



Friends of Acton Public Library

The Friends of Acton Public Library held their annual Big Summer Book Sale on June 26, 27 and 28. The sale was held on both floors of the library and featured thousands of donated books, both print and audio, that were in wonderful condition. There were also CDs, DVDs and puzzles. And on the Friday and Saturday of the sale we had a beautiful selection of donated baked goods available for purchase. We would like to send out a heart felt thank you to all the generous donors, bakers and volunteers who helped to set up, act as cashiers, neaten displays and break down the sale. And a special thank you goes to the wonderful library staff who do so much to support us all year as well as helping to make our sales a success.

We met hundreds of shoppers from across the community and even from out of state. It was a pleasure to interact with so many people who love books and libraries as much as we all do. The mission of the Friends is two-fold: to advocate for the library and to raise funds to cover needs that may not be covered by funds received from the town. Our fall, spring and summer sales provide a way of accomplishing both goals. Obviously, they bring in funds that are used to pay for, among other things, programming and museum passes. They also provide a forum for our members to engage people in a discussion of all the services provided by the library and to stress the need to support the library. The Friends board meets once each quarter of the year, and certain members work each week throughout the year to clean, sort and categorize the donated books that become the merchandise of our sales. If you love and want to support the library, please consider becoming a member of the Friends. Become a Friend and make new friends! For more information contact co-presidents Nancy Prescott at nancyaprescott@gmail.com or Emily Lebovitz-Miller at Emily.lebovitz@gmail.com.



Art & Collections

In the Gallery



September - Kim Coughlin will display her “Abstractions” paintings

October - APL Renovation Rendering Panels

In the Display Case

September- Mary Nocera will display her 9/11 Memorial Notebook

October - APL Staff will display old technology



The Beacon

September - October 2025

CONTENTS

All Ages.....2
Adult Book Groups.....3
Children's.....4
Young Adult.....5
Adult Events.....6 & 7

LIBRARY HOURS

Monday - Thursday
10 - 8
Friday - Saturday
10 - 5
Sundays starting
October 19
1-5

CLOSINGS

Labor Day
Mon. Sept. 1

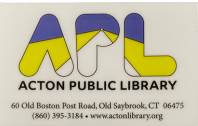
Columbus Day
Mon. Oct. 13

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

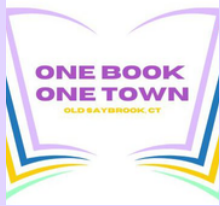


LIBRARY CARD SIGN-UP MONTH

by Lisa Mendes, Head of Circulation



September is Library Card Sign-up Month! Libraries welcome everyone, serving as an inclusive community hub connecting individuals across cultures and generations. Libraries curate collections and offer programs reflecting the populations they serve. They help the public access trusted information, computers, job search support, and so much more! We even have toys and games! Libraries save people money and reduce waste by offering shared resources for the public good. If you live in Old Saybrook, we encourage you to apply for an Acton Public Library card this month and receive a free gift as our way of saying thank you. If you already have an APL library card and need to renew it, we have a gift for you too!



ONE BOOK ONE TOWN STORYWALK

October 1 -31

This year our One Book, One Town StoryWalk® title is *When Things Aren't Going Right, Go Left!* by Marc Colagiovanni and illustrated by Peter H. Reynolds. A delightful story of perseverance and self-determination.

Kickoff: Saturday, October 4 at 10:30 a.m.

Join us for the official launch of our exciting One Book, One Town program!

This celebratory kickoff event offers something for everyone:

- Engaging Bilingual Storytime
- Creative Crafts
- Interactive Games
- StoryWalk®
- Read with Izzy the Therapy Dog

Free and open to all. No registration required

Sponsored by OS Early Childhood Council, Acton Public Library and OS Youth & Family Services





IMAGINARY TAILS WITH IZZY

Tuesdays from 3:30 p.m. - 4:30 p.m. starting September 16

Come read your favorite book with Izzy, our friendly certified reading dog! Sign up at the Children's Desk for 10-minute reading spots. Izzy, is a 2 year-old Golden Retriever that loves belly rubs and snuggles. She can't wait to hear all the stories that library kids and their grown ups will read to her!



FAMILY PAINT NIGHT: SCHOOL PRIDE

Wednesday, September 24 at 6:00 p.m.

Join us for a fun evening with paint and stories and light refreshments.



AN EVENING OF MOON DISCOVERY

Wednesday, October 1 at 6:00 p.m.

Join us to celebrate International Observe the Moon Day! Learn about the moon, gather information about how you can observe the moon, and make a tasty moon snack to take with you!



PUMPKIN PAINTING

Saturday, October 18 at 2:00 p.m.

Transform ordinary pumpkins into whimsical works of art with vibrant colors, unique designs, and spooky smiles. Join us for an afternoon of creativity and fun for all ages. We'll provide all the painting supplies and pumpkins you need to unleash your inner artist. No carving required! Just pure painting fun.

This event was made possible by the Friends of Acton Library.



ACOUSTIC ARTISTS STORYTELLER SERIES

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

Skip Fredericksen will be present a slideshow of the trials, tribulations, and triumphs of his AT hike, accompanied by songs he conceived over the course of more than 6½ months of hiking. AT: The Musical is a tongue-in-cheek look at the challenges he faced as an older hiker trying to keep up with the many young speedsters on the trail.

FAMILY SPOOKY CRAFTS NIGHT

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

Join Brian Story, YA librarian, to make a spooky craft.



TECH TIME WITH BRIAN

Mondays by appointment

TECH TIME WITH REBECCA

Thursdays by appointment



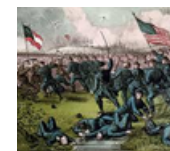
MEET-UP MONDAYS

Mondays at 1:00 p.m.



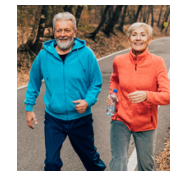
COMPASSION-KNITS

Wednesdays at 3:30 p.m.



SHORELINE CIVIL WAR ROUNDTABLE

**1st Tuesdays at 6:15 p.m.
September 2 & October 7**



OUTDOOR WALKING GROUP

**Wednesdays September 3 -
October 29 at 10:30 a.m.**

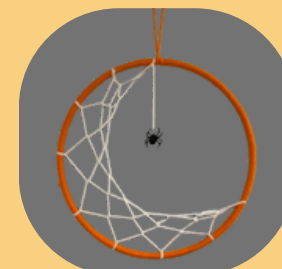


CRAFT NIGHT

3rd Tuesdays at 6:00 p.m.

September 16: Macrame Jar

October 21 : Spider Web



SATURDAY CINEMA

Saturdays at 2:00 p.m.
September 6
The Ballad of Wallis Island
2025, PG-13, 99 min.



October 4
At Eternity's Gate
2018, PG-13, 110 min.



COOKBOOK CLUB

4th Tuesdays at 6:00 p.m.

September 23 - Dinner in One by Melissa Clark

October 28 - Modern Comfort Food by Ina Garten

Check out a copy of the chosen cookbook for the month, make a recipe within the cookbook & bring it to the meeting for members to sample. This is required to attend.

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



SOUND BATH

Tuesday, September 9 at 6:00 p.m.

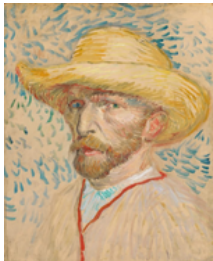
A sound bath is a type of meditation where participants listen to a variety of instruments, often singing bowls, gongs, and other instruments, to promote relaxation and a meditative state. It's a deeply immersive, full-body listening experience designed to create a space for deep relaxation and mindfulness. Guests can choose to bring a yoga mat and lie down while experiencing the sound bath or sit in a chair if they prefer. Presented by Misty Ganoe.



INTRO TO TAI CHI

Tuesday, September 30 at 6:00 p.m.

Tai Chi is a study of meditative movement that promotes gentle improvements to stretching, strength, & stability. Presented by Stephen Watson.



VAN GOGH: THE ART, THE MYTH, AND THE MAN

Tuesday, October 14 at 6:00 p.m.

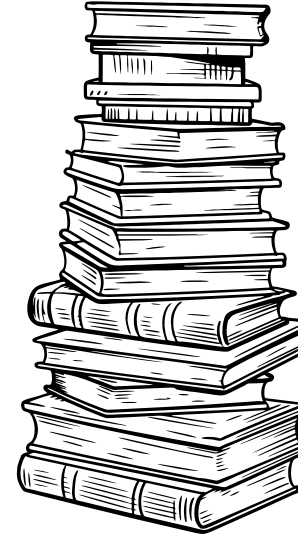
This lecture on Vincent Van Gogh, presented by Nancy Gladwell, begins with a discussion of Vincent's youth, family, and early years in Holland, including a newly discovered student work. She will discuss the influence of Japonism on the art world in France and its influence on VanGogh's work. His history is fleshed out through his iconic work and struggles with mental health. The underlying thrust is to dispel myths and focus on the truths as we know them today. The lecture concludes with a study of Starry Night, painted from his room in an asylum. Nancy will also discuss recent theories of his swirling night skies, physics, and Van Gogh's psychological state. The lecture takes about 40 minutes, plus time for a Q & A period.



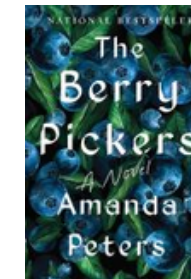
THE LEGEND OF SLEEPY HOLLOW READING

Thursday, October 23 at 6:00 p.m.

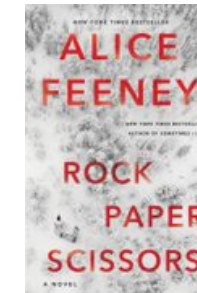
Be transported to colonial New York through the words of Washington Irving's spine-tingling tale. Follow Connecticut school teacher Ichabod Crane as he becomes the target of a ghostly apparition: the famed Headless Horseman of Sleepy Hollow. As the night darkens, and hoofbeats approach, feel the suspense build as fear and folktale blend in this perennial Halloween favorite. Presented by Michael Langlois.



HYBRID: SOCIAL JUSTICE BOOK DISCUSSION
Monday, September 8 at 6:30 p.m.
 An American Sickness: How Healthcare Became Big Business and How You Can Take It Back
 by Elisabeth Rosenthal



ALL CT READS BOOK CLUB
Tuesday, September 16 at 2:00 p.m.
 The Berry Pickers
 by Amanda Peters



WEDNESDAY BOOK CLUB
September 3
 Rock Paper Scissors
 by Alice Feeney
October 1
 Shadow divers
 by Robert Kurson

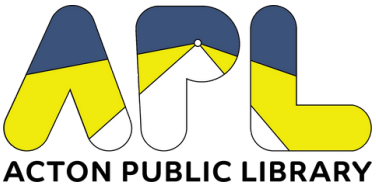


BOOKS ON TAP BOOK GROUP
2nd Wednesdays at 6:00 p.m.
September 10
 Educated: a memoir
 by Tara Westover
October 8
 Isola
 by Allegra Goodman



MYSTERY BOOK CLUB
4th Wednesdays at 1:00 p.m.
September 24
 The Marlow Murder Club
 by Robert Thorogood
October 22
 The Stranger Diaries
 by Elly Griffiths

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



Children's Events



PLAYGROUP
Mondays at 10:30 a.m.
Starting September 8
No registration.



STORY TIME
Tuesdays at 10:30 a.m.
Starting September 2
Registration is suggested.



SING & STOMP
Fridays at 10:30 a.m.
Starting September 5
No registration.



GRAB & GO CRAFTS
Fridays starting September 5
Available while supplies last.
No registration.



TINKER LAB
Mondays at 3:30 p.m.
Join us for Tinker Lab! We'll use problem-solving skills to imagine, explore, tinker, build, code, play, and design! Marble mazes, Rube Goldberg machines, cardboard construction, and dance party coding are just a few of the activities we will try out!
September: All things "building!" Strength tests, cardboard construction.
October: Chain reaction time: marble runs, Rube Goldberg machines, and domino falls.
For Grades 2 - 4. Registration required.



MINECRAFT DAY
Saturday, September 20 at 2:00 p.m.
Join us for Minecraft at the Library! Play Creeper Toss, pin the tail on the pig, and have a craft-tastic time with friends and family. Ages 5+.
No registration.



GRUB CLUB
Wednesdays, September 10 & 24 and October 1, 8 & 22 at 3:30 p.m.
Grub Club is an after-school cooking club. Learn basic cooking skills and fun new recipes to make for the family. All supplies are provided. Please disclose any allergies upon registering. Open to children ages 8 and up. Space is limited, and registration is required.
Funded by the Old Saybrook Public Health Nursing Board and presented by Kathy Cobb, MS, RDN, Public Health Nutritionist.



Young Adult Events



DROP-IN GAME DAY
Thursdays at 3:00 p.m.
starting Sept. 11



DUNGEONS & DRAGONS CLUB
Fridays at 3:00 p.m.
September 19 & 26
October 10, 17 & 24



TEEN ADVISORY BOARD INTEREST MEETING
Tuesday, September 16 at 3:30
First meeting of the year: Do you want to help at the library? Have a club you'd like to run ? help decide on games, displays, programs and collections? Join us!



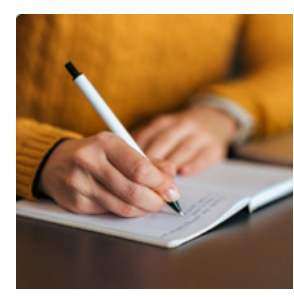
MARIO KART @ MADISON
Monday, September 29 at 4:00 p.m.
Mario Kart Tourney with OS, Guilford & Madison



ONEUP GAMES @ ACTON
Thursday, October 30 at 3:30 p.m.
OneUp Games returns to host another Tri-city Tourney! OS, Madison and Guilford will compete for the cup!
Free and open to all grades 5-12. Please register.



YA/Adult Events



APL Poetry Writing Group
First Wednesdays 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. Bring your notebook or laptop or use our supplies.



D&D Session for 16+
Wednesday, September 10 & October 8 at 6:00 p.m.
This once monthly session is for sword slingers, spell casters and adventurers 16+ years old.