

March 2025

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



Closed: Friday, March 28th Staff Development Day

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

News from the Friends: Page 2-3

Adult Programs: Pages 4-8

Children's Library: Pages 9-11

Teens: **Page 12-13**

Featured News: Page 14-15



Please see page 7 to get to know **Joanna Ziarnik**, one of our **Reference Librarians**!



Follow us! www.meridenlibrary.org

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 compete 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.

Thank you!

Thanks to all who made our first ever "Literary Libations, Sipping for a Cause" event a success. Thanks to our committee, under the amazing direction of Marian Amodeo! Thanks to all the volunteers who helped that evening. Thanks to the Grog Shop for their sponsorship and for all the wine, beer and spirit vendors. Thanks to all those who donated food for the event. Thanks to all those who contributed items for our basket raffle. Thanks to Tony Terzi, our elegant Emcee. Thanks to the Inner Groove for their music. Thanks to all who contributed to make this event a success or attended the event. Stay tuned for plans for next year!



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



Next month, the bookstore will be having their semi-annual \$5 a bag sale.

Stay tuned for more information in April's Newsletter!

1		Ap	ril				
1	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	30	31	1	2	3	4	5
	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
	13	14	15	16	17	18	19
	20	21	22	23	24	25	26
	27	28	29	30	1	2	3
					2	02	5

The Friends of the Library NEWS

Making Possibilities Happen



We wish to thank those who have made a donation to Library programming, our Literary Libations event or the Holocaust Fund since our last update:

United Way of Meriden and Wallingford **Richard Towne** Joan Edgerly Ann & Thomas Biernacki Corinne Rubbo The Cuno Foundation The Meriden YMCA **Daniel Metz** Alyssa Johnson Philip & Jane Callan Meriden Public Library Marian Amodeo Sheryl Clay **Toby Amodeo Becky Starr** Hartford Symphony Orchestra **Barnes & Noble Grog Shop of Meriden** Karen Roesler Norma Paggioli Robbin Jackson **Marion Carling** Gini Sonstrom The Bushnell **Montagno Construction** Irene Masse **Dorothy Iwanicki** The Hartford Yard Goats Emma Amodeo Norma Paggioli Karen & Christopher Ohlmann Jayme Solak

Bridgeport Islanders Valentin Karate

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







Thompson Chocolate







The Napier Foundation







March Event Spotlight



A Celtic Celebration with Harpist Wendy Kerner

Through Wendy Kerner's harp, experience the magic of heartfelt ballads, lively dance tunes, the timeless airs of O'Carolan, and contemporary Irish songs that will transport you to another time and place. Whether you're a longtime fan or new to Celtic music and lore, this program offers something for everyone to enjoy and discover!



Saturday, March 15, 2025 Location: Meeting Rooms 1+2+3 Time: 2pm



Winter Reading: Wrap-Up Party

Join us for the 2025 Adult Winter Reading Wrap-up Party, where we will enjoy refreshments, sip tea, play trivia, and announce the lucky winners for the Winter Reading Challenge.

Saturday, March 1st at 1pm Location: Meeting Room 6



Classics Clique Discussion

In this meeting, we will be discussing Book Two of the January/February book pick *Doctor Zhivago* by Boris Pasternak, as well as the final part of the 1965 movie adaptation.

Monday, March 3rd at 3pm Location: Meeting Room 5



Comanche and His Captain - The Warhorse and The Soldier of Fortune

Join author, Jane Barrett, for a talk about her new book, Comanche and His Captain--The Warhorse and The Soldier of Fortune. Set against the Civil War and the fight to secure the western frontier, the story of the tough Mustang, Comanche, and the soldier of fortune, Captain Myles Keogh, is a tale of bravery, partnership, survival, and healing. Janet Barrett remembers her father first telling her about Comanche when she was about eight years old, a simple story then about a horse that survived a terrible Indian battle. With the success of They Called Her Reckless, about the warhorse, Reckless, and her fellow Marines in the Korean War, Barrett knew it was time to go back to that earlier era and tell the whole story of the horse that brought fame to himself and his rider, and a renewed sense of pride to the U.S. Seventh Cavalry

Monday, March 3rd at 6pm 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 March 5th & 19th at 10am Location: Adult Reading Area



Computación Básica: Cómo Empezar

Aprenda los conceptos básicos de cómo usar una computadora y praticar el uso del ratón. No se necesita experiencia de computación. Programa en español

Wednesday, March 5th at 6pm Location: Meeting Room 5

Low Cost Seed Starting for Urban & Indoor Gardens

Join Richard Delpivo, Meriden resident and UCONN Master Gardner Program member, discuss low cost seed starting for urban and indoor gardens. Bring your questions and passion for gardening!

Wednesday, March 5th at 6pm Location: Meeting Room 6

Life Hacks Series: Basic Hand Sewing

Interested in learning a valuable new skill that can help you save money and express your creativity? Join us for this program where we will cover how to thread a needle, how to accurately measure your fabric and sewing a seam. Supplies will be provided.

Thursday, March 6th at 6pm Location: Meeting Room 6 Birdhouse Workshop



Create a one of a kind birdhouse decorated with natural materials such as bark, twigs, moss and pinecones. (Just like the birds do!)

Saturday, March 8th at 2pm Location: Meeting Room 6



Silent Book Club

Welcome to Silent Book Club, where there is NO assigned reading. Instead, we will gather to read together in silence. All readers are welcome—eBooks or audiobooks, poetry or prose, fiction or nonfiction... it's "Bring Your Own Book." When 20 minutes is up, we will turn to our neighbor and tell them about what we just read. Then we will repeat this process up to 2 times, switching partners each time. Silent Book Club is about community, putting down your phone, and being social in person – not "being-on-social-media" social. Come join us!

Monday, March 10th at 3pm Location: Meeting Room 5



Monthly Craft Night -Paper Shamrock Wreath

Create an adorable shamrock wreath as a St. Patrick's Day door decoration.
All supplies will be provided.

Tuesday, March 11th at 6:30pm Location: Meeting Room 6



What's Next? Book Club

March: The Heaven & Earth Grocery Store by James McBride

Wednesday, March 12th at 6:30pm Location: Meeting Room 5



Ukulele Concert feat. "Ukes on the Loose"

Get ready for an unforgettable evening of music and laughter at the Meriden Public Library, in partnership with the Meriden Senior Center! Join us for Ukes on the Loose, an exciting ukulele jam session led by the talented Instructor Andy Anderson.

Let's make some noise and spread the joy with Ukes on the Loose!

Wednesday, March 13th at 6:30pm Location: Meeting Rooms 1+2+3





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.

Thursday, March 13th at 3pm Location: Meeting Room 5

Tech Topics: Hack your Online Searches

In this session, you will learn tips that will help you use Google search to its full potential. These strategies will help you search Google more efficiently and get the search results you want more quickly!

Monday, March 17th at 3pm Location: Meeting Room 5



Identity Theft with M&T Bank

Learn how to identify the signs of identity theft and fraud. Examine different types of identity theft and fraud. Identify strategies to protect yourself from identity theft and fraud and learn how to protect your data using safe habits.

Tuesday, March 25th at 5pm Location: Meeting Room 6



Matinee Monday: Brooklyn (2015)

A meek young woman emigrates from Ireland to New York City in the 1950s, and finds her heart torn between a magnetic Italian suitor and a charming lad back home. This film is based on the 2009 novel by Colm Tóibín.

Monday, March 24th at 1pm Location: Meeting Rooms 1+2+3

Classics Clique Movie

This club is for people who love classics, or who just want to try reading more of them. There will be a group book to read every month, as well as a viewing of the movie adaptation.

In this meeting, we will be watching the movie *The Age of Innocence* (1993).

Tuesday, March 25th at 5:30pm Location: Meeting Rooms 1+2+3



Bonus Adult Monthly Craft Night - Bad Art Night!

This is an opportunity to be crazy creative, without any pressure to make something "good."

Creativity is messy and it's ok to make mistakes.

We will provide all the supplies. Your goal is to have a wildly fun and creative time!

Thursday, March 27th at 6:30pm Location: Meeting Room 6

Classics Clique Discussion

In this meeting, we will be discussing the March book pick *The Age of Innocence* (1920) by Edith Wharton as well as its 1993 movie adaptation.

Monday, March 31st at 3pm Location: Meeting Room 5



Booktok Book Club

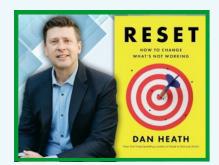
March Book: This Girl's a Killer: A Novel by Emma C. Wells



Join us for BookTok Book Club where we discuss books that have trended on social media platforms including TikTok and Instagram. Share thoughts on your latest read or gather ideas for the next one! Call Visitor Services to see if copies are available. Please note this book club often reads recently published books. Sufficient copies may not be available for all book club participants.

ADULTS | Virtual Author Talks & Meet the Staff

March Authors



Power of Reset and How to Change What's Not Working with Author Dan Heath

> Weds, Mar. 12th 2pm



How Women's Liberation Transformed America: In Conversation with Clara Bingham

> Thurs, Mar. 20th 2pm



Dreams We Chase: An Author Talk with Novelist Jennifer Weiner

> Weds, Mar. 20th 7pm

Meet the Staff



Joanna Ziarnik is **a Reference Librarian** and has been working at the Meriden Public Library for **a year and a half**.

If she couldn't be a Librarian, she would be **a fashion merchandiser or a** travel agent.

Her favorite TV shows are *The Office*, and documentaries.

The two movies she could watch over and over are *The Goonies* and *Bridesmaids*.

A fun fact about her is that she has traveled to over 20 countries in Europe.

Her favorite authors are **Liv Constantine and Mariana Enriquez**.

Famous birthday twins: Jon Bon Jovi and Bryce Dallas Howard (March 2nd)

CHILDREN | March Storytimes



Bebés Activos Bilingual Playgroup

Fridays 10am-12pm for Ages 0-5 March 7th, March 14th, & March 21st (No class on March 28th) **Registration Required**

Join us for a weekly bilingual playgroup! Children ages 0-5 years, their parents, grandparents, and caregivers get together to participate in activities designed to teach early literacy skills and enhance school readiness and success. Please bring a snack and juice or water for your child and attend to your child at all times. This program is generously funded by Liberty Bank.

Location: Children's Storytime Room



🏅 Specialty Storytime

Reading with ROAR

Saturday, March, 8th at 11am Ages 5-11 | Registration Requested



What could be better than practicing reading with a furry friend? A trained therapy dog will be here for kids to practice reading. To make sure everyone feels comfortable, we will start off with a story or two read by Miss Holly. Stop by from 11am to 12 noon for your chance to read with Evie the Labradoodle. Proudly partnered with ROAR.

Location: Children's Storytime Room



Spring Storytimes

Wiggle Worms

Mondays at 10:30am March 17th-April 7th Wednesdays at 10:30am March 19th-April 9th Ages 0-3 | Registration Required

Join Miss Holly for 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

Wednesdays at 6pm March 19th-April 9th Ages 2-5 | Registration Required

Join Miss Melissa for a family storytime filled with music, stories, dancing and more. This program is geared towards 2-5 year olds, but siblings are always welcome to join in. A craft will follow after the end of storytime.

Location: Children's Storytime Room

CHILDREN | Monthly Meet-Ups

Sensory Playtime

1st & 3rd Tuesday of every month from 5pm to 6:30pm March 4th & March 18th 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 is required to best accommodate sensory requests. *Proudly partnered with Social Sabby.*

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

Messy Makers: Painting with Cars

Once a month on Tuesday at 10:30am February 18th Ages 2-5 | Registration Required



Come get messy with us! We'll provide aprons, but please come in clothes you don't mind getting messy!

Location: Children's Project Room

Kid Art Club: Watercolor Flowers

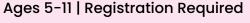
Once a month on Thursday at 5:30pm March 20th Ages 8-11 | Registration Required

Level up your art each month by learning new techniques with Mx. Paige and Miss Holly.

Location: Meeting Room 6

Media Literacy with Girls Inc.

Once a month on Thursday at 5pm March 27th



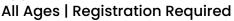


Calling all girls! Learn how to be internet savvy during this cool learning series. *Proudly partnered with Girls Inc.*

Location: Children's Storytime Room

Family Craft Night: Robots

Once a month on Thursday at 6pm





Join our monthly family craft night! Several themed craft stations will be available as well as fun themed music. All families are welcome. Some crafts may need parental assistance.

Location: Meeting Room 6

Hydroponic How To

Once a month on Saturday at 10am March 29th All Ages | Registration Requested

Have you seen our hydroponic garden, Sprout? Do you have questions on how hydroponics works? Stop by to ask Miss Holly questions and learn about our hydroponic garden.

Location: Hallway Hydroponic Garden











Monthly Book Club

Nutmeg Newts: Invisibles

4th Tuesday of the month from 6pm to 6:45pm March 25th Ages 8-11 | Registration Required



Join us for our monthly book club the Nutmeg Newts! This book club is for children with a 4th through 6th grade reading level. Read the book on your own and then join us at the library for a fun discussion and related activity. Stop by the Children's Department to borrow a copy of this month's pick. This month we are reading **Falling Short** by Ernesto Cisneros.

Location: Children's Storytime Room

CHILDREN | March Programs

STEAM Stories

Thursday, March 6th at 5:30pm Ages 6-11 | Registration Required

Join us for a science and art-based story and fun STEAM-related activities afterward. Older siblings are welcome.

Location: Children's Storytime Room



Drop-In STEAM Paper Bird Kite

Saturday, March 8th at 1pm Ages 5-11 | Drop-In

Soar to new heights at this fun craft! Drop-in to create a fun bird shaped kite. Children are welcome to decorate and test their paper creations.

Location: Children's Project Room

Pint-Sized Scientists

Wednesday, March 12th at 10:30am Ages 2-5 | Registration Required

Join Miss Holly for some science fun! Our little scientists will experience hands-on, messy activities focused on different scientific topics. Wear clothes you won't mind getting messy.

Location: Children's Project Room

Inheriting Freedom

Thursday, March 13th from 5:30pm to 7pm All Ages | Registration Required

This Women's History Month, step into the untold stories of Frederick Douglass, his mother Harriet Bailey, and his wife Anna Murray Douglass in an immersive, interactive experience that brings history to life. This program is generously funded by the Meriden Foundation.

Location: Meeting Room 6

Salt Painting Flowers

Saturday, March 22nd from 2pm to 4pm All Ages | Drop-In

Celebrate the start of spring by making a beautiful flower painting using salt, glue and watercolors.

Location: Children's Project Room











Saturday Family Flick: Moana 2 (PG)

Saturday, March 29th at 1pm All Ages | Registration Requested



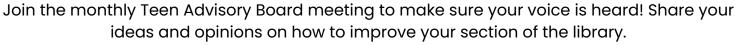
We can't wait to see you here!
Stop by for a showing of Moana 2 (rated PG) with the whole family.
Please bring any items the family needs to make your viewing experience cozy.
Snacks are not allowed in our Storytime Room.

Location: Children's Storytime Room

TEENS | March Programs

Teen Advisory Board

Wednesday, March 5th at 5pm



Location: Teen Room















Wednesday, March 5th at 6pm

The Rainbow Roundtable is a LGBTQIA+ oriented club where we talk about what we are reading, watching and listening to that's LGBTQIA+ related.

Location: Teen Room

Trading Card Club

Thursday, March 6th from 5 to 7pm

Bring your friends and your cards and challenge each other to a duel. Don't forget your duplicate cards for trading. Players of Magic: The Gathering, Pokémon Trading Card Game, Yu-Gi-Oh!, and more are invited to join us for a night of friendly competition. Magic: The Gathering decks will be available for new players to test!

Location: Teen Room

Homework Help

Mondays, March 10th & 24th at 3:30pm

Head to the teen room for bi-weekly homework assistance. Focus will be placed on catching up on assignments and learning which resources can help with school work.

Location: Teen Room

Take & Make: Seed Bombs

Wednesday, March 12th at 3:30pm

Celebrate spring being around the corner with this month's take & make kit. Using air-dry clay and native seeds, you can make your own seed bomb to plant at home!

Location: Teen Room



TEENS | March Programs

Inheriting Freedom Thursday, March 13th from 5:30 to 7pm

This Women's History Month, step into the untold stories of Frederick Douglass, his mother Harriet Bailey, and his wife Anna Murray Douglass in an immersive, interactive experience that brings history to life.

Location: Room 6

Teen Storytelling Tuesday, March 18th at 3:30pm



Loin Molly the therapy dog to practice your storytelling skills with spring themed picture books

Location: Teen Room

Monthly Movie: He Named Me Malala Wednesday, March 19th at 4pm

This month we will be watching 'He Named me Malala,' a 2015 documentary about the young Pakistani activist who spoke out for women's rights despite attempts on her life by the Taliban.

Location: Teen Room

Teen Art Club: Linework Thursday, March 20th at 3:30pm



Join librarian Paige to learn the basics of line work! During this session we will be testing different methods for mastering your line work.

Location: Teen Room

Yap & Snack

Friday, March 21st at 3:30pm

Let your frustrations out over snacks so you can start your weekend fresh!

Location: Teen Room

Canva & Cricut: Design Your Own Stickers

Saturday, March 22nd from 3 to 4:30pm

Learn how to use Canva and the Cricut machine to design your own stickers!

Location: Teen Room







Crafty Critters: Foam Shamrock Wednesday, March 26th at 5:30pm

Celebrate spring being around the corner by making a foam shamrock!

Location: Teen Room

Healthy Sexuality with Girls Inc Thursday, March 27th from 4:30 to 6pm



Proudly partnered with Girls Inc. to teach personal awareness of identity, boundary setting, communication, exercising personal rights, and navigating interpersonal relationships with a special emphasis on healthy and safe relationship characteristics.

Location: Teen Room

College 101: Bandwidth Monday, March 31st at 3:30pm

Learn all about managing your classes, clubs, work and social life while in college.
This presentation will included time & stress management along with techniques you can apply to make it through stressful times.



FEATURED NEWS







The Meriden Public Library partners with Human Resources Agency of New Britain to offer VITA, a FREE income tax assistance program.

This program offers:

Preparation and filing of annual tax returns by IRS-certified volunteers. All volunteers must be certified in Standards of Conduct (Ethics) and Current Tax Law along with other IRS required training. Training is updated annually.

Free of charge service to families and individuals whose total household income is \$67,000 or less.

By appointment only. Must call VITA directly to schedule an appointment:

<u>Call</u> (860) 356-2000 or schedule an appointment online

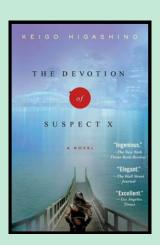
Appointments slots at the library are available on

Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Saturdays - January 25th through April 12th, 2025.

Be sure to bring all required paperwork to your appointment.



April's Read Around the World Book Discussion



Sir Arthur Conan Doyle meets Agatha Christie and Columbo in *The Devotion of Suspect X*: It's not about the "who" or even the "how"; it's about the "why."

Tuesday, April 22 at 6pm Meeting Room 6

For more information contact:

Barbara Belejack (<u>bbelejack@meridenct.gov</u>)

Shayne Catala (<u>scatala@meridenct.gov</u>)

UPCOMING EVENTS

Easter Egg Hunt sponsored by: Meriden Hills Baptist Church



Join the Meriden Parks and Recreation Department at the Meriden Public Library on **Sunday, April 13th at 1pm** for an Easter Egg-Stravaganza.

Hop through the library to collect treats!

Come down and take selfies with the Easter Bunny.



The Legacy of the Titanic

Join us for this engaging program on the infamous legacy of the Titanic. Attendees will receive a signed Titanic brochure, and the program includes some surprises, including a musical rarity from the Broadway musical Titanic!

Author & University of New Haven Practitioner in Residence (ret.) Stephen Spignesi writes extensively about popular culture and is considered a world authority on Stephen King, The Beatles, Robin Williams, Woody Allen, The Andy Griffith Show, ER, and other pop culture subjects and TV shows. He has written two books on the Titanic.







Friends of the Meriden Public Library

Membership / Renewal Application

NAME (please print):							
Additional Names (list others in	n household covered by th	is membership):					
Address:							
City:		State: ZIF	P code:				
Home Phone:	one: Work Phone:						
E-mail:	Cell Phone:						
() \$100.00 (or more) - CORPO	RATE () \$100	.00 (or more) - BENEFACTO	R				
() \$40.00 - PATRON	40.00 - PATRON () \$10.00 - BASIC						
() I WISH TO DONATE TO THE	WORLD WAR II HOLOCAL	JST FUND:					
AMOUNT:							
() I WISH TO DONATE TO LIBI	RARY PROGRAMMING:						
AMOUNT:							
() I WISH TO MAKE AN ADDIT	TIONAL DONATION:						
AMOUNT:							
	VOLUNTEER	OPPORTUNITIES					
In	Indicate areas of interest - Check as many areas as you desire						
Library Advocacy	Book Sorting	Internet Sales	Newsletter				
Membership	Bookstore	Any Area Where Nee	eded				
Please make checks payable to Return to: Friends of the Merid	•		50				
In order to maximize the effect check will be your proof of me		ls, we will not be providing	membership cards; your cancelled				
Thank you!							