



Milford Public Library

57 New Haven Avenue
Milford, CT 06460-3345
203-783-3290
www.milfordlibrary.org



The Milford Public Library was honored to participate in the City-wide 375th events. We kicked off Celebration Week with a performance by former state troubadour, Tom Callinan. The program was titled, *Songs and Stories of Land and Sea – Past and Present*. Mr. Callinan entertained a crowd of about 130 people with original songs, including one written especially for the Milford celebration. In breaking with our usual programming, we held the event after hours on a Friday evening and staged it on our main floor, near the windows overlooking the harbor area. This program was a huge success and worth repeating.

Our second main program was a local author's day event. We invited local authors to bring in their works and sit at tables set up throughout the library where patrons could come and informally meet and discuss the authors' works. Each author was invited to "present" his work to the attendees and some of the children's authors brought activities to entertain the children. Concurrently, with the assistance of the Milford Writer's Group, we hosted a "literary slam" in our program room. While this generated a lot of activity in the Library, the program lacked focus and the local authors did not draw as large a crowd as we had hoped.

While we did not sponsor the program, the Library was happy to host the families participating in Founder's Day. Many attendees used our local history room before, during and after the event.

One disappointment was a project developing an oral history cd. We planned to partner with the CT State Library for the Blind and Physically Handicapped in using their professional recording equipment and volunteer staff so as to give the cds a professional quality. Unfortunately, the volunteer staff of the Library for the Blind were in the midst of switching to new recording software and we could not make the timing work. The Friends of the Milford Library hope to pick up this project in the near future.

Library staff also participated in the City parade and the Library has been pleased to act as a vendor for 375th merchandise.

I would like to commend library staff for the extra work they did in putting together numerous displays of Milford memorabilia and historical photos. I would also like to recognize the work put in by Assistant Director, Nancy Abbey, who took the lead in representing the Library at the 375th Committee meetings and in planning our programs and publicity.

Respectfully submitted,
Christine Angeli
Library Director