



# OCTOBER NEWSLETTER

*Official newsletter of Meriden Public Library, October 2023*

## PLEASE NOTE:

Our Meriden Mall location is permanently closed, and our newly renovated Meriden Public Library at 105 Miller Street is now open!

**PERMANENT LOCATION:**  
**105 MILLER ST**  
**MERIDEN, CT 06450**

**HOLIDAY:**  
**CLOSED MONDAY, 10/9**  
**in observance of Columbus/  
Indigenous Peoples' Day**



## NEW HOURS:

Monday: 9:30 am to 5:00 pm

Tuesday: 9:30 am to 8:30 pm

Wednesday: 9:30 am to 8:30 pm

Thursday: 9:30 am to 8:30 pm

Friday: 9:30 am to 5:00 pm

Saturday: 9:30 am to 5:00 pm

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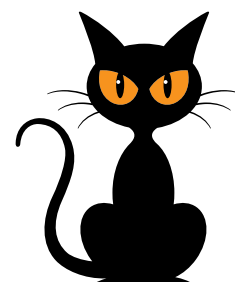
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# NEWS FROM THE FRIENDS



## BOOKSTORE

The bookstore is open and accepting donations.

### Hours of Operation:

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday: 10 am to 4 pm

Wednesday: 10 am to 7 pm

Saturday: 10 am to 2 pm

We will be closed on Monday, October 9th in observance of Columbus/Indigenous Peoples' Day.

We are looking for people to substitute occasionally in the bookstore. While we have an excellent group of volunteers, there are times that one or more cannot be there. If you are interested in becoming a substitute, please contact Alexis Burgess, bookstore manager, at [rrburgess16@gmail.com](mailto:rrburgess16@gmail.com).

### IT'S BACK!!

**Our semi-annual book sale will take place Monday, October 16th through Saturday, October 21st. Fill a bag of books for \$5.00 (we supply the bags).** Other promotions do not apply during this sale.

## FRIENDS COMMITTEES

Now that the library has reopened and is running at full speed, it is time to gear up some of our committees to assist in both Library and Friends operations. The following are just three of the possible opportunities we have for you to become involved. If you are interested or have questions, please contact President Frank Ridley at [fridley@cox.net](mailto:fridley@cox.net).

### 1. Membership Committee

The membership committee is responsible for maintaining the membership records of the Friends of the Meriden Public Library. Duties include contacting members at renewal time, attending community events to secure new members, designing and promulgating membership materials, suggesting ways to increase membership, and assisting the officers in setting membership rates.

### 2. Fundraising Committee

The Friends of the Meriden Public Library has the responsibility to raise funds for library programs and events. This is done primarily through bookstore sales, dues income, and securing grants. The Fundraising Committee is responsible for designing, planning, and implementing other ways to raise money for the library. (An example is to secure a portion of the proceeds of a business on a particular day.)

### 3. Building and Grounds Committee

With increased garden areas on the library property and with an already stretched Public Works workforce, it is important to create a group to assist in the maintenance of the property. This is a great opportunity for those who are interested in gardening. Tasks include mulching the garden beds, weeding and maintaining the beds, and some planting.

## MEETING

This month's meeting of the Friends will be Tuesday, October 17th at 4:30 pm in Meeting Room 6 (the Friends meeting room).

## Donations

Now that the renovation/expansion is complete, we will refocus to raise funds for library programming. You can mail your gift to the library or drop it off in the bookstore. Additionally, you can donate by going to the Friends webpage, <https://www.meridenlibrary.org/about/friends-of-the-library>, scrolling down to **Thank You to Our "Friends,"** and clicking on the **Helping the Library Friends** drop-down button directly below it.

## Library Donors

We wish to thank those who have made a donation since our last update:

Thomas E. Bruenn

Patricia Morse

Philip and Jane Callan

Harriet Barone

Jocelyn Linnekin

Ruth E. Kahn

Shawn and Amy Courchesne, in memory of Jennifer L. Stark

Janis Franco

James Lamoureux

Patsy and Joan Papandrea

Karen Roesler

Michael and Shelley Barker

Jean A. Petit

Phyllis S. Donovan

Maureen Hall

Dorothy Iwanicki

Hollis Redding



## Library Programming Donors

These four nonprofit organizations help keep our programming interesting, educational, and current:

Cuno Foundation

Meriden Foundation

Meriden Health & Human Services Department

Napier Foundation

## Still Available

It is still possible to be listed on the "donor plaque" for a gift of \$1,000.00, and we also still have several rooms that can be named. Please contact Frank Ridley ([fridley@cox.net](mailto:fridley@cox.net)) for more information.



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## The Wilderness Beyond: Patagonia - Tierra del Fuego & the Chilean Fjords

Longtime Meriden resident Marian Amodeo will share her love of adventure travel as she presents her most recent trip to Tierra del Fuego and the Chilean Fjords in Patagonia, along with a visit to Buenos Aires.

Registration requested.

**Tuesday, October 10th**  
**2-3 pm**



## Music Through the Decades: Pianist Joel Zelnik & Vocalist Francine Evans

Join us on this musical journey through the years featuring music from the turn of the century (1900s) through the 2000s. Soul, swing, Motown, disco, Sinatra, Bette Midler, Glen Miller, Elvis, and more! Sing along and dance to your favorites.

**Saturday, October 28th**  
**2-3 pm**



## October Virtual Author Talks



**Rick Steves**  
***Europe Through the Back Door: the Travel Skills Handbook***

- Bestselling guidebook author & TV host
- Founder & Owner of "Rick Steves' Europe" travel business

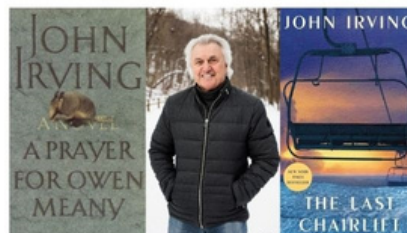
**Tuesday, October 10th**  
**at 4 pm EDT**



**Ruth Ware**  
***Zero Days***

- #1 *New York Times* and *Globe & Mail* (Toronto) bestselling author of 8 novels

**Wednesday, October 18th**  
**at 2 pm EDT**



**John Irving**  
***The Last Chairlift***

- Won an Oscar for Best Adapted Screenplay for *The Cider House Rules*
- Internationally renowned, his books have been translated into more than 35 languages

**Thursday, October 26th**  
**at 7 pm EDT**



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# Seasonal October Programs



To register for events, go to: <https://www.meridenlibrary.org/events/month>

## Twice-a-Month Tuesday Craft Night #1: Recycled Book Pumpkins

Recycle books into fun, decorative pumpkins! We are repeating this easy craft because the pumpkins turn out so cute. This is a wonderful family program!

**Tuesday, October 10th**  
**6-7 pm**



## Warren Legacy Foundation Lecture with Paranormal Investigator Joe Franke

Returning to the Meriden Public Library by popular demand! Veteran paranormal investigator Joe Franke of the Warren Legacy Foundation, who has worked with famed researchers Ed and Lorraine Warren, will speak about his experiences with the occult. This is a presentation not to be missed!

For teens and adults, ages 13 and up. Registration requested.

**Thursday, October 17th**  
**6-8 pm**



## Twice-a-Month Tuesday Craft Night #2: Toilet Paper Tube Trinket Boxes

Using empty toilet paper rolls, we will fashion little trinket boxes that look like miniature pumpkins. It's a great family craft!

**Tuesday, October 24th**  
**6-7 pm**



## Day of the Dead Celebration

Join us as we learn about and observe this beautiful holiday. The Days of the Dead are celebrated throughout Latin America on November 1st and 2nd. Traditions vary, but the idea is always the same: to honor and remember loved ones who have passed. We will create a traditional ofrenda and tissue-paper flowers and enjoy seasonal treats and refreshments. Send a photo to [Implref@gmail.com](mailto:Implref@gmail.com), to place on the ofrenda.

**Thursday, October 26th**  
**3:30-5:30 pm**



## Hocus Pocus Film Premiere

**Hocus Pocus** (1993) on the big screen! Fun for all ages!

Three 17th-century witches, hanged for their murderous crimes, are resurrected on Halloween in modern-day Salem by an unsuspecting boy, who must now figure out how to get them back in the ground.

(Starring: Bette Midler, Sarah Jessica Parker, Kathy Najimy, Omri Katz, & Thora Birch)



**Tuesday, October 31st**  
**4-6 pm**



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# Featured October Programs



To register for events, go to: <https://www.meridenlibrary.org/events/month>

**Take advantage of this month's workshops that cover everything you want to know about Social Security, retirement, financial aid for college, and Medicare/Medicaid!**

## Retirement Income Planning: Financial Literacy Seminar, with Bob Tubridy

Bob Tubridy, certified financial planner and volunteer with the Association of Financial Educators, will present a financial literacy program for adults geared toward retirement. Bob will cover topics such as early vs. delayed retirement, how long your retirement will last, and determining how much annual income you will need.

**Tuesday, October 3rd**  
**6:30-8 pm**



## Free College Admission & Financial Aid Workshop

Please join us for a free, educational college planning & financial aid workshop for parents of high school & middle school students! Even if your family is not eligible for need-based aid, we will cover strategies on how to most efficiently pay for college. We will discuss topics such as FAFSA, savings strategies, student loans, and scholarships. Registration is required.

**Thursday, October 12th**  
**6:15-8 pm**



## Social Security Workshop with the Council of Financial Educators

As you approach retirement, deciding how and when you claim Social Security benefits – two of the most important decisions you'll need to make – can be confusing and overwhelming. Come to the Council of Financial Educators' workshop to gain a clearer understanding of the options you have and the strategies you should consider before filing for Social Security benefits. You will learn how to minimize taxes on your Social Security, strategies for coordinating Social Security with other retirement income, and more.

**Tuesday, October 17th**  
**5:30-7:30 pm**



## Medicare & Beyond Class

Mention the word Medicare and you're likely to get a confused look in return.

Lou and Jessica Pelletier, the father/daughter team of the Pelletier Senior Planning Academy, will sort through the Parts (A - Hospital; B - Physician and Outpatient Coverage; D - Drug Coverage) and review the pros and cons of Medicare Supplement plans and Medicare Advantage plans.

Learn about IRMAA (Income-Related Monthly Adjusted Amount), Medicare Savings programs, a Medical Power of Attorney, and how to protect your assets from nursing homes without having long-term care insurance.

Join us if you are a senior, a child of a senior, or just want to know more.

**Thursday, October 19th**  
**6-8 pm**



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# October Programs



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## Classics Clique Book Club \*NEW!\*

This club is for people who love classics, or who just want to try reading more of them. There's going to be a group book at the beginning of every month to discuss, for which there will also be a viewing of the movie adaptation (if there is one for the book that's selected) at the end of the month. The first book pick and future meeting schedule will be determined at the first meeting.

**Monday, October 2nd**

**3-4 pm**



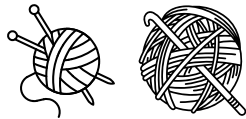
## Knit & Crochet Club \*RETURNING\*

Join us at the Morning Knit & Crochet Club. Meets every first and third Wednesday.  
All skills levels are welcome.

\*Note: this is not an instructional program.\*

**Wednesday, October 4th & 18th**

**10am-12pm**



## What's Next? Book Club: "Cilka's Journey"

We will discuss **Cilka's Journey**, written by Heather Morris. This book club is geared toward passionate readers and those having a true love of books. Everyone is welcome!

\*Physical copies in regular and large print, as well as CD audiobooks, may be available through our LION consortium. In addition, an eBook and eAudiobooks may be available on the Libby app, and an eAudiobook may be available on the Hoopla app.\*

**Wednesday, October 11th**

**6:30-7:30 pm**



## BookTok Book Club

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!

October Book: **Emily Wilde's Encyclopaedia of Faeries**, by Emilia Hart

\*Physical copies may be available through our LION consortium. eBooks and eAudiobooks may be available on the Libby app.\*

**Wednesday, October 25th**

**6:30-8 pm**



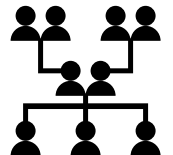
## Genealogy Discussion Group: Researching Hispanic Genealogy \*NEW\*

Join Iris Alicea Flores, professional genealogist of Descrube Tu Historia, as she teaches you the methods of discovering your Hispanic heritage. Iris, who specializes in researching the former Spanish colonies from the Caribbean and Central & South America, will guide you in starting your own family research, utilizing resources that focus on Hispanic heritage.

**\*Must register to receive Zoom link.\***

**Saturday, October 28th**

**11am - 12pm**



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# Castle Craig Adult Learning Center (CCALC)

## October Events



Meriden Public Library, 105 Miller St, Meriden, CT 06450

All classes meet from 1:00 pm – 2:30 pm

Wednesday, October 4th

"An Interactive Talk on Making a Painting"

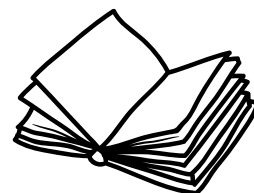
**Presenter: Ronald Abbe, artist and retired professor of art education, Housatonic Community College**



Tuesday, October 24th

"Book Discussion II: 'The Book of Lost Names,' by Kristin Harmel"

**Presenter: Pat Kenney**



Wednesday, October 18th

"The Three Stooges II"

**Presenter: John Colaresi, cinema buff & maven**



Friday, October 27th

"Using the Five Senses in Writing Historical Fiction"

**Presenter: Michael Milardo, local author of historical fiction**



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# Tomie dePaola Children's Library



To register for a program, call the Children's Desk at  
(203) 630-4737, or sign up online!

**\*Registration is now open and is required unless otherwise noted\***

## Storytime

### Rhyme Time

Tuesdays at 10:30 am | Ages 0-12 mos.

**Registration Required.**

This storytime is your baby's introduction to the library! Join us for songs, stories, and rhymes with repetition for baby's growing mind. Stay after storytime is over for baby playtime. Siblings are welcome.

### Wiggle Worms

Wednesdays at 10:30 am | Ages 1-3 yrs.

**Registration Required. (No class Oct 11)**

Join us for a special storytime for your little wiggle worm. This storytime will be high-energy and filled with songs, puppets, dancing, and more. Stay after storytime is over for playtime. Siblings are welcome.

### Family Storytime

Wednesdays at 6:30 pm | Ages 0-5 yrs.

**Registration Required.**

Join Miss Melissa each week for stories, songs, and crafts. Siblings are welcome.

### Preschool Storytime

Fridays at 10:30 am | Ages 3-5 yrs.

**Registration Required.**

This storytime is filled with songs, stories, puppets, and fun activities to develop your child's love of reading. Stay after storytime is over for playtime. Siblings are welcome.

### Sensory Explorers with the CAP Lab

Wednesday, Oct 11th 10:30 am | Ages 0-2

**Registration Required.**

Take your baby on a sensory exploration! The CAP Lab Sensory Explorer activity inspires infants' and toddlers' curiosity through song and guided sensory engagement. Join us for a fun and educational sensory experience! Siblings are welcome.

### Music for Little Superstars with Al deCant

Monday, Oct 2 at 10:30 am

Ages 0-5 | Meeting Room 1+2+3

**Registration Required.**

Join Al deCant, the singing principal, for a music and movement class that supports your little superstar's gross motor skills, language skills, and imagination. Children and caregivers will sing, clap, dance, and see a variety of musical instruments. Siblings are welcome.

### Tech Time

Thursday, Oct 5 at 6:30 pm | **Drop-In**

Grades K-5 | Children's Program Room

Experiment and explore robots and other tech toys at the library!

### Make a Pinhole Eclipse Viewer

Thursday, Oct 12 at 4:00 pm

Ages 6-11 | Children's Program Room

**Registration Required.**

Don't have a pair of eclipse glasses for the partial eclipse on Saturday, Oct 14th? Come create and decorate your own eclipse viewer using everyday items.

### LEGO Block Party

Saturday, Oct 14 from 10am-2pm | **Drop-In**

Grades K-5 | Children's Program Room

Imagination and creation combined! Join us and make a LEGO creation to be put on display in the library.

### Pool Noodle Monsters

Thursday, Oct 19 at 4:00 pm

Ages 8-11 | Children's Program Room

**Registration Required.**

Come and create a spooky or silly monster using pool noodles and a variety of other craft supplies.

### Black Bears in Connecticut Presentation

Thursday, Oct 26 at 6:30 pm

Grades K-5 | Meeting Room 5

**Registration Required.**

Join Paul Colburn, a Master Wildlife Conservationist from DEEP, to learn about the natural history of black bears in Connecticut. Kids will get an overview of their habitat, diet, behavior, reproduction, and current research efforts. Artifacts will be shared with the audience.



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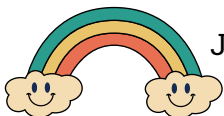
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# October Teen Programs



To register for events, go to: <https://www.meridenlibrary.org/events/month>

## Rainbow Roundtable



Join Librarian Paige and Pebble for Rainbow Roundtable, a LGBTQIA+-dedicated club. Come hang out and chat in a welcoming environment!

Wednesday, October 4th from 6-7 pm

## Teen Movie Matinee

Vote to pick which movie screens at the biweekly Teen Movie Matinee!

This month's themes are Tim Burton films and recent horror movies. To view movie selection, please see the event on library calendar.

Snacks and drinks will be provided.

Saturday, October 7th and 21st from 1-2:30 pm



## DIY Cantarito De Barro



Cantaritos de barro are traditional Mexican jars made of clay painted with floral designs. Join us as we decorate our own versions of these jars with traditional designs in honor of Hispanic Heritage Month.

Tuesday, October 10th from 3-4:30 pm

## Tabletop Club

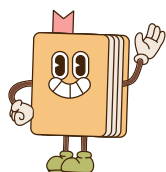
The Tabletop Club is for those who enjoy tabletop games ranging from board games to card games to Dungeons & Dragons. No experience is required and all are welcome to join!

Check out our latest addition, House of Danger!

Wednesday, October 11th from 6-8 pm



## Beyond the Book Club



Love reading but struggle to pick out or finish a book?

Join Beyond the Book Club to read fantastic YA stories and have fun discussions.

Friday, October 13th from 3-4:30 pm

## Lo-Fi Quiet Hour

Spend a quiet hour in the teen library listening to Lo-Fi music.

Take a moment to recharge, study, or read while listening to calming rhythms of this electronic subgenre.

Monday, October 16th from 3:30-4:30 pm



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# October Teen Programs, cont'd



To register for events, go to: <https://www.meridenlibrary.org/events/month>

## DIY Halloween Collage

Join us for an evening of using Halloween scrapbooking materials to create your own Halloween-themed collage.

Get as creative and scary as you want!

Wednesday, October 18th from 6-7:30 pm



## Practice English Conversation

Join us to practice English in a fun and comfortable environment! This program presents an opportunity to practice your English conversational skills in a group with a certified TESOL teacher! Some knowledge of English is recommended.



Thursday, October 5th & 19th from 3-4 pm

## Skill Series: Resume 101

Join Librarian Paige in this new series to learn the skills to build your resume! The first of a two-part series, this session will cover what should and should not go on your resume. Come prepared with any questions and a copy of your resume, if you have one.

Monday, October 23rd from 3-4:30 pm



## Manga Club

Join our monthly manga meetup for all things manga-related! Check out our latest manga additions.



Wednesday, October 25th from 6-7:30 pm

## Coloring Club!

Join us to relax and unwind by coloring various designs! All coloring supplies will be provided.

Thursday, October 12th & 26th from 3-4 pm



## Trivia Showdown



Join us for some Halloween trivia! This is the last trivia meetup of the year so come prepared to battle!

Prizes will be awarded for top teams/players.

Friday, October 27th from 3-4:30 pm

## 3-D Paper Graveyard

Make your own 3-D graveyard using colored pencils, paper, cardboard, and glue. This technique will leave you with a shadowbox graveyard of your own creation.

Monday, October 30th from 3-4:30 pm

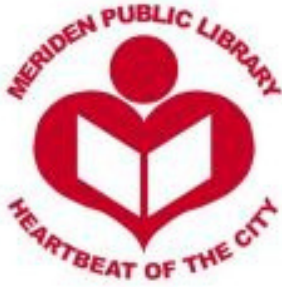


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# Friends of the Meriden Public Library

## 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!