



Friends of Acton Public Library

If you've ever wondered who are the Friends of Acton Public Library, or what they do, keep reading. The Friends are a group of individuals who have in common a love for the Acton Library. The main missions of the Friends are to advocate for the Library and to raise funds that are used to supplement programming funds provided by the town. The Friends sponsor programs for people of all ages. A recurring favorite is the Summer Reading Program, which kicks off with a big celebration shortly after the close of school. The Friends also sponsor the Museum Pass program, which provides free or reduced-price access to a variety of museums and sites of local interest. For a full list see the Library's website at actonlibrary.org.

The Friends raise the majority of the funds they donate by holding book and bake sales during the year. The books, as well as CDs, DVDs and puzzles offered at the sales are donated by generous members of the community. We accept almost all books that are in good condition, with the exception of encyclopedias, condensed books, textbooks and outdated technology and travel books. Books, as well as CDs, DVDs, and puzzles can be donated by bringing them to the circulation desk whenever the Library is open. Upcoming is our Big Summer Book Sale, June 27, 28 and 29. It is our largest sale of the year and takes place on both floors of the Library.

In addition to our sales, the other main source of funds is our annual membership drive that happens during the Spring of each year and is currently taking place. Membership in the Friends is open for a donation in an amount of the donor's choice. Although the size of a membership donation is discretionary, the larger the donations, the more the Friends can do to support the Library. Anyone who has donated previously will receive a membership envelope in the mail. But for others, envelopes can always be obtained at the Library circulation desk. The Friends is a 501 (c) (3) organization, and all contributions are tax deductible to the extent allowed by law.

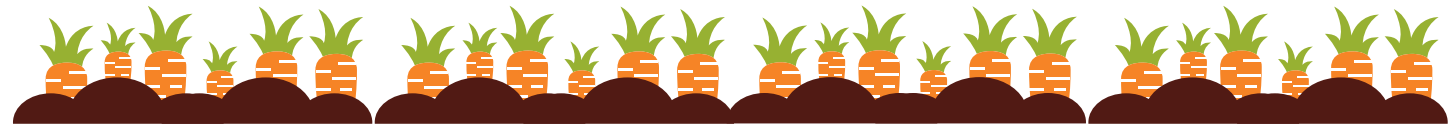
All members of the Friends and the community at large are invited to attend our Annual Meeting, which will be held on May 23 at 5:30 in the Grady Thomas room at the Library. Please join us to learn more about becoming involved in the Friends as well as to learn more about exciting times that are coming to the Library.

Please feel free to contact one of the co-presidents,

Nancy Prescott at nancyaprescott@gmail.com or Emily Miller at beacon137@aol.com.



Acton Public Library Seed Library is back for its third year! This year we have more open-pollinated and non-GMO varieties of seeds. Seed companies that have donated this year, so far, are High Mowing Organic Seeds, Seed Savers Exchange, and Hudson Valley Seed Company. You will be able to choose up to five different seed packets. This will be on a first come – first serve basis. Please visit the Seed Library page on the website under Services for more information.



The Beacon

May-June 2024

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LIBRARY HOURS

Monday - Thursday
10 - 8
Friday - Saturday
10 - 5
Sundays through May 5
1-5

CLOSINGS

Memorial Day
Mon. May 27

Juneteenth
Wed. June 19

Register for library events on
our website
www.actonlibrary.org
or call 860-395-3184



SUMMER READING FOR ALL!

by Amanda Brouwer

This summer we have so much for everyone to do at the library! The theme for this year's Summer Reading Program is Read, Renew, Repeat. Designed for all ages, our summer reading program will feature the idea of conservation. Conservation as a movement focuses on protecting species from extinction, maintaining and restoring habitats, enhancing ecosystem services, and protecting biological diversity.

Our summer will kick off on Friday, June 21st from 11am to 2pm on our front lawn. Join us for music, lawn games and ice cream & register for the Summer Reading Program (SRP)! We will have an amazing summer raffle prize (to be determined), for all those that register. The prize store will open on July 1st for all those readers that have made progress on their reading charts. More information on the SRP will be made available on the website in the next month.

Beginning July 11th and every Thursday night until August 15th we will have our Family Night Programs, mostly animals and science themed events. SRP will end on August 21st with pizza and games.

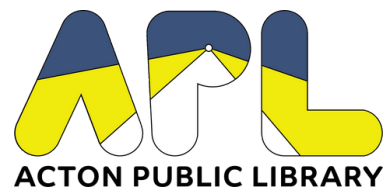
We at Acton are looking forward to summer and to see everyone get excited about reading! See you soon!



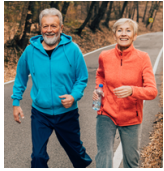
Friday, June 21

Make Music Day &
Summer Reading Kick-off

Register for Summer Reading and join us for music, lawn games & ice cream.
Free and open to all.
No registration needed.



Adult Special Events



WALKING GROUP

Fridays through May 24 at 10:30 a.m.

Join Cindy in a 45 minute walk around the neighborhood.



A JOY CIRCLE

Wednesday, May 1 & June 5 at 6:30 p.m.

Come join us to cultivate joy and connection! Chloe Carlson will talk briefly about what joy is, why joy is so beneficial to our well-being, and how to harness and even amplify joy's benefits, all drawing from the work of Stanford neuroscience researcher, Kelly McGonigal, PhD.



HELEN KELLER: CHAMPION OF THE DISABLED

Tuesday, May 14 at 6:30 p.m.

The program is written from Helen's mind's eye. The story is told on a taped voice over as Helen reenacts her full life from her childhood through her discovery of language when she was seven years old to the writing of her twelve books. She will show the audience how she speaks and reads in Braille, and her story continues through her graduation from college. This is one of our most unique, very special programs which helps us to understand and accept the different ways people do the same things and inspires them to be the best they can be with the talents they possess. This one-woman show is presented by Sheryl Faye.

Sponsored by the Friends of Acton Public Library.



SANDRA YANNONE: POETRY READING

Thursday, May 16 at 6:00 p.m.

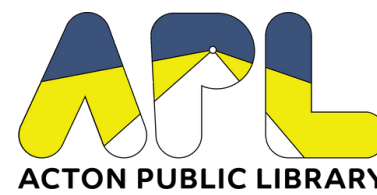
Poet, Sandra Yannone, and four guest readers, will read from her new book, The Glass Studio. The book is a meditation on the word glass and is dedicated to her father and paternal grandmother. Books will be available for purchase at the event.

JUNETEENTH PROGRAM

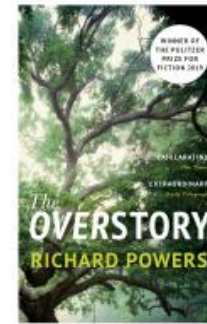
Tuesday, June 11 at 6:00 p.m.

Bethani Blake, Programs Manager for the African Diaspora of The Amistad Center for Art & Culture at the Wadsworth Atheneum Museum of Art, will discuss: FreedomWays: Cultural Reflections from Jubilee to Juneteenth.

Sponsored by the Friends of Acton Public Library.



Adult Book Groups



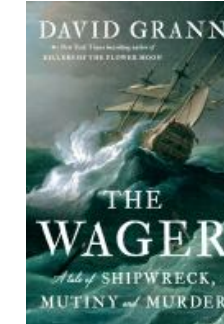
WEDNESDAY BOOK CLUB

May 1

The Overstory
by Richard Powers

June 5

Great Expectations
by Charles Dickens



BOOKS ON TAP BOOK GROUP

2nd Wednesdays at 6:00 p.m.

May 8

Book Lovers
by Emily Henry

June 12

The Wager: A Tale of Shipwreck,
Mutiny and Murder
by David Grann.



FOODIE FICTION BOOK CLUB

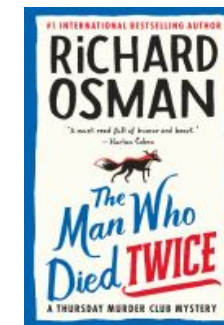
Wednesday, May 15 at 2:00 p.m.

Sugar and Salt
by Susan Wiggs

Thursday, June 20 at 2:00 p.m.

NEW DATE NOW 3RD THURSDAYS

Recipe for a Perfect Wife
by Karma Brown



MYSTERY BOOK CLUB

4th Wednesdays at 1:00 p.m.

May 22

Blood Sugar
by Sascha Rothchild

June 26

The Man Who Died Twice
by Richard Osman

Registration is suggested as space is limited for most adult programs.



Children's Events



GRAB & GO CRAFTS
Mondays through May 20
Stop by the library each week to pick up one of Miss Rebecca's Grab & Go craft kits. Available while supplies last. No registration required.



LEARN & PLAY PLAYGROUP
Mondays at 10:30 a.m. through May 20
This child-focused playgroup is for young children and their caregivers. Participants will have the opportunity to interact with others, make new friends, and learn by playing in a literacy-enriched environment. Each session will include activities, sensory materials, and toys. Registration is suggested.



STORY TIME
Tuesdays at 10:30 a.m. through May 21
Story time for all! Children and a caregiver are welcome to join Miss Emily for stories, fingerplays, songs and so much more. Registration is suggested.



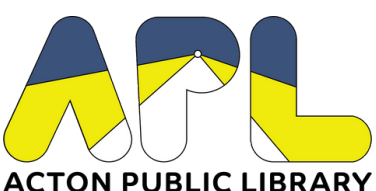
SING & STOMP
Fridays at 10:30 a.m. through May 24
A song and dance party for children of all ages and their grown up. Sing & Stomp is a noisy half hour of songs, dances and fingerplays. Cool down afterwards with toys and music. Registration is suggested.



CUPCAKE DECORATING
Saturday, May 4 at 2:00 p.m.
Come decorate cupcakes with us! We will have cupcakes, frosting and some candy for decorating. Feel free to bring additional items to share. Free and open to all. Space is limited and registration is required.
Sponsored by Friends of Acton Library



CONTAINER GARDENING WITH OS GARDEN CLUB
Saturday, June 1 at 1:00 p.m.
Young Gardeners are invited to come discover the secrets of container gardening ! Learn about soil , drainage and colorful flowers as you plant your very own patio pot. Free and open to children in grades K - 3. Space is limited and registration is required.
All materials provided by the Old Saybrook Garden Club.



Young Adult Events



Y.A.L.L. DROP-IN SESSIONS
Tuesdays at 3:00 p.m.
at 11:00 a.m. starting June 18



IN-HOUSE GAME DAY
Thursdays at 3:00 p.m.
May 9, 16 & 30
June 6
June 20 & 27 at 12:00 p.m.



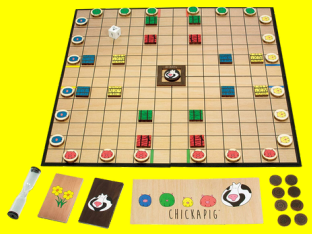
HYBRID - KAHOOT
Thursdays at 3:00 p.m.
May 23



DUNGEONS & DRAGONS 2.0 16+
Wednesdays at 6:00 p.m.
May 8 & 22
June 5



HYBRID - DUNGEONS & DRAGONS CLUB
Fridays at 3:00 p.m.
at 11:45 a.m. starting June 28



ChickaPig Tourney
Thursday, June 13 at 3:00 p.m.
Join us for some round-robin double elimination tourney of Mr. Story's favorite game, ChickaPig.

Free and open to all, grades 5-12. Players under age 12 must be accompanied by an adult.
Play solo or in teams of 2. Light refreshments for all and prizes for the victors .

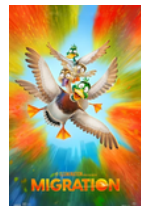


SMASH BROS. TOURNAMENT: ONEUP GAMES
Wednesday, June 26 at 4:00 p.m.
Smash Bros. Ultimate Old Saybrook vs Guilford vs Madison. Awards from OneUp Games, gift cards and the cup!

Light refreshments will be provided.
Free and open to all grades 5-12.
Please register.

All Ages Events

ACTON PUBLIC LIBRARY



S'MORES & MOVIE DAY

Friday, May 3 at 1:00 p.m.

Migration, 2023, rated PG, 82 min.

Everyone is invited to enjoy s'mores and watch a movie on the big screen.

No registration.

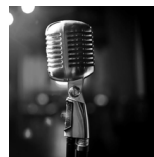


READ TO HENRY

1st Saturdays, May 4 & June 1 at 10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

Read to our local therapy dog Henry, the Bernese Mountain Dog!

No registration.



OPEN MIC

Wednesday, May 15 at 6:00 p.m.

Join us for a strum and a song. A poem or rant. Some comedy or read aloud?

Karaoke? Hosted by YA librarian, Brian Story. Registration suggested.



FAMILY PAINT NIGHT

Wednesday, May 29 at 6:00 p.m.

Join YA librarian, Brian Story, for a fun evening of craft and conversation.

Families are especially welcome. All paint supplies will be provided along with light refreshments. Registration suggested.



30TH ANNUAL POETRY PRESENTATION

Saturday, June 1 at 2:00 p.m.

Winners of the 30th Annual Poetry Competition will present their winning poems. Registration suggested.



WORLD WIDE KNIT IN PUBLIC DAY

Saturday, June 8 from 10:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.

Please join us on the library patio for a drop-in knitting and crocheting event while enjoying some light refreshments. Share your passion for knitting in the company of others who knit and crochet! Bring along your own project or use our supplies to start a new project. No registration.



THE OVATION GUITAR AND HOW IT SAVED THE SINGER/SONGWRITER MOVEMENT OF THE 70s

Wednesday, June 12 at 6:00 p.m.

In this presentation Jim Lenn will not only explore the history of the Ovation guitar built in New Hartford, CT, but the role it played during this period.

Registration suggested.

Adult Events

ACTON PUBLIC LIBRARY



TECH TIME WITH BRIAN

Mondays by appointment



TECH TIME WITH EMILY

Thursdays 12:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.

by appointment



GET STARTED WITH STREAMING

Wednesday, May 15 at 10:30 a.m.



IPAD/IPHONE BASICS

Wednesday, June 12 at 10:30 a.m.



COLORING & CONVERSATION

1st Mondays at 2:00 p.m.

May 6 & June 3



CRAFT NIGHT

3rd Tuesdays at 6:00 p.m.

May 21: Van Gogh Relief Prints

with the Florence Griswold Museum

Sponsored by the Friends of Acton Library

June 18: Seashell Garland



COMPASSION-KNITS

Wednesdays at 4:00 p.m.



RUMMIKUB

Mondays at 2:00 p.m.

May 20 & June 24

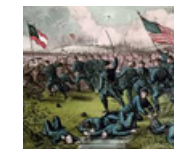


MEXICAN TRAIN

Wednesdays at 1:30 p.m.

May 8 & 29

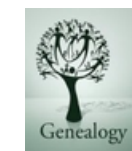
June 12



SHORELINE CIVIL WAR ROUNDTABLE

1st Tuesdays at 6:30 p.m.

May 7 & June 4



VIRTUAL- GENEALOGY INTEREST GROUP

4th Thursdays at 10:30 a.m.

May 23 & June 27



SATURDAY CINEMA

Saturdays at 2:00 p.m.

May 18

Wonka

2023, rated PG, 112 min.

June 15

The Color Purple

2023, rated PG-13, 140 min.



COOKBOOK CLUB

4th Tuesdays at 6:00 p.m.

May 28: Mexican cuisine

June 25: African cuisine

Find your own recipe for the chosen cuisine. Make the dish and bring it to share with the group.

Registration is suggested as space is limited for all adult programs.