



BOOKS AND BEYOND...

NEWS OF THE LEDYARD LIBRARIES

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

Winter 2018

Volume 31 No. 1

The Ledyard Libraries serve as a center of information for the community. We 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
- Adult Programs
- Device Help
- Catch & Release
- Donations
- Holiday Hours
- What People are Saying
- Friends News



Ledyard Public Libraries Value to the Community

Recent budget cuts imposed by the State are having a profound effect on town services. Unfortunately it often leads to departments being pitted against each other claiming to provide the most value to the community. During this difficult time we have seen misleading and misinformation given out about the libraries and would like to correct it.

- Ledyard has one library in two buildings with just 16% duplication.
- There is a perception that having two libraries is a luxury and an extravagance for the town but in reality our budget is very small. The municipal budget allocation for FY 2017 represented just \$39.59 per capita. This works out to \$0.76 per week or less than a small cup of coffee at Dunkin Donuts. The statewide average for similar size towns was \$47.34.
- The libraries provide a good value for the community, serving all residents regardless of age or income level. Statewide return on investment estimates for library funding is roughly \$3.67 of value for every tax dollar invested.
- There are twenty-seven towns in Connecticut with more than one library. Eight of those towns have a population under 20,000. In terms of size Ledyard Libraries combined have the smallest per capita square footage of those seven towns and the third lowest municipal spending per capita.
- A comparison with similar sized towns with just one library shows that Ledyard has the smallest per capita square footage for both libraries than they have for one and the third lowest municipal spending per capita.
- Ledyard residents are proud of their great community. The libraries are one of the things that make it great!
- Please note our new revised hours that begin in January.

Children's Programs



Registration for the next session of Story times at the Ledyard Public Libraries



will begin Monday, January 8, 2018. Please sign up online under "Children"- "Storytimes" or call in to Bill Library any time after 9:30 am.

Infant/Toddler (ages 6 – 24 months)

Bill Mondays 9:30 am Jan. 29 – May 7

Terrific Twos

Bill Wednesdays 9:30 am Jan. 31 – May 2

Three - Fives

Bill Wednesdays* 1:00 pm Jan. 31 – May 2
GF Tuesdays 9:30 am Jan. 30 – May 1

*Note: The afternoon 3-5's Storytime at Bill Library has been moved to Wednesday.

Christmas Holiday Week Programs



Lunch & a Movie "Cars 3"(G)
Wednesday, December 27 12:00 Noon

Bill Library All Ages
Bring your lunch, we'll provide lemonade and a treat!



LEGO® Junior Maker
Thursday, December 28 10 – 12:00
Gales Ferry Library Ages 4 – 8

Friday, December 29 10– 12:00
Bill Library Ages 9 – 12

Take Your Child to the Library Day

February 3
Mr. Magic 10:00 am
Bill Library All Ages



Richard Rothstein, AKA Mr. Magic will amaze you with his bag of magic tricks. Join us for a fun magic show with our favorite magician!



LEGO® Junior Makers 1:00 -3:00 pm
Gales Ferry Library Ages 4 – 8
All programs are free and open to the public

Giving Tree

Due to the uncertainty here at the Ledyard Libraries we decided not to have a Giving Tree this

year. We hope to bring back the tradition next year. Please watch in early November 2018 for a new opportunity to give a book to a child in need!

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:

- *December 20: *A Quilt for Christmas* by Sandra Dallas
- January 24: *The Swans of Fifth Avenue* by Melanie Benjamin
- February 28: *A Man Called Ove* by Frederick Bachman
- March 28: *The Zoo Keeper's Wife* by Diane Ackerman

*Date changed for holiday

Online Book Discussions



The online book discussions continue through the winter. 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.

December: *Before Everything* by Victoria Redel
This novel is a celebration of friendship and love between a group of women who have known each another since they were girls.

January: *Enchantress of Numbers* by Jennifer Chiaverini. "Mother-daughter tension sets the stage for this closely researched portrait of Ada Lovelace, the only legitimate daughter of poet Lord Byron." - Kirkus

February: *City of Brass* by S. Chakraborty. A rich Middle Eastern fantasy, the first of a trilogy.

March: *The Dry* by Jane Harper. An atmospheric thriller set in rural Australia.



Cookbook Club

The group meets on the first Tuesday, at noon, at the Gales Ferry Library. Each month, a cookbook is distributed. Cookbooks are available at Bill and Gales Ferry Libraries during the month or by contacting Mary Ellen Osborne at 860-464-6943. Group members peruse the cookbook for the month, trying as many recipes as they please. They provide a sample of one recipe at the next discussion for all to share. We taste test and discuss the cookbook for about an hour each month. Space is limited, so if you check out a cookbook, please let Mary Ellen know if you will be attending. The cookbooks we will be sampling in the upcoming months are:

January 2: *Fix-it or Forget-it Cookbook*

February 6: *Cooking for Jeffrey*

March 6: *Jamie's Food Revolution*

April 3: *Rachael Ray's Big Orange Book*

Other Programs

The Friends of Ledyard Libraries have planned some interesting programs this winter on history, weather and Hiking the Appalachian Trail. Our regular monthly programs will also continue. Hope to see you at the library.

Cape Horn Widows:

Whaling Wives Holding Down the Home Front

Sunday, January 21

2:00 pm

Bill Library



Jennifer Emerson, author and first person interpreter, will return to Ledyard for her third visit. She has awed our audiences in the past with "Tales of the Macabre" and "A Christmas Carol", so you won't want to miss her performance of "Cape Horn Widows".

We know what the men did on their voyages, but how did their wives and families cope when husbands and fathers were away for 2 to 5 years at a time? What was daily life like for the women? In period attire, and with many props, Ms. Emerson will present their stories, and discuss the joys and sorrows of being married, yet single.

Although this is an adult program, it is about families, so older, interested children are very welcome to attend.

The Blizzard of 1978

Sunday, February 11

2:00 pm

Bill Library

John Ruddy, an editor at The Day, will look back at the famous Blizzard of 1978 on the occasion of the 40th anniversary of the storm. Using numerous photos taken at the time, he will discuss the period leading up to the storm, its impact on southeastern Connecticut and beyond, survivor stories, and the herculean cleanup effort.



Thru Hiking the Appalachian Trail

Tuesday, March 6

7:00 pm

Location: TBD



Those who attend this program will be treated to a modern day adventure. Sam Ducharme set out on a 2,180 mile, 14 state backpacking trip from Springer Mountain, Georgia to Mt. Katahdin Maine. During his six month journey he documented the rugged beauty of the Appalachian Mountains, the wildlife, the hardships encountered on the trail, as well as the people, culture and humanity at its finest. Come join him as he takes you through the trail towns, over the mountaintops and through the backcountry. The images and stories will leave you with a renewed awe of the beauty of our country and its people.

The Exquisite Project

Saturday, April 7

1:00 – 3:00 pm

Bill Library

Please join us for the opening of the special exhibit "The Exquisite Project" featuring the talents of 26 local artists in a unique display. Refreshments will be served and you will have the opportunity to meet the artists and writers who created the works in the exhibit.



Artists & Writers Showcase

CANCELLED
On a sorrowful note, due to budget cuts in staffing, the annual Artists & Writers Showcase will be cancelled this year. (I am facilitating the Exquisite Project as a volunteer.) The incredible talent of the community's artists and writers has made the Showcase an exciting event that many have looked forward to, exhibiting their work in or

attending for 12 years. If the staffing situation changes, I look forward to reviving the event.
Andrea Buka, Artists & Writers Showcase Coordinator

**Computer Genealogy Group @ the Library
January, February, March**

Bill Library **7:00 pm**

All meetings are open to the public, new or returning members.

**Stock Investment Discussion Group
Wednesday, January 3, February 7, March 7
Bill Library**

Our Stock Investment

Discussion Group continues to meet monthly to discuss topics related to stock investing. Discussion this quarter includes individual investment objectives, strategies for meeting these objectives, and development of best practices for lifetime investing. Stop by and join in the discussion! If you have any questions, contact Mary Ellen at the Gales Ferry or Bill Library.



**Stitch and Dish
Ledyard Senior Center**

NEW MEETING TIME! NEW MEETING LOCATION!

Stitch & Dish has changed their meeting location to the Ledyard Senior Center. They will be meeting there on the first and third Wednesdays of the month at 2:00 pm.

All adults are welcome to attend. If you like to knit or crochet, bring a project you are working on or struggling with, and spend a couple hours. We are always happy to help or loan out needles and yarn.



Mad Hatters

The Mad Hatters Need Scarves

The Mad Hatters are the outreach branch of Stitch & Dish. To be a Mad Hatter all you need to do is contribute your handiwork - there are no meetings to attend. In the past, they have collected newborn hats, chemo caps, blankets, and many other items to donate to social service groups. This year they are looking for hand knit or crocheted scarves. They will be placing them around town for people in need to find them, as well as, donating them to social service organizations. If you can help, please leave your scarves off at either Bill or Gales Ferry Libraries.

**BOGO Book and Media Sale
Monday, February 12 – Saturday, February 17
Gales Ferry Library Book Cellar**

The Friends of the Ledyard Libraries will hold a "Buy One Get One Free" sale. The sale will be held during regular library hours, so be mindful of the Gales Ferry Library schedule.

Sale applies to our large selection of used books, CD's, DVD's and puzzles. Purchase one item and get a second item of equal or lower price free. Prices will range from 10 cents to \$2.

This sale is the perfect opportunity to stock up on items to entertain on cold, snowy days, or for the children's school vacation.

All proceeds go directly to support the Ledyard Libraries.

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, as well as how to use free Overdrive E-books or audio books, and free Zinio magazines if desired. Refreshers or troubleshooting can also be scheduled.



**Ledyard Historical Society – Catch & Release
Saturdays: January 6, February 6, March 3
9:30 am – 12:00 pm**

Bill Library

Join us at the monthly "open archive" where we welcome curious visitors, anyone with historical inquiries, and the loan of items for digitization. Your Gales Ferry and Ledyard memories will be added to the archive in the Janice W. Bell Historical Research Room at the Bill Library. We will scan your photos, letters, documents, memorabilia, etc., and return them to you with a digital copy when you bring a flash drive along. We can also assist you in preserving your family history.

Contact Andrea Buka at research@ledyardhistory.org or 860-464-9912 (Bill Library) for more information.

Donations

The library wishes to extend a heartfelt Thank You to Susan Surova for her recent donation to the libraries. We are grateful for her gift that will be used to purchase books and other items for the libraries.

Holiday Hours

December 24	Christmas Eve	Closed
December 25	Christmas	Closed
December 31	New Year's Eve	Closed
January 1	New Year' Day	Closed
January 15	Martin Luther King	Closed
February 19	President's Day	Closed

What People are saying

We recently asked Library Patrons to tell us what the libraries mean to them. Here is a sample of what you said.

- Bill Library is my sanctuary
- Ledyard Libraries continue to be a necessity for our wonderful town
- I am so happy you are open Sundays!
- I am very grateful to be able to use the computer, internet and printer as we do not have any at home.
- This is the place I go to see what is going on in town
- We pay a lot in taxes but don't have any children. The library is what we enjoy from our tax money.
- I enjoy Ledyard Libraries; the warmth of friendly and caring librarians, coffee and a muffin and a reprieve from the outside elements.
- Library is a resource I use and appreciate for its capacity and the personal aspect of the people who work here - always helpful and knowledgeable.

A Word from the Friends of the Ledyard Libraries

Friends Meeting

Thursday, January 25

7:00 pm

Bill Library

Join us for our winter meeting at which we will discuss our plans for 2018. Come hear what new items our program and development committees are working on.

Congratulations to Linda DeRose and Jennifer Eastbourne for another successful Annual Bill Books and More Sale! Thank you, Linda and Jennifer, the library staff, and all of the volunteers that assisted, for all of your hard work. Thanks to all of the businesses and individuals that donated items for the sale and for the silent auction. And finally, thanks to all of the patrons who supported this important event. All proceeds go directly to support the Ledyard Libraries.



Make sure you stop by either Bill or Gales Ferry Library for winter reading material! We have a great selection from our ongoing book sales at both locations.

Mark your calendars for the Gales Ferry Book Cellar BOGO sale in February.

Best wishes for a great holiday season. I look forward to seeing you at the library!

Sincerely,

Harry Pearson, President,

Friends of the Ledyard Libraries

pearsonhl@tvconnect.net or 860-287-2670



*Happy Holidays from
Ledyard Libraries Staff*

NEW LIBRARY HOURS

BILL

860-464-9912

Monday- Wednesday 9-8
Thursday Closed
Friday- Saturday 9-5
Sunday 1-5

email: bill-lib@ledyard.lioninc.org

GALES FERRY

860-464-6943

Monday – Tuesday 9-8
Wednesday -Thursday 9-5
Friday Closed
Saturday 9-5
Sunday Closed

email: gf-lib@ledyard.lioninc.org



Non-Profit Org
U.S. Postage
PAID
New London, CT 06320
Permit No. 444

Return service requested

Ledyard Public Libraries
P. O. Box 225
Ledyard, CT. 06339