

Handicap
AccessibleFamily Place Library
Network Member**HOURS:**

MON.-WED. 9 AM-8 PM

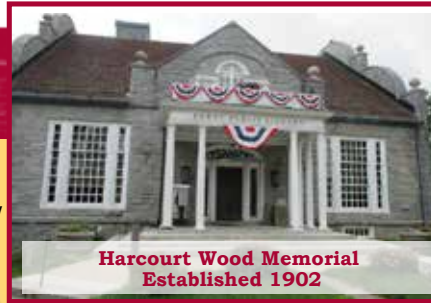
THURS. 9 AM-6 PM

FRI. 9 AM-5 PM

SAT. 9 AM-2 PM



Library Trivia: ♦ Col. Wood, donor of the money that created the Derby Public Library, was not a native of Derby, but was born in Montreal in 1859.

Harcourt Wood Memorial
Established 1902

Registration
for all
Summer Clubs
begins June 1st.



LOCAL HISTORY

Mary A. Bisaccia

Col. William B. Wooster

Col. William B. Wooster

William B. Wooster was born in Oxford on October 22, 1821 and graduated from the Yale Law School in 1846. He was a descendant of one of Derby's first settlers, and first official, having been appointed constable in 1669. Of Edward "Wolfkiller" Wooster's descendants, William B. Wooster was the son of Russell, grandson of Joseph, and great-grandson of "Wolfkiller's".

William B. Wooster lived in Birmingham, and was among the 542 Derby residents who saw action in the Union Army in the Civil War. He participated in a large rally at Nathan's Hall, where he gave a bold and powerful speech. As a result of this rally, over \$5,000 was raised for the Union cause. He fought for the rights to a bounty of six dollars per month for a soldier's wife, and two dollars per month for each child, not exceeding two, under fourteen years of age.

Wooster was on the Military Affairs Committee of the legislature at the opening of the war, and became lieutenant-colonel of the Twentieth Connecticut Infantry in 1862. He was captured at Chancellorsville and confined to Libby Prison, but was exchanged in time to lead his regiment at Gettysburg. He was promoted to the rank of colonel on August 29, 1862. In 1864, he became colonel of the Twenty-Ninth Colored Regiment. They distinguished themselves in several battles before the end of the war and proudly marched into Richmond as the first Federal infantry to do so when it fell. They were later transferred to Texas and were ordered home and mustered out of service in Hartford in November, 1865. Wooster was made judge of the City of Richmond, VA after its capture. In 1866 Wooster was Paymaster-General on the staff of Governor Hawley. Following the war, he returned to his very successful law practice in Derby. Prior to the war, he had represented Derby in the state legislature in 1858 and in the State Senate in 1859. He was back in the House in 1861. He was very active in Derby and was the First President of the Derby Gas & Electric Company and first clerk and one of the directors of the Birmingham Water Company. Col. William B. Wooster died on September 20, 1900.

The tradition continues.

Join us on June 20 when we once again honor Holton Harcourt Wood, the young boy in whose memory the Library was built, with a memorial birthday celebration.



Participants enjoyed food and conversation at our Winter Reading Club Spring Thaw Celebration. Join our summer reading club and attend our next celebration in August!

DERBY Public Library

From the Desk of the Director:

Cathy Williams

To plant a garden is to believe in tomorrow.

-- Audrey Hepburn



Every season brings time-honored special events at the Derby Public Library, and spring is no exception. The first one coming up, and our newest, is our participation in **The Great Give 2016**. This 36-hour community giving event for non-profits begins at 8:00 AM on May 3 and lasts until 8:00 PM on May 4. Any charitable donation received will make the Library eligible for thousands of dollars in grant prizes provided by the Community Foundation of Greater New Haven, the Valley Community Foundation, and other generous community supporters. Visit www.thegreatgive.org anytime during this 36 hour giving drive, search for Derby Public Library, and click on "Donate Now." Your donation will go a long way in helping the Library provide needed services to the community.

The second event is our **Annual Spring Open House** being held on Monday, May 16 from 11:00 AM – 7:30 PM. Everyone is invited to partake in cookies and punch throughout the day while also learning about all the services and events the Library offers, including our upcoming summer programs. There will also be two free spring-themed basket raffles. The day will end with a **Carol King and James Taylor Tribute Concert** performed by Willie and Jan Nininger at 6:30 PM.

The oldest time-honored tradition takes place this year on Monday, June 20 from 11:00 AM to 7:00 PM when we commemorate the birthday of Holton Harcourt Wood, the young boy in whose memory the Library was built, with a Memorial Birthday Celebration. The Library will be decorated with flowers in compliance with Colonel H. Holton Wood's request, which he made at the dedication of the Library in 1902. His request has been honored ever since. Many years ago, a cake was added to the celebration. This tradition has become well known, not only in the Valley, but well beyond, with a column explaining the event appearing in the New York Times in 2004. All are invited to stop in for a piece of cake and to learn more about the history of the Library.

June brings the announcement of the Derby Public Library's Annual Scholarship Prize of \$500. It is open to all high school seniors living in Derby, regardless of where they go to school, who are planning to further their education. In addition to the monetary prize, the winner's name is added to the Scholarship Plaque located in the young adult department. The Library Board chooses the winner based on an essay explaining the role of libraries in their life. The award will be presented at the June 15 meeting of the Library Board of Directors. Entries should be submitted directly to the Library Director by June 1.

For the seventh year, the Library will once again be running a **Summer Reading Club for Adults**, ages 18 and over. The theme this year is **Exercise Your Mind--Read**. The club will begin on June 20 and run through August 12. As participants read books of their choice, they are asked to anonymously complete a brief review form to share with their fellow readers. Readers will have the option of doing this either online by using the LitKeeper software or the more traditional hand-written way. Every reader will receive a participation prize. Weekly raffles will also be held. All readers will be invited to a special end of the summer celebration on August 15.

Some other program highlights included in our schedule for the months of May and June include, **Gardening: Dealing with Pests & Disease**, **Spice Up Your Summer** cooking demo, **AARP Driver Safety**, **Maximizing Social Security**, **Yesterday's Headlines**, and a visit from **local author, Andy Cota, Jr.**, former Derby Police Chief, discussing his new book, *Whitestone*.

Unfortunately, I once again have some sad news to share. Another longtime Library advocate, friend, and Board Member, Marie Kopjanski, passed away in March. Mrs. Kopjanski was a well-known and knowledgeable travel agent for many years, having travelled extensively throughout the world. While it is very unfortunate that I have had to share such sad news four times over the past several months, the Derby Public Library is also very fortunate to have had such dedicated and devoted people watching over it.



Reoccurring Programs in May

Registration is requested for all programs. **Local History Info Sessions, Resume "Right-ing", Sports Talk & Tech Time** are on a drop-in basis.

MONDAYS:

5/2, 5/9, 5/16,
5/23

10:00 am

Family Place - 1,2,3 Grow With Me! (ages 1-3). Each week features puzzles, books, blocks, a craft, dramatic play & more followed by a story & rhymes. Parents/caregivers introduced to library resources.

5/2

6:30 pm

Color Club for Adults (18+). Join the color craze! Materials provided. Come relax and de-stress.

TUESDAYS:

5/3, 5/10, 5/17,
5/24, 5/31

10:00 am

Morning Movie Classics & Donuts (18+). Weekly series. A listing of scheduled movies will be posted at the Library. A popular movie classic will be shown & donuts will be offered.

5/3, 5/10,
5/17, 5/24, 5/31

6:00 pm - 7:30 pm

Local History Info Session. May's topic: *Historical Mothers of Derby*. Research assistance will also be available on topics such as genealogy, prominent local figures & more.

WEDNESDAYS:

5/4

6:30 pm

Resume "Right-ing" session. Participants can either start from scratch or bring copies of their existing resumes and cover letters for review and optimizing.

5/4, 5/11,
5/18, 5/25

10:00 am - Noon

Local History Info Session. May's topic: *Historical Mothers of Derby*. Research assistance will also be available on topics such as genealogy, prominent local figures & more.

1:00 pm

Wednesday Movie Matinees (18+). Newly released DVDs will be shown and light snacks offered

5/4, 5/11
5/18, 5/25

6:00 pm - 7:30 pm

YA Wednesdays (ages 12-17). Nintendo Wii, board games, and Legos.

5/4, 5/11,
5/18, 5/25

10:00 am

Baby Steps (birth to 24 mo.). Opportunity for a parent/caregiver to bond with their young child through interactive play. Older siblings are welcome to join us.

5/18

6:30 pm

Tech Time: Bring Your Tech-Related Questions! The Library's 3-D printer will be highlighted!

5/25

12:30 pm

Lunchtime Book Discussion, *A Man Called Ove* by Fredrik Backman. Bring a bag lunch. Dessert and beverage provided. Multiple copies of the book are available at the circulation desk.

THURSDAYS:

5/5, 5/12,
5/19, 5/26

10:00 am

Time for Twos (24-36 mo.) Stories, songs, finger plays and a simple craft for toddler and parent(s). Caregivers welcome.

5/19

10:00 am

Tech Time: Bring Your Tech-Related Questions! The Library's 3-D printer will be highlighted!

5/5, 5/12,
5/19, 5/26

10:00 am

Sports Talk Series (eleventh season!) presented by Rich Marazzi. All ages welcome. Trivia contests, videos, lively conversation and more. Join the Silver Sluggers.

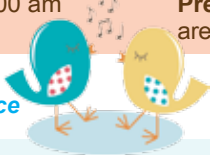
FRIDAYS:

5/6, 5/13,
5/20, 5/27

10:00 am

Preschool Story Time (ages 3-6). Join us for stories, songs, instruments, literacy games and a craft. Children are encouraged to attend this story time independently while a caregiver remains in the Children's Room area.

May 28 & May 30 -
Closed in Observance
of Memorial Day



Special Events

(Registration is requested for all Special Events.)

3-TUESDAY - 8:00 am -

4-WEDNESDAY: 8:00 pm

7-SATURDAY: 10:30 am

12:30 pm

The Great Give 2016. A 36-hour community online giving event for non-profits. Help the Library continue to provide needed services to the community. Visit www.thegreatgive.org to make a donation.

Mother's Day Craft Program (ages 6-11) with Michelle Novak. Make a surprise gift and card!

Lego Time (ages 4-11). All level of building skills invited. Materials supplied.

9-MONDAY: 5:00 pm - 7:00 pm

Post University Information Session. Learn about the degrees offered & the City of Derby partnership.

10-TUESDAY: 9:30 am - 1:30 pm

AARP Driver Safety Class (50+). \$15/AARP members & \$20/Non-members.

13-FRIDAY: 10:00 am - Noon

American Job Search Career Coach presents *Job Search Assistance*. The workshop is free and open to the public. Learn how to search for jobs on the internet & how to get the job you want.

1:00 pm - 3:00 pm

Pajama Story Time (ages 3-7). Children may wear their pajamas & bring along a bedtime buddy!

6:30 pm

16-MONDAY: 11:00 am - 7:30 pm

Annual Spring Open House. Refreshments, raffles and info on Library services and events.

6:30 pm

Carol King & James Taylor Tribute Concert preented by Willie and Jan Nininger. All welcome.

17-TUESDAY: 4:00 pm

After School STEAM Program, **Make a Splash** (gr. 2-5). Hands-on science activities.

6:30 pm

Recycle, Repurpose, Reuse Craft Class (18+) presented by Jeanie Roslonowski. Make Worry Beads.

19-THURSDAY: 4:00 pm

Art of YoYo (ages 12-17). Participants receive their own yoyo and learn a variety of tricks.

12:30 pm

Lego Time (ages 4-11). All level of building skills invited. Materials supplied.

23-MONDAY: 6:30 pm

Local Author Visit, Retired Police Chief Andrew L. Cota, Jr. discusses his first novel, *Whitestone*.



June 2016



HAPPY
FATHER'S
Day!
June 19th

Reoccurring Programs in June

Registration is requested for all programs. **Local History Info Sessions, Resume "Right-ing", Sports Talk & Tech Time** are on a drop-in basis.

MONDAYS:

- 6/6, 6/13 10:00 am **Musical Mondays** (ages 2-5). Bring a little music into your toddler's world. From rhythm sticks & shakers to playing musical games with the parachute along with dancing to familiar songs.
- 6/20, 6/27 1:30 pm **Get in the Game Mondays** (ages 12-17). Nintendo Wii. board games, Legos, light snacks, and more!
- 6/6 6:30 pm **Color Club for Adults** (18+). Join the color craze! Materials provided. Come relax and de-stress.

TUESDAYS:

- 6/7, 6/14, 6/21, 6/28 10:00 am **Morning Movie Classics & Donuts** (18+). Weekly series. A listing of scheduled movies will be posted at the Library. A popular movie classic will be shown & donuts will be offered.
- 6/7, 6/14, 6/21, 6/28 6:00 pm - 7:30 pm **Local History Info Session**. June's topic: *Historical Fathers of Derby*. Research assistance will also be available on topics such as genealogy, prominent local figures & more.

WEDNESDAYS:

- 6/1 6:30 pm **Resume "Right-ing"** session. Participants can either start from scratch or bring copies of their existing resumes and cover letters for review and optimizing
- 6/1, 6/8, 6/15 6:00 pm - 7:30 pm **YA Wednesdays** (ages 12-17). Nintendo Wii, board games, and Legos.
- 6/1 10:00 am **Baby Steps** (birth to 24 mo.). Opportunity for a parent/caregiver to bond with their young child through interactive play. Older siblings are welcome to join us.
- 6/1, 6/8, 6/15, 6/22, 6/29 10:00 am - Noon **Local History Info Session**. June's topic: *Historical Fathers of Derby*. Research assistance will also be available on topics such as genealogy, prominent local figures & more.
- 1:00 pm **Wednesday Movie Matinees** (18+). Newly released DVDs will be shown and light snacks offered.
- 6/22, 6/29 6:00 pm - 7:30 pm **Get in the Game Wednesdays** (ages 12-17). Nintendo Wii. board games, Legos, light snacks, and more!
- 6/29 12:30 pm **Lunchtime Book Discussion**, *Brooklyn* by Colm Toibin. Multiple copies of the book are available at the circulation desk. Bring a bag lunch. Dessert and beverage provided.
- 6/15 6:30 pm **Tech Time: Bring Your Tech-Related Questions!** The Library's 3-D printer will be highlighted!

THURSDAYS:

- 6/2 10:00 am **Time for Twos** (24-36 mo.) Stories, songs, finger plays and a simple craft for toddler and parent(s). Caregivers welcome.
- 6/2, 6/9, 6/16, 6/23, 6/30 10:00 am **Sports Talk Series** (eleventh season!) presented by Rich Marazzi. All ages welcome. Trivia contests, videos, lively conversation and more. Join the Silver Sluggers.
- 6/16 10:00 am **Tech Time: Bring Your Tech-Related Questions!** The Library's 3-D printer will be highlighted!
- 6/23, 6/30 10:00 am **Toddler Time** (ages 1-2). Finger plays, songs, movement, stories and rhymes for toddler and parents(s). Caregivers welcome.
- 6/23, 6/30 11:00 am **Preschool Story Time** (ages 3-5). This program is designed to be an early school-readiness experience, an introduction to peer interaction and improved listening skills..

FRIDAYS:

- 6/3 10:00 am **Preschool Story Time** (ages 3-6). Join us for stories, songs, instruments, literacy games and a craft. Children are encouraged to attend this story time independently while a caregiver remains in the Children's Room area.

Special Events

(Registration is requested for all Special Events.)

- 4-SATURDAY:** 10:30 am **Children's Author Visit with Jeannine Marie**, *Looking in the Mirror* (ages 5-10).
12:30 pm **Lego Time** (ages 4-11). All level of building skills invited. Materials supplied.
- 7-TUESDAY:** 6:30 pm **Recycle, Repurpose, Reuse Craft Class** (18+) presented by Jeanie Roslonowski. Featured craft: Memory Vine.
- 13-MONDAY:** 6:30 pm **Gardening Program, Pests, Disease & Organic Controls** presented by Rachel Ziesk..
- 14-TUESDAY:** 6:00 pm **Sports Safety: It's Not Just for Athletes**. Children, parents, coaches welcome.
- 16 THURSDAY:** 4:00 pm **Duct Tape 101** (ages 12-17). Learn uses for that all-purpose miracle material known as duct tape.
- 17-FRIDAY:** 10:00 am - Noon **American Job Search Career Coach** presents *Create a Great Resume*. The workshop is free and open to the public. Get tips on how to improve your current resume.
1:00 pm - 3:00 pm **Fun with Signing** (ages 2-5). Elaine Langsam presents an interactive story time.
11:00 am **Harcourt Wood Memorial Birthday Celebration**. All welcome. Learn about the Library's history.
- 20-MONDAY:** 11:00 am - 7:00 pm **Maximize Your Social Security Benefits** presented by David Cowan, AAA retiree advisor.
6:30 pm **Children's Summer Kickoff Program, Animal Show on the Go** (ages 4-11). Live animal program.
11:00 am **Adult Summer Reading Club** begins (ages 18+) *Exercise Your Mind - Read!*
- 21-TUESDAY:** 1:00 pm **Lego Time** (ages 4-11). All level of building skills invited. Materials supplied.
6:30 pm **Yesterday's Headlines** (*Local History Program*) presented by Rob Novak, Jr.
- 22-WEDNESDAY:** 10:00 am - 2:00 pm **Kids Doodle Day** (ages 4-11). Drop-in program. Create a poster to take home.
- 27-MONDAY:** 6:30 pm **Cooking Demo: Spice Up Your Summer** (18+) presented by Stacey Ference/Savour Catering.
- 28-TUESDAY:** 6:30 pm **Pajama Story Time** (ages 3-7). Children may wear their pajamas & bring along a bedtime buddy!
- 29-WEDNESDAY:** 11:00 am **STEAM Program, Taking Flight** (gr. K-5). Learn how airplanes fly & design your own paper plane.
- 30-THURSDAY:** 10:00 am **Medication Safety: What's In Your Purse?** Children and parents welcome.

Message from Miss Sue

Sue Sherman



Young artists recently created their own masterpieces during a painting class presented by The Giggling Pig.

Many of us can remember back to when entering the children's area of the library meant closing the door behind you ever so quietly so as not to disturb anyone who may be reading or working on a homework assignment. Other than whispering at the checkout desk or asking for help in locating a book, talking was pretty much frowned upon. As with many things, change can be a good thing and it has proven to be for young people in the library. The opportunities abound to broaden their experiences and exposure to resources that enhance literacy, computer skills, the arts, and the list goes on. On any given weekday morning, you can hear laughter and music from our story time classes with our youngest patrons and their caregivers making library visits an integral part of their routine. The perception of the library has evolved to become a community resource that brings people together

and offers experiences in education, socialization, the arts, and much more. Our non-fiction collection reflects the changing needs of students and educators with materials that pique a child's interest in **STEAM** (science, technology, engineering, art and math) subjects and supports the common core curriculum. Many of the books include extension activities along with websites that correlate to that particular subject. We look forward to continuing our **STEAM** program throughout the summer for kids in grades K-5, covering a broad range of topics which include hands-on activities such as experiments, building projects and more, all geared to make learning fun and interactive. For our June 29th program **Taking Flight**, participants will create their own paper airplane with a chance to test drive them outdoors for a competition of flight. Let's see how high and fast those planes will fly!

Our big announcement with regard to change is the makeover of our summer reading program. While reading will remain a component, kids will be given a library bingo card much like the familiar bingo game card, except with different challenges/activities in each square instead of numbers. For example, read a Nutmeg Nominee book, attend a library craft program or complete an activity from our DIY station. The theme of our Summer Kids Club is **On Your Mark, Get Set, Read**, with registration starting on June 1. We look forward to a great summer, kicking off on June 20 with a live animal program presented by **Animal Show on the Go**. This is just the start of a very eventful summer with the continuation of many of our ongoing programs including **Weekly Story Times**, **Lego Time**, **Family Place** and **STEAM** programs.

Our upcoming Saturday programs feature a **Mother's Day Craft** program on May 7 when kids can create a gift along with a card for mom's special day. Also, we are hosting a children's author meet and greet brunch on June 4 with local author **Jeannine Marie**.

We are pleased to bring two informational programs to the community both sponsored by Griffin Hospital and Safe Kids Greater Naugatuck Valley funded by Safe Kids Worldwide. **Sports Safety: It's Not Just for Athletes** takes place on June 14 and is open to kids, parents and coaches. Topics being discussed include hydration, concussions, proper equipment and first aid. Your child does not need to be in an organized sport to attend. On June 30, **Medicine Safety: What's in Your Purse?** will provide information on proper storage of medicines, look alike meds and candy with the goal of keeping kids safe.

If you have any concerns about **Lead in Your Home** and how it may be affecting your family, your concerns will be addressed during a May 24 program sponsored by the Naugatuck Valley Health District here at the Library.

What's new . . . The 2017 Nutmeg Nominees have arrived! As of May 1, our display will feature both the Elementary and Intermediate level books for young readers. Be the first in your class to read one of these great new titles and be entered into a raffle! Further details are available at the children's circulation desk.

What will the next featured topic be at our recently introduced "Let's learn about . . ." display? Each month young readers will find both fiction and non-fiction titles highlighting a particular theme. It's always fun to learn something new!

Looking ahead . . . Our Summer Kids Club flyer listing activities and events for the summer will be available June 1 so you can start planning your summer at the Library!



Staff Picks

Cathy Williams	<i>Fool Me Once</i> by Harlan Coben
Sue Sherman	<i>Fresh Delicious: Poems from the Farmer's Market</i> by Irene Latham (Children's Room)
Kathy Wilson	<i>Brooklyn</i> by Colm Toibin
Ann Mirisola	<i>The Friends We Keep</i> by Susan Mallory
Mary Householder	<i>A Likely Story</i> by Jenn McKinlay
Mary Bisaccia	<i>The Man Without a Shadow</i> by Joyce Carol Oates
Lorraine Piazza	<i>The Guest Room</i> by Chris Bohjalian
Gabriella Novak	<i>Connect the Stars</i> by Marisa de los Santos (Children's Room)
Tony Delos	<i>The Raven Boys</i> by Maggie Stiefvater (Young Adult)
Brian Karkut	<i>I Hear a Pickle</i> by Rachel Isadora (Children's Room)
Marc Weissman	<i>It's Not About the Bike</i> by Lance Armstrong
Andrew Bisaccia	<i>Pensees</i> by Blaise Pascal

TEEN ZONE

Tony DeLos

Greetings Teen Zone fans! Once your school year moves into the category of "mission accomplished", it will then be time to explore options on how to spend the summer break. This should be a no-brainer as the Teen Zone offers a great solution to this dilemma. I'm referring to our **Teen Summer Club-Get In The Game**, for young adults ages 12 to 17. What we have in store is eight weeks of competition and camaraderie on a grand scale! A polling of our ever-growing **YA Wednesday** audience regarding additions to the Teen Zone game collection, both electronic as well as the classic board variety was effectively conducted. We have responded and will thereby declare the **DPL Teen Zone Summer Games** officially open beginning June 20, with registration starting on the first of June! Club members will meet each Monday at 1:30 PM and each Wednesday at 6:00 PM. The Closing Ceremonies will be held on Thursday, August 11.

While anticipating the launch of our **Summer Club**, we continue to offer our usual creative assortment of programming including a demonstration/performance on the **Art of YOYO** on Thursday, May 19, at 4:00 PM.

Participants will receive and keep a yoyo of their own as they learn and practice a variety of special tricks. Then on Thursday, June 16, at 4:00 PM, there will be a program on the uses of that all-purpose miracle material known as **Duct Tape**. Of course, **YA Wednesdays** continue every week at 6:00 PM offering ever-expanding excitement!



Eager participants gather in the Teen Zone before YA Wednesday activities begin.

So I bid you all much success in your school-year finale, as well as a wholehearted welcome to the **Teen Summer Club-Get In The Game . . .** & we'll see you 'round the Zone! Let the games begin!

TECH CORNER

Marc Weissman

"Hark! Who Goes There?" - Password Caveats

Passwords have come a long way since they were covertly used to gain entry into 1920's speakeasies or humorously portrayed by TV's Maxwell Smart in the 1960's. Nowadays, virtually everyone uses a plethora of passwords to do their online and ATM banking, manage their email accounts and even secure their cell phone. But since different criteria are often specified for each individual password, the days of simply memorizing one or two sequences for all your electronic needs is passé. So given this, how does one create safe, secure passwords, and after that, how does one keep track of them?

Well, remember that the whole point in having a password is to prevent others from gaining access to your personal information. So avoid using your birthday, birthdays of family members, close friends or even pets. Also, stay away from using part or all of your Social Security number or driver's license number and the like. The best passwords are personal, yes, and easy to remember by you, yet they do not contain information that is typically shared with others or available online. For example, basing a password on a fleeting childhood interest of yours that few people know is a good idea.

As far as keeping track of all your passwords, one way is to simply write them down. At one time, users were discouraged from doing this for fear of providing easy access of your private information to others. And while this remains a possibility, the advantages and convenience of jotting down your numerous codes in case you forget them as well as keeping them in a safe, secure place typically offsets the risk of having them pilfered. The key is to be very careful and discrete with this information just as you would with your credit cards, social security number and your wallet or purse.

A nice alternative to using pen and paper are the numerous apps available that are designed to organize and secure your password database. However, while these apps can make life easier and are less likely to be misplaced versus a stray piece of paper, keep in mind that an app downloaded to your cell phone, for example, would be of little use to you if you forgot your phone's password. Another thing you can do is create a Word or Excel document on your home computer that contains your password information. Just be sure not to upload or send it electronically in anyway.

A few closing tips:

- 1) If you can, change your password every 6 months or so to minimize your password algorithm trends from being tracked.
- 2) Even more importantly, if you suspect your account has been hacked, change your password immediately and notify the account provider.
- 3) Also, be careful about that "automatic sign-in" check box that is common to most websites. While this feature can save time logging in, it should only be checked when using your home computer. If you are using a public computer or even your phone, make sure that box is unchecked while signing in so that another user won't magically have immediate access to your accounts. Similarly, log off your work computer at end of day to prevent unwanted access to any files related to your job function.

When it comes to passwords, just as the saying goes, "Better safe than sorry."