



BOOKS AND BEYOND... NEWS OF THE LEDYARD LIBRARIES

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

Winter 2012

Volume 25 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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E-Readers and Tablets @ your library



The library has been offering downloadable e-books and audio books for well over a year. As more people obtain the devices to read or listen to these books they need information about how to do it. We are here to help answer those questions. If you are looking to get one of these devices perhaps we can help you decide which one would best suit your needs.

Ledyard Libraries now have a collection of Kindles, Nooks and iPads thanks to funding from the Library Friends. These devices will be a resource for staff to help our patrons learn to use them. Patrons will be able to try out the different models to see what would work best for them. Learn the difference between a reader and tablet along with what they are best used for.



A series of workshops are planned to help patrons become familiar with the features of an iPad or how to download a free book to a Kindle vs. buying one. How does the iPad tablet differ from the Kindle Fire and how are they different from a computer? What's an app and where do I get them?

If you need help with your new reader or tablet stop by the library or plan to attend one of the information sessions at Bill Library.



Children's Programs

Registration for Story times at the Ledyard Public Libraries will begin Monday, January 9, 2012. Call the library where the program is being offered anytime after 10:00 am.

Toddler (ages 9 – 24 months)

Bill Mondays 10:15 am Jan. 23 – Feb. 27
(no ST 2/20)

Terrific Twos

Bill Mondays 10:15 am Mar. 5 – May 7
(no ST 3/12, 4/9)

Three - Fives

Bill Wednesdays 10:30 am Feb. 8 – May 9
(no ST 3/14, 4/11)

GF Tuesdays 10:30 am Feb. 7 – May 8
(no ST 3/13, 4/10)

Four - Sixes

Bill Thursdays 1:00 pm Feb. 9 – May 10
(no ST 3/15, 4/12)

February Vacation Program

“Penguin Day @ the Library”

Tuesday, February 21 Bill Library

Penguin Drop-in Crafts 10 – 11 am

Movie – “Happy Feet” 11:30 – 1 pm

Movie – “Surf’s Up” 1:15 – 2:45 pm



Our “One Book Every Young Child” selection for this winter is: *If You Were a Penguin* by Florence and Wendell Minor. We have scheduled a full day of penguin activities including crafts and a movie marathon. Bring your lunch and we will provide lemonade and goldfish for snacks! Be sure to check out a penguin book to read this week!

Amistad (Friendship) Club 3:30-4:30 pm
Thursdays 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.

Adult Programs

Book Discussions Join our monthly book discussions on the third Wednesday of the month at Bill Library at 7:00 pm. We always welcome new participants and provide refreshments. We will be asking for input (written or verbal) about specific titles, genres, or subject areas for our 2012 book discussions!

January 19: *The Cat’s Table* by Michael Ondaatje. In the early 1950s, an 11-year-old boy in Colombo boards a ship bound for England. At mealtimes he is seated at the “cat’s table”—as far from the Captain’s Table as can be—with a ragtag group of “insignificant” adults and two other boys, Cassius and Ramadhin. As the ship makes its way across the Indian Ocean, through the Suez Canal, into the Mediterranean, the boys tumble from one adventure to another, bursting all over the place like freed mercury. But there are other diversions as well! “Ondaatje’s best novel since his Booker Prize-winning *The English Patient*,” says *Publisher’s Weekly*.

February 15: *The Tiger’s Wife* by Tėja Obrecht. Natalia Stefanovi, is a doctor living and, in between suspensions, practicing in an unnamed country that’s a ringer for Obrecht’s native Croatia. She crosses the border in search of answers about the death of her beloved grandfather, who raised her on tales from the village he grew up in, and where, following German bombardment in 1941, a tiger escaped from the zoo in a nearby city and befriended a mysterious deaf-mute woman. The evolving story of the tiger’s wife, as the deaf-mute becomes known, forms one of three strands that sustain the novel. (*Publisher’s Weekly*)

March 21: *The Maid: A Novel of Joan of Arc* by Kimberly Cutter. Cutter brings fresh insight to the story of Joan of Arc in this dynamic page-turner. The exhilaration of her many triumphs on the battlefield, the bloody combat, the deadly jealousies and political machinations that begin her undoing, and her tragic end are portrayed with vivid imagination and brio. (*Publishers Weekly* starred review.)

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. Please contact Mary Ellen if you would like a copy of the book.

Upcoming dates:

December 28: *A Redbird Christmas* by Fannie Flag
January 25: *The Weird Sisters* by Eleanor Brown
February 22: *Founding Mothers* by Cokie Roberts
March 28: *Saving CeeCee Honeycutt* by Beth Hoffman

Other Programs

A variety of programs and events have been scheduled in the coming months and we hope you will be able to join us for some of them. For those who like to work with their hands we have knitting or jewelry groups and scrapbooking. For those who enjoy the outdoors we offer guided monthly hikes or if you prefer to stay warm perhaps Bob Walsh's presentation on fishing in the Alaskan wilderness will appeal. Other programs feature E-readers and tablets, genealogy, cooking, history and even paranormal activity in the Mystic area. The hikes are part of our popular Family Fitness series, and children are welcome but must be accompanied by an adult. In addition, while we love dogs, we must ask that they be left at home.

All events are free and open to the public.

Thursday, December 29 1-9 pm
E-Reader Open House
Bill Library

The library will host an open house to help patrons learn to use an e-reader or tablet. We'll answer individual user questions one-on-one with those who bring us their new Kindle, Nook, iPad or Kindle Fire. We'll help you get through buying or downloading your first book, and figuring out how to get the best out of these devices.

Thursday, January 12 7:00 pm
Scrapbooking 101, Getting Started
Bill Library

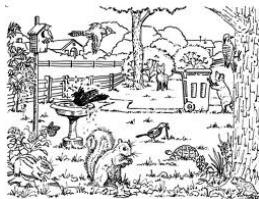


Sarah Desormier, Creative Memories Consultant will get you started on your first scrapbook. Find out easy ways to organize, choose your album, the right adhesive and basic tools to create lasting memories.

Saturday, January 21 1:00 pm
Successional Wildlife Habitat Hike
43 Pheasant Run Drive, Gales Ferry

Gales Ferry residents, Brian and Ruth Dirlam will host a hike on their private wildlife domain. The development of this wildlife habitat will be the focus of this hike as they highlight many points of interest on the property.

Park near #43 Pheasant Run Dr. in Gales Ferry. We will meet at the long driveway to access the property. Refreshments will be served after the hike at Dirlam's woodland barn courtesy of Friends of Ledyard Libraries.



Sunday, Jan 22 (Snow Date Feb. 5) 1:30 pm
Using Your Kindle E-Reader
Bill Library

This session will focus on the basic functions of a Kindle. Bring your fully-charged device, and we'll help you learn how to get the most from it. Topics will include how to download a book you purchase from Amazon and one you borrow through the library, turning your wireless on or off, adding a bookmark, taking notes in the books you read, changing the font size, and more. We will also provide a list of websites that offer free downloadable books. Space is limited so register early.

Sunday, January 29 2:00 pm
Battle of Groton Heights
Bill Library

"We will not give up the fort, let the consequences be what they may." (Col. William Ledyard, Battle of Groton Heights, September 6, 1781)

Please join us as Shirleyann Dunbar Rose, Immediate Past President of the Friends of Fort Griswold, discusses this historic event in our area's history. Also included in the program will be a film by Lee Moore, an executive board member of the Friends of Ledyard Libraries, depicting highlights of "In Our Own Words," a first person presentation of what survivors experienced on the day of the battle.

Tuesday January 31 7:00 pm
Using your iPad Tablet
Bill Library

This session will focus on getting the most from your iPad. Bring your fully-charged device, and we will explore some of the many things this tablet can do. Search the internet, read your email, download and read books, listen to music, or watch videos. Learn about "apps" and some of the things they can do, taking photos or creating a video, talking with family or friends using "face-time, playing games and much more. Space is limited so register early.

Monday, February 6 7:00 pm
Alaska: Salmon, Bears and Rainbow Trout
Bill Library

Bob Walsh returns to the Bill Library to present his latest voyage to the Alaskan Wilderness.

"Alaska: Salmon, Bears, and Rainbow Trout" documents Bob Walsh's recent trip with stunning first hand photographs of the Alaskan Wildlife. Please join us for an evening of entertaining travel anecdotes and a fascinating insight into the Alaskan Ecosystem.





February 18 **1:00 pm**
Moore Woodlands Hike
 Capstan Ave., Mystic, CT

Avalonia representatives will guide us through this picturesque mature woodlands location. Under Avalonia Land Conservancy management, the ongoing wildlife habitat enhancement here highlights a large meadow as well as other key points of interest. Go to avalonialandconservancy.org for trail maps of this and other sites at this local land trust. From Rte. 1, Mystic, turn onto Judson Ave. through a subdivision, turn right onto Capstan Ave., to end of cul-de-sac, near small cemetery. The trailhead is well marked. Tailgate refreshments provided after the hike compliments of the Friends of Ledyard Libraries.



Sunday, February 19 **2:00 pm**
Dim Sum to Modak: Dumplings from
Around the World
 Ledyard Senior Center **Ages 16 & up**



Good things come in small packages, and delicious fillings surrounded by sumptuous dough are irresistible. Andrea Buka & Jennifer Finlayson will be presenting a menu highlighting this versatile food type. Come hungry and plan to spend the afternoon enjoying samples from around the globe, as we discuss the cuisines represented and preparation methods. There will be an audience participation opportunity. Please register before Monday, February 13. Co-sponsored by the Friends of Ledyard Libraries and the Ledyard Senior Center.

Thursday, March 8 **7:00 pm**
The Science behind the Paranormal
 Bill Library

When there is something strange, in your neighborhood. Who you gonna call ... The Smoking Gun Research Association. This non-profit organization focuses on educating the public about the science behind the paranormal. Established by Jon Norwinski in 1997, the SGRA has a proven track record and is a well respected authority in paranormal science. Please join us for an evening with Jon Norwinski of the SGRA. Jon will discuss his research conducted at the Lighthouse Inn in New London, as well other local sites of reported hauntings. The SGRA will also showcase scientific instruments used in paranormal detection.



March 14 **7:00 pm**
Movie "Jane Goodall: Reason for Hope"
 Bill Library

March is National Women's History Month and in celebration of the wide range of women's contributions and achievements this year, we will show the PBS version of the movie which focuses on a woman conservationist and primate researcher. Join us to learn more about this celebrated scientist! (60 minutes.)

Thursday, March 22 **7:00 pm**
March is for "The Birds"!
 Bill Library



Robert Tougias will present a slide talk on the wild birds of Connecticut. He will discuss and answer questions regarding their natural history, conservation, and where to see or how to attract them.



Saturday, March 31 **1:00 pm**
Invasive Species Hike
The Historic Sheep Farm, Groton

Susan Sutherland with Groton Open Space Association (GOSA) will be our expert guide on this hike at the Historic Sheep Farm located on Hazelnut Hill Rd. in Groton. She will point out some invasive plant species and discuss ways to control them. Go to gosaonline.org for more information on this local conservation group. Park at the trail head about one half mile up Hazelnut Hill Rd (behind Pequot Medical Center). Some parking is also available on the street and at the nearby UMC Church. Tailgate refreshments after hike sponsored by the Friends of Ledyard Libraries.

Artists & Writers Showcase - Call for Entries
April 14 – May 13 **Bill Library**

Entries are limited to three per visual artist, and must be submitted by Wednesday, April 11 to the Bill Library. There is no limit for written pieces. Please fill out an entry form and mark all pieces with your name & contact information. Entry forms are available on our website: www.ledyard.lioninc.org/, and at both branches. An opening reception will be held Saturday, April 14 from 1-4:30 p.m. You are welcome to bring business cards or brochures to display, and to sell your artwork on that day. Entries will need to be picked up before May 14.

Also on exhibit will be the Exquisite Project, which is already in progress. Artists & writers already participating in this project are encouraged to submit to the Showcase as well.

Edible Books Contest

Saturday, April 14

Bill Library

In conjunction with the opening reception for artist and writers, an Edible Books Contest will feature edible treats based on a book title or theme. Entries may be submitted from 1:00 to 2:00 pm. They will be on display until 3:00 pm, and then served to the public. Beverages will be provided by the Friends of the Ledyard Libraries. For more information contact Andrea Buka at abuka@ledyard.lioninc.org or leave a message at either library

Mad Hatters / Stitch and Dish

The Mad Hatters have been collecting hats, scarves, and mittens to disburse to social service agencies. Thank you to everyone who has contributed. As we have several cold months still ahead of us, please continue to drop off your knitted and crocheted items at either library through February 15.

Watch the next newsletter for our upcoming spring/summer projects.

Stitch and Dish meets on the 2nd and 4th Wednesdays at Gales Ferry Library. The 2nd Wednesday group meets at 7:00 pm and the 4th Wednesday group meets at 3:00 pm. This is an informal group of knitters and crocheters who help each other, share ideas, and have fun. New members are always welcome.

Jewelry Night @ the Library

Jewelry Night is the second Tuesday from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. at Gales Ferry Library. Bring your current jewelry project to work on, share ideas, and enjoy the company of fellow beaders.

Genealogy Group @ the Library

The "Ledyard Libraries Computer Genealogy Group" (COGG) will meet on the 4th Wednesday of the month at Bill Library. The December 28 meeting will feature a demonstration of the software program called "Family Tree Maker." Bring your laptop or tablet, connect to the library's Wi-Fi and participate in discussions for doing research on your family genealogy. We will also help troubleshoot any "road blocks" or problems in doing research. Please send an email to Marty Hubbard mhubbard@ledyard.lioninc.org for more information about this group meeting

Holiday Wreaths

Thank you to the Ledyard Garden Club for the festive holiday wreaths on each library and for the holiday arrangement of greens in the planter at Bill Library.



Giving Tree

Thank you to all who generously participated in our "Give a Child a Book" program this Christmas season. Thank you also to all who gave anonymously. The parents were thrilled with the beautiful books they were able to choose for their children!



Donations

We recently received donations for the purchase of books for the libraries. We are grateful for their support.

In Memory of

- Barbara Chapman
- Donald Seaton

A Word from the Ledyard Library Friends

Friends Winter Meeting

Monday, January 9

7:00 pm

Gales Ferry Library

Join us at the next Friends meeting and help support your public libraries.

Winter is a great time to curl up with a mug of hot tea or cocoa and a good book. I'm looking forward to catching up on all the books that I bought at the Friends Book sales. This is the time to stop by our ongoing book sales at both Libraries to replenish your winter supply of reading material.

Who are the Friends and what do we do?

We are your neighbors and friends in town who want to encourage literacy and foster closer relations between the Libraries and the residents of the town of Ledyard. We raise money to provide programs and events for the community. We meet 4 times a year. Our 2 major fundraisers have been the June and September book sales. We also have ongoing book sales all year round.

At our November meeting we passed a budget which enabled us to provide online services for the libraries.

Did you know we sponsor Museum passes? They are perfect for a winter day. You can stop by either library to check them out.

We sponsor programs for children, teens and adults that are both entertaining and educational. Some of the upcoming programs include scrap-booking, The Battle of Groton Heights, Invasive Species of Long island Sound, and shadow puppetry, along with a few hikes for outdoor enthusiasts.

To keep up with technology we purchased several electronic readers and a people counter to assist the librarians with keeping track of library usage.

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

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Ledyard, CT. 06339
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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

Friends Con't

We provide funds for some professional development. We sponsor a "giving tree" providing books for children in Ledyard.

We couldn't do all this without our faithful hardworking group of friends. I thank you all.

The book sale committee is looking for some help. It could be to set up or cleanup after a sale or come in weekly or monthly to sort a few books. Maybe just to share some ideas and make some new friends. Garrett Donovan is our new Chairman. Let me know if you can help out in any way.

Happy reading!

Linda DeRose
ctantiquer2000@yahoo.com



Holiday Hours

December 24	Christmas Eve	Closed
December 25	Christmas Day	Closed
December 26		Closed
December 31	New Year's Eve	Close at 1
January 1	New Year's Day	Closed
January 2		Closed
January 16	MLK Day	Closed
February 20	President's Day	Closed