



Mystic & Noank
LIBRARY

T H E M Y S T I C & N O A N K L I B R A R Y

Bookends

P R E S I D E N T ' S R E P O R T

B I L L T U R N E R , B O A R D O F T R U S T E E S

As I look back over 2018, I am amazed at how many successful programs unfolded at the Mystic & Noank Library. The Friends of the Library were unwavering in their support, not only in volunteer hours worked but also in their continued financial generosity. Whether it be the Spring Fair or the spruce up of the Library's exterior, the Friends have always been willing to lend a hand to further advance our Mystic & Noank Library. Thank you Friends!!

For such a small space, the Ames Room continues to provide a meeting space to many. The recent technology upgrades in the Ames room will provide the ability to present programs keeping up with 21st century technology. The Library has also satisfied the passions for many patrons in this past year with topics ranging from knitting and calligraphy, to cribbage and meditation. As we look to satisfy the appetites of our patrons in 2019, we welcome your input on potential programs yet to be considered while staying true to the mission of the Mystic & Noank Library.

The year 2018 also saw the transition of our Development Director and Executive Director positions with exciting new leaders who have joined the team. Loren Wren and Karen Wall have jumped feet first into our dynamic Library looking to advance our institution with their expertise and experience. Please welcome Karen and Loren to our community and embrace the challenges and exciting events sure to be on the landscape for 2019. Last year's reception recognized many community sponsors along with

generational families who have grown exponentially due to the Mystic & Noank Library experience.

As the Holiday Season of 2018 drifts into memory we are looking ahead to a dynamic 2019 filled with many new opportunities and programs for the Library. The first quarter programs are now well under way and library patrons can look forward to story time for children as young as 6 months to toddlers, 3 year olds and the 4-5 year olds. As winter months become a challenge and the doldrums set in, there is no better way to keep children occupied with their peers than participating in reading programs at the Library. The Children's Room has always been known as a cornerstone of our program line-up. We are fortunate to have Roberta and her team at the helm.

Onward and upward to a dynamic 2019 at the Mystic & Noank Library.

HONOR BOOK DAY IS APRIL 26

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FRIENDS REPORT

SALLY SALANCY

The last Friends' project of 2018 was the Like-New Holiday Book Sale, which offered books, holiday items, and other gifts. The 2018 Sale made \$4,757.83, the most money that sale has ever made! Of course, it's another of our "win-win" affairs - you buy wonderful gifts at very good prices and the proceeds benefit the Library. Thank you to everyone who helped, whether by donating, staffing, or shopping for gifts.

January and February are quiet months for the Friends, as we take stock of the past year and start planning for the new. First on our list is to find brave and hardy souls for our **2019 Library Cart Drill Team** to take part in the Mystic Irish Parade on **Sunday, March 24**. We have only a few weeks to practice our intricate, synchronized moves. If you'd like to join in, please contact us at: friendsofmysticnoanklibrary.net. If you can't be on the team this year, then be sure to look for us in the parade. We can guarantee that the **Friends of Mystic & Noank Library** will have the **best library cart drill team**.

Later that week, on **March 29 and 30**, the Friends will hold our **Ninth Annual Indoor Yard Sale** during regular Library hours. (You may already begin donating your children's old toys and the cookware you no longer use.) Since our sale is indoors, it's often the first of the season, an advantage to everyone.

While we're practicing for the Irish Parade, we're also trying to think of the title or character of a book that can be represented by good-tasting food, since our next project is the **Edible Book Fest**, which is hosted by Groton Public Library on **Sunday, April 7**. This international celebration of books and reading involves all three Groton Libraries, i.e. Bill Memorial, Mystic & Noank Library, and Groton Public Library. Past entries include "Olive 'r Twist," "The Cane Mutiny" and "A Wrinkle in Lime." (Mito, our library cat, would choose "If You Give a Mouse a Cookie.") The Groton Public Library opens its doors on Sundays at 1pm, and those with entries in the Fest may start setting them up right away. By 1:15, the general public is invited to browse among the entries and guess the titles.

When everyone has had a good look around the room, the MC will reveal the book title, character, or theme of each entry. **Then comes the best part - we eat the food!** Just coming to observe and eat? Try to arrive no later than 1:30. While guessing the book titles, be sure to buy raffle tickets, in hopes of winning a raffle basket donated by a participating library. While it's fun to attend the Edible Book Festival, it's even better to **create your own Edible Book!** Details and entry forms will be available in early March at all three Groton libraries. Fill out a form, assemble your creation, and bring it to the Groton Public Library on Sunday, April 7.

April is also the month when the Friends start planning our Annual Fair, which is our biggest fund-raiser - and friend-raiser of the year. The first part of the Fair is the **Silent Auction**, which runs from the first Monday of May to 2 pm on **Fair Day, Saturday, June 1**. The generosity of local merchants, along with donations from friends and Friends, will provide about 100 special items to auction, as well as a great number of gift certificates.

The Friends of Mystic & Noank Library have ten monthly meetings a year, most on the third Monday of the month. If you've donated time to the Library, or given to the Annual Fund, you are already a Friend, and we invite you to attend a meeting to see if you'd like to contribute to our work. Please check with the Circulation Desk to confirm the date of our next meeting.

See you at the Library!

FROM THE DIRECTOR'S DESK

KAREN WALL

Greetings and Happy New Year! Over the last several months there have been some new faces at the Mystic & Noank Library, and mine is one of them! I was honored to take the helm on November 26 after serving as Director at the Crawford Library in Dudley (MA) for over five years. A little about me: I graduated from URI in 2003 with my Master's in Library and Information Science. Since then I have worked in corporate, academic, state government, private and public libraries and archives, each one providing a completely different experience. In my off time I enjoy riding my horse, bicycling and motorcycling, knitting and (of course!) reading. I just started reading *Leadership: In Turbulent Times* by Doris Kearns Goodwin and I'm enjoying it already.

I truly love public service. A keynote speaker at a library conference once told a gathering of librarians, "Every community and every library is different; your challenge is to figure out what your community needs and wants, and go do that." This has been my guiding ethos ever since. We have a wide variety of upcoming events and programs for all ages, and more are in the works, but I always welcome new ideas for programs and materials. You can stop by the Library to see me, give me a call, or email me at kwall@mysticnoanklibrary.org.

Thank you for your support, and I'll see you soon!

DEVELOPMENT REPORT

LOREN WREN

Happy New Year! As I near the completion of my fourth month as the new Director of Development here at the Mystic & Noank Library, I must say that I feel I am at my home away from home and I know many of you feel the same. I have thoroughly enjoyed getting to know so many of you, our Library's good friends and family, who are truly committed in your support and love of this special institution.

For the past 125 years, the Library has thrived in most part because of this "family" that is made up of all of you; a wonderful, lively and diverse group of caring, interesting and giving individuals.

As I continue on my journey here, I look forward to working with our diligent staff and our devoted supporters and friends to ensure that our beloved Library continues to be here as the tremendous community resource that it is: to be here for all to learn; have a sense of family, friendship and camaraderie; a gathering place for friends and a destination for amazing programs and enriching opportunities for growth.

In my first couple of months here I was thrilled to be a part of the Library's Cheers to 125 Years fundraising cocktail party, on November 15, which raised over \$19,000. A big thank you to our sponsors and supporters for making this evening so special. Despite the snow, we had 80 guests in attendance enjoying delicious fare, our enchanting atmosphere and engaging conversation.

The month of December and into January couldn't have been any busier as I have been beyond impressed by the incredible response to our Holiday Appeal for our Annual Fund. I am in awe of you all for your overwhelming generosity to this Library. Thank you, Thank you, Thank you! As you know, our Annual Fund is critical to keeping our lights on, staff in place, shelves stocked and activities abounding. Thank you for helping make this happen!

I look forward to meeting so many more of you. When at the Library, I am tucked in the upstairs corner but please stop by and say hello. I love to meet new friendly faces and to learn all that you love about this special library.

ART IN THE AMES ROOM

February—Paul Rondina

March—Mark Yuells

April—John Micholen

ADULT PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

MANY NEW PROGRAMS ARE BEING PLANNED. FOLLOW US ON FACEBOOK TO LEARN MORE!

Ongoing Programs

Mondays at 4 – Writers Group

Thursdays at 3 – Cribbage

2nd & 4th Tuesdays at 1 – Knitting

1st & 3rd Tuesdays at 10 – Bereavement Counseling: Coping with the Loss of a Loved One

Center for Hospice Care of SECT

2nd Wednesdays at 7 – Mysticaligraphers

Usually every 3rd Monday at 12 noon - Friends of the MNL Meetings

BRIDGE TOURNAMENT KEN LEVY

The 24th Mystic & Noank Library Benefit Bridge Tournament has been completed and the competition was fierce. There were 40 matches total with 20 being played in each flight. Congratulations to the following winners:

(Flight A – Team 4-A) Julie Doering and Roland Stebbins averaged over 3,200 points per match with the closest competition being Team 2-A of Bunny Furlong and Martha Perry who averaged over 2,300 points per match. Small slams were bid and made by both the first and second place teams.

(Flight B – Team 2-B) Susan Keach and Judith Cady averaged almost 2,600 points per match with the closest competition being Team 3-B of Judith Hicks and Marge Conway who averaged almost 2,200 points per match. Susan and Judith bid and made two small slams on their way to victory.

Julie, Roland, Susan, and Judith were rewarded for their fine play with Go Local Gift Cards donated by Ken Levy.

We will plan on starting the 25th Mystic & Noank Library Benefit Bridge Tournament in June 2019. Please contact your bridge friends and encourage them to participate in this fun event that also helps support the Library.

Enjoy the winter and keep playing bridge.

THE DEVELOPMENT OFFICE GRATEFULLY ACKNOWLEDGES THE FOLLOWING GIFTS:

Gifts in Memory Of:

Paula Toomey Knott
Barbara Murch
Martha Thomas
Suzanne Tompkins
Mary “Aggie” Tullis
Tom Tyler
Norman Wheeler, Jr.

Gifts in Honor Of:

Joanna Case
Mito
The MNL Staff

Gifts In-Kind:

The Charles B. Allyn Foundation
Barry Boodman
Ken Levy
Power Posse Productions
Simply Majestic Jewelers

ACTIVITIES FOR KIDS AND TEENS

ROBERTA DONAHUE



Take Your Child to the Library Day

Saturday, February 2

Drop by the Library on Saturday, February 2 for the eighth annual Take Your Child to the Library Day. We will have Lego building, board games and valentine crafts for all ages all day long! Be sure to enjoy cookies & cocoa too! Our Family Movie Matinee will be *Hotel Transylvania 3* in the Ames Room at 3:00 pm.

Storytimes

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 am

Session Two: Thursdays 10:15 am

Toddlers

Session One: Wednesdays 11 am

Session Two: Thursdays 11 am

Three Year Olds

Mondays 10:30 am

Four and Five Year Olds

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 kin-

dergarten. 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 information, 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 2 - *Hotel Transylvania 3* (1 hour 37 minutes)

February 9 - *Up* (1 hour 36 minutes)

February 16 - *Show Dogs* (1 hour 33 minutes)

February 23 - *Secret Life of Pets* (1 hour 40 minutes)

Young Engineers' Club

The Young Engineer's Club (YEC) offers an opportunity for children ages 10 and up to become technology creators. The YEC will meet one Saturday each month from 10:00 am to noon to learn various technologies. Projects have included making an automated plant watering system using 3D modeling and printing and learning how the Internet works at a basic level by creating simple web servers using Node JS. Most recently, students learned the basics of using an Arduino development board.

TECH CLASSES FOR FEBRUARY & MARCH

RACHEL TAYLOR

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

Monday, February 4 - Free Technology for Presentations. Eager to put a presentation together without the expense of slideshow software? Take this class and learn all about the many FREE web services like Prezi, Google Slides, and more, which you can use to make a polished and professional slideshow presentation.

Monday, February 11 - Cloud Computing. Find out how to access, edit and store your data on the Cloud. Those who have never used cloud storage options before will learn all about the many free, easy to use, and safe web programs for organizing and accessing your files.

Monday, February 25—Online Job Resources. Take this new class and access the many excellent employment resources on the web! Students will learn to locate and navigate the best job websites, set up their own LinkedIn account, build and polish their resumes, and find out about many other tools and methods of promoting yourself to employers online.

Monday, March 4—Online Health Resources. Confused by the many online health & wellness websites claiming to offer you answers? Take this class and learn about the many legitimate health resources on the web that can give you sound advice, accurate information and excellent referrals. We will also talk about nutritional resources and how they can be helpful for people of all ages.

Monday, March 11 - 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, March 18 - Manage Your Photos Online. Find out how to manage your photos with free online storage services. Students will learn about free web services like Flickr and Google Photos and how to use the many features and ample storage space offered by each.

Check back soon for April offerings.

FRONT AND CENTER

KATE NELSON

Another year has begun. I'm looking forward to a year of good health, good cheer, good reading and a full staff. On behalf of all the staff, thank you to 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 holidays. Just a reminder that in the non-holiday season our holiday collection is still available for checking out. It is located on the second floor in the old glass-front bookcases near the reference collection.

We are very happy that Karen Wall, Library Director, and Loren Wren, Development Director, have joined us. Unfortunately, we have to say goodbye to Peggy Russell.

Peggy joined us over ten years ago as Bookkeeper and has been keeping our bills paid and finances straight ever since. She was also always a big help with fund raisers and other functions here at the Library and she will be missed. We wish her a restful and well deserved retirement!

With the holidays and cold seasons hitting at the same time, I didn't get much time for reading. However, I did listen to a couple of books on my commute to and from work. If you're in the mood for a light mystery and a good laugh, I recommend Janet Evanovich's Stephanie Plum series. The recorded book versions are particularly funny because the narrator, Lorelei King, has the Jersey accents down perfectly. Stephanie Plum is a 20/30 something bounty hunter, who has some of the worst luck with bond fugitives and cars, but always manages to get her man in the end. There are some great characters in the series and Evanovich just finished number twenty-five.

BOOK CLUB CORNER

KATE NELSON

Book clubs are in full swing and the lists have some interesting choices. I've put some of them on my personal reading list. I find it interesting that multiple groups choose the same titles. It isn't just the groups that I order for; many groups throughout the state are reading the same titles. Last year it was *Hillbilly Elegy* or *A Gentleman in Moscow*, this year it is *Educated* and *The Great Alone*. It can be a challenge to get enough copies when multiple groups choose the same title for the same month, but the state RequestIT system is working much more efficiently, and that helps.

MNL Book Clubs

Afternoon Book Club – First Wednesday at 1pm

Feb 6: *Exit West*, by Mohsin Hamid

Mar 6: *Little Fires Everywhere*, by Celeste Ng

Apr 3: *Frankenstein*, by Mary Shelley

Evening Book Club – First Wednesday at 7pm

Feb 6: *Less*, by Andrew Sean Greer

Mar 6: *The God of Small Things*, by Arundhati Roy

Apr 3: *Cold Comfort Farm*, by Stella Gibbons

History Book Club – Second Tuesday at 7pm

Feb 12: *Homegrown Terror: Benedict Arnold and the Burning of New London*, by Eric Lehman

Mar 12: *A History of Mystic, CT: From Pequot Village to Tourist Town*, by Leigh Fought

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

Feb. 20: *The Field of Blood: Violence in the Congress and the Road to Civil War*, by Joanne B. Freeman.

Book Club Forum and Brown Bag Luncheon will be held on Wednesday April 10 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

MNL HONOR BOOK DAY

AT BANK SQUARE BOOKS

SATURDAY APRIL 6 FROM 12 TO 5

Everyone is invited to visit the book store (53 West Main Street) to see the wide selection of adult and children's books which have been pre-selected by the Library's staff because they would be a welcome addition to our collection. This is a wonderful opportunity to purchase a book to donate to the Library in honor of, or in memory of, a friend or relative. There will be a permanent recognition of your gift in the form of a special bookplate which will indicate the donor or honoree's name.

Can't make it to the bookstore? You can buy books online to support this event. Go to our website and choose the "Donate" tab.

Thanks, as always, to Bank Square Books for supporting this annual event.



**T H E M Y S T I C &
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SIGN UP FOR OUR MONTHLY EBLAST!

WE ARE OPEN

MONDAY ~ TUESDAY ~ WEDNESDAY

10 TO 9

THURSDAY ~ FRIDAY ~ SATURDAY

10 TO 5

We will be closed on Friday, April 19 in observance of Good Friday

FRIENDS INDOOR YARD SALE
MARCH 29TH & 30TH
DURING REGULAR LIBRARY HOURS

Mystic & Noank Library
40 Library Street
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