

23rd
ANNUAL
POETRY
CONTEST
1998



Sponsored by: Youth Services Division
Silas Bronson Library
267 Grand Street
Waterbury, Connecticut

*Silas Bronson Library
23rd Annual Poetry Contest
Awards Ceremony
April 1998*

LIBRARY DIRECTOR: Leo N. Flanagan

YOUTH SERVICES DIVISION:

Joan Rossi, Coordinator

Nancy McLaughlin

Janice Swoditch

Evelyn Hatkin

Margaret Keating

Charlotte Cam

JUDGES

JOHN L. ROSSI: B.S., Education, Mt. St. Mary's College; Master of School Administration, University of Bridgeport. Former English teacher, retired Director, Kaynor Tech. Published poet; winner - World Poetry Prize.

CHARLOTTE SCULLY: B.A., Colby College; M.S., University of Connecticut. Retired teacher of English, Naugatuck High School, lecturer and tutor.

MARY K. WILLMOTT: B.S., Southern Connecticut State University; M.S., Georgetown University; 6th year Reading Central Connecticut State University. Retired teacher of English and Reading, Wilcox Regional Vocational Technical School, Meriden, Connecticut.

Funding provided by Friends of the Library

Poems printed as originally submitted

1998 ANNUAL POETRY CONTEST

THEMES BY GRADE

K - TOYS

1 - MY PET

2 - RAINBOWS

3 - I WISH...

4 - FAMILY

5 - SCHOOL

6 - POEMS ABOUT SPORTS

7 - MY BEST FRIEND

8 - THE MALL

PRIZE WINNERS

1998

K - JUSTIN DIGIOVANNI Our Lady of Mt. Carmel

1 - PATRICK MULLEN St. Mary's

2 - STEPHANIE PORZIO Homeschooled

3 - KATE-LYN MANNING St. Lucy's

4 - LUIS ACEVEDO Tinker

5 - KEVIN LOWNDS Tinker

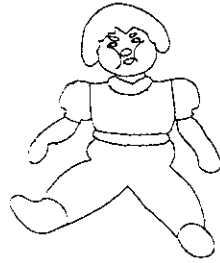
6 - ALEX SEMBER West Side Middle

7 - JESSICA RINALDI North End Middle

8 - FRANCINE DESTEFANO St. Francis Xavier

TOYS

Toys are nice
to have
They make me happy
When I feel sad.
Some make me laugh
Some make me smile
I play with my toys
for a long, long while.

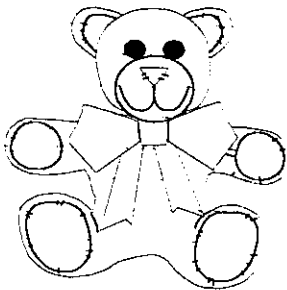


JUSTIN DIGIOVANNI

ST. MARY'S SCHOOL

GRADE K

theme: toys



MY PET

MATCHES THE DRAGON

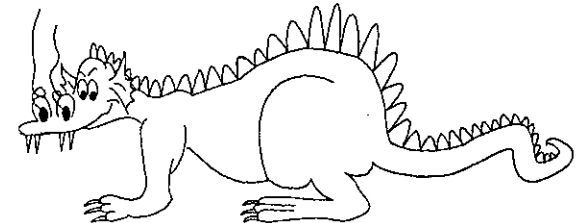
I HAVE A MAKE BELIEVE PET,
AND MATCHES IS HIS NAME,
HE LIKES TO FLY AROUND, AND
WITH ME ON HIS BACK, PLAYING A GAME.
HE LOVES LAMB CHOPS WITH CHOCOLATE
MILK,
FOR THREE MEALS A DAY!
AND CHECKERS IS HIS FAVORITE GAME,
HE'LL PLAY IT ALL DAY!
DON'T GET TOO CLOSE TO MATCHES,
WHEN HE IS HUNGRY AND READY TO POUT,
BECAUSE HE MIGHT GET YOU,
LOOK OUT!!!!!!!!!!

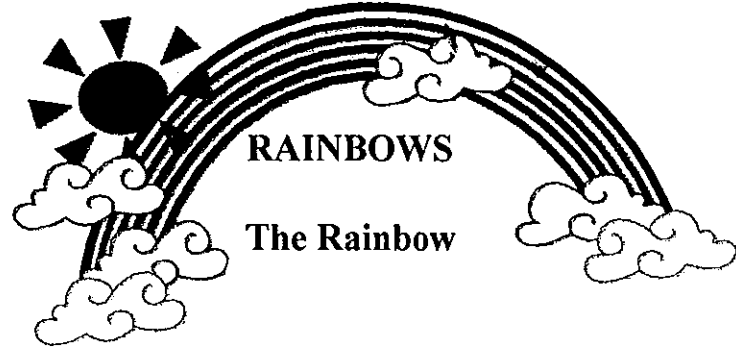
PATRICK MULLEN

ST. MARY'S SCHOOL

GRADE: 1

theme: my pet





Seven colors of beauty in the rainbows light
Shaped in an arc, made from water and light
Red, yellow, orange and green
Are some of the colors that are seen
Blue, violet and indigo
Are the rest of the colors of the rainbow.

Rainbows are peaceful, colorful and neat
They make me relaxed, they are harmless and sweet
So if you know what's best for you now
Go find a rainbow somewhere somehow!!!

STEPHANIE PORZIO
HOMESCHOOLED
GRADE: 2
theme: rainbows

I WISH

I wish for a world with harmony and peace.

I wish for a world without deadly disease.

I wish for countries to put away all their defenses.

I wish for mankind to mend all their fences .

Where will we be if we don't achieve these goals?

We'll be no better off than snakes, rocks and moles.

KATE-LYN MANNING
ST. LUCY'S SCHOOL
GRADE: 3
theme: I wish...



"A FAMILY"

A FAMILY IS THERE THROUGH GOOD TIMES AND BAD,
A FAMILY MAKES YOU SMILE AND LAUGH WHEN YOU ARE SAD
A FAMILY GIVE YOU STRENGTH WHEN YOU ARE WEAK
A FAMILY GIVES YOU VOICE WHEN YOU CAN'T SPEAK.
A FAMILY TAKES GOOD CARE OF YOU WHEN YOU FEEL ILL
A FAMILY SAYS "DON'T SAY YOU WON'T, SAY YOU WILL"
A FAMILY GIVES YOU EVERYTHING YOU CAN ASK FOR
A FAMILY LIKE MINE YOU WOULD ADORE.
A FAMILY WILL HELP WITH PROBLEMS WHETHER THEY
ARE BIG OR SMALL,
A FAMILY WILL COME RUNNING WHEN YOUR HEART CALLS.
A FAMILY IS SOMETHING YOU ARE GRATEFUL YOU HAVE,
BECAUSE WHEN THEY ARE GONE YOU CAN'T LAUGH.
I AM THANKFUL FOR THE FAMILY I HAVE NOW,
ALTHOUGH MY PARENTS ARE GONE I HAVE NEW PARENTS
SOMEHOW
MY SISTER IS VERY GOOD TO ME,
AND THAT IS THE WAY A FAMILY SHOULD BE.

LUIS ACEVEDO
B.W. TINKER SCHOOL
GRADE: 4
theme: family



SCHOOL

School: A Wondrous Dream

I have this dream,
Where school is the best.
We all watch t.v.,
And eat Friendly's ice cream.

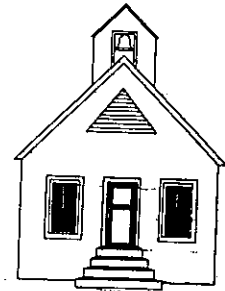
I have this dream,
Our principal's Michael Jordan.
He turns the school
Into our private basketball court.

I have this dream,
Our subjects are basketball and movies.
We see examples every day,
And if we misbehave, Principal Jordan puts Space Jam on once,
not twice a day.

I have this dream,
Instead of P.E. we have V.A. or Video Arcade.
They have every game from new to old,
And if we win a game we go home early.

Then I wake up,
And go to school.
No Friendly's ice cream.
And worst of all no V.A.
But we do shoot hoops at recess every day,
And every once in a while, we think we hear,
Dribbling of a basketball in the principal's office.

KEVIN LOWNDS
B.W. TINKER SCHOOL
GRADE: 5
theme: school



POEMS ABOUT SPORTS

A Rude Awakening

The sun was warm,
That summer day,
The Atlanta Braves,
Were ready to play.

The other team, on the field,
Chipper Jones at bat,
The first pitch was low,
He didn't swing at that.

The next pitch was over,
He knew it was good,
And he hoped that the ball
Would meet the wood.

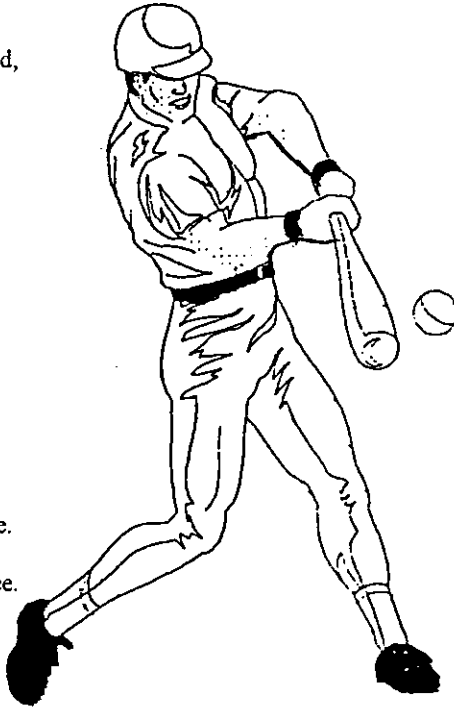
The bat said, "CRACK!"
As it hit the ball.
It flew so high,
It might never fall.

To my surprise
The ball headed toward me.
I had my glove ready,
Would I catch it? We'll see.

I stood at my seat,
This is gonna be great.
I'll bring it to school,
And it'll be me the kids hate!

I reached out to catch it,
And fell out of my seat,
Hit the floor with a thump,
At Mrs. Ricciuti's feet!

ALEX SEMBER
WEST SIDE MIDDLE SCHOOL
GRADE: 6
theme: poems about sports



MY BEST FRIEND

My best friend is sometimes funny

My best friend is sometimes shy

My best friend is always honest,

and would never tell a lie

My best friend is trustworthy

My best friend is not royal,

but she sure is loyal

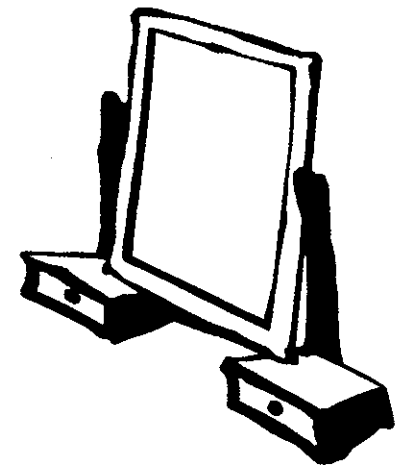
She is nice to have around

with her feet planted firmly on the ground

She's the best she could be

Because she is Me

JESSICA RINALDI
NORTH END MIDDLE SCHOOL
GRADE: 7
theme: my best friend



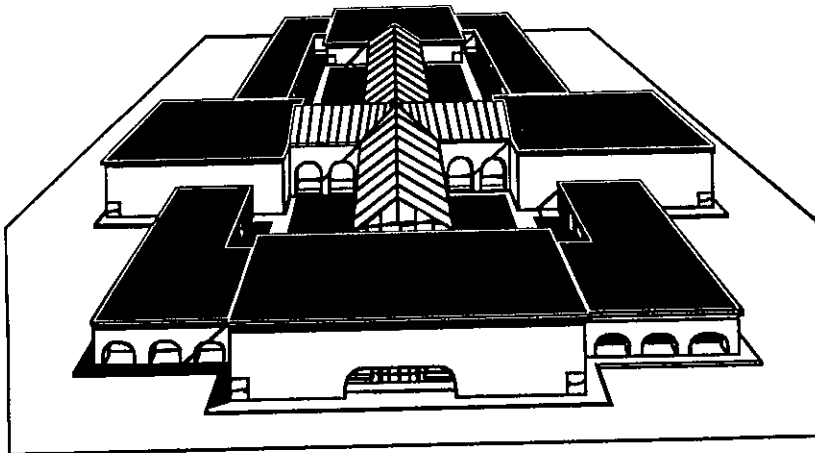
THE MALL

I open the doors,
I'm ready to shop.
Cash in hand,
But suddenly I stop....

"Sale, Sale, Sale!"
Said the sign up top.
Up to 50% off,
Hey, that's a lot!

I pick out an outfit,
Bring it up to the clerk.
She points out a purse,
I think, "Hey, that bag works!"

Three, four, five, six,
The hours go by.
Twenties, tens, five, and ones,
My wallet runs dry.



I'm loaded down with packages,
My Visa's used to the max.
With all the money that I've spent,
Some things will have to go back.

Not the outfit,
Not the purse,
Not the porcelain carousel horse.
Not the shoes,
Not the shirt,
And definitely not the checkered skirt!

My money's spent,
So I'll be on my way.
Will I come back?
Sure, when the bills are paid!

FRANCINE DESTEFANO
ST. FRANCIS XAVIER SCHOOL
GRADE: 8
theme: the mall



HONORABLE MENTION

1998

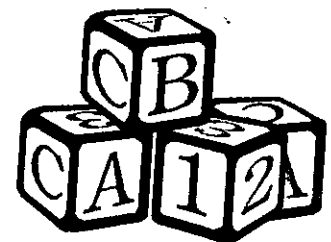
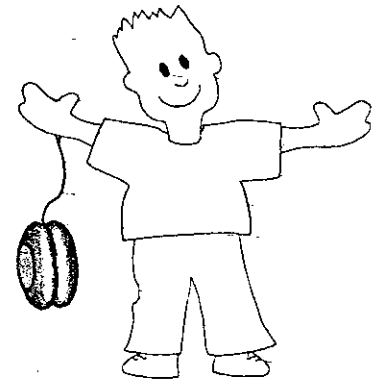
K - BRANDON GIANNELLI	Our Lady of Mt. Carmel
1 - IAN JOLIAT	Homeschooled
2 - JULIANA SANTIAGO	Washington
3 - STEPHEN CZAPOR	St. Mary's
4 - ASHLEY STRUMSKI	SS. Peter and Paul
5 - DOUGLAS LANGLEY	St. Mary Magdalen
6 - KATIE SULLIVAN	St. Lucy's
7 - KELLY BLUM	North End Middle
8 - JILL MARANO	St. Francis Xavier

TOYS

Toys Toys Toys

Toys roll.
You could play with
toys, but they
cannot play with you.
everywhere you go
there will be toys.
You should bring your
favorite toy
everywhere
you go.

BRANDON GIANNELLI
OUR LADY OF MOUNT CARMEL
GRADE: K
theme: toys



MY PET

My Pet the Squid

He has a point
He has no joint.

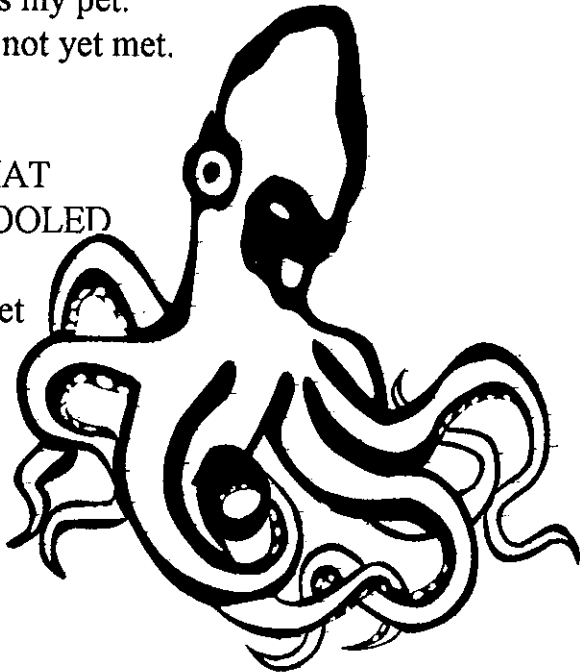
He is pink
He has ink.

He is sleek
I am afraid of his beak.

I will go down deep
To find where he does sleep.

I wish he was my pet.
But we have not yet met.

IAN C. JOLIAT
HOMESCHOOLED
GRADE: 1
theme: my pet



Rainbows are special, special to
me. They go on forever as
far as you see.

Many different colors, all
in a row. They put on an
amazing, beautiful show.

Rainbows tell me when
the rain is done; So I
can go outside to have
some fun.

Rainbows are special,
special to me. A work of
art, perfect as can be.

JULIANA SANTIAGO
WASHINGTON SCHOOL
GRADE: 2
theme: rainbows

I WISH...

I wish I had a dragon,
just for a little while.

I think it would be a treat
and make the whole town smile.

I wish I had a dragon,
one with a body big and green.

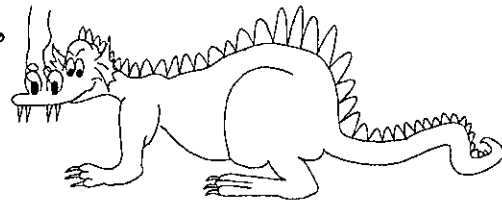
He would have a great, long tail
but would not be very mean.

My dragon would fly all over town
and give my friends a ride.

He'd only blow his fireballs
if he felt mad inside.

I wish I had a dragon,
cause if I did,

I'd have him forever
and always be a kid.



STEPHEN CZAPOR
ST. MARY'S SCHOOL
GRADE: 3
theme: I wish...

FAMILY

What Family Means to Me

A mother, a father, a brother, a sister
What family means to me.

A home, a lawn, a cat, a dog
What family means to me.

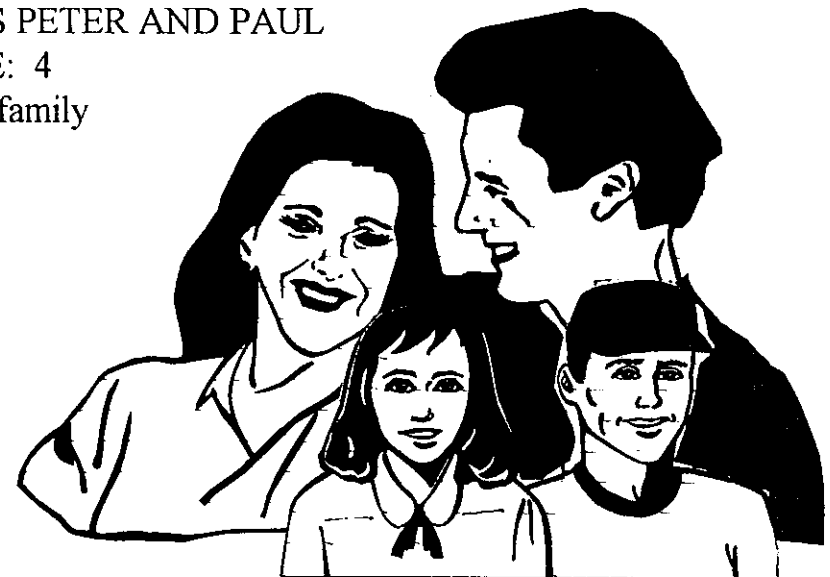
To sleep, to eat, to play
What family means to me.

To love, to pray, to give, to stay
What family means to me.

To laugh, to cry, to smile, to sigh
What family means to me.

To work, to save, to laugh and be gay
That's what family means to me.

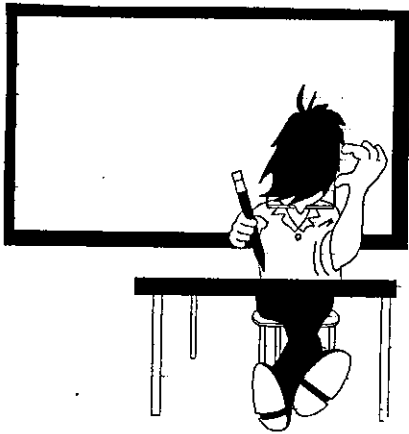
ASHLEY STRUMSKI
SAINTS PETER AND PAUL
GRADE: 4
theme: family



SCHOOL

Study study all week long
Test worry-worry
forgot my homework,
got a detention.
Talking during class
spending recess on the wall
Test are done got to go.
Time to start homework
Finally the bell rings
School is over for the day.

DOUGLAS LANGLEY
ST. MARY MAGDALEN SCHOOL
GRADE: 5
theme: school



POEMS ABOUT SPORTS

At the Free Throw Line

1 second left, Down 1 point
The Championship Game
FOULED!

Praying, Silence
TIMEOUT!

Back on the court
SWOOSH!!

"Nuttin' but net"
SCREAMS

1 more shot
MISSED

REBOUND!!!

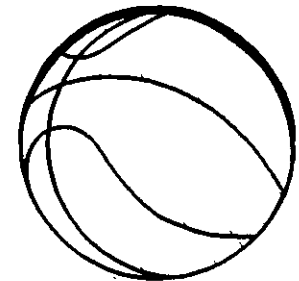
BACK UP
MADE IT!

EAGLES WIN!

Team, Bleachers - Wild, Singing
CHAMPIONS

Play again next year?
YES!!!

KATIE SULLIVAN
ST. LUCY'S SCHOOL
GRADE: 6
theme: poems about sports



My Best Friend

My best friend and I will stick together
Through any kind of weather.

My best friend always knows what to do
Whenever I am blue.

We show our friendship in many ways
Through our tomorrows and today's.

If we'll ever have to split apart
We'll always have a special place in each other's
heart.

Throughout our sorrow and happiness
Our friendship hasn't become any less.

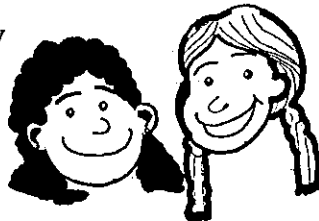
Even though it took very long
Our friendship has grown very strong.

If one of us reaches fame
Our friendship will remain the same.

In the future we'll go after our dream
But for now we'll stick together as a team.

For this is just a short story
Of our friendship's pride and glory

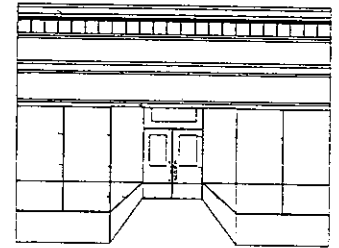
As for my best friend and I
Our friendship will never die.



KELLY BLUM
NORTH END MIDDLE SCHOOL
GRADE: 7
theme: my best friend

THE MALL

Every weekend I go to the mall,
with Allison, Kate, Sophia, & Paul.
We always go to 579,
I wish their clothes were all mine.
I check out the clothes at American Eagle,
then go to the petshop to play with a beagle.
We get some c.d.'s at Record Town,
at Toon City I got a stuffed clown.
I'll get a manicure at 90's Nails,
then into the Sweet Factory, it never fails.
We have some fun at Kay B Toys,
then stop at Finish Line for the boys.
Relax a while down at Brookstone,
then down to the Gap to smell their cologne.
Shopping at Weathervane will surely save me,
can I try on a fleece at Old Navy?
Read for a while at Walden Books,
then off to Bertucci's I just love their cooks.
Hot Topic is sometimes flooded with steam,
so let's just go check out Screem.
Everything's healthy at G.N.C.,
Does anyone need a suit at Gatsby?
How about ice cream at T.C.B.Y.,
or Ruby Tuesday, do they have pie?
Pick up some cards at Hallmark,
the Train Store looks like an amusement park.
Does anyone have to go in Sears?
Yum! Bath & Body Works smells like pears.
Down to the Rave for a pair of pants,
do you guys want to go to Champs?
We must meet our ride at the entrance door,
I can't wait until tomorrow when we can shop some more.



JILL MARANO
ST. FRANCIS XAVIER
GRADE: 8
theme: the mall

GIFTS AND BEQUESTS

You can help the Library. Gifts in any amount are always welcome. Memorial gifts for departed relatives or friends are a very special way to honor their memory. A bequest in your will is also a very special way to remember the Library and the entire community. Donors' wishes for handling gifts and bequests are carefully carried out. Gifts and bequests are tax deductible.

FRIENDS OF THE SILAS BRONSON LIBRARY

The Friends contribute a variety of materials, equipment and services not financed in the annual city budget. They also provide support for Library programs and activities involving the community. New members are welcome to join the Friends of the Library and share their talents and experience for improved total library service. The Friends of the Library meet at the Bunker Hill Branch the second Tuesday of each month at 7:00 p.m.

FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Name _____
Address _____
Town & Zip Code _____
Telephone _____
Interested in volunteer work? YES NO

Membership Fee:

Individual	\$ 10.00
Senior/Student	5.00
Organization	50.00
Business	100.00

Mail application plus check to:

The Friends of the Silas Bronson Library
267 Grand Street
Waterbury, CT 06702

Friends receive the Library's monthly newsletter of the library services, events and programs.