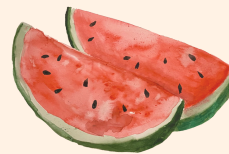
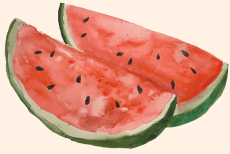




**MERIDEN  
PUBLIC  
LIBRARY**

# August 2024

## Official Newsletter of Meriden Public Library



### REGULAR HOURS:

Monday: 9:30am to 5:00pm

Tuesday: 9:30am to 8:30pm

Wednesday: 9:30am to 8:30pm

Thursday: 9:30am to 8:30pm

Friday: 9:30am to 5:00pm

Saturday: 9:30am to 5:00pm



**LIBRARY CLOSED:**  
**Saturday, Aug 31st &**  
**Monday, Sept 2nd**

### INSIDE THIS ISSUE

News from the Friends: **Page 2-3**

Adult Programs: **Pages 3-7**

Children's Library: **Pages 8-9**

Teens: **Page 10**

Featured News: **Page 11**

### Meet Our Staff!



Please see page 7 to get to know **Hardeep Kaur**, our **Visitor's Services Clerk!**



@meridenlibrary



Follow us!

[www.meridenlibrary.org](http://www.meridenlibrary.org)

105 Miller Street, Meriden, CT 06450 | (203) 630-4730

# The Friends of the Library NEWS

*Making Possibilities Happen*

## Volunteers Needed!



We have volunteer opportunities available Wednesday evenings from 4-7pm and Saturday from 10am to 2pm. If you wish to join our expanding staff of fabulous volunteers please contact Alexis Burgess at rrburgess16@gmail.com

We also have space available for people who wish to become an occasional substitute.

## How to Donate:



Now that the renovation/expansion is complete we are refocusing to raise funds for Library programming. It is still possible to be listed on the "Donor Plaque" for a donation of \$1,000 and we still have several rooms that can be named. Please contact Frank Ridley at Fridley@cox.net if you are interested in this opportunity. In addition, donations in any amount can be made to the Library through the Friends by either visiting our website or by sending your donation (payable to the Friends) to the Library. As you make your estate planning please consider remembering us. We are able to answer any questions you may have.

## Events

The Friends of the Meriden Public Library will join the Library Book Mobile at both the **Meriden Puerto Rican Festival**, (August 4th from noon to 6pm), and **National Night Out**, (August 6 from 4pm to 8pm). Both events will be at Hubbard park. Stop by and say hello!

## Bookstore Hours:

Monday: 10am to 4pm

Tuesday: 10am to 4pm

Wednesday: 10am to 7pm

Thursday: 10am to 4pm

Friday: 10am to 4pm

Saturday: 10am to 2pm



We wish to thank those who have made a donation to Library programming or the Holocaust fund since our last update:

**Bruce and Suzana Burchsted**

**Dan Metz**

**Gerard I. and Georgia Adelman**

**Liberty Bank Foundation**

**Peabody Foundation**

**Cate and David Rauch**

**Karen C. Roesler**

**Anonymous--in honor of Mario R.**

**Cavallo**, teacher and poet

## AUGUST BOOKSTORE SPECIAL

### All merchandise

(Books, CD's DVD's, Puzzles)

**Buy One Get One Free**

Of equal or lesser value



# The Friends of the Library NEWS

*Making Possibilities Happen*

**The Meriden Public Library's programs and services are generously funded by the following organizations:**



The Meriden Foundation



Meriden Health  
Department



*Thank you!*

## ★ ★ ★ August Events Spotlight ★ ★ ★

### Red Sox-Yankees: The Greatest Rivalry in Sports

Welcome to the most intense rivalry in American sports – maybe the world. This fun program hosted by award-winning sportswriter, baseball beat writer and book author Marty Gitlin features videos of the biggest moments of the rivalry from well over a century, as well as trivia questions for the patrons to ponder.



**Saturday, August 10th at 1pm**  
**Location: Meeting Rooms 1+2+3**

### Summer Block Party Finale

Celebrate the end of summer reading with music, games, food, prizes and more! Adults are welcome to participate with family or join in end of summer book discussion happening in Multi-Purpose Room 6.

**Saturday, August 17th from 1-3pm**  
**For Adults | Registration Required**  
**Location: Meeting Room 6**

# ADULTS | Featured Programs

## Thrifting with Paige

Join librarian Paige to learn all about thrifting and capsule wardrobes! Learn local spots, how to find the best deals and why thrifting is not only worth it but important for the environment!

**Thursday, August 8th at 6pm**  
**Location: Meeting Room 6**



## Garden Guidance

Is your garden not doing well? Insects, diseases, or critters are just a few of the things that may be impacting your garden. Do not give up! Join Eric Larson of the UConn Master Gardner Program of New Haven County for an informative presentation on problem solving common garden issues resulting in a bountiful garden.

**Wednesday, August 14th at 6:30pm**  
**Location: Meeting Room 5**



## Monday Matinee: The Big Lebowski (1998)

A slacker known to his friends as "The Dude" gets mixed up in a convoluted kidnapping plot with an eccentric millionaire whose name he shares.

**Monday, August 19th at 1pm**  
**Location: Meeting Rooms 1+2+3**



## Tech Topics: Intro to Keyboard and Mouse II

This program is the second session of this topic, covering combinations on the keyboard, highlighting text, and explaining the functions of the shortcut keys. You are welcome to attend this session, even if you did not attend the first session

**Technology resources for this program are generously funded by Ion Bank.**

**Monday, August 26th at 3pm**  
**Location: Meeting Room 5**

## Soro-Bindi Performance

Learn all about Ghanaian dances, songs and stories during this interactive performance with Iddi Saaka, an award winning West African dance and music performance artist and teacher. This program is generously funded by a grant provided by the James H. Napier Foundation.

**Tuesday, August 27th at 1pm**  
**Location: Meeting Rooms 1+2+3**



## Sugar Rush

The Community Health Network of Connecticut will be giving an informative and educational presentation on sugar and its effects on the human body.

**Tuesday, August 27th at 6pm**  
**Location: Meeting Room 5**





# ADULTS | Monthly Meetups & Book Clubs

## Classics Clique Discussion

In this meeting, we will be discussing the July book *On the Road* by Jack Kerouac as well as its 2012 movie adaptation.

**Monday, August 5th at 3pm**  
**Location: Meeting Room 5**



## Classics Clique Movie

In this meeting, we will be watching the movie *The Grapes of Wrath* (1940) based on August's book pick *The Grapes of Wrath* by John Steinbeck.

**Tuesday, August 27th at 5:30pm**  
**Location: Meeting Rooms 1+2+3**



## Knit & Crochet Club

Join us at the Meriden Public Library for the Knit & Crochet Club! Bring your project (supplies not provided by the Meriden Public Library) and join with others who also love to knit and crochet and craft together!

**Wednesdays, August 7th & 21st at 10am**  
**Location: Adult Reading Area**



## Practice English Conversation

Join us to practice speaking English in a fun and comfortable environment! Some knowledge of English is recommended.

¡Únete a nosotros para practicar inglés en un ambiente divertido y cómodo! Se recomienda algún conocimiento de inglés.

**Wednesday, August 15th at 3pm**  
**Location: Meeting Room 5**



## Cinema Classics

The movie will begin promptly at 5:30 pm in the Community Room.

**Rebel Without a Cause:** 1955 · Western/Romance · 1h 41m

In this archetypal drama of teenage angst and rebellion, three high school students who should lead idyllic lives in their stable, comfortable suburban families explode with a violence and sexuality that their parents cannot understand.

**Thursday, August 15th at 5:30pm**  
**Location: Meeting Rooms 1+2+3**



## Faux Stained Glass Bookmarks

Create your own gorgeous faux stained glass bookmark! A perfect companion to your current read.

**Thursday, August 22nd at 6:30pm**  
**Location: Meeting Room 3**



## Booktok Book Club

*Babel: Or the Necessity of Violence: An Arcane History of the Oxford Translators' Revolution* by R. F. Kuang  
Copies are available at Visitor Services. eBook and audiobook available on Libby, Hoopla and Palace Project

**Wednesday, August 28th at 6:30pm**  
**Location: Meeting Room 5**



# ADULTS | Special Events

## Online Selling 101

Have you ever wondered how to transform your excess items into extra income? Look no further! This class is for individuals eager to dive into the world of online selling, helping you navigate every step of the process with ease and confidence using eBay, Facebook Marketplace, and PangoBooks. No previous experience required.

**Monday, August 12th at 3pm**

**Location: Meeting Room 6**



## Sound Healing Meditation

Join Daria Ann for a transformative sound healing meditation session featuring quartz crystal sound bowls, Tibetan singing bowls, and a variety of other soothing sound healing instruments. Participants will have the opportunity to immerse themselves in the calming sounds, allowing for deep relaxation and rejuvenation. Whether you're new to sound healing or looking to deepen your practice, this session offers a peaceful and nurturing environment to explore the healing power of sound.

**Tuesday, August 20th at 6:30pm**

**Location: Meeting Room 1**



## Extra-Sensory Performance : Mind-Reading & Psychic Entertainment by the Mentalist Keith Zalinger

Join the mentalist, Keith Zalinger, for an hour of mysterious showmanship. Keith is an award-winning hypnotist, thought-reader, and paranormal entertainer. None of your secrets are safe, as Keith divines the thoughts of audience members, answers their questions (previously unknown to him), and predicts their actions. Prepare to have your minds blown.

**Thursday, August 29th at 6pm**

**Location: Meeting Rooms 1+2+3**



## Forage & Feast: A Book Talk, with Chrissy Tracey

Chrissy Tracey—a local, first-generation Jamaican American vegan chef—, will speak about her new book, *Forage & Feast: Recipes for Bringing Mushrooms & Wild Plants to Your Table: A Cookbook*, which features 85 recipes using foraged ingredients. Sample recipes include pulled jackfruit sliders with blackberry barbecue sauce, lobster mushroom orecchiette, and shagbark hickory ice cream. **Generously funded by the Meriden Foundation.**

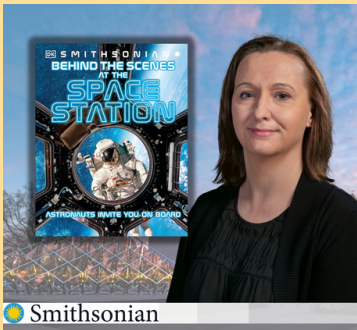
**Thursday, August 29th at 6:30pm**

**Location: Meeting Room 6**



# ADULTS | Virtual Author Talks & Meet the Staff

## August Authors



**Your All Access Pass  
Behind the Scenes at  
the Space Station with  
Smithsonian Curator  
Dr. Jennifer Levasseur**

Wednesday, August 7th  
2pm



**The Golden Ticket to  
College Admissions Is Not  
What You Think: Redefining  
Success for Parents of  
Teens with Irena Smith, PhD**

Thursday, August 15th  
2pm



**An Exploration of  
Friendship,  
Reckoning, and Hope  
with novelist Shelby  
Van Pelt**

Wednesday, August 21st  
7pm

## Meet the Staff

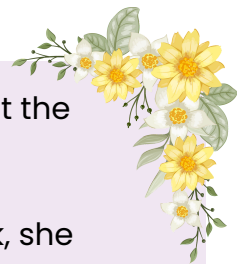
**Hardeep Kaur** is a Circulation Clerk and has been working at the Meriden Public Library for **9 and a half years!**

She loves working at the library, but if she couldn't be a clerk, she would be a make-up artist. In addition, Hardeep loves gardening and being out in nature.

Hardeep's favorite TV shows are programs from India and the tv show, *Never Have I Ever*.

The two movies she could watch over and over are *Finding Nemo* and *Frozen*. Hardeep also enjoys watching anime movies.

She doesn't have a favorite author but she likes reading a variety of non-fiction books, especially those related to psychology.



# CHILDREN | August Programs

## Weekly Classes

Weekly registration is required



### Wiggle Worms

Wednesdays at 10am or 11am

Ages 0-3

August 7th & 14th

Join Miss Holly for a special storytime for ages 0-3. This storytime will be filled with songs, puppets, dancing, and more. Stay after storytime is over for playtime.

**Location: Children's Storytime Room**

### Family Storytime

Thursdays at 6pm for Ages 0-5

August 1st, 8th & 15th

Join Miss Alyssa for a fun evening of stories, songs, dancing, and more.

**Location: Children's Storytime Room**

### Lil Coquíes Bilingual Storytime

Fridays at 10:30am for Ages 0-5

August 2nd, 9th & 16th

Join Miss Katerina for Lil Coquíes bilingual storytime filled with music, stories, and Spanish language discovery for your little one! Siblings are welcome.

**Location: Children's Storytime Room**

### Monthly Meet-Up



### Sensory Playtime

1st and 3rd Tuesday of every month

August 6th & 20th from 5pm to 6:30pm

Ages 0-11 | Registration Required

Join us for a sensory-friendly playtime where children and caregivers can interact with several stations of fun activities while socializing. Registration closes one week before an event. *Proudly partnered with Social Sabby.*

**Location: Children's Project Room & Community Room 1+2+3**

## Plastic Jar Lanterns

Thursday, August 1st at 6:30pm | Ages 5-11 | Registration Required

Create your own lovely lantern using upcycled materials, tissue paper, mod podge, and string.

**Location: Children's Project Room**

## Wildlife Outside Your Window with White Memorial Conservation Center

Wednesday, August 7th at 6pm | Ages 5-11 | Registration Required

Siblings are Welcome.

Join us as White Memorial Conservation Center guides you through the menageries of animals we have right here in our state, from marvelous mammals to resplendent reptiles to beautiful birds. The highlight is getting to meet a few live CT creatures up close! *This program was generously funded through a grant provided by the Napier Foundation.*

**JAMES H. NAPIER**  
FOUNDATION

**Location: Community Room 1+2+3**

## Saturday Family Flicks: Elemental (Rated PG)

Saturday, August 10th at 1pm | All Ages | Registration Requested

Join us for a fun family feature Elemental (Rated PG)! Cozy up and bring something comfortable to sit on while enjoying the movie.

**Location: Multi-Purpose Room 6**

## Paper Mache Bowl

Tuesday, August 13th at 4pm | Ages 5-11 | Registration Required

Join us to paint a bowl made out of paper mache.

**Location: Children's Project Room**

## Introduction to Korean Martial Arts with Valentin Karate

Tuesday, August 13th at 6:30pm | Ages 4-11

Registration Required | Families are Welcome

Join us for a fun filled time! Master Valentin will guide students through basic moves giving them an introduction to Korean martial arts. Students will be invited to break a board at the end of the class. Please wear comfortable clothing as students will be moving a lot. *The Meriden Public Library is proudly partnering with Valentin Karate for this event.*

**Location: Community Room 1+2+3**







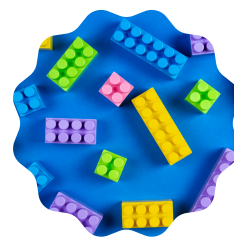
# CHILDREN | August Programs

## LEGO Mosaic Party with ConnLug

Wednesday, August 14th at 6pm | Ages 5-11 | Registration Required

Come create a beautiful Lego mosaic to be put on display in the library for all to enjoy! ConnLug, the Lego enthusiast group, will be here to assist in creating a beautiful mosaic for our library. *This program was generously funded through a grant provided by the Napier Foundation.*

**Location: Meeting Room 6**



JAMES H. NAPIER  
FOUNDATION

## TAKE HOME KIT: Beaded Keychains

Thursday, August 15th | **Available While Supplies Last**

Get your backpack ready for school with a shiny new beaded keychain. We'll have a variety of beads available to make the perfect keychain just for you!

**Location: Children's Room**



## Summer Block Party Finale

Saturday, August 17th from 1pm to 4pm  
All Ages | Drop-In

Celebrate the end of summer reading with crafts, music, giant lawn games and more for all ages! Adults are welcome to participate with family or join an end of summer book discussion happening in Multi-Purpose Room 6.

**Location: Community Room 1+2**

**THE LAST DAY TO LOG SUMMER READING & SUBMIT PRIZE DRAWING TICKETS IS SATURDAY, AUGUST 17TH**

## How to Make an apple Pie and See the World with New Britain Roots

Thursday, August 22nd at 5pm | Ages 3-5 | Registration Required

Have you ever wondered where cinnamon comes from? Or how about butter? Children will learn where ingredients come from around the world by looking at a simple apple pie recipe. *This program is generously funded through a grant provided by the Napier Foundation*

**Location: Multi-Purpose Room 6**



NEW BRITAIN  
ROOTS

JAMES H. NAPIER  
FOUNDATION

# TEENS

## Upcycled Book Marks

Make your own bookmark out of upcycled materials.

**Thursday, August 1st at 2pm**

**Location: Teen Room**



## Diverse Storytelling

Following a storytelling performance, learn how to use movement, gesture, voice and silence to tell your own stories.

**Tuesday, August 6th at 1pm**

**Location: Room 6**

## Teen Movie Matinee

Vote to pick which movie screens at the biweekly Teen Movie Matinee. Vote in-person the day of and enjoy some snacks!

**Saturdays, August 10th & 21st at 1pm**

**Location: Teen Room**

## Teen Cooking Club

Learn how to cook simple dishes using locally grown produce.

We will be making fancy ramen!

**Friday, August 16th at 6pm**

**Location: Room 6**



## Back to School Blues Party

Sorry that summer is over...attend our back to school blues party to get in some last minute fun and crafts.

**Saturday, August 17th at 1-4pm**

**Location: Community Room 3**

## Tales and Origami for Teens

Motoko will tell traditional tales, full of humor and mystery, and discuss how Japanese folklore has inspired games and anime in the U.S. and around the world.

**Tuesday, August 20th at 4:30pm**

**Location: Room 5**

## Soro-Bindi Performamce with Iddi Saaka

Learn all about Ghanaian dances, songs and stories during this interactive performance.

**Tuesday, August 27th at 1pm**

**Location: Community Room**



## Monthly Meetups

### New Music Monday

Discover this month's newest music in the teen room!

**Monday, August 5th at 3:30pm**

**Location: Teen Room**

### Rainbow Roundtable

The Rainbow Roundtable is a LGBTQIA+ oriented club where we talk about what we are reading, watching, and listening to that's LGBTQIA+ related. Come hang out in a welcoming environment with like-minded folks!

**Wednesday, August 7th at 6pm**

**Location: Teen Room**



### YA Yabbies Book Club

Join YA Yabbies to read fantastic YA. This month we will be reading *How We Ricochet*.

**Friday, August 9th at 3pm**

**Location: Teen Room**

### Graphic Godzilla

Join our graphic novel club! This month we will be reading *Graceling*.

**Tuesday, August 13th at 3pm**

**Location: Teen Room**



### Tabletop Club

Come play a couple rounds of your favorite board games!

**Wednesday, August 14th at 6-8pm**

**Location: Teen Room**

### Teen Gardening Club

Learn how to garden in this monthly meetup!

**Thursday, August 15th at 3pm**

**Location: Teen Room**



### Queer Quetzals Book Club

Join our book club focused on queer stories! This month we will be reading *Being Ace*.

**Wednesday, August 21st at 6pm**

**Location: Teen Room**

### Manga Club

Join the manga club to talk about all things manga!

**Wednesday, August 28th at 6pm**

**Location: Teen Room**

# Featured News



LEFT TO RIGHT: Liberty Bank AVP, Lisa M. Logodicio, Liberty Bank VP, Dan Quesnel, Frank Ridley, President, Friends of the Meriden Public Library, Alyssa Johnson, Manager Youth Services, Becky Starr, Library Director.

## Our many thanks to Liberty Bank for helping to support the wonderful Bebés Activos program at MPL!

Dan Quesnel, Vice President of Liberty Bank, presents a check for \$5,800 to Frank Ridley, President of the Friends of the Meriden Public Library. This donation will support the Bebés Activos program, a partnership between the Meriden Public Library and the Spanish Community of Wallingford (SCOW) which provides a weekly bilingual playgroup for children ages 0-5 years, their parents, grandparents, and caregivers. They participate in activities designed to teach early literacy skills and enhance school readiness and success.

## The Q. Walter Peabody Foundation has generously donated to the Meriden Public Library the funds to purchase an AWE Learning Workstation which provides literacy-focused digital learning solutions for early learners!

The purpose is to inspire an enthusiasm for learning by supporting school readiness and literacy in the community. These turnkey learning products deliver award winning multi-curricular content through a safe environment that is easy to setup and use. AWE Learning excels at providing fun and interactive learning to set children on the path for success beginning at a young age. Each workstation offers 75+ pre-loaded, award-winning educational software titles. All content is STREAM-aligned and provides a fun, engaging, and safe learning environment. Content includes cyber safety, coding, handwriting, e-books, sight words, and much more.



## Attention Local Authors!



### READ LOCAL @ THE MERIDEN PUBLIC LIBRARY!

The Meriden Public Library is planning a book fair to highlight the work of local authors on Saturday, November 30 from 1 to 4 p.m. (Shop Local Saturday!) This is a great chance to promote your work and trade ideas with fellow writers. Authors will have their own table for book signing and sales. They can come in to set up starting at noon. They will be responsible for providing their own payment mechanism. Applications are available on the library website and at the Visitors Service Desk at the Library. Applications will be accepted through September 15. Prospective participants will be notified the week of September 30. For more information, check the library website or call: (203) 630-4734.





# Friends of the Meriden Public Library

## Membership / Renewal Application

NAME (please print): \_\_\_\_\_

Additional Names (list others in household covered by this membership):  
\_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP code: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Work Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_ Cell Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

( ) \$100.00 (or more) - CORPORATE

( ) \$100.00 (or more) - BENEFACTOR

( ) \$40.00 - PATRON

( ) \$10.00 - BASIC

( ) I WISH TO DONATE TO THE WORLD WAR II HOLOCAUST FUND:

AMOUNT: \_\_\_\_\_

( ) I WISH TO DONATE TO LIBRARY PROGRAMMING:

AMOUNT: \_\_\_\_\_

( ) I WISH TO MAKE AN ADDITIONAL DONATION:

AMOUNT: \_\_\_\_\_

### VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Indicate areas of interest - Check as many areas as you desire

\_\_\_\_\_ Library Advocacy    \_\_\_\_\_ Book Sorting    \_\_\_\_\_ Internet Sales    \_\_\_\_\_ Newsletter  
\_\_\_\_\_ Membership    \_\_\_\_\_ Bookstore    \_\_\_\_\_ Any Area Where Needed

Please make checks payable to: Friends of the Library (FOTL)

Return to: Friends of the Meriden Public Library, 105 Miller Street, Meriden, CT 06450

In order to maximize the effect of your membership funds, we will not be providing membership cards; your cancelled check will be your proof of membership.

Thank you!