring a caregiver and enjoy a half-hour program of simple stories, fingerplays and songs. No classes November 22 at 7 p.m. or November 23. Make-up classes are December 13 and December 14. CHOOSE ONLY ONE STORYTIME SESSION.

Ages: 18 months to not yet 4-years-old
Dates: **November 13** to **December 8**
Times: Mondays 10:30 a.m. or 7 p.m.  
Tuesdays 10:30 a.m. or 7 p.m.  
Wednesdays 10:30 a.m. or 7 p.m.  
Thursdays 9:30 a.m. or 10:30 a.m.

**Pajama Tales Storytime®**
Pajama Tales is a fun program for parents and pre-schoolers aged three to five. Children are welcome to wear their favorite pajamas and fluffy slippers. CHOOSE ONLY ONE STORYTIME SESSION.

Ages: Children, ages 3-5, and their caregivers
Dates: **November 6** to **9**  
Monday 7 p.m.  
Tuesday 10 a.m. or 7 p.m.  
Wednesday 10 a.m. or 7 p.m.  
Thursday 7 p.m.

**Crafts for 1st and 2nd graders®**
Bring your imagination and join us for stories, crafts and games. A snack will be provided.

Ages: 1st and 2nd graders
Date & Time: **November 7**, 5-5:45 p.m.

**Kid’s Club®**
Share ideas about good books, play games and work on other fun activities. A snack will be provided.

Ages: 3rd and 4th graders
Date & Time: **November 8**, 5-5:45 p.m.

**All It Takes is Imagination!®**
Storyteller Judy Sima presents a program that will make books come alive!

Ages: 5-7 years old and their caregivers
Date & Time: **November 15**, 7-7:45 p.m.

**Special Ks®**
Stories, crafts, songs and fun! A snack will be provided.

Age: Kindergartners
Dates & Time: **November 6**, 5-5:45 p.m.

**Book Buddies®**
Get together with other kids, enjoy a snack and talk about a fantastic book. Register and pick up a copy of the book at the Children’s Information Desk beginning October 30 and November 27.

Ages: 3rd and 4th graders
Date & Time: **November 16**, 5-5:45 p.m.  
**December 14**, 5-5:45 p.m.

**Beginners’ Internet Training®**
This half-hour session will teach children the basics of the Internet, how to use it and how to stay safe.

Ages: 2nd and 3rd graders
Dates & Times: **November 25**, 2 p.m. or **November 28**, 5 p.m.

**Advanced Internet Training®**
This half-hour session is designed for older children who use the Internet to research topics for school. Site evaluation and searching tips will be taught. Register online beginning November 18 for either session.

Ages: 4th and 5th graders
Dates & Times: **November 25**, 3 p.m. or **November 28**, 7 p.m.

**Harpbeat! Holidays Around the World®**
Travel around the world with Harpbeat! This fun, interactive and educational program will help us celebrate holidays such as Hanukkah, Japanese New Year, Kwanza and Ramadan.

Ages: 5-11 years old and their caregivers
Date & Time: **December 12**, 7-7:45 p.m.

**Winter Crafts**
Creative! Imaginative! Drop by to make something unique with Scrap Box materials. No registration required.

Ages: 4-7 years old
Date & Time: **December 27**, 10 a.m. - noon

**Children’s Night @ the Movies**
Join us in the Community Room for a movie and popcorn.

Children 8-12 years old  
**Because of Winn Dixie** (PG)  
**November 14**, 6 p.m.

Children 5-12 years old and their caregivers  
**Little Mermaid** (G)  
**December 2**, 1 p.m.

**Children’s Registration Policy**
Register for Children’s programs one week in advance of program date by logging on to www.cantonpl.org from your home computer or by using a computer in the library. You must have a Canton Public Library card for the child participating in the program. For help, visit www.cantonpl.org/aboutus/howto. html or call the library at 734-397-0999.
Double the Computer Power!

Teen Place has recently seen the addition of four new super-fast computers, doubling the number of computers reserved specifically for teens. These new computers have Microsoft Office and PowerPoint, can access your favorite Internet sites and can run CD-ROMs from your school textbooks. There are also USB connections so you can save your work to your flash drive.

Expanded Teen Graphic Novel Collection

The teen graphic novel collection has been very popular this year. We’ve now got more BAM! for your buck with an expanded collection. New titles and collections are being added all the time, most recently Kingdom of Hearts: Chain of Memories by Shiro Amano, Law of Ueki by Tsubasa Fukuchi, and Birdkiss by Eun Ahpark.

Homework Help

Don’t forget – the library has homework help online seven days a week from 3 p.m. till midnight. You can access it from your home computer by going to www.cantonpl.org and clicking on Homework Help in the left column. Use your library card to connect with a live online tutor in almost any subject.

Tween Programs

Our Tween programs continue with book clubs, crafts and game night, just for Tweens. If you are in 5th or 6th grade, check the Tween programs on page 5 for some fun things to do with friends.

Choice Books for Children

The year is almost at an end and what a year it has been! A wealth of wonderful books have been published for children of all ages.

*Olivia Forms a Band*, written and illustrated by Ian Falconer, finds fan-favorite Olivia disappointed that there is no marching band to accompany the annual fireworks. Creative as ever, Olivia decides to start her own band and, as always, finds her own unique way to accomplish her goal.

*Sky Boys: How They Built the Empire State Building* by Deborah Hopkinson and James E. Ransome, is the story of the creation of this iconic skyscraper. The second-person narration tells the story of a boy and his father, barely making ends meet during the Depression, amazed as this seemingly miraculous landmark is constructed.

*Bats at the Beach*, written and illustrated by Brian Lies, has all the familiar aspects of a trip to the seashore, but with one hilarious twist: all the beach-goers are bats, and their visit takes place by moonlight. This entertaining romp is told using rhyming text and is delightfully illustrated by the exuberant artwork.
Secondhand Prose Specials
Some of the year’s best titles can be found in Secondhand Prose for just a fraction of the original price. Stock up on specials and save on holiday gifts.

November
November Novels

December
Nearly New

Secondhand Prose Hours
Monday, Wednesday, Thursday: 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., 6 p.m. to 8 p.m.
Friday: 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.
Saturday: 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.
Tuesday: **Members Only** 2 p.m. to 8 p.m.

Bag Sale Dates
For just $5, we give you a bag to fill with bargain books. Sale dates are November 24, 25 and 27. No bag sale in December.

Secondhand Prose Goes Worldwide
Over the past several months, Secondhand Prose has made a few changes to better serve our great customers. We are now selling some of the expensive, unique books online on our eBay store called “sellforlibrary.” Check out some of the over 100 titles. You may just find that out-of-print book you’ve been searching for.

Year-end Giving
Please consider a donation to the Canton Public Library Endowment Fund in your year-end giving. Your gift helps grow our endowment so that the library can maintain its standard of excellence for years to come and ensure long-term financial stability. A donation can reduce your income tax, too. Visit www.cantonpl.org/aboutus/funding/endowment.html for information on how to give, or stop by the library and get a donation form.

A Lifetime of Service
Since 1988, the Friends have awarded two lifetime memberships to people who have made significant contributions to the library. This October, we bestowed a third. Bevis Richardson, chairperson and driving force behind the Secondhand Prose crew, was given a lifetime membership for demonstrating enthusiasm, energy and fantastic ideas regarding the shop. She is an invaluable member of the book crew and we could not be the success we are without her. Thank you Bevis, and the entire book crew.
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<td>3 Teen Chess Club 4 p.m.</td>
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<td>4 Teen Movie An American Haunting® 2 p.m.</td>
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<td>Special Ks® 5 p.m.</td>
<td>Internet I® 10 a.m.</td>
<td>Teen Tuesday 3 p.m.</td>
<td>Kid's Club® 5 p.m.</td>
<td>PowerPoint I® 9:30 a.m.</td>
<td>Library Closed</td>
<td>MS Word Graphics I® 9:30 a.m.</td>
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<td>Internet II® 10 a.m.</td>
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<td>Movie All the President's Men® 7 p.m.</td>
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<td>Children’s Movie Because of Winn Dixie® 6 p.m.</td>
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<td>Teen Tuesday 3 p.m.</td>
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<td>Beginners’ Internet® 2 p.m.</td>
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Thanksgiving. It’s the only uniquely American holiday and we’ve got a whole collection of materials to help you celebrate. Visit www.cantonpl.org/specials/thksgivg.html.
Registration is required for all programs highlighted in yellow. See individual program descriptions for registration deadlines and details.

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<td>MS Word I® 9:30 a.m. Teen Chess Club 4 p.m. Teen Holiday Cards® 4 p.m. Teen Holiday Cards® 5 p.m. Remix Your Décor® 7 p.m.</td>
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<td>Open Mic 2 p.m.</td>
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<td>Movie A Christmas Story® 7 p.m.</td>
<td>PowerPoint II® 9:30 a.m. Teen Tuesday 3 p.m. Teen Ornament®, 4 p.m. Harpbeat® 7 p.m.</td>
<td>MS Word II® 9:30 a.m. Book Buddies® 5 p.m. Teen Chess Club 4 p.m. Teen Advisory Board 4 p.m.</td>
<td>ABC Activity 10 a.m.</td>
<td>Teen Feed 12 noon Teen Gingerbread House® 1 p.m. Teen Gingerbread House® 2 p.m.</td>
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<td>Adult The Street Lawyer 7 p.m.</td>
<td>Teen Tuesday 3 p.m.</td>
<td>MS Word III® 9:30 a.m. Teen Chess Club 4 p.m. Library Board 7:30 p.m.</td>
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<td>Library Closed</td>
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<td>Teen Tuesday 3 p.m.</td>
<td>Winter Crafts 10 a.m.</td>
<td>Teen Chess Club 4 p.m. Get Your Game On 6 p.m.</td>
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December holidays get everyone thinking about toys. Take a look at how our ideas about toys, as well as the toys themselves, have changed at our Special Collection of Toys Through the Years at www.cantonpl.org/specialc/toys.html.