



BOOKS AND BEYOND...

NEWS OF THE LEDYARD LIBRARIES

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

Spring 2010

Volume 22 No. 2

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.

In this Issue

- Children's Programs
- Teen Programs
- Adult Programs
- Children's Book Awards 2010
- Snapshot Day
- Donations
- Display Case
- Teen Space
- Holiday Hours
- Friends News



Rhode Island's Poet-Laureate at Bill Library

An inn-keeper, a mother, a basketball coach and a teacher, Lisa Starr, Rhode Island's Poet Laureate, divides her time among a variety of interests, her children, and her passion for poetry. Lisa (Silverberg) Starr a former resident of Ledyard and graduate of Ledyard High School will be at Bill Library Sunday, March 28, 2010 at 2 p.m. She is a two-time recipient of the R.I. Fellowship for Poetry. In her capacity as Poet Laureate, Starr has established dozens of poetry circles in elderly communities (assisted living facilities, nursing homes, etc.), hospitals, shelters, the state prison, and agencies for children and adults with severe mental and physical disabilities.



In April of 2009 Starr assembled more than a dozen US State Poet Laureates in Rhode Island for Poetry for Hope, a series of readings, workshops, and public forums featuring the visiting poets and emerging and established Rhode Island poets and musicians at schools, libraries, and cultural attractions around the state. The poets worked with more than 7000 Rhode Islanders (most of them students and teachers) during the 5-day poetry sweep.

Starr's third collection of poems, *Mad With Yellow*, was published in September 2008. She is the author of two other books: *This Place Here* (2001) and *Days of Dogs and Driftwood* (1993). Starr is the founder and director of the Block Island Poetry Project, a nationally acclaimed celebration of the arts and humanity, now in its 6th year. A poet by choice and an innkeeper by necessity, Starr owns and operates the Hygeia House, a 10-room inn on Block Island. The brightest lights of her life are her two children, Orrin (13) and Millie (12) and her dog, Brother. When time permits, she writes her heart out.

Children's Programs

We have an exciting April vacation week coming to the Ledyard Libraries. Please note these programs on your calendar and join us for some great fun. An adult must accompany preschoolers. All programs are free and open to the public.

Wild About Weather! - Keith Michael Johnson

Tuesday, April 13 2:00 pm
Ledyard Center School All
Ages

Join us for a fun show about weather! Would you like to ride a Water Cycle, float a hot air balloon and identify clouds? Recommended for elementary grades, but bring the family. There is no registration required for this show.



Danny Magic: Magic for Everyone!

Wednesday, April 14 10:00 am
Ledyard Center School All Ages

Join us for a fun-filled program with a fantastic magician! Hold on to your socks, because Danny will blow them off with his "How did he do that??" magic show! There is no registration required for this show.

Chess Players Wanted!!!

Wednesday, April 14 1:00 – 3:00 pm
Bill Library Grades 4 – 5



How many games of chess can you play in 2 hours? This is a chess marathon for players of any ability. Mrs. Jean Murphy will be with us to help with questions about strategy. Sign up with a friend for extra fun! Please register at Bill Library.

Amistad Club

Thursdays 3:30-4:30
Bill Library Grades K – 6

Our Amistad (Friendship) Club meets weekly for homework help, reading and math activities with adult and high school volunteers. Sponsored by the Friends of Ledyard Libraries, all are welcome.

Summer Program Alert

"Make a Splash...Read!" is the theme of our 2010 summer reading program which will begin on June 21st and end on August 7th. There will be a Read-to-Me program for children born in 2006 through entering 1st grade. Programs and activities are now being planned. Check the next issue of our newsletter for details.

Teen Programs

Wii Fun @ Bill Library

April 15 & 16 1:00 – 3:00 pm



Bring your friends and enjoy our new Wii games on the big screen at Bill library. Choose from Wii Sports, Wii Fit (with board), Wii Play, Guitar Hero 5 (with drum set), or Wii sing-along (with microphones). If you have a special game you would like to share, please bring it with you!

Chess Marathon

Wednesday, April 14 1:00 – 3:00 pm
Bill Library Grades 6 – 8

Bring a friend and sign up to play as many games of chess as you can in 2 hours. Mrs. Jean Murphy will be with us as coach and mentor. Please register for this program at the Bill Library.

Summer Reading Volunteers needed!

Volunteer orientation

Thursday, June 17 5:30- 6:30 pm Bill Library
Friday, June 18 3:00- 4:00 pm GF Library

The library is looking for teens to help the younger children this summer with the reading program activities. Plan to attend one of the orientation sessions and sign up for times when you can help.

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 courtesy of the Friends of Ledyard Libraries. We hope you will consider joining us for a book discussion on the books you've read!



March 17, 2010: *Half the Sky* by Nicholas D. Kristof and Sheryl WuDunn. *Times* columnist Kristof and his wife, WuDunn, a former *Times* reporter, make a brilliantly argued case for investing in the health and autonomy of women worldwide. More girls have been killed in the last fifty years, precisely because they were girls, than men were killed in all the wars of the twentieth century, they write, detailing the rampant gendercide in the developing world, particularly in India and Pakistan. (Washington Post)

April 21, 2010 : *How We Decide* by Jonah Lehrer. "Cash or Credit? Punt or go for first down? Deal or no deal? Life is filled with puzzling choices. Reporting from the frontiers of neuroscience and armed with riveting case studies of how pilots,

quarterbacks, and others act under fire. Jonah Lehrer presents a dazzlingly authoritative and accessible account of how we make decisions, what's happening in our heads as we do so, and how we might all become better 'deciders'. Luckily, this one's a no-brainer: Read this book." (Tom Vanderbilt, author of *Why We Drive the Way We Do....*)

May 19, 2010: *The Broken Teaglass* by Emily Arsenault. This author has worked as a lexicographer, an English teacher, a children's librarian (in Connecticut!), and a Peace Corps volunteer. She's offered to talk with us on the phone during our book discussion in May.

Billy Webb's first job out of college is with Samuelson Company, "the oldest and most revered name in American dictionaries." His tasks include research-reading and creating citations (cits) to support adding new words and new uses of old words to the dictionary and its supplements. Soon, Billy and office mate Mona Minot discover a pattern to some of the cits distributed among the older files, from a 1985 novel called *The Broken Teaglass* that include details of a corpse. Are these cits a cry for help or a ruthless murderer's coded confession? (Library Journal – 09/01/2009)

June 16, 2010: *Let the Great World Spin* by Colum McCann. For those who have copies of our Book Discussion Bookmark, this is a change from that listing. We'll be reading the August title in June in order to fit this 2009 National Book Award title into this year's schedule.

McCann's sweeping novel hinges on Philippe Petit's illicit 1974 high-wire walk between the twin towers. It is the aftermath, in which Petit appears in the courtroom of Judge Solomon Soderberg that sets events into motion. (Publisher's Weekly, June 2009.)

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 4th 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.

March 24, 2010: *Very Valentine* by Adriana Trigiani

April 28, 2010: Book talk and discussion

May 26, 2010: *Eat, Pray, Love* by Elizabeth Gilbert

Spring Programs

We have a variety of programs coming up this spring with something sure to please everyone. Programs include a musical performance, author visits, the final hike in our series, birding, gardening, and fly fishing. We hope you will be able to join us.

Please register for programs with this symbol.



Friday March 19

This Old Hat – Patriots of Liberty Ages 8 - Adult

Ledyard Congregational Church
Patty Carver presents her original musical performance, depicting the roles of four prominent women in American History (Betsy Ross, Deborah Sampson, Elizabeth Cady Stanton, Amelia Earhart). It is



historically correct, and ties in well with school curricula and Women in History Month, which is in March. Patty Carver, originally from Ledyard, is a singer, writer and actress, who has performed in New York, Los Angeles, and London, as well as throughout Connecticut, and has written numerous original musicals for young audiences that have had national tours. She is currently Playwright in Residence for Connecticut Children's Theater, and travels throughout the country performing her one-woman shows. The event which is sponsored and paid for by the Friends of Ledyard Libraries is free and open to the public.

Sunday, March 28 2:00 p.m. Bill Library
Poetry Reading

Lisa (Silverberg) Starr, poet laureate of Rhode Island, grew up in Ledyard. She will talk about her role as Poet Laureate in Rhode Island and read from her works. Funding for this program is made possible by the Friends of Ledyard Libraries.



Tuesday, April 6 7:00 p.m. Bill Library
Gardening with Native Plants in Sun and Shade

Linda Lilly of Sprigs and Twigs Landscapes in Gales Ferry will present a lecture on native plants. Several plants will be on display, and printed lists will be available for distribution. Sponsored by the Friends of Ledyard Libraries this program is free and open to the public.



Saturday, April 10 1-5 p.m. Bill Library
Artists & Writers Showcase/Edible Books Contest

Enjoy the works of local artists and writers at our 5th annual showcase of talent! Talk with your talented neighbors about their art, while viewing or reading their pieces, and sampling refreshments.

Entries are limited to three per artist, (with no limit for writers,) and must be submitted to Bill Library by Wednesday, April 7th. Fill out an entry form and submit your visual or written pieces.

In conjunction with our Showcase, we will again participate 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 a title, about a character, or be an actual book made to eat! Visit the official website:

www.colophon.com/ediblebooks/photos.html for more information and some inspirational ideas.

Entries may be dropped off Saturday, April 10th from 12:30-1:30, and viewed by the public until 3:00. They will then be served to all attendees. Beverages will be provided by the Friends of Ledyard Libraries. Entries may be submitted by anyone: families, individuals, businesses, civic organizations, etc. Contact Andrea Buka at abuka@ledyard.lioninc.org or at 860-464-9912 if you have any questions. We are looking forward to seeing all the wonderful creativity our town has to offer!

Sunday, April 11 2:00 p.m. Bill Library
Tropical Birds, Forests and Deadly Snakes: Conservation and Adventure in the Rain Forest of Costa Rica with Jake Barnett



Jake is a biology graduate of Cornell University, where he did a thesis research project with the laboratory of ornithology and field research in Costa Rica. He will discuss his project, as well as migratory birds that summer in CT and winter in Costa Rica. Sponsored by the Friends of Ledyard Libraries this event is free and open to the public.

Thursday April 22 7:00 p.m. Bill Library
Square Foot Gardening



To celebrate Earth Day, Jean Scialabba, a local resident, will present a program on an interesting concept of gardening, based on the book by Mel Bartholomew, and she will share her knowledge of composting. Mark this date on your calendar, as we look forward to the spring gardening season. Funding for this program is made possible by the Friends of Ledyard Libraries.

Saturday April 24 1:00 p.m.
Gales Ferry Village



“Sheds, Privies, and Mysterious Hideaways”
Historians Kit Foster and Carol Bacon will guide us through the streets of Gales Ferry Village with their emphasis on privies, sheds, and carriage houses still in existence throughout the village. Meet at Gales Ferry

Community Center Parking Lot. Please join us at Gales Ferry Library after walk for refreshments courtesy of the Friends of Ledyard Libraries.

Wednesday, May 5 7:00 p.m. Bill Library
Fishing with Hand-Tied Flies



Curt Nelson and Bob Walsh, both Ledyard residents, will discuss their experiences with fly fishing. Both men have fished extensively throughout North America and beyond. (Curt is presently in New Zealand) and are founding members of several fishing organizations. The emphasis of the talk will be on fishing local waters, and hand-tied flies that have proven successful locally, will be on display. Sponsored by the Friends of Ledyard Libraries, the event is free and open to the public.

Monday, May 17 7:00 p.m. Bill Library
Michael Tougias, Author All ages

Author Michael Tougias will present a narrated slide lecture about his latest book, *Overboard*, based on a true story of a disastrous sailing voyage from Connecticut to Bermuda. He is the author of 19 books, and will be available to sign books after the program. Sponsored by the Friends of Ledyard Libraries the event is free and open to the public.

Mad Hatters/ Stitch and Dish

Stitch and Dish, the library's knitting group, continues to meet on the 2nd and 4th Wednesdays at the Gales Ferry Library. The meeting on the 2nd Wednesday is at 7:00 pm and on the 4th 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 Ledyard Mad Hatters have just completed another successful “Warm and Fuzzy” project. Local knitters and crocheters dropped off a record number of beautifully crafted hats, scarves and mittens at both libraries, where they were packed up and sent off to several social service agencies. This winter, because of the generosity of our needle workers, we were able to give winter warmth to Ledyard's Social Services, the V.A. center in Newington, the homeless and women's shelters in New London, and Madonna Place in Norwich – where our donations were most gratefully received.

This spring we will be making afghans for Madonna Place – in all colors and sizes and for all ages. They could use crib blankets, lap robes, and throws for older children and adults. Crochet and knitting patterns are available at both libraries.

Children's Book Awards 2010

Newbery Award:

When You Reach Me by Rebecca Stead

Newbery Honor Books:

Claudette Colvin: Twice Toward Justice by Phillip Hoose

Evolution of Calpurnia Tate by Jacqueline Kelly

Where the Mountain Meets the Moon by Grace Lin

The Mostly True Adventures of Homer P. Figg by Rodman Philbrick

Caldecott Award:

The Lion & the Mouse by Jerry Pinkney

Caldecott Honor Books:

All the World by Marla Frazee

Red Sings from Treetops: A Year in Colors by Joyce Sidman

Nutmeg

Double Identity by Margaret Peterson Haddix
(Intermediate 4-6)

Life as We Knew It by Susan Beth Pfeffer (Teen 7-8)

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

Snapshot: A Day in the life of CT Libraries

On February 18, 2010 Ledyard Libraries participated in a statewide initiative to capture "A Day in the life of a Connecticut Library" to help illustrate the value of libraries everywhere. It was just a normal day but in our libraries we saw 274 visitors, checked out 553 items and answered 46 reference questions. Computers were used by the public 46 times and 2 story times were held. Visit the Snapshot Day website at <http://snapshotlib.wordpress.com/about-snapshot/> to see the impact of libraries everywhere in Connecticut. Check out the photos of normal activities in your libraries and read some of the comments from fellow patrons.



Snapshot: One Day in the Life of Connecticut Libraries is a project of the Connecticut Library Association, the Connecticut State Library and the Connecticut Library Consortium.

Donations

We recently received donations to purchase books in memory of Thomas McCarthy. Our sincere thanks go to the donor.

Bill Library Display Case

Wood Carvings by Garee Buttermore

Mr. Buttermore started carving in the mid 1980s by trying to duplicate a wooden duck that a neighbor had acquired. Since then he has carved many, many shore birds, ducks, and songbirds, along with walking sticks, canes, and signs. He finds it relaxing and satisfying, a good hobby requiring a minimum of equipment and space. He uses mostly native white pine which is available locally and essentially free, aside from a little work.

Teen Space at Bill Library



Several new board games are now available in the Teen Space to play anytime you are in the Library. Games include Bananagram, Scattergories, Battleship, Scrabble, Book-ology, Yahtzee, Set, and more. Ready for check-out are teen magazines, graphic novels, all the YA books, and the 7-8th grade Nutmeg nominees. The cool new café-style tables and comfy chairs are a great place to enjoy them all with your friends. Don't forget both libraries have free Wi-Fi, so bring in your laptop or other wireless device for free internet access.

Holiday Hours

April 4	Easter	Closed
May 30	Memorial Day	Closed
May 31	Memorial Day	Closed

News from the Friends of Ledyard Libraries

Monday, April 26 7 p.m. Bill Library Spring Membership Meeting

Save the date! This is a meeting for the general membership and I hope we have a great turnout. Please remember that your participation helps us to support our local libraries with programs and items that help to expand services and enhance experiences for patrons of the libraries. This is a time to share your opinions and thoughts, give feedback, and to help us do some planning for the future. We'd love to see you there!

This has been a year of changes and growth for the Friends, and we are still evolving. We are at this time filing the paperwork to obtain the 501C-3 non profit status. It is a time when the hard work of many people will pay off for all members of the Friends.

Some of the things which will be addressed at the Spring meeting are the expansion of programming (please do check out all the wonderful program opportunities - visiting authors, historical performances, educational walks, and so much more), and a restructuring and expansion of the board of the Friends (adding the At-Large board members.) If you are interested in serving on the board, or know someone that you would like to nominate who could make positive contributions, come to the April meeting to find out more, or to have your thoughts be heard.

We are gearing up to plan the two book sales, in June at Gales Ferry and in September at the Bill. Jessie Baker will once again be running the Gales

Ferry sale and we will be finalizing plans for that at the Spring meeting. Marie and Dave Engelman, and Carl and Lynn Nelson, will be working together on the September book sale. They would like another couple to volunteer to work with them, which will help everything run smoothly and keep this wonderful fundraiser a manageable task. All the sorters who have been working throughout the year have the contributions organized and in fine shape.

Thanks to all who have contributed time, skills, knowledge, and your passion for books and learning, to help the Friends to grow and to help support the Ledyard Libraries.

See you on April 26th!

Betsy Shafer, President

LIBRARY HOURS

BILL

860-464-9912

Monday – Thursday 9-9

Friday - Saturday 9-5

Sunday 1-5

email: bill-lib@ledyard.lioninc.org

GALES FERRY

860-464-6943

Monday – Thursday 9-8

Friday - Saturday 9-5

Sunday Closed

email: gf-lib@ledyard.lioninc.org

Ledyard Public Libraries
P. O. Box 225
Ledyard, CT. 06339
Return service requested

Non-Profit Org
U.S. Postage

PAID

Ledyard, CT. 06339
Permit No. 95

