



BOOKS AND BEYOND...

NEWS OF THE LEDYARD LIBRARIES

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

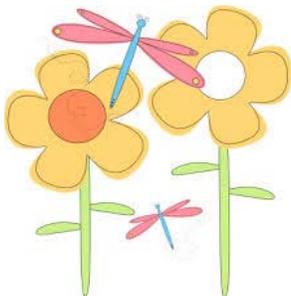
Spring 2015

Volume 28 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.

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Spring at Ledyard Libraries



It has been a long winter with more snow and cold weather than we have seen in a long time! But according to the calendar spring begins on March 20 and I'm sure everyone is ready for it. The libraries are ready and have just what you need to make the transition. Planting season is just around the corner and we have a great selection of vegetable and flower gardening books to plan your summer gardens. If travel is on your mind, stop in to browse the travel guides for your selected destination. For those of you who enjoy making things we are planning a "Maker-Meet-Up" to brainstorm about future "Maker" sessions and work-shops. Check out some of the great programs the library is offering this spring. Some of our winter programs had to be rescheduled due to bad weather. If you missed something – check our list to see if it has been rescheduled. You won't want to miss Learnapalooza on March 21 or the Artist and Writers opening reception on March 28.



April School vacation week is coming up and we have some fun and interesting programs planned for children including a live animal presentation.

Visit Ledyard Libraries this Spring and see what we have to offer you!

Children's Programs

Join us for some great fun this April vacation week at Ledyard Libraries. Mark your calendars now and plan to be here! An adult must accompany pre-schoolers. All programs are free and open to the public.

Animal Show on the Go!

Monday, April 13

Bill Library

11:00 am

All Ages



Animals, animals and more animals!

Join us for a fun morning with lots of different animals to touch and learn about. "Animal Show on the Go" is an animal rescue organization that provides a loving home for unwanted pets and at the same time teaches about the natural world and responsible pet ownership.



Junior Maker LEGO® Fun!

Wednesday, April 15

Bill Library

2:00 pm

Ages 4 - 7



We will provide the LEGO® bricks and you can provide your imagination for a fun-filled program of building and creating! Space is limited, so register early!

Summer Program Alert!



The Theme of our summer reading program is Every Hero Has a Story! The program will begin after school gets out in June and will end on August 8. There will be a Read-to-Me program for children born in 2011 through entering 1st grade. Check the next newsletter for more information and details about special programs.

Adult Programs

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. Upcoming books are distributed monthly at the discussion. All books chosen are available in large print and audio, as well as, regular versions. Please contact Mary Ellen if you would like a copy of the book.

Upcoming dates:

March 25: *The Lowland* by Jhumpa Lahiri (postponed from January)

April 22: *Orphan Train* by Christina Baker Kline

May 27: *Wild: from lost to found on the Pacific Crest Trail* by Cheryl Strayed (postponed from March)

June 24: *The Stone Diaries* by Carol Shields

Online Book Discussions

The monthly Bill Library Book discussion is now held online. Copies of the books will be available at both libraries and participants are encouraged to read the book and post their comments on the library website at www.ledyard.lioninc.org any time during the month. Click the "adults" link in the left column and select "Online book discussion" from the drop down menu. Click the link for the book title to see information about the book. These discussions are open to the public and all participants are welcome. The comments will be monitored before they are posted. Contact Marty Hubbard with any questions: mhubbard@ledyard.lioninc.org

March

Hild: a novel by Nicola Griffith

In her first foray into historical fiction, Griffith explores the young life of Hild, the future St. Hilda of Whitby. Set in seventh-century Anglo-Saxon England, during the early years of Christianity, the novel begins with the sudden death by poisoning of Hild's father, Lord Hereric. To secure the futures of her daughters, Hild's ruthless and cunning mother embarks on a plan to hook their fate to the coattails of Edwin Snakebeard, Lord Hereric's ambitious brother and king-to-be.

April

An Unnecessary Woman: a novel by Rabih Alameddine

In this breathtaking portrait of a reclusive woman's late-life crisis, readers follow Aaliya's digressive mind as it ricochets across visions of past and present Beirut. Colorful musings on literature, philosophy, and art are invaded by memories of the Lebanese Civil War and Aaliya's own volatile past. As she tries to overcome her aging body and spontaneous emotional upwellings, Aaliya is faced with an unthinkable disaster that threatens to shatter the little life she has left.

May

The Empathy Exams: Essays by Leslie Jamison

Jamison attempts to discern and define empathy in diverse and dicey situations. She begins with an account of her experiences working as a "medical actor," performing as patients with baffling ailments that medical students must diagnose, encounters that deliver the realization that empathy requires humility and imagination. Jamison's mission to put empathy to the test is more covert and even more provocative in her wrenching chronicles of drug-war-ravaged Mexico; Nicaragua, where a man attacks her and breaks her nose; a silver mine in Bolivia; and a "Gang Tour" in Los Angeles—explorations that inject guilt into the equation.

June

***The Blazing World* by Siri Hustvedt.** Longlisted for the prestigious Man Booker Prize, this is a *novel* about perception, prejudice, desire, and one woman's struggle to be seen. Artist Harriet Burden, who, after years of having her work ignored, ignites an explosive scandal in New York's art world when she recruits three young men to present her creations as their own. When the shows succeed and Burden steps forward for her triumphant reveal, she is betrayed by the third man, Rune. Many critics side with him, and Burden and Rune find themselves in a charged and dangerous game, one that ends in his bizarre death.

Other Programs

We have planned a full line-up of programs and activities this spring including Fish Ladders, Cars of the 50's, Flora and Fauna of the region and Windows 8. The annual Artist and Writers Showcase is planned along with the Edible Books contest and monthly hikes will continue into April. They Called Me Lizzy has been rescheduled and Learnapalooza offers a smorgasbord of programs in one location.



Please register online at www.ledyard.lioninc.org "EVENTS" for programs with this symbol or by calling the Library.

Device Help - Kindle and iPad

Individual help sessions of 15-30 minutes may be scheduled for assistance with your devices. Contact Marty Hubbard at (860) 464-9912 to schedule an appointment. Instruction will be provided on the basics of operation, how to use free Overdrive E-books or audio books, and free Zinio magazines. Refreshers or troubleshooting can also be scheduled

Computer Genealogy Group @ the Library

March 18, April 15, May 20, June 17

Bill Library 7:00 pm

Join us at our next monthly meeting  to learn about the differences between the three Genealogy databases available from our website. Ancestry Library Edition is only available inside the libraries and provides access to their full selection of records, lists and databases. IConn, the State Library suite of databases also



includes a link to Ancestry with limited records as well as Heritage Quest which has recently been purchased by Ancestry.



Learnapalooza

Saturday, March 21 9:00 am – 2:00 pm
Gales Ferry Library & Community Center
Park at Gales Ferry Landing (Old Gales Ferry School), Hurlbutt Road.

Plan to join us for a celebration of community education sponsored by Ledyard Public Libraries and Ledyard Parks and Recreation. There will be twenty programs to choose from with four options each hour. Come to one session or as many as you like.

- 9- 9:45 learn about Container Gardening, Windows 8, Kids, Cell Phones & Social Media or Acupressure/Reflexology.
- 10-10:45 learn about Quick Sewing Repairs, Computer Genealogy, Planning Funerals & Memorials or Watercolor Backgrounds.
- 11-11:45 learn about Cardio Fitness, Job Search Skills, Trusts or Rubber Stamping & Paper Crafts.
- 12- 12:45 learn about Ballroom Dance, 3D Printing, Estate Planning or Fly Fishing.
- 1-1:45 learn about Yoga, Coin Collecting, Expression of Gratitude or Raising Chickens.

Refreshments will be available to purchase from Gales Ferry Boy Scout Troop 12.

Avery Farm Preserve Hike

Sunday, March 22 (Snow date Mar 29) 1-3 pm
Groton/Ledyard, CT.



This 305 acre wildlife site is owned by GOSA, Groton Open Space Association, www.gosaonline.org. Marshes, grassy fields, hedgerows, Haley Brook wetlands, vernal pools, and many more natural highlights will be seen on this early spring hike. This is considered to be an easy to moderately difficult hike. Access the site from Rte. 184 to the end of Lambtown Rd., Groton. Picnic tables are available for our after hike refreshments provided by the Friends of Ledyard Libraries.



What in the world is a Fish Ladder!

Tuesday, March 24

7:00 pm

Bill Library



If you imagine a fish flapping its way up the rungs of a step ladder to reach its goal you are, strange as it may seem, on the right track. And Ledyard residents have one right next door in Preston.

Historically, alewife journeyed from their native estuarine habitat in Long Island Sound, to the Thames River, and from there a system of waterways to spawn in Avery Pond. But dam construction hindered the journey, reducing alewife populations nationwide. Alewife are a critical species, serving as prey for larger fish, birds and mammals. After spawning, alewife return to the sound and ultimately help support larger populations of other species, including game fish that are a large part of the \$8.5 billion Long Island Sound economy.

Dan Mullins, Executive Director of the Eastern CT Conservation District will discuss the two year old Hallville Fishway and share details of the construction of inclines, a resting tank, and a viewing room with an underwater camera that was nine years in the making. Previously alewife was prevented from moving from Poquetanuck Brook to the pond because of the 15 foot high Hallville Dam. Now they, along with other species such as pickerel and eel, are able to make their way to higher waters. Sponsored by the Friends of the Ledyard Libraries, this program is free and open to the public.

They Called Me Lizzy (Rescheduled!)

Sunday, March 29 2:00 pm
Ledyard Senior Center, 12 Van Tassell Dr.
(off Route 12), Gales Ferry



Actress Stephanie Jackson will perform her dramatic presentation “They Called Me Lizzy...from Slavery to the White House.”

Jackson’s one-woman show portrays Elizabeth Keckly, best known as dressmaker and confidante to Mary Todd Lincoln, wife of President Abraham Lincoln. Her program covers Keckly’s rise from slavery to entrepreneurial freedom. Born into slavery in 1818, she eventually purchased her freedom and made her way to Washington D.C. where her dressmaking and business skills brought her to the attention of many political families including the Lincoln’s. The program, sponsored by the Friends of the Ledyard Libraries, the Ledyard Historical Society and the Ledyard Senior Commission, is free and open to the public.

Artists & Writers Showcase Opening Reception with special exhibit “The Exquisite Project”

Saturday, March 28 1:00-4:30 PM
Bill Library



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

Experience “The Exquisite Project”, featuring the talents of 24 local artists and writers in a unique display.

Due to space constraints, entries are limited to three per artist, (with no limit for writers,) and must be submitted by Wednesday, March 25th, at the Bill Library. Please fill out an entry form and submit with your visual or written pieces. Writers & artists are welcome to sell their creations on the day of the reception. Please indicate if you need table space on the form. Forms are available on the library website, and at both libraries.

Edible Books Contest

Saturday, March 28
Submit entries from 12:30 – 2:00 PM

Bill Library

In conjunction with our Showcase, we will again 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 a title, about a character, or be an actual book made to eat! Entries will be viewed by the public until 3:00 and then served to all attendees. Beverages will be provided by the Libraries’ Friends. Contact Andrea Buka at teenlibrarian@ledyard.lioninc.org or at (860) 464-9912 if you have any questions. We are looking forward to seeing all the wonderful creativity our area has to offer!

Cars of the Fabulous Fifties!

Wednesday, April 8

7:00 pm

Bill Library



Classic car enthusiast, Larry Erhart will take us back to the 1950’s as we look at cars from that time period. Automotive styling and design was influenced by changes in culture, technology, affluence and urban growth. The post war years of the 1950s had some of the most progressive styling designs of that era. Designers such as a John Reinhart, Virgil Exner, Richard Teague, Harley Earl and Raymond Loewy influenced the evolution of automobiles. Cars were no longer just basic transportation, but were now extensions of self-expression. Bring your saddle shoes and poodle skirts as we look at that unforgettable decade.

Mr. Erhart is a self-employed Numismatist and retired from Pfizer Inc. He is a member of 2 local car clubs: Yesteryear Car Club and POCI Pontiac Charter Oak Car Club, and he enjoys restoration, preservation and research of classic automobiles.

Maker Meet-Up

Saturday, April 11 2:00 – 4:00 PM
Bill Library Adults & Teens (Gr. 9-12)



Calling all makers, tinkerers, artisans, electronics enthusiasts, sewers, and other creative minds! If you like to play with computers, power & hand tools, sewing machines, metalworking, radios, engines and motors, sculpture, etc., come meet and mingle with like-minded locals as we explore the idea of a monthly “show & tell” and/or workshop series. Refreshments provided by the Friends of Ledyard Libraries. Contact Andrea Buka at teenlibrarian@ledyard.lioninc.org if you are interested but are unable to attend, or have questions. Walk-ins also welcome.



Ledyard Dam and Reservoir Hike- Rescheduled



Sunday, April 19 (Rain date April 26) 1-3 pm
Gales Ferry Rd., Gales Ferry, CT.

Karl Acimovic with Groton Utilities will guide our 4.4 mile moderately difficult hike. Copies of site maps will be available. Located on the east side of the reservoir, this trail features old farms, a cemetery, and based on snow conditions, we may see signs of native wildlife. This privately managed site offers many treasures not accessible without our special access. Park at GU Gate #42 on Gales Ferry Rd., cones will mark entrance. Tailgate refreshments will cap off our hike, courtesy of the Friends of Ledyard Libraries.



On The Wild Side: Exploring the Fauna and Flora of The Last Green Valley

Tuesday, April 28 7:00 PM
Bill Library



Please join the Friends of the Ledyard Libraries as Bill Reid, Chief Ranger for The Last Green Valley, takes us on a virtual walk on the wilder side of our area. We will learn about what we can see while hiking, paddling, pedaling, or even just observing in our backyards. The region known as The Last Green Valley is 77% undeveloped land, and has many opportunities for exploring nature. A brief Friends meeting will precede this program. Free and open to the public.

Windows 8 Introductory Class



Wednesday, April 29 2:00 – 4:00 PM
Bill Library

Are you struggling with Windows 8 or 8.1, or thinking of buying a computer and want to know more about the current Windows operating system? Bring your laptop and join Andrea Buka as she guides you through getting set up, creating a Microsoft account, customizing your new start menu, and navigating your apps, as time permits. Follow up classes may be offered in the future.

Stitch and Dish/Mad Hatters

If you like to knit or crochet, bring your current project and join us at our next meeting on March 25, 2015. We meet regularly on the second Wednesday each month at 7:00 p.m. and the fourth Wednesday at 3:00p.m., at the Gales Ferry



Library. If you need yarn to start a project or are just starting out, we have lots to pick from. We can also supply you with a variety of needles. Have you been working on a bib, burp cloth, booties or blanket over the winter? We are still taking donations of infant items through June. We are also looking for more knitted bird nests to donate to rescue organizations. Patterns are available.

Newbery/Caldecott 2015

Newbery Award:

The Crossover by Kwame Alexander

Newbery Honor Books:

El Deafo by Cece Bell

Brown Girl Dreaming by Jacqueline Woodson

Caldecott Award:



The Adventures of Beekle: The Unimaginary Friend by Dan Santat

Caldecott Honor Books:

Nana in the City by Lauren Castillo

The Noisy Paint Box: The Colors and Sounds of Kandinsky's Abstract Art by

Barb Rosenstock

Sam & Dave Dig a Hole by Mac Barnett

Viva Frida by Yuyi Morales

The Right Word: Roget and His Thesaurus by Jen Bryant

This One Summer by Mariko Tamaki

All of these books have been ordered for our libraries. If you wish to read any, put holds on them and we will let you know when it is ready for you!



Donations

We recently received donations for the purchase of books to remember and honor a friend or family member. We are grateful for your support.

In memory of

- Nancy DiMella
- Sarah Ann Butler Ruggles

Holiday Hours

April 5	Easter	Closed
May 24	Memorial Day	Closed
May 25	Memorial Day	Closed



A Word from the Friends of Ledyard Libraries

Friends Meeting

Tuesday, April 28

7:00 PM

Bill Library

Happy Spring! Our April meeting will feature Bill Reid and his program Exploring the Fauna and Flora of the Last Green Valley. Come and see what we're all about. Bring a Friend and meet a Friend.

We hope you have enjoyed some of the wonderful programs or museum passes we sponsor during the year. Have you enjoyed a delicious homemade muffin and coffee while visiting the Libraries?

Maybe you're reading books purchased at the Gales

Ferry Library Book Cellar, Bill Library Bookshelf or our Bill Library Book Sale in September.

Have a couple of hours to spare and share? We are looking for book sorters at both libraries to help organize book donations for the sales. I guarantee you'll make some friends and enrich our community when you join the Friends.

This is my last newsletter article as president of the Friends. Special Thanks to Catherine Hiller, Claire Bolduc, Andrea Mckenzie, Sarah Desormier, Marion Cutler, Lynn Nelson, Pam Kalinosky, Joann Massad, Laura Perrino, Karen Davies, Barbara Eldridge, and Gale Bradbury for all of their help. You are great Friends!

Linda DeRose 860-464-6730
ctantiquer2000@yahoo.com

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

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