



# BOOKS AND BEYOND...

## NEWS OF THE LEDYARD LIBRARIES

<http://www.lioninc.org/ledyard>

Fall 2009

Volume 22 No. 4

The Ledyard Libraries support and encourage the freedom to read, learn and discover in a welcoming environment. We provide friendly, knowledgeable service and free access to a diversity of ideas, resources and experiences. We strive to enhance the quality of life in our community, encourage lifelong learning and the love of reading.

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Ledyard Public Libraries along with the Connecticut State Library are pleased to bring you Job Now, an online service that will help you to land the perfect job. JobNow, powered by Brainfuse, provides live interactive online help combined with online resources to guide you through the necessary tasks to get a job. It includes live one-one-one help with interviews, resume writing, and your job search. The section on interviews features lists of common interview questions, tips for answering those questions, and additional online resources for extra help. The resume section features resume templates to get you started and tools that will help you organize and begin your resume. Additional career resources include personality and career assessments that will help you identify your strengths and weaknesses. To use this resource click on the JobNow link from the library's webpage at [www.lioninc.org/ledyard](http://www.lioninc.org/ledyard).

In addition to this online resource the libraries offer additional materials to help with your job search. Bill Library has a career section which includes books on jobs, on writing resumes and interviewing strategies. *The Occupational Outlook Handbook* discusses the highlights of the job outlook, the fastest growing occupations, a description of the nature of the work, and more. *The Encyclopedia of Careers* includes information about a job, training requirements, employers, advancement opportunities, earnings, the work environment and the job outlook. Whether you are looking to change careers or just starting out let the Ledyard Libraries help you.

## Children's Programs

Registration for Story times at the Ledyard Public Libraries has begun. You may call in to the library where the program is being offered anytime after 9:30 am.



### Infant/Toddler

Infants (6-15 mos.)  
GF Tuesdays 9:30 am Sept. 22– Oct. 20  
Toddlers (16 – 24 mos.)  
Bill Mondays 9:30 am Sept. 21– Oct. 26

### Terrific Twos

Bill Mondays 9:30 am Nov. 2 – Dec. 7  
GF Tuesdays 9:30 am Nov. 3 – Dec. 8

### Three to Fives

Bill Wednesdays 9:30 am Oct. 7 – Dec. 9  
GF Tuesdays 10:30 am Oct. 6 – Dec. 8

### Four to Sixes

Bill Thursdays 1:00 pm Oct. 1 – Dec. 10

### After School Programs

There was such a good response to the dance program this summer that we have decided to extend it into the fall. We hope you will join us after school at Bill Library.

#### Dance Workshop

Tuesdays Oct. 6 – Oct. 27  
3:45 – 4:30 pm Grades 2 – 4

### Summer Wrap up

We enjoyed our Be Creative @ Your Library reading program this summer. There were 235 players in the older program (grades 2-6) and 69 players in the Read to Me program (ages 4 – grade 1) for a total of 304 children who participated at both Bill and Gales Ferry Libraries. The older children read 167,640 minutes and the younger children read 2500 books! In addition to the reading programs, we had a Sidewalk Chalk Contest, Preschool Story time, Lunch and a Movie, Family Game Nights, Building Set Day, Arts and Crafts Display, Dance Workshop, Bob Conrad puppet and magician, Chess Club, Drop in Craft days, Cartoonist, Cow Lady author, DB Magic with Bogus the Clown, and our finale was "Ledyard's Got Talent" with a fantastic group of performers from our own friends!

## Adult Programs

### Book Discussions

Join our monthly book discussions on Wednesday evenings at Bill Library at 7:00 p.m. We always welcome new participants and provide evening refreshments.



**October 21, 2009:** *Love Song* by Richard Haffey. Local author Rich Haffey will be here to help us discuss his debut novel *Love Song* set in 1969. Jay's wife, Abby, has fallen into a coma, and despite the advice of family, friends and professionals, Jay is determined to care for her on his own. He designs their days around the music that she loved and this establishes a rhythm and lends dignity to the sometimes-grim tasks of caring for someone who is comatose. While Jay's love for and kindness to Abby shine forth, his struggles with anger, fear, resentment, and exhaustion make him all-too-human: someone we can identify with. Readers will be inspired by his dedication, but left wondering if they would be able to care for their loved ones in the same way.

**November 18, 2009:** *Olive Kittridge* by Elizabeth Strout. "Hell. We're always alone. Born alone. Die alone," says Olive Kitteridge, redoubtable seventh-grade math teacher in Crosby, Maine. Anyone who gets in Olive's way had better watch out, for she crashes unapologetically through life like an emotional storm trooper. She forces her husband, Henry, the town pharmacist, into tactical retreat; and she drives her beloved son, Christopher, across the country and into therapy. But appalling though Olive can be Strout manages to make her deeply human and even sympathetic, as are all of the characters in this "novel in stories." (From Booklist 03/2008)

**December 16, 2009:** *Brooklyn* by Colm Toibin. Colm Tóibín's engaging new novel will not bring to mind the fashionable borough of recent years nor Bed-Stuy beleaguered with the troubles of a Saturday night. Tóibín has revived the Brooklyn of an Irish-Catholic parish in the '50s, a setting appropriate to the narrow life of Eilis Lacey. Before Eilis ships out for a decent job in America, her village life is sketched in detail. The shops, pub, the hoity-toity and plainspoken people of Enniscorthy have such appeal on the page, it does seem a shame to leave. Tóibín's maneuvers draw us to the bright girl with a gift for numbers. With a keen eye, Eilis surveys her lonely, steady-on life: her job in the dry goods store, the rules and regulations of her rooming house and finding appropriate company to keep.

## Senior Center Book Discussion

Mary Ellen Osborne, from the Gales Ferry Library, conducts a monthly book discussion at the Ledyard Senior Center. Anyone 55 years of age or older is eligible to participate. The group meets on the 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday of the month at 10:30 am. Bimonthly we select a book for the group to read and discuss. At the other monthly meeting, Mary Ellen presents a variety of books and leads a discussion of books the members have recently read.

**September 23, 2009:** *The No. 1 Ladies' Detective Agency* by Alexander McCall Smith

**October 28, 2009:** Alternate month features a book talk and discussion of members' recommendations.

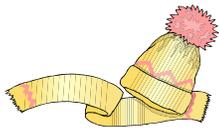
The November and December groups have been changed to the 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday to avoid conflicts with the holidays. If you have any questions, call Mary Ellen at 464-6943.

## Mad Hatters/ Stitch and Dish

Stitch and Dish, the library's knitting group, continues to meet on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesdays at the Gales Ferry Library. The meeting on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday is at 7:00 pm and on the 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday it is at 3:00 pm. New members and drop ins are always welcome. Stop by to work on an ongoing project or to get started knitting or crocheting.



The Mad Hatters' summer projects are winding down and once again Ledyard knitters and crocheters have come through magnificently. We will be donating dozens of "snuggles" (knit or crocheted blankets for dogs and cats) to the Connecticut Humane Society and local animal control. In addition, area volunteers have made lap robes, wheelchair/ walker totes and slippers for residents at the Newington Veterans Center.



We will begin collecting hand knit or crocheted scarves, hats, mittens and socks for the winter project on September 15. All sizes and patterns will be accepted.

Patterns, if needed, are available from the Gales Ferry and Bill Libraries. Items contributed before November 17 will be donated to local social service agencies for the holidays. The group will continue to accept items through January for dispersal to other agencies in need. If you have any questions, please call the Gales Ferry Library at 464-6943.

## \$100,000 Goal reached

In 2003 with plans for a 14,000 square foot addition to Bill Library being proposed, William Holton a local resident, made a challenge to the community. He pledged to match all donations to the building fund dollar for dollar up to \$100,000. Plans were developed and refined and a referendum was held twice. Unfortunately neither referendum passed. However, the need for expansion has not gone away. Funds that were raised for the project are still being held by the Bill Library Association with the intent of using them when the proposed addition does go forward. Members in the community were saddened by the failed referendums but have continued to believe in the project. Donations still come in and true to his word Mr. Holton continued to match those donations. A recent donation of over \$500 attained the \$100,000 goal for the building fund and was promptly matched. His challenge initiated six years ago has netted \$200,000 for the building fund.



The Library Commission is grateful to all who have contributed and especially grateful to William Holton for his belief in the project and his willingness to fulfill his pledge. Thank you Mr. Holton and to all of the donors.

The proposed addition continues to be necessary and it is our hope that we may one day be able to move the project forward again. Until then The Bill Library Association continues to accept donations and invest them for the future of Bill Library.

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## Teen Summer Reading Program Wrap-up

What a great summer! We made soccer art, altered books, 'tattooed' ourselves with henna, made wallets out of duct tape, cooked up all sorts of pies, showed off our talent, and contributed to an artists & writers showcase. This is all in addition to volunteering and reading all summer! We had 56 teens who read at least one book over the 7 weeks, and 52 teen volunteers. At the Ice Cream Social we awarded the following prizes:



Most Books Read:

- Erin Strickland -33 books; Border's gift card
- Jon Buranek - 25 books; Valentino's certificate
- Lexanne Rodriguez -23 books; Border's gift card
- Sarah Baron -19 books; Custom flash drive
- Grace Duplantier - 15 books; Custom flash drive

- Kenneth Tran - 15 books each; Custom flash drive

Most Volunteer Hours:

- Sarah Baron - 60 hours; Border's gift card
- Julianna Beaver - 53 hours; Best Buy gift card
- Faith Bacon - 44 hours; Border's gift card
- Breanna Browne - 25 hours; Custom flash drive
- Julia Duval - 24 hours; Custom flash drive
- Quinn Duvelius - 21 hours; Custom flash drive

We also have a name for our upcoming teen area at the Bill Library! Sarah Baron's submission of "Teen Space" was the winning entry. Several teens submitted the same entry and we drew a name from those. Sarah won a Border's gift card.



Join the teen program on Face Book at 'Ledyard Libraries Teen Program'. We have pictures of all the fun this summer, and links to our videos on YouTube. Look for links to a video posted by the Norwich Bulletin who interviewed us at the Soccer Art program. We also have a series of videos of the 'Ledyard's Got Talent' show which was held jointly with the children's summer program. What a great night and a great crowd!

Andrea Buka, Teen Program Coordinator  
[teenlibrarian@ledyard.lioninc.org](mailto:teenlibrarian@ledyard.lioninc.org)

### Display Case

Trout, an Elusive Quest: Fly fishing and fly tying present an allure for both young and old alike. The display case at Bill Library is currently showcasing an assortment of fly tying equipment and tools from the collection of Bob Walsh. Hooks, feathers (some rare), vises and instructions are all presented to show how the craft evolved. Also displayed is an array of flies tied by local Connecticut and Rhode Island fly tiers/artisans. A hand crafted landing net, a treasured bamboo fly rod and several books about mastering the art of fly tying and angling for trout are also on display. These items will be displayed through October.

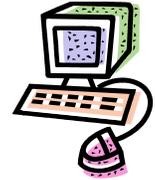


Russian stackables from the collection of Marie Engelman will be featured in November and December.

If you are interested in displaying a collection contact Sandy or Jim Seaton at [bill-lib@ledyard.lioninc.org](mailto:bill-lib@ledyard.lioninc.org).

### Library Survey

Last spring the library asked residents to participate in an online survey to provide information on how they use the local library. The survey was promoted through the library newsletters and a link was provided from both the library and the town websites. A laptop was set up in both libraries and patrons were asked to take the survey. In addition computers were set up outside of Juliet Long School during the referendum vote to get feedback from non-library users. Our goal was to have a 10% response rate but we fell short with 3% of the community responding.



The majority of participants were library users, 58% use Bill Library most often, and 42% use Gales Ferry. The top reasons for visiting the library are to borrow a book to read at 86% (responses to the question), borrow AV materials (DVDs, CDs, etc.) at 60%, get information at 36%, read/borrow



newspapers and magazines at 32% and use the computers/internet at 28%. Other reasons included studying, visiting with friends, making copies and attending book sales. The most popular library sponsored programs were

nature, gardening and cooking at 41% (responses), travel series at 35% and book discussions at 33%. Other suggestions for programs included local history, crafts and parenting of teenagers. The respondents prefer weekday evenings for programs and most often hear about them through the newsletter. Respondents reported they were satisfied or very satisfied with



- Staff 98% of the time
- Hours open 95% of the time
- Quality of the library building 94% of the time
- Furniture 87% of the time
- Online catalog 86% of the time.
- Library Computers, internet access, and communication about programs 71-78% of the time.

The largest majority respondents answered they didn't know or attend the programs.

The collections indicating the highest satisfaction level were adult fiction and non-fiction at 81-85%, movies at 70% and magazines at 66%. The majority of responses in the other collections indicate

they didn't know or use the collection. Participants were asked to comment on anything they rated as unsatisfactory. 19% of the participants responded to library services with comments that ranged from building concerns, to library furniture, cell phone use and publicity of programs. 22% responded to the collections question with concerns about everything from children's books to media and adult non-fiction. Many of them cited the larger collections in Groton.

Forty-five percent of the participants responded to the question about what they would like to see new or changed in the library and of those approximately one third indicated a need for more space and/or suggested a need for an addition.

The Library Commission would like to thank all who participated and will use these results as we plan for the future of Ledyard Libraries. A copy of the survey results is available at Bill Library.

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### New Book Preview

Brown, Dan	The Lost Symbol	September
Sparks, Nichols	The Last Song	September
Connelly, Michael	Nine Dragons	October
Evans, Richard Paul	The Christmas List	October
Irving, John	Late Night in Twisted River	October
Kellerman, Jonathan	Evidence	October
Parker, Robert	The Professional	October
Rice, Anne	Angel Time	October
Shreve, Anita	A Change in Altitude	October
Baldacci, David	True Blue	November
Chiaverini, Jennifer	The Quilter's Holiday	November
Cussler, Clive	The Wrecker	November
Jacobs, Kate	Knit the Season	November
King, Stephen	Under the Dome	November
Maguire, Gregory	Matchless	November
Munro, Alice	Too Much Happiness	November
Patterson, James	I, Alex Cross	November
Grafton, Sue	U is for Undertow	December
Koontz, Dean	Breathless	December
Wambaugh, Joseph	Hollywood Moon	December

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### Donations

We recently received donations for the purchase of books in memory of:

Patricia Bargmann Crandall  
Sophia Sutzko

And to purchase Large Print books from:

Lewis Tew

Our sincere thanks go to the donors.

### Holiday Hours

<b>October 12</b>	<b>Columbus Day</b>	<b>Closed</b>
<b>November 11</b>	<b>Veterans Day</b>	<b>Closed</b>
<b>November 25</b>	<b>Thanksgiving Eve</b>	<b>Close at 5</b>
<b>November 26</b>	<b>Thanksgiving</b>	<b>Closed</b>
<b>November 27</b>	<b>Day after Thanksgiving</b>	<b>Closed</b>

### A Word from the Ledyard Library Friends

**Annual Meeting**  
**Wednesday, October 14, 2009**      **7:00 P.M.**  
**Bill Library**



Join us for the Friends annual meeting where we disperse funds that are raised during the year. This is a great opportunity for Friends to gather and exchange ideas about what they would like to see done for the library. This meeting, open to all members of the Library Friends, will be an evening of sharing ideas for future events, and the disbursement of these hard earned funds for the Gales Ferry and Bill Library activities and items not part of the town budget. See you there!

The Friends Fall Book Sale at the Bill Library is midway through the week of the sale and is right on pace with last year despite the first weekend's weather and this year's difficult economy. Over 60 volunteers contributed their ideas, time and endless energy to make this major fundraiser for the Ledyard Libraries so successful.



The Thames Valley Rockhounds are one of several groups that hold their meetings in one of the libraries' meeting rooms. This group meets on the first Monday of each month at 7 p.m. at Bill Library. The first program will cover birthstones of the month. The meetings are free and open to the public. For more information contact Richard Shackleton at 860-974-2143.



## LIBRARY HOURS

### BILL

464-9912

Monday – Thursday 9-9

Friday - Saturday 9-5

Sunday 1-5

email: [bill-lib@ledyard.lioninc.org](mailto:bill-lib@ledyard.lioninc.org)

### GALES FERRY

464-6943

Monday – Thursday 9-8

Friday - Saturday 9-5

Sunday Closed

email: [gf-lib@ledyard.lioninc.org](mailto:gf-lib@ledyard.lioninc.org)

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