

mendations to the Board of Selectmen for grants totaling \$58,800. The average grant was \$300 per quarter, per residence. Approximately 49 grants were awarded in each of the four quarters. This worthy program is entirely funded from the generous donations of individuals and businesses. No Concord tax dollars were used to fund this program.

*Concord Cares.* This program provides emergency fuel assistance to Concord residents who are experiencing financial difficulties and have depleted or nearly depleted their supply of heating oil. The Hugh Cargill Trust provides the Board of Selectman with a monthly report detailing the receipts and disbursements made through this program. The Chiefs of Fire and Police, the Director of the Council of Aging, the Community Services Coordinator and the Public Health Director are authorized to provide assistance from this program. This program is funded by generous donations from individuals and businesses. No Concord tax dollars were used to finance this program.

*Curbside Recycling and Waste Removal Abatement.* Working with Concord Public Works, needy citizens were awarded grants for the fee connected with the curbside collection program. The grants are limited and are awarded based on financial need and on “first come first served” basis.

If you are an adult Concord resident and experiencing temporary emergency financial difficulties please submit a request for assistance to the Hugh Cargill Trust by telephoning 978-318-3100, ext.2030. Information provided is kept confidential as specified by law.

The Concord Board of Selectmen was able to respond to the many qualified individuals requesting emergency financial assistance. This was accomplished through the most generous donations received from our fellow Concordians, like you.

Please make your donation to the Hugh Cargill Trust, P.O. Box 536, Concord, MA 01742. All donations are greatly appreciated and are tax deductible.

### ***CONCORDIANS HELPING CONCORDIANS***

## **CONCORD FREE PUBLIC LIBRARY COMMITTEE**



*From left: Heather Peachy, Kitsy Rothermel, Paul Dewey, Chair; Robert Sekuler, Melissa Saalfeld, Kerry Cronin, Director, David Holdorf, Cristina Blau*

This has been an exciting and busy year for the Concord Free Public Library (CFPL) and the Concord Public Library Committee (CFPLC). As the substantial expansion/construction project at Fowler winds to a close in the spring of 2011, the CFPL has almost seamlessly run a small, temporary satellite branch at the Harvey Wheeler Center.

In February the CFPL served as the venue for the Metrowest Regional Library System's Legislative Breakfast. Approximately 70 library supporters attended, including area library directors, trustees, Library Committee members and legislators.

In June prior to the end of the 2009-2010 academic year the CFPL visited the CCHS Learning Commons to meet with Robin Cichetti to learn about changes there and library use by teens.

The CFPLC established a long range planning committee with the following members: Elise Woodward, Selectman Liaison; Kerry Cronin, Library Director; Paul Dewey, Library Committee Member; Cristina Blau, Library Committee Member; Bob Sekuler, Library Committee Member; Melissa Saalfeld, Library Committee Member; Di Clymer, Library Corporation Trustee; Walter Birge, Library Corporation Trustee; Sherry Litwack, Library Corporation Trustee (alternate); Robin Cichetti, Friends representative; Claire Greene, Friends representative; Leslie Wilson, CFPL

staff representative and Caroline Nie, CFPL staff representative. The Planning Team held two meetings in 2010 and anticipates meeting for up to one year to develop a 3–4 year plan.

The CFPL conducted a survey of users in the fall to inform the new strategic plan for the Town's libraries over the next five years.

The Committee worked with the Library Director Kerry Cronin and Town Manager Chris Whelan to approve several policies including a new policy for Kindle readers and revisions to the Internet Computer Policy. The CFPL subsequently added six Kindle electronic books to its many offerings.

The CFPL received an LSTA grant in the amount of \$10,000 to conduct a staff genre study on historical fiction. Judith Gray, Head of Reference Services, is serving as the grant's project manager.

During National Library Week the *Concord Journal* ran an article entitled, "Why We Love Libraries," which featured quotes by CFPL members, Library Corporation Trustees and Friends of CFPL.

Finally, CFPLC member Kitsy Rothermel is serving as the Library Committee Liaison to the Art Jury, which helps select the art shown in the CFPL gallery on the second floor.

## CONCORD FREE PUBLIC LIBRARY ADMINISTRATION



Kerry Cronin,  
Library Director

2010 marked another successful year for the Concord Free Public Library both in implementing new initiatives and planning for future library services. On May 1st, the Fowler Branch Library closed for a 9-12 month

renovation/expansion project. Slated to reopen in early 2011, the Fowler Branch will double in service area and include separate spaces for children and teens, as well as meeting space for non-profit groups, programs and gallery exhibits. It has been wonderful to be a part of this dynamic project and I look forward to the enhancement in services that the community will experience as a result of these changes. On behalf of the Library staff, I would like to express my thanks to Loring Nixon Fowler, the Branch Library's original benefactor, as well as the many residents who have contributed over time to make this remarkable library possible. We are also very appreciative of the Council on Aging's hospitality in extending space to us on the lower level of the Harvey Wheeler Center so that we could offer residents the convenience of continued library services in West Concord during the renovation period.

During the fall, the Concord Free Public Library launched a formal long range planning process which included establishing a committee comprised of representatives from the Library staff, Library Committee, Library Corporation, Friends of CFPL and the Board of Selectmen. Anticipating that our work will take up to one year, we are actively gathering information from community members regarding library service preferences. Several written surveys have been conducted to date and focus group opportunities will be forthcoming. Please help us shape future library services by contributing your ideas to this important process.

Thank you to my colleagues at the Concord Free Public Library for their dedicated service to the Concord community, to the Library Corporation Trustees, Library Committee members, Friends of the Concord Free Public Library and our many Library volunteers and supporters.

Please enjoy the following report of the Concord Free Public Library's 2010 activities.