



Friends of Acton Public Library

The Friends of Acton Public Library is an organization of people dedicated to supporting the library through advocacy and fundraising. Membership is open to anyone who is interested by donating for any amount. Funds are raised mainly by means of an annual membership drive traditionally held in the spring and by selling donated books. Books, and more recently, puzzles, are sold on an A-frame bookshelf in the front lobby of the library whenever the library is open. Three larger book sales are held during the course of the year, with the largest being the Big Summer Book Sale held at the beginning of the summer season.

The funds raised are used to supplement the programming budget provided by the town, to pay for the museum passes that offer free or reduced-price admission to a number of local and regional attractions, to provide refreshments at the kick-off and windup of the Summer Reading program, to support the toiletries and personal care items available in the library restrooms. The board of the Friends meets quarterly, and there is an annual meeting in May open to all Friends members and to the community at large. New members are always welcome. Ways in which members and volunteers can help is by sorting and cleaning donated books, setting up for and staffing our periodic book sales, representing the Friends at programs that we sponsor, and advocating for the library among the local community.

Many people today think of libraries as just sources of books and media, and some wonder why, with so much available on-line, libraries still exist. But libraries have become much more than repositories and lenders of reading, listening and viewing materials. Libraries such as Acton are places where people of all ages can receive assistance in the technology that is essential to life today. Acton is a gathering place for teens, with clubs and activities to engage them, and it offers instructive programming for children, book clubs and social activities for people of all ages. The librarians help people apply for jobs and benefits, and sometimes, even assist in finding temporary or long-term housing. The library serves as a heating and cooling center.

People who value and want to support the library are encouraged to offer whatever support they can by donating to the library renewal campaign and helping them Turn the Page. Information about donating can be found on the library's webpage, actonlibrary.org. And for information on joining the Friends, ask at the main circulation desk or reach out to co-presidents Nancy Prescott at nancyaprescott@gmail.com or Emily Lebovitz-Miller at Emily.lebovitz@gmail.com.



Art & Collections

In the Gallery

July- Tedd Levy - Postcard views of OS beaches and the shoreline

August - Kathy Cobb - Animal Photography

In the Display Case

July - Fiona Saunders - Hanuman Book Collection

August - Fiona Saunders - Discarded Bookmark Collection



The Beacon

July-August 2025

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LIBRARY HOURS

Monday - Thursday
10 - 8

Friday - Saturday
10 - 5

Sundays
closed until Oct.

CLOSINGS

4th of July
Fri. July 4

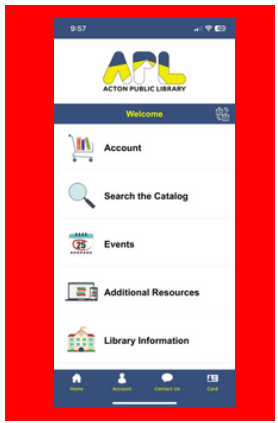


Register for library events on our website
www.actonlibrary.org
or call 860-395-3184

New Library App

by Amanda Brouwer, director

This summer we will be launching our library app. This app, developed for our 30 library consortium, Lion, will help create a more streamlined portal to access your library information. This app works for both Android and iOS platforms. You will be able to store a digital version of your library card and will be able to use that to scan at the desks or at the self-check station. In the app, you can check your account, place items on hold, and go right to hoopla or Libby within the app. If you choose, you may also turn on your reading history so you can track what you have been reading, which is a great way to remember where you are in a series. Also featured in the app is the ability to search the catalog, find our hours and contact information and see the events calendar. We will be sending out more materials as soon as the app launches, so please stay tuned!



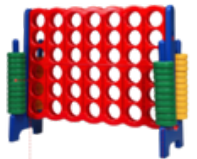
Summer Reading Celebration

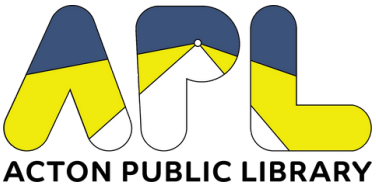
Friday, August 22

from 11:30 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.



Join us for lawn games and pizza to celebrate the conclusion of Summer Reading. Pizza will be served starting at noon, while supplies last!





All Ages Events

These programs are sponsored by the Friends of Acton Public Library



ALL AGES: LEGO DOGS
Tuesday, July 1 at 6:00 p.m.
Each participant will make & take one LEGO dog.



FAMILY NIGHT: XEN'S CRITTERS
Thursday, July 10 at 6:00 p.m.
Get up close with a mix of adorable, cuddly animals and some fascinating (and maybe a little creepy!) crawlers. You'll have the chance to learn all about each unique creature, from their habitats to their quirks, and even meet them in person!



FAMILY NIGHT: BUBBLEMANIA
Thursday, July 17 at 6:00 p.m.
Join the amazing Casey Carle as he takes you on a bubbly adventure you won't forget. From giant bubbles to bubble art, you'll discover all the fun and fascinating ways bubbles can surprise and delight!



FAMILY NIGHT: BIRDS OF PREY
Thursday, July 24 at 6:00 p.m.
Meet three incredible rescued birds of prey and learn all about their amazing stories. From where they come from to how they live, you'll get a firsthand look at these majestic birds and discover how you can help protect wildlife in your own community.

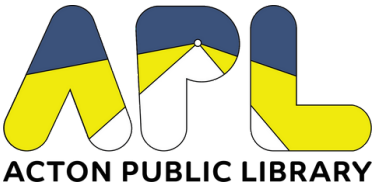


FAMILY GAME NIGHT: MINUTE TO WIN IT!
Wednesday, July 30 at 6:00 p.m.
Need a night out but want to hang as a family? Join us for the return of Minute to Win it, an all ages family game night challenge. Snacks, challenges, watching grandma try cookie face and wrapping dad up as a toilet paper mummy? Anything can happen. Come join in the fun!



FAMILY NIGHT: FATHER GOOSE'S TALES
Thursday, July 31 at 6:00 P.M.
Trouble brews when Mother Goose takes the day off and leaves Father Goose in charge of the nursery! With a bit of chaos and a lot of laughs, Father Goose tries his best to tell the classic nursery rhymes and stories, but things don't go quite as planned! This modern retelling will have the whole family laughing along with playful shadow puppets.

Please register for these programs as seating is limited.



Adult Events



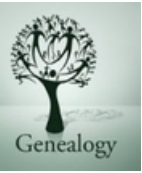
TECH TIME WITH BRIAN
Mondays by appointment



MEET-UP MONDAYS
Mondays now at 1:00 p.m.



COMPASSION-KNITS
Wednesdays at 3:30 p.m.

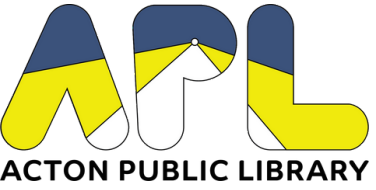


VIRTUAL- GENEALOGY INTEREST GROUP
2nd Thursdays at 10:30 a.m.
July 10 & August 14

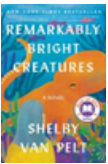


CRAFT NIGHT
3rd Tuesdays at 6:00 p.m.
July 22 & August 19

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



Adult Book Groups



WEDNESDAY BOOK CLUB
1st Wednesdays at 10:30 a.m.
July 2
Remarkably Bright Creatures
by Shelby Van Pelt



August 6
Shelterwood
by Lisa Wingate



BOOKS ON TAP BOOK GROUP
Wednesdays at 6:00 p.m.
July 9
Now is Not the Time to Panic
by Kevin Wilson



August 13
A Separation
by Katie Kitamura

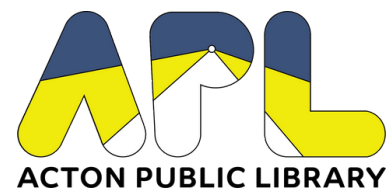


MYSTERY BOOK CLUB
4th Wednesdays at 1:00 p.m.
July 23
Middle of the Night
by Riley Sager



August 27
The Word is Murder
by Anthony Horowitz





Adult Special Events



WEDNESDAY WRITE-IN

Wednesday, July 2 at 6:00 p.m.

Writing in community creates community. Gather together with Old Saybrook's new poet laureate Sandra Yannone to write together and share your new creations monthly. All welcome regardless of writing experience.



CREATIVE CRAFTING

Wednesday, July 16, 30, Aug. 13 & 20 at 1:00 p.m.

Use our leftover supplies to create your own craft project.



MASTERING THE ART OF PRESERVING YOUR HARVEST

Tuesday, July 22 at 6:00 p.m.

Get ready to say goodbye to wasted produce and hello to a pantry full of delicious, homemade preserves! In this class, we'll teach you the ins and outs of pickling, canning, freezing, and drying so you can turn your bountiful harvest into long-lasting, flavorful treats. From cucumbers to tomatoes, and herbs to fruits, we'll show you how to keep your harvest fresh and delicious. Presented by Mark Gostkiewicz of Tri Gable Lea Farm LLC.



BIRDING BY EAR

Tuesday, July 29 at 6:00 p.m.

Learning how to bird by ear is an important tool and useful field skill for birders though it can be difficult to pick out which bird is calling and from where. Learn how to identify birds by song and call, and which resources are most useful. Presented by the staff of Roger Tory Peterson Estuary Center.



MEDIUM: PATRICIA GRIFFIN

Tuesday, August 5 at 6:00 p.m.

Patricia is an evidential medium. She reads with great accuracy, integrity, humor and love. She gives messages to audience members from their loved ones in spirit as she receives them. These messages help to bring us peace, closure and comfort and let us know that even though we leave our physical body, our spirit, our essence, our soul live on.



BEGINNER'S COURSE ON THE DOS AND DON'TS OF FORAGING

Tuesday, August 12 at 6:00 p.m.

Gina Pagano will present this beginner's program in foraging. She will go over the dos and don'ts and how-tos of foraging, where to look and things to consider when foraging ethically and sustainably. Sponsored by the Friends of Acton Public Library.

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



All Ages Events

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Please register for these programs as seating is limited.



FAMILY NIGHT: MATICA FAMILY CIRCUS

Thursday, August 7 at 6:00 p.m.

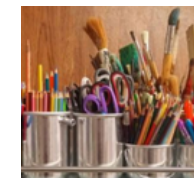
This interactive show is packed with thrilling acts, including mind-blowing juggling, hula hoops, a 6ft unicycle, gravity-defying Chinese yo-yo tricks, and the graceful blend of acro-dance and devil sticks. Bursting with contagious energy, this spectacular performance is sure to leave you and your family wide-eyed and entertained.



FAMILY NIGHT: TWO OF A KIND SING-A-LONG

Thursday, August 14 at 6:00 P.M.

David and Jenny Heitler-Klevans, the dynamic duo behind Two of a Kind, will bring their unique blend of music, humor, and audience participation to the stage. Known for their beautiful harmonies, rhythmic guitar, and multi-ethnic percussion instruments, they create an engaging and magical experience for audiences of all ages.



FAMILY PAINT NIGHT: PETS

Wednesday, August 27 at 6:00 p.m.

You provide us with a pic of your favorite, furry friend or paint one of the shelter pet portraits or both!

LUNCH BUNCH

Tuesdays & Wednesdays, July 8 - 30

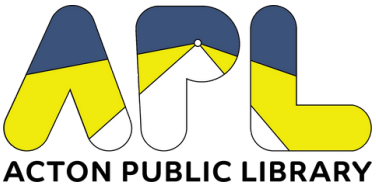
11:30 AM - 12:30 PM

Free Lunches for Kids (Ages 2-18)

No registration. While supplies last.



This program is made possible by the Old Saybrook Public Health Nursing Board and meals are donated by local restaurants.



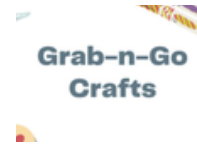
Children's Events



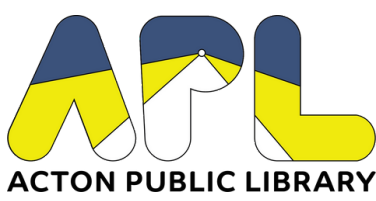
SUMMER PLAYGROUP
Mondays July 7-28 at 10:30 a.m.
No registration.



STORYTIME
Tuesdays, July 1 - August 26
at 10:30 a.m.
Registration suggested.



GRAB & GO CRAFTS
Fridays, July 11 - August 15
Available while supplies last.
No registration.



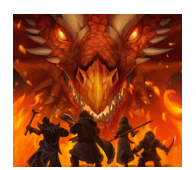
Young Adult Events



DROP-IN GAMES DAY
Tuesdays at 12:00 p.m.
July 1, Aug. 5, 12, 19 & 26



DROP-IN GAMES DAY
Thursdays at 12:00 p.m.
July 3, 10, 24, 31 & Aug. 7



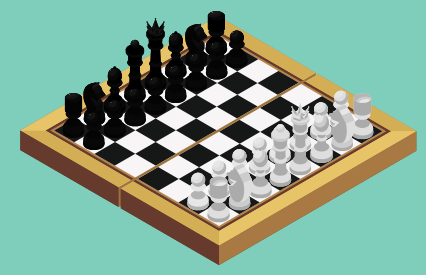
D&D SUMMER SLAM 2.0 ages 14+
Wednesdays at 5:00 p.m.
July 9 & 23, Aug. 6 & 20



DUNGEONS & DRAGONS CLUB
Fridays at 11:00 a.m.
July 25, Aug. 8, 15 & 22



CHICKAPIG TOURNEY DAY
Thursday, August 14 at 11:00 a.m.



CHESS TOURNEY DAY
Thursday, August 21 at 11:00 a.m.

BUILD A GAME BOARD: GROUP PROJECT
Saturday, August 23 at 11:00 a.m.



Summer Reading



When you register for Summer Reading you will be entered into a drawing for a Ninja Swirl ice cream machine! Get your game board today!



Thursday, August 28, 2025
at 7:00 PM



Join us at the Kate for a night of laughter and community support as the Acton Public Library presents a Night of Comedy to benefit the Library's Renewal Project. In November 2023, the Library received a \$2 million CT State Construction/Renovation Grant, but we need your help to raise an additional \$2 million in matching funds to make the renewal possible (we are 71% of the way to that goal).

Come enjoy performances from four incredibly talented and hilarious comedians, all while contributing to a great cause. Your attendance will directly support the continued growth and improvement of the library, ensuring it remains a valuable resource for years to come.

<https://www.thekate.org/event/night-of-comedy/>

