Bookends February 2018



Bookends

THE MYSTIC & NOANK LIBRARY

FROM THE DIRECTOR CHRIS JOHNSON

N A T I O N A L L I B R A R Y W E E K

- April 8–14
- Book Club Forum
- Capt. Spicer's Birthday
- Poetry Contest
 Winners

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Youth Services

elcome to 2018 and the celebration of the 125th Anniversary of the Mystic & Noank Library! [See the article on page 6 for more on our Library's founding.] Throughout this year we will be hosting special events to mark this momentous occasion. The first of these special programs is An Evening with the Gillettes presented by Harold and Theodora Niver. Travel back in time to the 1880s when East Haddam resident and noted American actor, playwright and director, William Gillette, best known for his stage portrayal of Sherlock Holmes, built his Seventh

of his life, Helen Nichols. The Nivers offer an entertaining, educational, humorous and poignant portrayal of this famous Connecticut couple. The performance is being co-hosted by our neighbors at the Union Baptist Church and will be held in the church sanctuary on Wednesday, March 21 at 7 pm.

On April 14, we will celebrate our Founder Elihu
Spicer's birthday and announce the winners of our
1st Annual Jean K. Blanchet
Poetry Contest.

On April 19 at 6 pm we are pleased to present the O'Brien String Trio, who will perform classical selections from the late 1800s. This is

the first of three concerts in our 3rd Annual Roode Memorial Concert Series, which will once again be offered thanks to the ongoing generous funding by the family of Agnes Roode.

In this first quarter we are reaching the end of our Strategic Planning process and look forward to presenting our plans to the community in early spring 2018. As a historic institution, it is our intention to continue to honor our past while planning for the future to enable us to adapt our programs and services to best meet the changing needs of our Library users of all ages.

T'S DREARY NOW...BUT SPRING IS ON

SALLY SALANCY, FRIENDS PRESIDENT

re you tired of dreary days and cold nights? Don't listen to those who suggest fresh air and exercise. Instead, find time to curl up with a good book or drop by the Mystic

Sister "castle" on the Con-

necticut River for the love

& Noank Library for any of its services. By the way, the Friends of MNL finished 2017 with not just one, but two successful fundraisers. Our first ever Art Silent Auction brought in \$1,550 and the Like-New Holiday Book

Sale raised \$3,745.66, a record. We thank the donors to the Art Auction; we hope to make it an annual event. The Friends also thank everyone involved in the Like-New Holiday Book Sale. We couldn't do it without you!

FRIENDS NEWS (CONTINUED)

Despite dreary economic news last year, the Mystic & Noank Library remains open during its traditional hours and still offers free programs on new technology, free training on electronic devices, and free online access to the books in its Overdrive catalog. If you work five days a week, come to MNL in the evening on a Monday, Tuesday or Wednesday for various programs. And be sure to check Event Keeper on the MNL website and the postings on the doors, because a special program may even be held on a Thursday or Friday evening.

January and February are quiet months for the Mystic & Noank Library Friends, as we get ready for spring.

Our Eighth Annual Indoor Yard Sale, the first tag sale of the season, is coming up in March. Start your "spring cleaning" early by donating toys, cookware. and other items that clutter your space. Bring your former treasures to MNL and leave them on the bench near the Circulation Desk. (No clothes or large appliances, please.) Then, on Friday, March 23rd and Saturday, the 24th, come buy some new treasures! Please also mark your calendars for Sunday, March 25th, the day of the Mystic Irish Parade. Come stand along the route and watch as the Library's Book Cart Drill Team performs stunning maneuvers for the fifth year in a row!

In April, come to the Twelfth Annual Edible Book Tea. It's a friendraiser hosted every year by Groton Public Library on the Sunday nearest April Fool's Day. This year, Easter falls on April 1st, so the 2018 Edible Book Tea will be on Sunday, April 8th, giving all of us, and YOU, extra time to create something tasty that refers to a book. Past entries include 'Olive 'r Twist', 'The Red Velveteen Rabbit,' and 'The Cane Mutiny.' Why not enlist your kids or grandkids and get the whole family involved? Entry forms will be available at all three Groton libraries, i.e., Groton Public Library, Bill Memorial, and Mystic & Noank Library. Can't make an edible book? Then just

come to Groton Public Library on Sunday, April 8th. Set-up is at 1:00 and the festivities begin at 1:15. Try to guess "edible book" titles, buy raffle tickets to win a bag from one of the libraries and help eat those delicious "books." Don't be late: those entries go fast!

Would you like to help behind the scenes, share your ideas and maybe even join the Book Cart Drill Team? Consider coming to our monthly meetings or help the Friends in other ways. Just pick up a Friends brochure on the table near the elevator, and get in touch with us. Happy Spring! See you at the Mystic & Noank Library!

BRIDGE TOURNAMENT RESULTS KEN LEVY

The 2017 Mystic & Noank who won 4 out of their 5 Library Bridge Tournament matches with a total score has finished and the results have been tabulated. only loss came at the The tournament had 2 flights with 6 pairs playing in each flight. Many of the matches were very close and could have gone either way.

The winner of flight A was the team of Julie Doering and Rowland Stebbins

of 13,570 points. Their hands of Susan Keach and Judith Cady.

The winner of flight B was the team of Pat and Fred Ziegler who also won 4 of their 5 matches. They scored a total of 11,380 points. Their only loss occurred when they played the team of Judith Hicks and Marge Conway. Pat and Fred did bid and make a small slam against Alice Benson and Marilyn Sorenson.

There was another small slam bid and made by Bunny Furlong and Barbara Morrison in Flight A against Gayle Booth and Lois Myers.

I hope that everyone enjoyed playing in the tournament this year and I'm looking forward to the 2018 event. Please tell all of your bridge playing friends about this tournament and hopefully we can get additional players for the next event.

If anyone has any suggestions for the 2018 tournament, please send them along to Ken Levy at kenplevy@sbcglobal.net

FROM THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES BILL TURNER, PRESIDENT

y now most of us are beginning to feel like 32 degrees is warm and that spring is just around the corner. Unfortunately, we have the month of February to go. Thankfully, the recent cold temperatures and snowy blizzard conditions caused only moderate disruption to our operating hours. Our beloved Mystic & Noank Library survived with no functional disruptions thanks to the skillful oversight of Roger Richards and his Building and Grounds team who continue do a skillful job in monitoring the Library throughout the year. Thank you, Roger!!

It is that time of year when many of us are preparing our tax returns for 2017 and have an opportunity to donate to others. Please consider the Mystic & Noank Library when making decisions on philanthropic giving. It comes as no surprise to any Connecticut resident that the funds from the State of Connecticut to municipalities have been reduced to cover State deficits. With State reductions come local municipal reductions, including funds allocated to the Mystic & Noank Library.

Our Library relies on funding from the Groton and Stonington communities for its annual budget operations to provide valuable community services and programs. Please take the opportunity to voice your support to local officials and State leaders when the opportunity arises. It is the voices of many that bring sustainable results.

Take the time this winter to enjoy one of the many family mov-

ies presented at the Library. It is a wonderful opportunity to meet with other community members, families and supporters of the Library. Sharing a movie with others often enhances the experience and having movie treats makes it even better. A special thank you to the Friends of the Library who generously fund the program and continue to be a valued partner in support for the Library.

It is my pleasure to serve as your Board of Trustees President and work with such a strong team of volunteers, employees and trustees. As we continue to celebrate the 125th Anniversary of the Mystic & Noank Library we are committed to preserving this treasure for generations to come. Our Library Executive Director, Chris Johnson, is committed to making this special 125th year a time to celebrate our heritage and to provide the best in programming for our community.

ADULT SERVICES KATE NELSON

he holidays have come and gone and things are getting back to normal here. On behalf of all the staff I once again wish to thank all of our generous patrons who donated gifts for the Giving Tree, sent us cards, brought us delicious treats, or stopped in to wish us happy holi-

days. You all help make the season special. Just a reminder that in the nonholiday season our holiday collection is available to check out and is located on the second floor in the old glass front bookcases near the reference collection.

We are looking for materials to display in our lighted display case. If you have an interesting collection you would be willing to display for a month this year, please let us know. We have the monthly schedule at the Circulation Desk and there are only a few months that are filled at this time.

The new year brings a new employee to our staff. David Blakeney began volun-

teering for us last year and is now working for us on shelving and other tasks in both the Children's and Adult sections. David won a volunteer award in 2014 at Goochland Branch Library in Goochland, VA and we are very happy he has joined our staff.

PAGE 4 BOOKENDS

ADULT PROGRAMS SEE ALSO TECH CLASSES & BOOK CLUBS

February – Closed Monday, February 19 – Presidents Day

Thursdays, February 1 & 8 – 10 am to 11:30 am - *Mindfulness Meditation*

Friday Feature Films - Fridays at 3 pm

2/2/18 Stronger (2017, R)

2/9/18 Battle of the Sexes (2017, PG-13)

2/16/18 Goodbye Christopher Robin (2017, PG)

2/23/18 Marshall (2017, PG-13)

Tuesday, February 13 & 27—5:30 pm - SCORE Workshops

March - Closed Friday, March 30 - Good Friday

Fridays, March 2, 9, 16 – Great Decisions Discussion Group - Refreshments at 10:15, Discussion 10:30 -11:45

Friday Feature Films – Fridays at 3 pm

3/2/18 The Beguiled (2017, R)

3/9/18 TBD

3/16/18 TBD

Saturday, March 3 - AARP Defensive Driving—10 to 2

Tuesday, March 6 -- 6 to 8:30 pm Powerful Beyond Measure: Claim Your Power Within

Monday, March 12 – 7 pm Tom Verde - *The Environmental Activism Of Beatrix Potter*

Wednesday, March 21 – 6 pm – Starting Your Own Business – Lisa Powell, U.S. Small Business Admin.

Wednesday, March 21 – 7 pm - MNL 125th Anniversary Event – *An Evening with the Gillettes*

Friday, March 23 & Saturday, March 24 – **Friends Indoor Yard Sale**

Sunday, March 25 – **Mystic Irish Parade** – Volunteer Book Cart Drill Team Members are Needed!

Thursday, March 29 —10 am SCORE Workshop

Thursday, April 5 - 10 am SCORE Workshop

Fridays, April 6, 13, 20, 27 - Great Decisions Discussion Group

Sunday, April 8 – 1-4 pm—**Edible Books** at Groton Public Library

Wednesday April 11—12 to 2 pm Book Club Forum and Brown Bag Luncheon

Saturday, April 14 – 10 am – **Shred-It Day** sponsored by Chelsea Groton. At 1 pm – **Elihu Spicer's Birthday Celebration** – Announcement of Jean K. Blanchet Poetry Contest Winners

Wednesday, April 18 – 6 pm – ABC's of a Business Plan & Understanding SWOT Analysis – Lisa Powell, U.S. Small Business Admin.

Thursday, April 19 - 6 pm - Roode Memorial Concert

Saturday, April 22 – 9 am – 12 noon - **Spring Clean-Up Day** *Tentative*

Monday, April 23 – 7 pm – Screening of Ocean Frontier II – A New England Story for Sustaining the Sea

Save the Date – Wednesday, May 30 – Unlaunch'd Voices: An Evening With Walt Whitman

ONGOING PROGRAMS

Mondays at 4 pm - Writers Group

Thursdays at 3 pm - Cribbage

2nd and 4th Tuesdays at 1 pm - Knitting

1st and 3rd Tuesdays at 10 am -

Bereavement Counseling – Coping with the Loss of a Loved One – Center for Hospice Care of SECT

2nd Wednesdays at 7 pm - Mysticalligraphers

April - Passport to CT Libraries - Check MNL for details.

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DEVELOPMENT REPORT KAREN BRADSHAW

We gratefully acknowledge the following gifts:

Gifts in Memory Of:

Kristill Bella

Alan Greener

Sidney Gross

Nancy Hillery

Elizabeth Kingsland

Paula Toomey Knott's Birthday

Eleanor McLarney

Mrs. Louis (Billie) Palmer

Robert Ritzie

Matsumoto Sonoe

Sandy Wakeman

Mary Wheeler

Gifts in Honor Of:

Rick and Joanna Cady

John Glasfeld

Sarah Glasfeld

Alma O'Brien

The MNL Staff

Gifts In-Kind

Barry Boodman

Coastal Flooring

Marion Kyff Dodd

Gail R. Scott

Ed Purcell

Gail and Tom Tyler

e are so grateful to you, our Library Friends, who offer generous gifts to the Library month after month, year after year. Your donations to the Annual Fund fuel the necessary purchases to maintain our expanding collection, and we are already 50% towards our goal this year!

Memorial gifts fund programming like the Young Engineers' Club, the Jean Blanchet Poetry Contest and the Roode Concert series, while honoring a loved one.

Your ticket purchases and sponsorships of Special Events like our *Evening at the Engine Room* help modernize our furnishings, defray ongoing costs and offer additional services for all patrons.

Thank you for your continued generosity and support. We held our most successful #GivingTuesday event yet, raising more than \$7,600 in one day—an outstanding re-

sult showing the depth of community support we enjoy, and the real backing of motivated donors. And, at press time, we expect to smash our \$1,000 one-day fundraising goal on 1/25 to receive a \$1,000 pledge from a generous donor!

Keeping a building and institution like this library relevant, alive and brimming with activity requires a great willingness on your part to be our partners. We strive to make you proud of your local library and appreciate all that you share with us.

ROODE MEMORIAL CONCERT SERIES

Thursdays at 6 pm in the Spicer Room

April 19

May 17

June 21

Funded by

The Roode Family

THE LIBRARY CELEBRATES ITS STORY

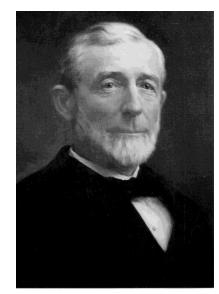
n 1891 Captain Elihu
Spicer announced that
he planned to build a public
library for the communities of
Mystic and Noank on the
corner of West Main and Elm
Streets. The building would
be two stories with a collection of books on the second
floor, and a large public
meeting room on the first
floor.

The Captain was born in Noank in 1825 and went to sea at the age of nine. He became a cabin boy at age fourteen and was master of the bark *Fanny* at age twenty -two. During subsequent years, he mastered many sailing ships for trade around the world.

In 1861 he entered into partnership with a life-long Mystic friend, Charles H. Mallory, to form the C. H. Mallory & Co.

in New York. Their venture proved successful in the trade between New York, Florida, and Galveston, Texas and this success enabled Captain Spicer to engage in his philanthropic activities.

He chose to erect his library across from his summer home on Elm Street and to include features that would reflect his inquiring interest in the many places and things that he had seen on his voyages. Unfortunately, Captain Spicer died on February 15, 1893, just months before the completion of the building. His sister, Mrs. Sarah Dickinson, with the aid of Mr. Mallory, carried out the Captain's wishes.



Captain Spicer

ANNOUNCING THE FIRST ANNUAL BLANCHET POETRY CONTEST

e invite you to share your original poetry with our Library community. Submissions in five categories will be accepted during the Month of March. One winner from each category will be announced on Saturday, April 14 at Captain Spicer's Birthday Celebration. The categories are Grades K to 3, 4 to 6, 7 & 8, 9 to 12 and Adults. Full rules are available at the Library.

Jean Kennedy Blanchet left a large bequest to our Library in 2016. It is our hope that this poetry contest will be a fitting annual tribute to her memory.

BOOKENDS PAGE 7

BOOK CLUBS KATE NELSON

thought I knew what I was getting myself into when I took over Book Club ordering in October. Marilyn had always made it look easy. I'm finding it a challenge, but one I really enjoy. The diversity of titles is interesting and yet there are always titles that it seems every club wants. There are more than a dozen clubs that ask me to obtain multiple copies of their chosen books. Each club meets at a different time each month and needs a different number of books. Some clubs choose titles once a year and give me a list for the entire year; others choose a couple of months ahead. I hit a few bumps in the beginning, but I believe I now have the system down. I'm not sure I'll ever be able to take a vacation, however (just joking).

Book Club Forum and Brown Bag Luncheon will be held on Wednesday April 11 from 12 to 2 pm in the Ames Room. We invite representatives from the many local book clubs to come and briefly discuss their club's favorite books from the last year. We will then compile a list of the titles that will be available online and at the Circulation Desk.

Afternoon Book Club – First Wednesday at 1pm

Feb 7: Homegoing, by Yaa Gyasi

Mar 7: A Fall of Marigolds, by Susan Meissner

Apr 4: Hillbilly Elegy by J. D. Vance

May 2: The Underground Railroad, by Colson Whitehead

Evening Book Club – First Wednesday at 7pm

Feb 7: Remains of the Day, by Kazuo Ishiguro

Mar 7: A Gentleman In Moscow by Amor Towles

History Book Club – Second Tuesday at 7pm

Feb 13: Defenders of the Faith by James Reston, Jr.

Mar 13: Catherine the Great by Robert Massie

Apr 10: The Path Between the Seas by David McCullough

May 8: The Man Who Loved China by Simon Winchester

Captain John Porter Civil War Book
Club – Third Wednesday at 6pm

Feb 21: Lincoln In the Bardo, by George Saunders

Mar 21: Stanton: Lincoln's War Secretary by Walter Stahr

Apr 18: Days of Defiance by Maury Klein

May 16: Look Away! by William C. Davis (available as online reading)

CAN YOU HELP?

A homebound gentleman, who is a retired engineer with impaired vision, is looking for volunteers who would be willing to read aloud to him and discuss books with him in his home on a weekly basis. He is especially interested in historic fiction, classics, compelling non-fiction, etc.

We are hoping to have a group of volunteers who can alternate as the family is hoping for 2-3 one hour visits each week.

They are flexible regarding the time of day. If you are interested in volunteering for this homebound service, please contact our Library Director, Chris Johnson.

TAX TOPICS

The AARP will **not** hold appointments at Mystic & Noank Library due to scheduling limitations.

AARP Tax Assistance for this tax season is only being provided at the Groton Senior Center on Tuesdays from February 6 to April 10, 2018. The hours will be 9 am to 2 pm. Mystic patrons may schedule appointments at the Senior Center. Call early!

While most IRS tax forms, instructions and publications will be available electronically on the IRS.gov website by the beginning of the filing season (January 29), the printing and distribution process for printed products takes longer to complete. As a result, shipments of forms may arrive at the Library later than normal.

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TECH CLASSES RACHEL TAYLOR

our choice of 10:15 am OR 5:30 pm session for each class; attendees should provide their own devices. Registration is required; please sign up via the Library website or call for assistance.

Monday, February 5 - iPads and iPhones: Learn all about the common features of these great Apple devices, including their settings and navigation, as well as the many services, functions and apps unique to each!

Monday, February 12 - Clean Up Your Computer: Find out how to clean up your computer and make it run faster! You will learn how to uninstall programs you don't want, get rid of malware and open up new storage space.

Monday, March 12 - Intro to Skype: Learn all about Skype, a FREE program that allows you to talk to people face-to-face on your device! You'll be able to chat with longdistance friends and family members as well as use special "bots" to play games, learn new skills, and schedule your calendar!

Monday, March 19 - Ancestry.com:

Discover Ancestry.com, a website that allows you to trace your genealogy and create a family tree! Students will learn how to set up an account, navigate the settings and website options, and connect with others who may have ancestors in common.

Monday, March 26 - Facebook Business Pages: Learn to use Facebook to promote your business, whether it's a hobby gig or a full-time job! Find out about all the ways you can use a social media page to advertise yourself and find your audience.

Monday, April 9 - Pinterest: Find out all about Pinterest, a hobby and interest-based social networking site! Students will learn how to create an account,

search for and follow fun blogs based on their pastimes, and connect with users who have similar interests.

Monday, April 16 - Basic MS Word: Learn how to copy and paste, save and print, spell check, experiment with and select fonts, format margins and spacing, and much more!

Monday, April 30 - Manage Your Photos Online: Find out how to organize your photos and create albums through FREE online photo storage services! Learn about Flickr, Google Photos, and Dropbox, among others, and learn how to use the many excellent features and ample storage space offered by each.

2018 Connecticut Book Awards

Accepting submissions until April 20, 2018

Eligibility requirements and submission form can be found here http://bit.ly/2018CBA



The Connecticut Center for the Book promotes the written and spoken word throughout the state. It is Connecticut's affiliate of the Center for the Book in the Library of Congress.

YOUTH SERVICES ROBERTA DONAHUE



Drop by the Library on Saturday, February 3 for the seventh annual Take Your Child to the Library Day. We will have new board games and crafts for all ages, with classic dollhouse activities to celebrate the Library's 125th anniversary year. Come read to Phantom, our Bernese Mountain dog friend, or just stop by to say hello. Our Young Engineers Club instructor will be demonstrating the Library's 3D printers. It's the perfect day to encourage children to enjoy the Library, sign up for a library card, and join others for a day of fun.

11:00 am - Sit! Stay! Read! with Phantom

1:00 pm - Young Engineer's Club Demo

3:00 pm - Movie Matinee: Captain Underpants: First Epic Movie (PG)

Young Engineer's Club

Saturdays, March 10 to May 26, from 11 to 1 pm

The Young Engineer's Club (YEC) is a new program at the Mystic & Noank Library that seeks to provide an opportunity for children ages 10 and up to become technology creators. The YEC will meet Saturday of each week, from 11:00 am to 1:00 pm, starting during Teen Tech Week on Saturday, March 10th. Over a 3 -month period tween/teens will learn the basics of electrical engineering and software development using the Arduino platform.

The Spring 2018 project is an automatic plant watering system made from scratch. Topics include what electricity is, Ohm's law, basic electronic components, schematic design, circuit board design, soldering, 3D modeling/printing, and the basics of C programming. The YEC is free and open to the public but class size is limited and registration is required. Register today!

Storyimes

These classes consist of stories, finger-plays, and crafts. Storytimes last for eight weeks and are free and open to the public. Due to demand, class size is limited and registration will be done on a first come, first served basis. Spring Storytimes will begin at the end of March.

Lapsit

Session One: Wednesdays 10:15 Session Two: Thursdays 10:15

Toddlers

Session One: Wednesdays 11 am Session Two: Thursdays 11 am

Three Year Olds

Session One: Mondays 10:30 am

Four and Five Year Olds Session One: Tuesdays 1:15 pm

1000 Books Before Kindergarten

This program, for families with children up to 5 years old, has the goal of helping you read 1000 books together prior to your child's first day of kindergarten. Each time you read 100 books, bring in your reading log to receive special recognition, collect a prize, and mark your child's progress on our "Wall of Fame." For more infor-

mation, or to register, please visit the Children's Room. This program is made possible by funding from the Groton Education Foundation.

Winter Movie Matinees Saturdays at 3 pm

Winter Movie Matinees through February will feature PG rated films appropriate for the whole family. This program is free and open to the public and no registration is required. Generously funded by the Friends of the Mystic & Noank Library. Bring your snacks!

February 3 - Captain Underpants: The First Epic Movie

February 10 - Smurfs: The Lost Village February 17 - The Nut Job 2: Nutty by Nature

February 24 - Monster Trucks

Friday Afternoon Wii U Gaming Fridays from 3:30 to 5 pm

Get your game on with other kids and teens! Join casual tournaments and game with your friends. Gaming offers an outlet for creativity and problem solving, while the Library provides an atmosphere of community and sharing. Games are appropriate for ages 9 and up. Come join in on the fun!

Lyman Allyn Art Museum Tween/Teen

programs at the Library. Saturdays at 1 pm February 24: Musical zentangles inspired by On Another Note: The Intersection of Art

by On Another Note: The Intersection of Ar and Music exhibition on view at the Museum until April 11

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March 24: Paintings inspired by famous female artists to accompany Women's History Month

April 28: Design your own art deco poster inspired by the traveling NEH Exhibition, Spirited: Prohibition in America, on view April 4 to May 25

May 19: Color your own tote inspired by works from the permanent collection on view in *American Perspectives*



THE MYSTIC & NOANK LIBRARY

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We are open

Monday ~ Tuesday ~ Wednesday 10 to 9

Thursday ~ Friday ~ Saturday 10 to 5

We are transitioning from six issues per year to a quarterly distribution. Please visit our website

mysticnoanklibrary.org

to keep up-to-date on all of our upcoming programs and activities. You can also follow us on Facebook at

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For the very latest information, we invite you to subscribe to our free monthly e-newsletter by using the link from our homepage.

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