



May 2009

The Friends of the Lynnfield Library

Dear Lynnfield Friends and Neighbors,

When one of my neighbors was planning a road trip recently, I suggested he get a book on CD from the Library to listen to in the car. He hadn't used the Lynnfield Library for years, so got a new Lynnfield Library card to check out the audio book. He enjoyed it so much, he wrote me an email that said, "Your library is really neat." His wording was interesting, because the Lynnfield Library isn't *my* library – it's *our* library. And it provides services we all can use.

Around the country, as our economy struggles, libraries are busier as citizens seek free or reduced-cost access to information, programs, and services, including online and employment resources. Lynnfield Library is no exception. Some surprising facts:

- From July 2007 to July 2008, attendance in the Library's child and adult programs and the number of programs rose a whopping 49%. Between July and December '07 and the same period in '08:
 - Museum pass circulation jumped an amazing 78%
 - Non-rental educational DVDs circulated 75% more
 - Circulation of paperback books rose 13% and music CD circulation rose 28%
- The eight Library Internet PCs are always busy.

The Library comprises less than 2% of our town budget. While usage has climbed, the budget has remained flat. To help fill the gap, I'm writing to ask you to support the Friends of the Library by making a tax-deductible donation to help the Library continue to provide important services to all Lynnfield citizens.

With your donations, the Friends help the Library offer many popular **children's programs** (recently, the Friends purchased a new story time rug for the children's room). The Friends also support adult programs, such as the **BookLovers** book group, **Curious About Cuisine**, and **SAGE**. You may have used a **museum pass** from the library, or watched a popular or educational **DVD**, purchased with Friends' support. This year, the Friends helped start the eagerly anticipated **downloadable audio books** program and we'll continue to help build this collection. The Friends also provide the library's public **photocopier**, the **Library Link** newsletter and the *What's Happenin' at the Lynnfield Library* **calendar**. In addition, we fund staff **professional development** activities and events to recognize staff and volunteers. Finally, we provide **matching funds** to let the library seek grant funds from other sources as well.

The Friends of the Lynnfield Library urge you to make an investment in one of our town's community, educational, and cultural centers. When combined with others' generosity, your donation helps provide services for many residents of all ages. Won't you help our Library's services grow and meet the needs of our community? **Thank you!**

Sincerely,

Priscilla March
President, Friends of the Lynnfield Library