



BOOKS AND BEYOND...

NEWS OF THE LEDYARD LIBRARIES

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

Spring 2008

Volume 21 No. 2

The Ledyard Libraries serve as a center of information for the community. They 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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We Still Have Books too!

It was wonderful to see everyone at the Bill Library Open House last January. I enjoyed being able to share all the new features of our library services with you. As someone commented to me afterwards, "Its great to hear you still have books, too!"

In our effort to promote all the new and exciting tools we have to offer, it may seem that we have lost sight of books. If I have anything to say, that will never happen. Books are still the backbone of every library. In this "hurry up" generation, the downloadable audio book may be music to your ears, but for many of us, the heft of a book and the turning of a page are what satisfy our souls.

The nice thing is that you can have the best of both worlds. By using our new technology, you can find new books, similar to your favorites, using ICONN or Librarything. You can search for books in the library catalog and put them on hold from the comfort of your own home. We even have a Favorite Author list. Give us a list of authors that you enjoy and we will put a hold on their new books for you.

If you are homebound, we will find a volunteer to bring the books to your home. Unfortunately, we can't do that for everyone, but we will hold them for up to a week, so you have time to get here to pick them up. So stop in and peruse the New Books shelf or search on line. There are many interesting books just waiting for you.

If you wish to comment on this article or any of the services we provide, log onto our blog at <http://ledyardpubliclibrary.blogspot.com/> and give us your feedback.

Children's Programs



We have planned an exciting April vacation week for you at the Ledyard Libraries. Please note these programs on your calendar and join us for some great fun.

All programs are free and open to the public. Registration is not required for either show. An adult must accompany preschoolers. If you have any questions, please call 464-9912.

Jonathan Jacques presents JJ's Magic Show

Wednesday, April 16 10:00 am
Ledyard Center School All Ages

Come join us for an astounding teen magician! There will be doves and rabbits and lots of fun on stage.

Sparky's Puppets presents

Tales of Sea and Shore

Thursday, April 17 2:00 pm
Ledyard Center School All Ages

A treasure-hunting pirate and his parrot will ask the audience to help them with clues that lead to the discovery of a treasure chest full of stories. Yo-Ho-Ho a pirate's tale for me!



Summer Program Alert



We are in the process of designing our summer reading program and to give you a sneak preview, our theme this summer will be Catch the Reading Bug! The program will begin after school gets out in June and will end August 2.

There will be a Read-to-Me program for children born in 2004 through entering 1st grade. Please check the next newsletter for more complete information and special programs.

Teen Programs

Metamorphosis @your library

Get ready for a great summer here at the libraries! We will be exploring transformations of all sorts, and trying new things. The program is open to students entering grades 7-12 in fall 2008. You can sign up for volunteer time helping the younger children with their Summer Reading game, attend a cooking class, make a film and enter it in our film festival, watch the first movies ever made, and more! Volunteer orientations begin in June, so stay tuned! Andrea Buka, Teen Program Coordinator
teenlibrarian@ledyard.lioninc.org

Adult Programs

Book Discussions 7 P.M.

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



April 16, 2008 - *The Uncommon Reader* by Alan Bennett

While on a walk with her Welsh Corgis, Queen Elizabeth II stumbles upon a bookmobile parked outside the palace kitchens. The only occupants are the driver of the van and a kitchen servant. So as not to seem rude, Her Royal Majesty borrows a book intending to send it back the following week. When she returns the book after reading it (and finding it really boring), she borrows another! Reading starts to be her preferred activity, making her late for opening Parliament. She perfects the practice of waving from the carriage while keeping her attention on the book hidden out of sight in her lap. She deviates from the usual conversations with the locals even asking what they're reading. The Prime Minister and foreign heads of state are not immune from her questions and suggestions on books to read. This 120-page novella is a real treat.

May 21, 2008 - *Let the Northern Lights Erase Your Name* by Vendela Vida

Clarissa Iverton is 28 and burying her father the day she discovers that he was not her biological father. Her mother disappeared fourteen years earlier and her fiancé has just disclosed that he knew her mother's secret since the two were teenagers. Feeling betrayed and abandoned, Clarissa flies to Helsinki and then travels to Lapland to find her biological father and learn about her past! "A taut, darkly witty, and galvanizing tale of one woman's search for the truth about her parentage." (Booklist 01/07)

June 18, 2008 - *The Abstinence Teacher* by Tom Perrotta

With abstinence programs and disputes over what can be taught in schools regularly making the front page, *The Abstinence Teacher* hits on prominent social fault lines. This has become something of a hallmark for Mr. Perrotta, who has developed a knack for combining hot-button cultural themes (electoral corruption in *Election*, mommy-and-me despair and vigilante justice in *Little Children*) with flawed and complicated characters. While his stories bear the sheen of satire, they are actually sharp though compassionate investigations of human relationships. They can also be very funny. (New York Times 10/14/2007)



Family Fitness Fun @ Your Libraries

The final hike in the Family Fitness Series will take place in April. Hikers (left) enjoyed a trek around the Morgan Reservoir in February.

Saturday, April 12 Magical History Tour – Gales Ferry Village

1:00 p.m.

Historians Kit Foster and Jan Bell will guide us through the streets of Gales Ferry Village while giving us the history of the area. We will meet in the parking lot at Gales Ferry Community Center.



Artists & Writers Showcase and Edible Books Contest

Saturday, April 5 Bill Library

1-5 p.m.

Come enjoy the works of local artists and writers at our third annual showcase of talent! Talk with your talented neighbors about their art, while viewing or reading their pieces, and sampling refreshments. Due to space constraints, entries are limited to three per artist or writer, and must be submitted by Wednesday, April 2 at the Bill Library. Please fill out an entry form and return to either library if you would like to submit visual or written pieces.



In conjunction with our Showcase, we will be participating in the International Edible Book Festival. This is a contest that invites you to use your creativity to fashion an edible entry that refers to a book in

some way. It can be a pun on the title, about a character, or be an actual book made to eat! Go to the official website:

www.colophon.com/ediblebooks/photos.html to get more information about the international festival, and some inspirational ideas.

The entries may be dropped off from 12:30 p.m.-1:30 p.m., viewed by the public until 3:00 p.m. and will then be served to all attendees. Beverages will be provided by the Library Friends. Entries may be submitted by anyone including families, individuals, businesses, civic organizations, etc.

Please contact Andrea Buka by email at abuka@ledyard.lioninc.org or leave a message at either library if you have any questions. We are looking forward to seeing all the wonderful creativity our town has to offer!

Coin and Jewelry Appraisal

Sunday, May 18 Bill Library

2 -4 p.m.

Ledyard Library Friends and Vasbro Coins will sponsor a coin and jewelry appraisal day. The event will begin with a brief talk about precious metals by David and Jeff Vasington, owners of Vasbro Coins in Norwichtown. Participants may bring their coins, jewelry, flatware, and watches to have them appraised. The program is free and open to the public.

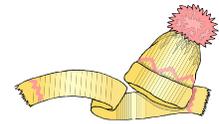


Stitch and Dish

The knitting group continues to meet twice a month at the Gales Ferry Library. Stitch and Dish is a social and instructive knitting group for all levels of ability. The only requirement is that you bring needles and yarn. Members will help new people get started or share patterns and yarn ideas. The evening group meets on the second Wednesday of the month at 7:00 p.m. and the afternoon group meets on the fourth Wednesday at 3:00 p.m. Both groups are held on a drop-in basis, so stop in for either one when you are looking for knitting buddies.

Mad Hatters Strike Again

Ledyard's Mad Hatters completed their winter project in February. Once again area knitters and crocheters responded with overwhelming generosity – dropping off *hundreds* of handmade hats, scarves, and mittens at the Bill and Gales Ferry Libraries. These donations were distributed throughout the winter to local social service agencies and shelters – where they were *warmly* appreciated. Indeed, I have been asked by these organizations to express their great thanks to everyone who contributed.



After taking a short breather, the next Mad Hatter project will begin in April. We have decided to knit or crochet baby “layette” items – such as kimonos, bibs, sweaters, booties, and hats. These items can be any size (up to 24 months) or color – but should be made of machine-washable yarns (especially the bibs!!) – and dropped off at the Bill or Gales Ferry Library. Patterns, yarns, needles and crochet hooks will be available at both libraries by April 1, for anyone who needs them. At the end of August, we will donate the baby clothes to the Navy's “baby sea bag” program and various outreach programs for babies and new mothers.

Online Resources– Tell us what you think

Have you used any of the online resources on our website that assist with legal forms, antiques and collectibles pricing, test taking, or car repair? We would like to know what you think about them to help us plan for future purchases. Fill out our survey the next time you are in the library or online at www.lioninc.org/ledyard or send us an email to bill-lib@ledyard.lioninc.org. Can you find the information you need on a daily basis from our webpage? Did you know that Reader's Guide is NOT the primary way of finding magazine and newspaper articles anymore; that there is an online source called IConn? Thanks for your feedback.

Staff Changes at Bill Library

Two long-time employees and a volunteer have recently retired from Bill Library. Kathy Drury, the Library Secretary for the last 21 years, Nancy Avery, our Cataloger for the last 25 years, and May Dale, the weekly volunteer who faithfully covered and processed all new books for the last 25 years, will no longer be performing these jobs. Kathy and Nancy were honored on their last day with a Proclamation from the Mayor.

Jan Dawson, a Sunday Supervisor and Library Assistant has taken over for Kathy as Library Secretary, and Andrea Buka, also a Sunday supervisor and Library Assistant, is the new Library Cataloger. Andrea wears many hats at the library – many of you know her as the Teen Library Coordinator and the cook extraordinaire who has conducted many popular food programs at Bill Library, including the most recent Russian Cuisine program. We will miss our former staff members and volunteer but wish them well in their retirement. We welcome Jan and Andrea to their new positions.



Janice W. Bell Historical Research Room



Janice W. Bell, a resident of Gales Ferry Village, was recently honored at Bill Library for her dedication to preserving the History of the Town. The local history room at Bill Library has been named the Janice W. Bell Historical Research Room in her

honor, and the Mayor issued a proclamation declaring January 25, 2008 as the Janice W. Bell Local History Day. Mrs. Bell has organized and

maintained the Research Room at the library since it first opened in 1982, collecting and organizing photos, diaries, original family papers, old maps, land records, and genealogies pertaining to local information. She has answered numerous inquiries from across the country about the people, places, and things in Ledyard. She recruited and trained volunteers to work in the room helping patrons find historical information.

Mrs. Bell has also been an active member of the Ledyard Historic District Commission and the Ledyard Historical Society. In addition she served as the first official Historian for the Town from 1989 – 2007. She co-authored *Historic Ledyard* Volumes 1-5, and was the sole author of *The Bluff* and *The History of the Church*.

The Janice W. Bell Historical Research Room has recently been renovated and will be open to the public on a regular basis. For more information call the Bill Library at 464-9912.

Cooking Program - A Big Hit!



We had a great time at the Russian Cuisine program held Sunday, February 24 in the Fellowship Hall of our neighbor, the Ledyard Congregational Church! About 50

attendees ate many different dishes, cooked their own blinis, socialized, and learned a little about traditional Russian food. The energy in the room was terrific, and Jennifer & I had a wonderful time.

Special thanks to the church for affording us space on such short notice, to Jan Dawson and Betty Finch for doing all those dishes, my husband Scott for loading and unloading everything and setting up tables and chairs, Mike Sienkowski for putting away many of the tables and chairs and sweeping up, Jeanne Allyn for clean up and lighting the scary stove for us! Our gratitude also goes out to Amy Butters, Sheila Jordan, and Jackie Bacon for the loan of small appliances for the blini stations. Sharon Butler and Gail Milroy were fabulous wait staff, along with several others whose names I didn't write down.

Thank you also to all the rest of you who helped clean up afterwards! To all who donated to the Friends as a result of the program, I am honored that it meant that much to you. And, last but not least, we couldn't have done it without the sponsorship of our wonderful, hardworking Friends of the Ledyard Libraries.

I wonder what Mary Ellen has up her sleeve for next year's Adult Winter Reading Program?

Andrea Buka

Newbery/Caldecott 2008

Newbery Award:

Good Masters! Sweet Ladies! Voices from a Medieval Village by Laura Amy Schlitz

Newbery Honor Books:

Elijah of Buxton by Christopher Paul Curtis
The Wednesday Wars by Gary D. Schmidt
Feathers by Jacqueline Woodson

Caldecott Award:

The Invention of Hugo Cabret by Brian Selznick

Caldecott Honor Books:

Henry's Freedom Box: A True Story from the Underground Railroad by Ellen Levine
First the Egg by Laura Vaccaro Seeger
The Wall: Growing Up Behind the Iron Curtain by Peter Sis
Knuffle Bunny Too: A Case of Mistaken Identity by Mo Willems

All of these books have been ordered for our libraries. If you wish to read any, please put holds on them!

New Book Preview

Baldacci, David	The Whole Truth	Apr
Lahiri, Jhumpa	Unaccustomed Earth	Apr
LeGuin, Ursula	Lavinia	Apr
Martini, Steve	Shadow of Power	Apr
Perry, Anne	Buckingham Palace Gardens	Apr
Quick, Amanda	The Third Circle	Apr
Woods, Stuart	Santa Fe Dead	Apr
Cornwell, Patricia	The Front	May
Devereaux, Jude	Secrets	May
Erdich, Louise	The Plague of Doves	May
Koontz, Dean	Odd Hours	May
Sandford, John	Phantom Prey	May
Wambaugh, Joseph	Hollywood Crows	May
Brown, Dale	Shadow Command	Jun
Collins, Jackie	Married Lovers	Jun
Coulter, Catherine	Tailspin	Jun
Cussler, Clive	Plague Ship	Jun
Evanovich, Janet	Fearless Fourteen	Jun
Griffin, W.E.B.	Death and Honor	Jun
Parker, Robert B.	Resolution	Jun
Siddons, Ann R.	Off Season	Jun



Donations

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

Phil Barnett
Catherine Patricia Essex
Richard Roberts

Friends News

Wednesday, May 14
Bill Library

Friends Meeting
7 P.M.

The Ledyard Library Friends will hold a booksale planning meeting to get ready for the sales. Volunteers are needed to help with set up for the Gales Ferry Sale starting on May 20th. The friends are also looking for someone willing to list and sell on-line the special interest books we pull from our general book sale donations. If you have some time and can help us out, join us at the meeting. If you are unable to attend but would like to help call Jessie Baker (464-1331) or e-mail her at JessieM.Baker@comcast.net.

Booksale Dates

May 28 to June 7

Gales Ferry Library

September 3-13

Bill Library

Both sales have over 35 categories of books and also include CDs, DVDs, audio books, puzzles, games, and more...

We are now offering an additional benefit for all paid members: You will get a sneak peek at our annual book sales the night before the sales open to the public. So join the Library Friends and get in on the bargains a day early! You can also join at the door on the night of the preview sale. Gales Ferry Preview Night is Wednesday May 28. Bill Preview Night is Wednesday September 3

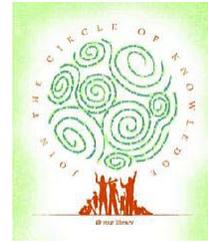
Ongoing book sales are always underway at both the Bill Library and Gales Ferry Library. Stop by to get great bargains every day!

We are grateful to all of our generous book donors and will continue to accept your gently used donations of books, videos and other materials for our sales

Holiday Hours

May 25	Memorial Day	Closed
May 26	Memorial Day	Closed

National Library Week April 13-19, 2008



Join the Circle of Knowledge @ Your Library

LIBRARY HOURS

BILL

464-9912

Monday – Thursday 9-9

Friday - Saturday 9-5

Sunday 1-5

email: bill-lib@ledyard.lioninc.org

GALES FERRY

464-6943

Monday – Thursday 9-8

Friday - Saturday 9-5

Sunday 1-5

email: gf-lib@ledyard.lioninc.org

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