



# BOOKS AND BEYOND... NEWS OF THE LEDYARD LIBRARIES

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

Winter 2007

Volume 20 No. 1

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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## Value @ Ledyard Libraries

A library patron recently commented that the Ledyard Libraries are one of the best bargains in town. Where else can you get so much for so little. Books, magazines and newspapers to read for pleasure or to get information, access to computers and the internet, music to enjoy, movies to watch and stories to listen to. In addition there are programs for all ages from children to adults and museum passes to borrow. And our latest offering is WIFI. Just bring your wireless computer into Bill Library and get on the internet through our wireless connection.

The per capita cost of Ledyard Public Libraries is \$35.55\* a year or 68 cents a week! Compare the Value.....

Candy Bar (M&Ms).....	69 cents
Soda.....	75 cents
Package of Gum.....	30 cents
<i>New London Day</i> .....	50 cents
Greeting Card.....	\$2.50
1 <sup>st</sup> Class Stamp.....	39 cents
Gallon of Gas.....	\$2.37
20 oz bottle of water.....	89 cents
Small cup of coffee.....	\$1.20

Read on to find out about all the exciting activities happening @ your libraries this winter – then come in and participate. It’s the best bargain in town!

\* Per capita cost based on a population of 15,000

## Children's Programs

Registration for Story times at the Ledyard Public Libraries will begin Monday, January 8, 2007. 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 Jan. 16 – Feb. 13

Toddlers (16 – 24 mos.)

Bill Mondays 9:30 am Jan. 22 – Feb. 26

### Terrific Twos

Bill Mondays 9:30 am Mar. 12 – Apr. 30

GF Tuesdays 9:30 am Mar. 13 – May 1

### Threes and Fours

Bill Wednesdays 9:30 – 10:00 am Feb. 7 – May 2

### Three to Fives

GF Tuesdays 10:30 – 11:15 am Feb. 6 – May 1

### Four to Sixes

B Thursdays 1:00 – 1:45 pm Feb. 8 – May 3

## February Vacation Program

February 20 Storyteller

Watch fliers at the library for more information.

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## Adult Programs

### Book Discussions



Join our monthly book discussions on Wednesday evenings at Bill Library, beginning at 7 P.M. We always welcome new participants and provide evening refreshments.

**January 17, 2006** Please come and bring your favorite reads from the past few months to share and discuss with other members. This is an annual event where many of us have learned to come with paper and pen to create long lists of future reads for ourselves. This is truly one of our most popular evenings of the year as we get to hear of many new books, and book discussion members are usually very enthusiastic about what they've read!

**February 21, 2006:** *Year of Wonders* by Geraldine Brooks. This book describes the 17th-century plague that is carried from London to a small Derbyshire village by an itinerant tailor. As villagers begin, one by one, to die, the rest face a choice: do they flee their village in hope of outrunning the plague or do they stay? The lord of the manor and his family pack up and leave. The rector, Michael Mompellion, argues forcefully that the villagers should stay put, isolate themselves from neighboring towns and villages, and prevent the contagion from spreading. His oratory wins the day and the village turns in on itself. Cocooned from the outside world and ravaged by the disease, its inhabitants struggle to retain their humanity in the face of the disaster. **(In conjunction with the Winter Reading Program)**

**March 21, 2006:** *I, Mona Lisa* by Jeanne



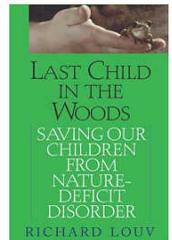
Kalogridis. Set against a backdrop of political and religious conflicts in 15th-century Medici-ruled Florence, Kalogridis's work of historical fiction identifies the subject of Leonardo da Vinci's painting as Lisa di Antonio Gherardini. Lisa was the daughter of

Madonna Lucrezia, wife of a wealthy wool merchant who also enchanted both da Vinci and Lorenzo de' Medici's brother Giuliano, murdered by conspirators in 1478. Giuliano's assassination—and the later murder of Lucrezia—presage a reign of religious terror led by a monk known as Savonarola and the retreat of the Medicis in the face of invasion from France's King Charles. As an adult Lisa attracts the romantic attentions of a young Medici scion, whom she marries for love. (His father, Lorenzo, commissions her portrait from da Vinci.) But violent events soon separate the couple and a brutal Savonarola follower tells Lisa that her husband is dead—and her father's life is in danger—unless she marries him instead.

**April 18, 2006:** *Last Child in the Woods:*

*Saving Our Children from Nature-Deficit Disorder* by Richard Louv.

Today's kids are increasingly disconnected from the natural world, says child advocacy expert Richard Louv, even as research shows that "thoughtful exposure of youngsters to nature can... be a powerful form of therapy for attention-deficit disorder and other maladies." Instead of passing summer months hiking, swimming and telling stories around the



campfire, children these days are more likely to attend computer camps or weight-loss camps: as a result, Louv says, they've come to think of nature as more of an abstraction than a reality. Louv's book is a call to action, full of warnings—but also full of ideas for change. (from Publisher's Weekly) **(In conjunction with the Monthly Hikes Program)**

### Reading Fitness @ Ledyard Libraries

Our winter reading program for adults takes place from January 28 through March 10. Join in the fun, whether you just like to read or really want to improve your fitness or maybe this is your year to do both. There will be weekly raffles at Bill and Gales Ferry Libraries. To enter the raffle, fill out a ticket each time you come to the library during the six weeks. As an added bonus, anyone who walks, runs, bikes or maybe even skates to the library, or your pedometer shows 5000 steps, gets an extra ticket.

In addition, please join us for one or more of our winter reading programs.

**Sunday, January 28**                      **Healthy Eating**  
**Ledyard Senior Center**                **2:00 p.m.**

Mary Ann Nash, nutritionist at Lawrence and Memorial Hospital, will present an informative and delicious program on healthy eating. Mary Ann is well known in the area for her programs at the hospital and the nutrition series that was chronicled in The Day earlier this year. This program is co-sponsored by the Ledyard Senior Center.



**Thursdays Feb 1 – Mar 8**            **Healthy Walking**  
**Gales Ferry Library**                    **12:00 Noon**



Join us on Thursday at noon in front of the Gales Ferry Library. We will take a walk through Gales Ferry village for about an hour. If it is too cold to walk outside, we will walk the gym (or halls) of the old Gales Ferry School.

**Wednesday, Feb. 28**    **Introduction to Jazzercise**  
**Bill Library**                      **6:00 p.m.**  
**(Snow Date March 7)**

Mary DiGiacomo-Cohen and Shari Deninno will introduce us to the invigorating world of jazzercise. Novices and the more experienced are welcome to attend. Wear comfortable clothing. Class size is limited and registration is required.

### Get Healthy Challenge

The Get Healthy Challenge sponsored by Community Partnerships, an initiative of Lawrence and Memorial, supports your commitment to making healthy changes in your life. The Get Healthy Challenge focuses on meeting 2 important goals: Decreasing Waist Circumference and Increasing Your Daily Steps. Teams strive to meet these goals while working toward prizes during The Get Healthy Challenge. The next session will begin at the end of January 2007. Registration forms will be available at both libraries or register online at [www.communitypartnerships.com](http://www.communitypartnerships.com). Form your team and start moving!

### Family Fitness Fun @ your Libraries

What do animals do in winter? What do birds eat when it snows? Can insects survive when temperatures drop? Join us on the monthly hikes for answers to these questions and more.



Once again the Ledyard Library Friends will co-sponsor family friendly hikes on local trails. Children must be accompanied by an adult and while we love dogs we must ask that they be left behind. Be sure to dress warm. Call either library to sign up for one or more of these hikes.

**Saturday, January 13**                      **1:00 p.m.**  
**Avalonia Land Conservancy's Pine Swamp**  
**Wildlife Corridor; Harry Leiser Tract and**  
**Nathan Lester Park**  
**(Park at the Nathan Lester House)**

This hike will begin and end at the Nathan Lester House. Maggie Jones from the Denison Pequotsepos Nature Center will lead us along the trail in the Harry Leiser Tract and through some of the trails at Nathan Lester Park. Native giant rhododendrons and towering tulip poplars are among the treasures to encounter on the Leiser tract. The wooded trails surrounding the Nathan Lester House feature wetlands, a small pond and an abundance of wildlife. Complete your adventure with hot chocolate at the Nathan Lester House.

**Sunday, February 4**                      **1:00 p.m.**  
**Pine Swamp Wildlife Corridor (PSWC); Slosberg-**  
**Andersen Woodlands/Dow Centennial Preserve**

Anne Roberts-Pierson will lead this hike which is co-sponsored by the Avalonia Land Conservancy. Hikers will meet at the Hillside Drive Trailhead at the end of the cul de sac. (Directions: Take Christy Hill Road from Rte 12

to Oakwood Dr. Go left on Oakwood Dr., right on East Dr., then left onto Hillside Dr. and go to the end.) The hike will start from Hillside Drive trailhead, skirt the Pine Swamp, and continue on to circle around the Dow Centennial Preserve, ultimately returning to the starting point. This will be a long hike as there is much to discover over varied terrain. Anticipate discussion about local water supplies, the Ice Age, and more!

**Saturday, March 10 1:00 p.m.**  
**Burton Property, Town of Ledyard**

Andy Jensen will lead this hike which is co-sponsored by the Ledyard Conservation Commission, through the Burton Property. We will meet at the parking lot behind the high school on Gallup Hill Rd. This property contains a very historic local site as well as providing habitat for a bird with a very unusual springtime courtship ritual! Come along with us and find out more!



**Saturday, April 14 1:00 p.m.**  
**Signs of Spring**  
**The Nature Conservancy's Poquetanuck Cove Preserve**



Beth Sullivan will lead us through this diverse Nature Conservancy preserve that borders Poquetanuck Cove. We will look for signs of spring as we travel through a hardwood forest and hemlock ravine containing a stream to the cove itself and around the loop back through the forest. Entrance to the preserve is on the west side of Avery Hill Rd. Parking is limited and carpooling is encouraged.

**Stitch and Dish**

The knitting group continues to meet on the second and fourth Wednesday of the month at Gales Ferry Library. The evening group meets at 7:00 p.m. and the afternoon group meets at 3:00 p.m.

**Special Events**

**Artist and Writers Showcase**



The Ledyard Libraries is sponsoring another Open House on April 25<sup>h</sup> for local artists and writers to showcase their work. If you missed it the first time be sure to participate this time. Let the community see what you do. Call or email Andrea Buka to reserve a space.

**Mad Hatters**

WANTED! Anyone who has a yarn stash, a crochet hook or knitting needles, and wants to make tiny hats for newborns. Inspired by a recent article in *The Day*, members of the library's knitting group, *Stitch and Dish*, decided to organize a Ledyard branch to provide hats for newborns. This branch, known as the Ledyard Mad Hatters, will provide yarn for those who need it, patterns (both knit and crochet), and collect and distribute completed hats.



Anyone who wants to participate can attend meetings of *Stitch and Dish* or contact Marilyn Baseler at 464-8717. Patterns are available at either library and have been posted on the library's website. Completed hats will be collected in March and distributed.

**New Book Preview**

Cornwell, Bernard	Lords of the North	Jan
Evanovich, Janet	Plum Lovin'	Jan
Griffin, W.E.B.	The Hunters:	Jan
Grimes, Martha	Dust	Jan
Patterson, Richard	Exile	Jan
Delinski, Barbara	Family Tree	Feb
Greely, Andrew	Irish Linen	Feb
Parker, Robert	High Profile	Feb
Isaacs, Susan	Past Perfect	Feb
Palmer, Michael	The Fifth Vial	Feb
Patterson, James	Step on a Crack	Feb
Rice, Luanne	The Edge of Winter	Feb
Steel, Danielle	Sisters	Feb
Binchy, Maeve	Whitethorn Woods	Mar
Brown, Rita Mae	Puss 'n Cahoots	Mar
McMurtry, Larry	When the Light Goes	Mar
Scottoline, Lisa	Daddy's Girl	Mar

**Holiday Hours**

<b>December 25</b>	<b>Christmas Day</b>	<b>Closed</b>
<b>January 1</b>	<b>New Year's Day</b>	<b>Closed</b>
<b>January 15</b>	<b>Martin Luther King</b>	<b>Closed</b>
<b>February 19</b>	<b>President's Day</b>	<b>Closed</b>

## From the Reference Desk

*Hispanic American Biographies* (Ref 920 His) is an eight volume encyclopedia recently added to Bill Library. The set includes entries for 750 individuals from the fields of acting, art, writing, music, politics, science, sports and education. By 2050 one in four Americans will be of Hispanic descent. This new set provides biographies of Hispanic Americans who have shaped the history of the United States or who are shaping its future, from Spanish missionaries and Borderland folk heroes to pioneering politicians, scientists and sports stars. Each biography has a key dates box and specific further reading suggestions, and longer entries have 'Influences and Inspirations' boxes.



## Giving Tree Report



Thank you to all our patrons who generously donated books and money for needy children in our town. We so appreciate your help in our 8<sup>th</sup> year of the Giving Tree book donations. Thank you also to all those who gave anonymously or

after the lists were published.

Carol Allen	Ledyard Center Nursery School
Jeanne Allyn	Jody Lees
Nancy Avery	Madeleine Lefker
Marilyn Baseler	Joan Lynch
Nancy Brewer	Lyiam Mathis
Lisa Briere	Emily Melendez
Nancy R. Brown	Sue Migliozi
Nicole Brownson	Claire & Dennis Murphy
Angela Buckley	Sheri O'Connor
Andrea Buka	Mary Ellen Osborne
Jonathan Burianek	Jean Patsiga
Sharon Butler	Pealer Family
Diane Buttermore	Elaine Peluso
Barbara Chapman	Dawn Petersen
Julie Craig	Mary Phillips
Marilyn Cruz	Mary Schwab
Jacqueline Csisar	Sandy and Jim Seaton
Joyce Davis	Susan Sexton
Ellie Davis	Jill Smith
Jan Dawson	Crystal Snyder
Doughty family	Shelley Steendam

Carol Ganz	Nancy Strawderman
Eleanor Gustavel	Mary Strelevitz
Cay Haffey	Joyce Tamer
Meghan Harris	Danette Thornton
Catherine Hiller	Chris VanDusen
Marty Hubbard	Vorbach Family
Haley Jensen	Diana Wall
Sheila Jordan	Alice Wester
Mary Juber	Gayle Wilson
Cindy Juskiewicz	Wymer Family
Sarah Kohrs-Monroe	Ellen Young
Gillian Lane-Plescia	Karen Ysewyn

## Suggestion Box

The following suggestions were recently found in the suggestion box.

1. *Do you have Roger Schank's Coloring Outside the Lines: Raising a Smart Child by Breaking all the Rules?*

**Answer:** Yes, we have the book at Bill Library—Call # 649.1 Sch.

Thank you for your suggestions and compliments.

## Friends News

Bill and Gales Ferry Library offer an ongoing selection of used books for sale. The selections are updated on a regular basis and contain many wonderful choices. At Bill Library the books are in the meeting room and at Gales Ferry they are in the foyer. The friends are happy to accept your gently used books for our sales and appreciate your donations.





# Happy Holidays!



## LIBRARY HOURS

**BILL**  
464-9912

Monday – Thursday 9-9  
Friday & Saturday 9-5  
Sunday Closed  
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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