



BOOKS AND BEYOND...

NEWS OF THE LEDYARD LIBRARIES

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

Spring 2005

Volume 18 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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The Bill Library
View from Route 117

Library Referendum: May 17, 2005 This is Your Library, The Choice is Yours

The Town Council recently voted to send the Bill Library Addition to a referendum on May 17th to let the voters decide if a 14,368 square foot addition should be built. The Building Committee is committed to raising \$2 million and asks the town to provide \$2.5 million for the project. The Committee has already raised \$820,000 and hopes to secure a \$500,000 grant to cover the costs associated with improving handicapped access to the building. They will raise the remaining funds from other grants and fundraising activities, including a public appeal.

During the past year construction costs have increased but the Building Committee is holding the cost at \$4.5 million, keeping the town's share at \$2.5 million. The total square footage will be built but the lower level will be left unfinished. Using just the first floor doubles our existing space and will give us adequate room for the present. The lower level will be completed when additional funding is secured.

This addition will benefit every Ledyard resident by providing an expanded children's room, adequate room for technology, increased shelving for books, quiet reading areas, a separate young adult area, improved entrance on ground level and a handicapped accessible building.

We will hold two information sessions in May for residents to ask questions. (See inside) We've also included a "Frequently asked Questions" flyer in the newsletter.

Bill Library Addition



The Bill Library
View of Main Entrance

Information Sessions

Join us on either date to find out what improvements are planned for your library!

Tuesday, May 3 7:30 p.m. Bill Library
Thursday, May 5 7:30 p.m. Gales Ferry School Library

We will hold two sessions for members of the public to learn about the proposed addition and renovations to the Bill Library. Members of the Building Committee and Library Commission will discuss details of the project, including design, budget and financing. Architectural drawings and copies of the floor plan will be available for review, and the architect will also be present. The Colchester Library, designed by the architect for our project, was recently awarded the 2005 Connecticut Excellence in Public Library Architecture Award.

Town Meeting

Monday, May 9 7 p.m. Ledyard High School Auditorium

A Town Meeting will be held on May 9 to consider the following resolution:

“Shall the Town of Ledyard appropriate \$4,500,000 for additions and renovations to the Bill Library and authorize the issue of bonds and notes in the same amount to finance said appropriation?”

The Town Meeting will then adjourn to a town wide vote on the matter. Absentee ballots will be available in the Town clerk’s office.

Referendum

Tuesday, May 17 6 a.m. – 8 p.m.
District 1: Ledyard Center School
District 2: Juliet Long School

We encourage you to attend an information session and the town meeting. Then come vote on May 17!

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. If you have any questions, please call 464-9912.

Brian Scott Productions Presents: “Spring into Magic!”

Tuesday, April 19, 2005 10:00 am
Bill Library All Ages

Brian Scott brings his special bag of tricks to Ledyard featuring magic, mystery and adventure with an interactive show for the entire family. There is no registration required for this show.

Please watch for another Spring Vacation program to be announced!

Summer Program Alerts!

Children’s: “Dragons, Dreams and Daring Deeds” is the theme of our children’s summer program this year! The program begins in June and will end August 6th.



As in the past, a Read-to-Me program is planned for children born in 2001 through entering 1st grade. Check the next newsletter for more complete information and special programs.

Young Adult: For teens we suggest “Joust Read”



, a program with a medieval theme open to those entering grades 7-12 in the fall. Special activities will include a medieval food sampler, cross-stitch class, weaving demonstration, and an armor and weapons/costume demo!

Weekly raffle drawings will be held for prizes. Tickets are earned by reading any book or volunteering to help with a program. Watch for more information in June about volunteer orientations and sign-ups. We look forward to a great summer with all of our teens!

Adult Programs

Book Discussions

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

April 20, 2005: *Hornet's Nest* by Jimmy Carter
President Carter continues to have one of the most productive and varied post-political careers of any former U.S. president. With 16 works of nonfiction to his credit, Carter turns to fiction with this account of the Revolutionary War in the Deep South. Because most of the accessible literature revolves around battles fought in New England and the Middle Atlantic colonies, it is easy to overlook the fierce fighting that took place in Florida, Georgia, and the Carolinas. The plot revolves around the migration of newlyweds Ethan and Epsey Pratt from Philadelphia to a homestead in Georgia. When the War for Independence heats up, the Pratts and their – friends and neighbors – many of them Quakers are forced into events beyond their control.

May 18: *The News from Paraguay* by Lily Tuck.
Ella Lynch left Ireland at age 10, married a French officer at 15, divorced by 19, and is now living with a Russian count while struggling to pay her embittered maid. Thus she's in prime shape to appreciate the quick and ardent attentions of Francisco Solano Lopez, aka Franco, the future dictator of Paraguay. Soon Ella is off with him to Paraguay, which he vows to make "a country exactly like France." This book of historical fiction tells a story not unlike Eva Peron's. Ella embraces her lover's ill-fated dream fueled by outsize imperial ambition and heedless arrogance, and with devastating consequences for Paraguay and all its inhabitants. *The News from Paraguay* captures the devastating havoc wrought on both a country's fate and a woman's heart by ruthless ambition and war.

June 15: *Saints at the River* by Ron Rash. When a twelve-year-old girl drowns in the Tamassee River and her body is trapped in a deep eddy, the people of the small South Carolina town that bears the river's name are thrown into the national spotlight. The girl's parents want to attempt a rescue of the body; environmentalists are convinced the rescue operation will cause permanent damage to the river and set a dangerous precedent. Torn between the two sides is Maggie Glenn, a twenty-eight-year-old newspaper photographer who grew up in the town and has been sent to document the incident. Since leaving home almost ten years ago, Maggie has done her best to avoid her father, but now, as the town's conflict opens old wounds, she finds herself revisiting the past she's fought so hard to leave behind. Meanwhile, the reporter who's accompanied her to cover the story turns

out to have a painful past of his own, and one that might stand in the way of their romance.

Ledyard Sampler

Saturday, June 11, 2005
(Rain date June 12)

11 a.m. - 4 p.m.
Nathan Lester House

Because we had so much success and fun doing the Yule Tea with the Historical Society, we've come up with another joint fundraiser



for the spring. The Ledyard Sampler will include guided tours of the Lester House and Tool Museum, a letterboxing and nature hike, a baked goods table, and hot dog stand. We are also reserving 10' X 10' vendor spaces in the meadow for crafters, antique collectors, and others for \$25 each. (We have a limited number of tables available.) In addition, we will have craft demonstrations, such as blacksmithing, spinning, and butter churning.

If you would like to help with this event by giving time or food, or to reserve a vendor space, please contact Andrea Buka at 464-8540, Jan Dawson at bsktladee@aol.com, or leave a message at either library. Deadline for reservations is June 4th. We look forward to seeing you there!

From the Reference Desk



Financial Times World Desk

Reference Ref 031Fin

(Ready Reference at the Information Desk)

This title, published by Dorling Kindersly Publishing, Inc., is a cross between the world almanac and the statistical abstracts reference for world countries. Many maps, charts and graphs are included in this useful reference book!

2003 International Residential Code Reference

690.837 Int

We have purchased 3 of these manuals, which are used by the Town of Ledyard when they look at new building and renovation plans. This is also the code used by local building inspectors and contractors. Each library has a Reference copy of this book, and Bill Library has a circulating copy which can be checked out for three weeks at a time.

**Newbery and Caldecott
Award winners for 2005**

Newbery Award:

Kira, Kira by Cynthia Kadohata

Newbery Honor Books:

Al Capone Does My Shirts by Gennifer Choldenko

*The Voice That Challenged a Nation: Marion
Anderson and the Struggle for Equal Rights*
by Russell Freedman

Lizzie Bright and the Buckminster Boy
by Gary D. Schmidt

Caldecott Award:

Kitten's First Full Moon by Kevin Henkes

Caldecott Honor Books:

The Red Book by Barbara Lehman

Coming on Home Soon by Jacqueline Woodson

Knuffle Bunny: A Cautionary Tale by Mo Willems

We have ordered these books for our libraries. So if you wish to read any, please put holds on them!

Technology News



Bill Library now has a wireless connection to the Internet. Patrons may use their own laptop with a wireless card anywhere in the building to connect to the Internet.

The library can also e-mail patrons when a book placed on hold comes in. If you'd prefer an e-mail

note rather than a phone call when your books come in, let us know at either Bill or Gales Ferry Library. We'd be happy to send a note by e-mail.

Suggestion Box

The following suggestions were recently found in the suggestion box.

1. *I would like to see more books by Beverly Louis and the Polar Express DVD when it is available.*

Answer: The Polar Express DVD is on order. Beverly Louis has several books for children, young adults, and adults. We will try to get more. If there is a particular title you would like to see, let us know or place a hold on it through our catalog.

2. *I would like you to get more Nancy Drew Books- I have read all of the ones you have.*

Answer: We will add more, but we also suggest putting a hold on any titles you want. If we don't own a title, we can have it sent to us from another library.

3. *Putting all of the books in the "Enders" series (Orson Scott Card) together in Science Fiction would be helpful.*

Answer: Thank you, we have moved them to Science Fiction shelves. A duplicate copy of the first title will stay in the young adult section.

4. *I would like to see more young children's movies - both VHS and DVD (ie. Wiggles, Dora & Stanley)*

Answer: We continue to add new videos on a regular basis. Both of those titles are available at Bill Library and may be sent to Gales Ferry for you. Simply fill out a request slip at the desk. In order to stretch our limited budget we do not always purchase duplicate copies of a title. Thank you for your suggestions and compliments.

Book Preview



Looking for a good book to read? Several well-known authors have new books coming out. We will be happy to reserve a title or two for you. If you have a favorite author and would like us to

automatically add a hold to any new book they have out, let us know about it. We will be happy to add your name to a favorite author list.

Chiaverini, Jennifer	The Sugar Camp Quilt	April
Clark, Mary Higgins	No Place Like Home	April
Kidd, Sue Monk	The Mermaid Chair	April
Sparks, Nicholas	True Believer	April
Woods, Stuart	Two Dollar Bill	April
Cook, Robin	Marker	May
Koontz, Dean	Velocity	May
L'Amour, Louis	High Lonesome...	May
Leonard, Elmore	The Hot Kid	May
Sandford, John	Broken Prey	May
Smith, Wilbur	The Triumph of the Sun	May
Brown, Dale	Act of War	June
Deaver, Jeffrey	The Twelfth Card:	June
Evanovich, Janet	Eleven on Top	June
Parker, Robert	Appaloosa	June
Quick, Amanda	Lie by Moonlight	June
Scottoline, Lisa	Devil's Corner	June
Theroux, Paul	Blinding Light	June
Vachss, Andrew	Two Trains Running	June

Holiday Hours		
March 25	Good Friday	Open
March 27	Easter	Closed
May 29	Memorial Day Sunday	Closed
May 30	Memorial Day	Closed

Bill Library Roof

The Bill Library recently had a new roof put on. The roof has been in need of repair for several years and significant water damage from recent storms made it impossible to wait any longer to replace it. Replacing the roof has been in the library budget for the past 3 years. After two attempts at going out to bid, we were able to find a contractor willing to do the work at a reasonable price. Although we have plans to expand and renovate the library, the funds for a new roof were eliminated from the total building cost. Most of the new roof will be untouched by the future expansion.

Other needed repairs and renovations that will be part of the addition project include repainting the exterior of the building, re-carpeting, repaving the parking lot, replacing the furnaces, replacing the telephone system, upgrading ADA code violations, and addressing moisture in the basement. These capital projects are estimated to cost a total of \$263,000 and cannot be delayed much longer.

Garden Club Donation



The Ledyard Garden Club recently made a donation to the libraries for some gardening Books. We have added the following titles in their name including *Wildlife Friendly Plants* by Rosemary Creeser, *Birds in your Backyard* by Robert J. Dolezal, and *Beginner's Guide to Gardening* by Reader's Digest for

Bill Library; and *Gardening with Ornamental Grasses* by Roger Grounds for Gales Ferry Library. These books make a wonderful addition to our collections and we appreciate their generosity.

Friends News

Thursday, June 2, 2005
Gales Ferry Library

9 a.m. – 8 p.m.



Mark your calendars for another outstanding Gales Ferry Book Sale! The spring sale kicks off on June 2nd at 9:00 a.m. and continues during library hours through Friday, June 10. Prices change almost daily with buck a bag beginning on Monday, June 6. Check out the sale for wonderful bargains.

If you would like to browse and help out the Friends, please consider working a shift during the sale. Marilyn Baseler, sale chairman, welcomes helpers to sort and set up prior to the sale, as well as to handle the cash box. Please call her at 464-8717, if you can offer a few hours of your time.

Building Committee News

The Bill Library Addition Building fund recently received a \$20,000 boost to its capital campaign. A former Ledyard resident, whose family has lived in this town for many years, made the donation. He says "For many years [our] family has been very supportive of the town and in particular the library. We are pleased to be able to help and hope you are successful with this project."

The library's benefactor, William Holton will fully match the donation. Mr. Holton has offered to match all donations to the building fund dollar for dollar up to \$100,000. To date he has matched \$69,400.

The Building Committee has committed to raise \$2 million to offset the cost of a \$4.5 million expansion to the library. This donation brings the total raised to \$820,000. The committee is looking at grants and other fund raising activities to raise the remaining funds. Interested parties may make tax deductible donations to the Bill Library Association.

LIBRARY HOURS

BILL

464-9912

Monday – Thursday 9-9
Friday - Saturday 9-5
Sunday 1-5
email: bill-lib@ledyard.lioninc.org

GALES FERRY

464-6943

Monday – Thursday 9-8
Friday - Saturday 9-5
Sunday 1-5
email: gf-lib@ledyard.lioninc.org

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Vote May 17th