



Friends of Acton Public Library

The Friends of Acton Public Library will hold a spring book and bake sale Friday, March 13, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. and Saturday, March 14, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. The sale will take place on the first floor of the library and will offer a selection of trade and pocket paperback books, mostly fiction. There will also be CDs, DVDs and puzzles. Come by to support the Friends while at the same time stocking up on some great reading or other entertainment. And don't forget to check out the array of delicious home baked treats prepared by our wonderful volunteers. All proceeds are used to support programming at the library as well as the museum passes that are provided free of charge. If you're interested in volunteering at the book sale or becoming involved in the Friends, contact Friends membership chair, Joanne Galli at jogalli731@gmail.com. To volunteer to bake or help out at the bake sale, contact Helen Fazzina at htfazzina@yahoo.com. Hope to see you all in March! For information about the Friends, contact co-presidents Nancy Prescott at nancyaprescott@gmail.com or Emily Lebovitz-Miller at Emily.lebovitz@gmail.com.



The Acton Seed Library is getting ready for spring! Several of the companies we request donations from have come through with lots of interesting seeds. Seeds can be reserved starting Monday, March 16th. 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.

Community Baby Shower

Saturday, April 25 from 10:30 AM—12:30 PM

Celebrate your new arrival with us at our community baby shower! This free event is designed to introduce new and expectant parents to the wonderful resources and opportunities available in Old Saybrook and the surrounding shoreline communities. Connect with others and learn about:

- Childcare options
- Local healthcare providers
- Educational resources
- Family-friendly activities
- And more!



Sponsored by Old Saybrook Early Childhood Council, Acton Public Library and OS Youth and Family Services.



YA/Adult Events

APL Poetry Writing Group
First Wednesdays at 6:00 p.m.
March 4 & April 1

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.



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LIBRARY HOURS

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

CLOSINGS

Good Friday
Fri. April 3

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



The Beacon

March-April 2026



AMERICA 250

by Amanda Brouwer, director

This year, the Acton Library along with many other Old Saybrook organizations will be celebrating America 250. From the schools, to the Chamber of Commerce, to the Parks & Recreation Departments; we have been developing programs to help us celebrate the founding of our nation. Being a part of Connecticut's 250th Commission, the Old Saybrook committee is tasked with the following: to Tell Inclusive Stories, Show the Power of Place, Doing History and For the Common Good. All of these themes can be found at ct250.org. Programs began in January 2026 and conclude right around July 4th. Some of the programs we have booked already are; Tories, Spies & Traitors on March 10th, The Web They Wove on May 12th, and Abigail Adams on June 30th. These are just a few of the items, there will also be games, a scavenger hunt, music and more! We hope everyone in Old Saybrook will take part in some (or all) of the events the committee is planning to help us celebrate our nation's birth! Check out <https://www.sayoldsaybrook.com/america-250> for up to date events.

32nd Annual Poetry Competition

The Acton Public Library will be accepting poetry submissions for its 32nd annual Poetry Competition starting April 1 through April 30, 2026.



The contest is open in the following divisions:
Grades 1-4, Grades 5-8, Grades 9-12, Adult and Sonnet.
Entry forms will be available starting March 1 at the library and on the website www.actonlibrary.org.

Winning poets will read their poems and receive their awards at the Poetry Presentation, Saturday, June 6 at 2:00 p.m.
Sponsored by the Friends of Acton Public Library.



IMAGINARY TAILS WITH IZZY

Tuesdays from 3:30 p.m. - 4:30 p.m.

Come read your favorite book with Izzy, our friendly certified reading dog! Sign up at the Children's Desk for 10-minute reading spots.



RUBBER DUCK COSPLAY: SEASON 2

Through March 21

Season 2 of our Rubber Duck Cosplay will kick off February 21. Return your Duck for judging by March 21. Prizes, bragging rights and fun to be had.



ACOUSTIC ARTISTS STORYTELLER SERIES

Wednesday, March 11 at 6:00 p.m. - Someone You Can Xray

Wednesday, April 8 at 6:00 p.m. - Ryan Mitten

Acoustic Artists Storyteller Series at Acton Library is back! Stories and songs paired with pics and visuals. Each artist will bring something special to the experience. Registration suggested.



SATURDAY CINEMA: WICKED FOR GOOD

Saturday, March 14 at 2:00 p.m.

2025, PG, 137 min.

Now demonized as the Wicked Witch of the West, Elphaba lives in exile in the Ozian forest, while Glinda resides at the palace in Emerald City, reveling in the perks of fame and popularity. As an angry mob rises against the Wicked Witch, she'll need to reunite with Glinda to transform herself, and all of Oz, for good. Registration suggested.



TABLETOP RPG GAME NIGHT

Wednesday, March 18 at 6:00 p.m.

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

Let's Gather some Adventurers, Give them a table, some dice, some food. See what happens... Gather the gang over a game of Zombiecide? Run a one-shot TTPRG, Got MTG Cards? Want to plan your next campaign or perhaps run it here? All options on the table. Register monthly and help decide the game. Facilitated by DM and Librarian Brian Story.



FAMILY PAINT NIGHT

Wednesday, March 25 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.



TECH TIME WITH BRIAN
Mondays by appointment

TECH TIME WITH REBECCA
Thursdays by appointment



MEET-UP MONDAYS & THURSDAYS
Mondays & Thursdays at 1:00 p.m.
(Thursdays end March 26)



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



SOURDOUGH DEMONSTRATION

Tuesday, March 24 at 6:00 p.m.

Eileen Unger, the Bread Girl, returns to teach us about sourdough. She will talk about sourdough starter, teach everyone how to feed and maintain it and demonstrate the bread baking process from beginning to end. Participants will have the opportunity to sample a few different types of sourdough breads. Everyone will get starter and a recipe to take home with them!



YOUR GUIDE TO MENOPAUSE

Tuesday, March 31 at 6:00 p.m.

This presentation by Jill McEachern, a board certified Women's Health Nurse Practitioner and Menopause Society Certified Practitioner, will discuss menopause symptoms, therapy options & safety.



RESTORATIVE SOUND MEDITATION

Thursday, April 9 at 6:00 p.m.

Participants are invited to bring a yoga mat, pillows, and blankets for comfort. Chairs are always welcome, and individuals may enjoy the sound journey either seated or lying down. Eye masks will be available for optional use. This program will be presented by Kristina Quinones.

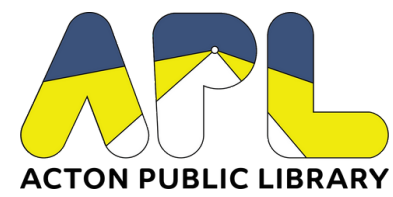


CRAFT NIGHT: CROSS STITCHED BOOKMARK (AMERICA 250 EVENT)

Tuesday, April 21 at 6:00 p.m.

Create a paper cross stitched bookmark. Materials provided.

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



Adult Special Events

Sponsored by the Friends of Acton Public Library.



ENTWYNED CELTIC MUSIC Saturday, March 7 at 2:00 p.m.

Entwyned will perform and describe the joyous, wistful, and rollicking music of Ireland and the Celtic nations that we've arranged and adapted to our instruments: Celtic harp, lutes, mandolin, Baroque flute, and Viola da Gamba.



TORIES, SPIES AND TRAITORS (AMERICA 250 EVENT)

Tuesday, March 10 at 6:00 p.m.

Which side are you on? That's the question that every single person in Connecticut had to answer in 1775, as the thirteen colonies began a rebellion against British rule. Loyalty was not only a matter of words or opinion. For soldiers and civilians alike, loyalty could mean loss of fortune, of friends, and even of life. Presented by the Connecticut Museum of Culture and History.



HANDSEWN LOG CABIN MUG COASTER (AMERICA 250 EVENT)

Tuesday, March 17 at 6:00 p.m.

Create a handsewn Log Cabin mug coaster while learning beginning sewing skills and sustainable methods in this 1.5 hour workshop. All tools and supplies are provided. Presented by Andrea Buka of Glimmering Girl Studio.



COLORS OF THE PAST: HISTORIC PLANT DYES FROM COLONIAL POST REVOLUTIONARY ERA HERB GARDENS (AMERICA 250 EVENT)

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

Learn how Colonialists and New Englanders living in the post-Revolutionary War era dyed textiles and how you can too. You will learn what plants you can grow and harvest for natural textile dying and easy and safe ways to make natural dyes at home. Presented by Dee Rapposelli, master gardener and local textile artist & Rebecca Esmi.

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

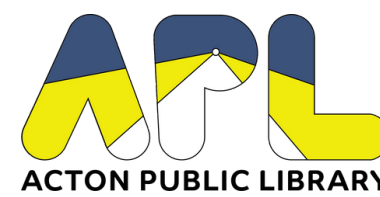


EVENING TECH SUPPORT AND EXPLORATION WITH REBECCA G.

Thursdays at 6:00 p.m. starting March 5

Need Tech support, but can't make one of our daytime support times? Try our Thursday Evening Tech class.

Join us for a series of workshops to help support your technology and digital needs. Each class will cover a specific topic, with ample time for hands-on practice and support! No registration required.



Adult Book Groups



WEDNESDAY BOOK CLUB 1st Wednesdays at 10:30 a.m.

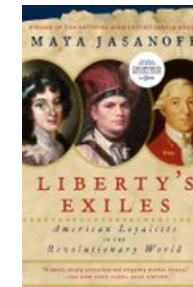
March 4

Where Men Win Glory: the odyssey of Pat Tillman
by Jon Krakauer



April 1

The Huntress
by Kate Quinn



HYBRID: SOCIAL JUSTICE BOOK DISCUSSION (AMERICA 250 EVENT)

Monday, March 9 at 6:30 p.m.

Liberty's Exiles: American Loyalists in the Revolutionary World
by Maya Jasanoff
Registration suggested.



BOOKS ON TAP

Wednesday, April 8 at 6:00 p.m.

Culpability: A Novel
by Bruce Holsinger
Registration suggested.



COOKBOOK CLUB (AMERICA 250 EVENT)

Tuesday, April 28 at 6:00 p.m.

This month's cookbook is Smithsonian American Table: The Foods, People, and Innovations That Feed Us by Lisa Kingsley in collaboration with Smithsonian Institution. Make a recipe within or inspired the cookbook & bring it to the meeting for members to sample. Registration suggested.



MYSTERY BOOK CLUB 4th Wednesdays at 1:00 p.m.

March 25

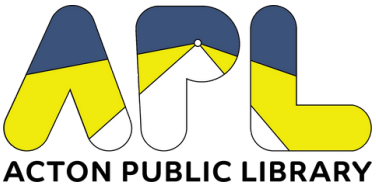
The Antique Hunter's Guide to Murder
by C. L. Miller



April 22

The Turn of the Key
by Ruth Ware






Children's Events




PLAYGROUP
Mondays at 10:30 a.m.
No registration.




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




SING & STOMP
(No class 3/27 & 4/3)
Fridays at 10:30 a.m.
No registration.




GRAB & GO CRAFTS
(No craft 4/3)
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!
March - Let's get mindful with art and explore shape and color theory through play!
April - Ever composed your own music that paints a picture? We'll explore the Chrome Music Lab to create new music and art pieces.
For Grades 2 - 4. Registration required.



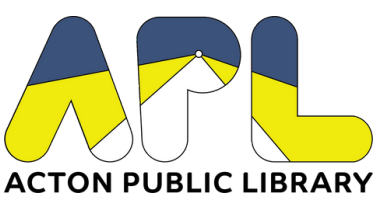
GRUB CLUB
Wednesdays, March 4 - April 29 (no class 3/18 & 4/15) at 3:30 p.m.
Grub Club is an after-school cooking club. Learn basic cooking skills and fun new recipes to make for the family. All supplies are provided. Please disclose any allergies upon registering.
Open to children ages 8 and up. Space 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.



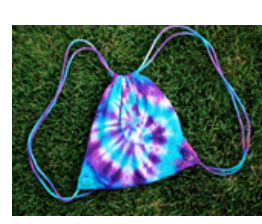
MAKE A LEPRECHAUN TRAP
Saturday, March 21 at 10:30 a.m.
Bring your creativity and build your very own leprechaun trap using our recycled materials!
Registration required.




POKEMON CLUB @ APL!
Saturday, March 28 & April 25 at 2:00 p.m.
Do you have what it takes to be a Pokémon Master? Come learn to play Pokémon, hang out with your friends, and try some fun Pokémon activities.
Free and open to ages 6-11. Registration required.



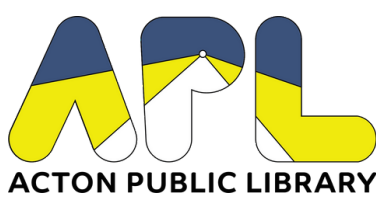
Children's Events



TIE DYE DRAWSTRING BAGS
Saturday, April 4 at 10:30 a.m.
Color your own groovy tie-dyed drawstring bag. All you have to do is bring your creativity. Supplies will be provided. This might get messy, so please wear clothes you don't mind getting dirty.
Free and open to children ages 5 and up. Space is limited and registration is required.



EARTH DAY WITH OS GARDEN CLUB
Saturday, April 18 from 10:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.
The Old Saybrook Garden Club is hosting an Earth Day Celebration at the Acton Library on Saturday April 18th from 10:30 am to 12:30 pm. Families with elementary school age children are welcome to join us.
Activities will include: Face Painting, Build a Birdhouse, Nature Scavenger Hunt, Games, and so much more.
Sponsored by the Old Saybrook Garden Club.




Young Adult Events




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



DUNGEONS & DRAGONS CLUB
Fridays at 2:45 p.m.
March 6 & April 17
February 6 & 20



YA LIBRARY ADVISORY BOARD PLANNING MEETING
Tuesday, March 10 & April 14 at 3:30 p.m.
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!



YA DRUM CIRCLE
Tuesday, March 20 at 3:30 p.m.
Let's Drum in the coming Spring with a joyous noise. Some instruments available. BYO if you have them.