



BOOKS AND BEYOND...

NEWS OF THE LEDYARD LIBRARIES

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

Fall 2010

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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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Social Networking and the Library



Social networking is a term we are all beginning to know. Yet a few short years ago, it wasn't even on our radar. The term doesn't exist in the 2002 edition of the American Heritage College Dictionary. Turning to the internet, dictionary.com defines it thus "the use of a web site to connect with people who share personal or professional interests, place of origin or education at a particular school." Social networking has arrived.

In an article for *Mac Life* in December 2009, Michael Simon traces the origins of social networking to two bored computer programmers during a 1978 Chicago blizzard. From their computerized bulletin board system, came instant messaging (AOL), subscription services (classmates.com) and the precursor of things to come (friendster). Friendster gained three million users in just six months in 2003, yet was soon replaced by Facebook. Originally just for college students, Facebook was opened to everyone in September 2006. The instant message, micro-blogging system, Twitter, came of age in 2007.

Libraries, always at the forefront of technological advances, jumped on the social networking bandwagon. Here in Ledyard, our foray began when our blog, *At Your Service*, was created in the fall of 2007. While a blog is a way to disseminate information and elicit comment, ours has prompted little discussion. We moved on to create a Twitter account in the spring of 2009. Here, in 140 characters or less, we can get the library word out to all our followers. We optimistically offered a library tote bag to our 100th follower and happily awarded it in February 2010. You can join our 142 followers on twitter at Ledyardpublib. Our first Facebook effort was a page for teens created in the summer of 2009, followed by the Ledyard Public Libraries page in March of this year. Facebook has proven to be our best means of communication. To date we have 226 fans. If you are

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Children's Programs

Registration for Story times at the Ledyard Public Libraries began Monday, September 13, 2010. You may call in to the library where the program is being offered to register.

Toddler (ages 12 – 24 months)

Bill Mondays 10:15 a.m. Sept. 20 – Oct. 25
(no ST 10/11)

Terrific Twos

Bill Mondays 10:15 a.m. Nov. 1 – Dec. 13

Three to Fives

GF Tuesdays 10:15 a.m. Oct. 5 – Dec. 14
Bill Wednesdays 10:15 a.m. Oct. 6 – Dec. 15

Fabulous Fours and Fives

Bill Thursdays 1:00 p.m. Oct. 7 – Dec. 16
(no ST 11/11, 11/25)



Amistad (Friendship) Club

3:30-4:30 p.m.
Thursdays starting September 23 Grades K - 6
Bill Library

Adult and student mentors will provide homework help, reading and math activities and the opportunity to socialize. Registration forms are available at Bill Library. Sponsored by the Friends of Ledyard Libraries, all are welcome.



Please register for programs with this symbol.

Summer Wrap up

We had a great time "Making a Splash" this summer. There were 190 players in the older program (grades 2-6) and 86 players in the Read to Me program (ages 4 – grade 1) for a total of 276 children who participated at both Bill and Gales Ferry Libraries. The older children read 189,210 minutes and the younger children read 2,820 books! In addition to the reading programs, we had a Sidewalk Chalk Contest, Beachy Kids Story time, Fishy Crafts, Tropical Beach Adventure, Water Fun Day, Pirate Tales with Playtivity, and a Suitcase of Surprises with Mystic Aquarium. The top readers will be announced at each school this fall.

Teen Summer Program



There were 39 teens that willingly gave their time and effort this summer to help with the children's program. Not only did they record the hours read for the younger participants, but they taught them how to play the game and gave out prizes. Some of our teens read books during summer story time and others helped make our craft and water play days

lots of fun! The top volunteer this summer was Sarah Baron with 70 hours! The top reader for the teens was Lily Bensko with 23 books read. Congratulations to everyone who worked so hard to make our summer reading program a success!

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.

October 20: *What I Thought I Knew* by Alice Eve Cohen. At age forty-four, Alice Eve Cohen was happy for the first time in years. After a difficult divorce, she was engaged to an inspiring man, joyfully raising her adopted daughter, and her career was blossoming. Alice tells her fiancé that she's never been happier. And then the stomach pains begin. In her unflinchingly honest and ruefully witty voice, Alice nimbly carries us through her metamorphosis from a woman who has come to terms with infertility to one who struggles to love a heartbeat found in her womb - six months into a high-risk pregnancy. With the suspense of a thriller and the intimacy of a diary, Cohen describes her unexpected journey through doubt, a broken medical system, and the hotly contested terrain of motherhood and family in today's society. (from the book flap.)

November 17: *Manhood for Amateurs* by Michael Chabon. The author skillfully balances his story: on the one hand, a multitude of finely examined details, anecdotes, and references; on the other, a solid core of a story. That he could extract such a core greatly impressed some reviewers, although a couple noted that a few of the essays felt as if they had been written for men's magazines—for which they indeed already had. Others found his balancing act not so exceptional in an era of confessional fiction; nevertheless, they were impressed that Chabon could pull it off without falling into the usual pitfalls of the form. (*Bookmarks Magazine*.)

December 15: *The Coral Thief* by Rebecca Stott. Narrated by young Englishman Daniel Connor, fresh out of medical school and traveling to a coveted research position in post-Napoleonic Paris in 1815, the novel begins with his realization that his scientific credentials, including a priceless coral specimen, have been stolen by the beautiful woman who sat next to him in the coach. She turns out to be Lucienne Bernard, a notorious thief being pursued by the chief of the Bureau de la Sûreté, Henri Jagot. A

cat and mouse game ensues, as Jagot tries to enlist Connor to trap Lucienne, but Connor falls deeply in love with the philosopher-thief and eventually makes a decision that might cost him his career, his freedom and his spiritual beliefs. (*Publisher's Weekly*.)

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.

September 22: *That Old Cape Magic*
by Richard Russo

October 27: Book talk and discussion

November 24: *Ford County* by John Grisham

December 22: Holiday book talk and discussion

Fall Programs

A variety of events have been scheduled for the coming months and we hope you will join us for some or all of them. We listened to your request for more hikes with a fall series, a series of computer workshops will help patrons use computers more efficiently, the Friends have scheduled some interesting programs and Ledge Light Health District will help you stop smoking. Ledyard has a rich and varied heritage. Initially an outpost known as "North Groton," Ledyard became a town in its own right in 1836, but the development of its populations began long before that and has continued into the 21st Century. This November, Town Historian Kit Foster will present two entertaining and enlightening programs about our local history.

All events are free and open to the public.

Family Fitness Series
Saturday, October 2 1 p.m.
Barrett Preserve, Gales Ferry

 Mike Goodwin, head of Ledyard branch of Avalonia Land Conservancy will lead this hike. Main trail is 1.26 miles, easy to moderate abilities needed. Ample parking at trailhead in field off Long Cove Rd., across from Mt. Vernon Drive in Gales Ferry. Goto www.avalonialandconservancy.org/TRAITS.html for specific trail information. Refreshments will be provided by Friends of Ledyard Libraries at the Bill Library after the hike.

 **Saturday, November 6 1 p.m.**
It Takes a Village to Make a Town
The Evolution of Gales Ferry Village, 1740 – 1990

Gales Ferry Library

Join us for an interpreted walk through Gales Ferry Village. Historian Kit Foster will explain how and when the essential elements of the village came into being: stores, post office, library, churches, schools, and even the forerunner to today's Super Wal-Marts. The walk will begin at the Gales Ferry Library. Dress for the day's weather and wear comfy shoes. Significant rain will postpone the walk until Sunday. Refreshments provided by Friends of Ledyard Libraries at the Gales Ferry Library after walk.



Computer Workshops

The following sessions are being held this fall to help patrons locate the information they need and to fully use the library resources. We have six laptops available or patrons with wireless connections on their laptops may bring their own.

 **Wednesday, October 27 7:00 p.m.**
Using Library Computers: What's on the desktop?

Bill Library

Learn how to locate what you need on one of our public computers, find the internet, our library catalog, Microsoft Office Products (such as Word, Excel, or Powerpoint), your favorite search engine, obtain a free email address and send and receive email, send an attachment with your email, keep copies of emails sent, create an address book, print a document in black and white, or color, scan a document and then send it to someone in an email or print out a copy of a scanned document... and other questions that may arise.

 **Wednesday, November 3 7:00 p.m.**
Searching for books and other materials

Bill Library

Get a basic tour of the library catalog as well as databases available to all Ledyard residents with their Ledyard Library Card. Learn how to search our catalog, look at your own account, renew or place holds on titles that you would like to read. Did you know that you can see a list of items you have checked out along with the date that each item is due? Would you like to keep a record of the items you've checked out? We can help you set that service up for yourself or your family.



Wednesday, November 10 7:00 p.m.
Exploring and Searching online resources
Bill Library

Explore our online resources including the Overdrive downloadable Audio Books and E-Books, the ReQuest catalog, iConn Magazine and Newspaper Search, Consumer Reports, Chilton's Price-It, Legal Forms, and Education and Testing. In addition we'll explore the JobNow site which is a "live service" for job coaching, resume building and job searching.

Other Programs

Wednesday, September 29

Russian Art

Dan Strunk, retired teacher, will discuss "Russian Art", a presentation that he put together while there studying education in other nations. Sponsored by the Friends of Ledyard Libraries.

7:00 p.m.
Bill Library



Wednesday, October 13

Job/employee Search strategies

CTWorks works for you! Roger Mason, Regional Director of Employment Services for CTWorks East will present an introduction to services CTWorks can provide you in your job or employee search. If you are currently unemployed and need to find work or need assistance in writing a resume, Roger can help you connect with those services. If you work for a business and need help recruiting employees or training new employees, CTWorks can also assist you.

7:30 p.m.
Bill Library

Monday, October 25

Easy, but Unusual Houseplants 7:00 p.m.
Bill Library

As outdoor gardens are put to bed for the season, learn how to add life and color to the indoors with a variety of Houseplants. Alyssa Siegel, local horticulturist, will bring sample plants and talk about their care and maintenance.

Sunday, November 21

2:00 p.m.
Rivers, Roads and Rails
The Development of Ledyard, 1725 – 2025

Bill Library

Although a single town with a single municipal government, Ledyard has several population centers. Town Historian Kit Foster will give an



illustrated lecture on how and why these many villages came into being – and why some of them have nearly disappeared. Join us at the Bill Library Meeting Room on Sunday afternoon, November 21, at 2:00 PM for this very interesting talk.

Mad Hatters/ Stitch and Dish

Wednesday, September 22 10 a.m.-8 p.m.
Knit-In "Knitting for Neighbors"

The Mad Hatters are holding a Knit-In at Gales Ferry Library to raise awareness of the need for winter hand knit items. Anyone who knits or crochets is invited to stop by anytime that day and spend a few minutes or hours knitting. For those who are between projects, we will have a community scarf available for anyone who wants to add a few rows. Please come and fill up the library and our donation basket. We will be collecting hats, scarves, mittens and socks to donate to social service agencies until December 15. Donations for all ages are needed.



Our Stitch and Dish knitting group meets on the 2nd Wednesday at 7:00 pm and the 4th Wednesday at 3 p.m. at Gales Ferry Library. Anyone who likes to knit or crochet is welcome to attend.

Quit Smoking Program Bill Library
Tuesdays, Sept. 21-Nov 1 6-8 p.m.

Are you ready to quit smoking but need a little help? Ledge Light Health District and Ledyard Libraries would like to help. Commit to Quit, a nationally recognized program will be offered at Bill Library this fall. A casual, supportive atmosphere is provided at each session with a trained facilitator. Participants will learn skills to help them quit and discuss their challenges and success. Nicotine replacement products will also be provided FREE



Session Dates/Topics:

September 21	Thinking about Quitting
September 28	On the road to Freedom
October 5	Wanting to Quit
October 12	Quit Day
October 14*	Winning Strategies
October 19	The New You
October 26	Staying Off
November 2	Celebration

*This session meets Thursday, a follow-up to quit day.

Take the first step to Freedom from smoking and contact Bill Library or Kerensa Mansfield to register at 860-448-4882x309 or email kmansfield@ledgelighthd.org.

Sponsored by Ledge Light Health District and funded by the Connecticut Department of Public Health Tobacco Use Prevention and Control Program.

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one of the 400+ million Facebook users, look for Ledyard Public Libraries to become a fan.

We know from statistics compiled by the Nielsen Company that social networking has grown roughly 29% in the United States in the last year. This summer the Town of Ledyard was awarded a grant from Northeast Utilities for consulting services to utilize social media to extend marketing outreach and two-way communications with the public. Look for the library to extend its presence in the world of social networking.

New Book Preview

Kinsella, Sophie	Mini Shopaholic	September
Sparks, Nichols	Saying Goodbye	September
Connelly, Michael	The Reversal	October
Coulter, Catherine	The Valcour Heiress	October
Evans, Richard Paul	Promise Me	October
leCarre, John	Our Kind of Traitor	October
Leonard, Elmore	Djibouti	October
Parker, Robert	Painted Ladies	October
Baldacci, David	Hell's Corner	November
Clancy, Tom	Dead or Alive	November
Cornwell, Patricia	Port Mortuary	November
Cussler, Clive	Crescent Dawn	November
Deaver, Jeffery	Edge	November
Grisham, John	The Confession	November
King, Stephen	Full Dark, No Stars	November
Pronzini, Bill	The Hidden	November
Rice, Anne	Of Love and Evil	November
Robb, J.D.	Indulgence in Death	November

Donations

We recently received donations for the purchase of books for Bill and Gales Ferry Library from

Glenwoods Book Club
Lewis Tew
A Library Friend

In Memory of Dottie Estes

Our sincere thanks go to the donors.

Holiday Hours

October 11	Columbus Day	Closed
November 11	Veterans Day	Closed
November 24	Thanksgiving Eve	Close at 5
November 25	Thanksgiving	Closed
November 26	Day after Thanksgiving	Closed

A Word from the Ledyard Library Friends

I hope everyone had a wonderful summer!

As of this writing the Bill Book Sale is in full swing, and was off to a roaring start. We had an exciting Member's Night Preview, with the meeting room and downstairs packed with excited shoppers. Stella kept bringing more books upstairs to restock shelves as buyers cleaned them out, and cashiers were busy as were those who straightened the shelves. Our thanks to everyone who worked the book sale and helped make it another successful year for this great fundraising effort. Many thanks once again to Marie and Dave Engelman for their devotion and skills in making the book sale a success, and to Carl and Lynn Nelson, who worked side by side with Marie and Dave to chair the event. Many people made the event a success, and we wish to thank everyone who helped sort and organize books, moved books, and those who helped as cashiers and who kept the shelves attractive and neat during the sale. We could not have done this without everyone's help!



Annual Meeting

Monday, November 1 7:00 P.M. Bill Library

Our next membership meeting is coming up and we would love to see you there. This is the meeting we look forward to all year, when we talk about all the ways we can help the Ledyard Libraries with the money we raised at the book sales.

We are forming a group of people who will look at both the Gales Ferry Book Sale and the Bill Book Sale and make future plans for the directions of the sales. If you are interested in books, book sales, enjoy planning events, have marketing ideas or skills, or just enjoy meeting with fellow Friends, we'd love your input. Please contact Betsy Shafer at bshafr@aol.com or 860-536-6008, or Carl Nelson at cnelson18@comcast.net to find out more.

Please check the schedule for upcoming programs on Russian Art, Genealogy, Digital Photography, and more. If you are coming to a program and can help out by coming early to help set up or break down at the end, it is so much appreciated. Contact Claire Bolduc at cfrdh@tvccconnect.net if you can help or have program ideas.

See you on November 1st!
Betsy Shafer

Display Case

The display case at Bill Library currently features a display of photos portraying the marriage of Tom Thumb. The real Tom Thumb or Charles Stratton, 1838 -1883 lived in Bridgeport, Ct. and was taken in by the Barnum and Bailey Circus at the age of 4. His marriage to Lavinia Warren was the subject of a popular show that was given in schools and churches across the country.

Re-designed Web Page

The library is in the process of redesigning the library web page and will soon have it available. The design was created by Scott Buka a recent graduate of Eastern Connecticut State University with a bachelor's degree in digital design. The new page features easy to read navigation buttons, a calendar and catalog search options.

LIBRARY HOURS

BILL

860-464-9912

Monday – Thursday 10-9

Friday - Saturday 10-5

Sunday 1-5

email: bill-lib@ledyard.lioninc.org

GALES FERRY

860-464-6943

Monday – Thursday 10-8

Friday - Saturday 10-5

Sunday Closed

email: gf-lib@ledyard.lioninc.org

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