



Handicap
Accessible



Family Place Library
Network Member

HOURS:
MON.-WED. 9 AM-8 PM
THURS. 9 AM-6 PM
FRI. 9 AM-5 PM
SAT. 9 AM-2 PM

Library Trivia: ♦ In 1903, a piece of ivy was picked from Monticello, Thomas Jefferson's home in Virginia, and was planted on the southeast corner of the Library. Eventually it spread to cover the whole side of the building.

April 18, 20, 21
Annual Spring Book Sale

April 12-18
National Library Week/
Amnesty Week



DERBY Public Library



LOCAL HISTORY

Mary A. Bisaccia

March and April 1906: A Season of Late Snow and Mad Dogs

(Taken from the *Ansonia Evening Sentinel*)

On March 9, 1906 in Shelton, the "mad dog" rabies scare had spread into the White Hills section of town. A berserk mastiff was scared out of a pig pen, then ran away and attacked two other dogs, killing one before being shot and killing itself. Three days later the entire town ordered all dogs must be muzzled for a month, and police were given permission to shoot dogs that were not compliant.

By March 17, in Seymour, the rabies scare appears to have passed - the 60 day muzzle law on all dogs is allowed to expire today. However, on April 10 in Seymour, a mad dog attacked the horses of a wagon belonging to the Seymour Manufacturing Company, then the driver. The driver directs the team into the mill, and with an assistant fights the dog with pitchforks. The dog bolted and attacked an assistant mill superintendent, tearing a coat off his back. Finally, the factory's President, Sen. William Henry Harrison Wooster, observing the scene from his office, decided he'd had enough of this, and dispatched the dog with a shotgun fired from a window.

On April 12, 1906, all dogs in Seymour were ordered to be muzzled for 90 days, due to the attack at Seymour Manufacturing two days before. It is feared there may be a rabies outbreak. Many owners are opposed. On April 14, 1906, in Seymour, several dogs without muzzles are shot and killed.

Spring isn't here just yet, as on March 15, a snowstorm drops up to six inches of snow. This is only the second storm of the year in which enough snow has fallen for horse drawn sleighs. On Monday, March 19, 1906, the worst snowstorm of the year brings high winds and deep, wet snow. A train derails in heavy snow between Seymour and Beacon Falls.

March 21 marks the first day of spring. Snow still covers everything. On March 27, warm temperatures bring a big thaw to the deep snow cover from the recent storm. On Monday, April 9, 1906, a rainstorm begins at noon and continues until early the next morning, dropping a total of 3.15" of rain on the region. Wet snow falls in the afternoon, but does not stick. The storm is accompanied by high winds.

On April 17, ice prices are not as bad as many feared it would be after the mild winter. Last year it was 40 cents a pound, in 1906 it is 50 cents. Broken ice in 50 pound boxes has risen from 15 cents to 25 cents. Factories and merchants purchasing wholesale, 1,000 pounds and over, are now paying from 18 cents to 25 cents a pound.

On Monday, April 23, 1906, a snowstorm strikes the area. Although the snow melts on contact with the ground, it is the latest snowstorm in the year since 1884. Ice 1/16" thick forms in spots.

Meanwhile, in Derby, April arrives with about 200 crocuses and tulip bulbs sent by the parents of Harcourt Wood, namesake of the Derby Public Library. The flowers are in bloom all around the building and are quite beautiful, helping us forget the winter of mad dogs and late snows.

From the Desk of the Director:

Cathy Williams

The only thing that you absolutely have to know is the location of the library.
--Albert Einstein

Winter took a while to arrive this year, but then decided to make up for lost time. I for one am welcoming spring with open arms! With the weather getting warmer and the days getting longer ("spring" clocks ahead on March 8), you need to look no further than the Derby Public Library to cure that cabin fever. Our calendar of upcoming events includes: *Powerful Voices-Connecticut Women Changing Democracy*, *The World's Most Haunted House-The True Story of the Bridgeport Poltergeist on Lindley Street*, *Maximize Your Social Security Benefits*, *Senior Safety and How to Avoid Scams*, and *Springtime Soups*. Our tenth season of *Sports Talk* with our Silver Sluggers begins this April and our *Annual Spring Book Sale* takes place.

Spring also brings *National Library Week, April 12-18*. This special week is set every year to celebrate our nation's libraries and to promote library usage and support. Technology, education, economic and social changes have had a new and profound effect on the role of the library. The Derby Public Library has become a place where all can come and connect with the community and the world. Like libraries across the country, we continually look for ways to meet the needs of our users. Our theme this year is - *Behind Every Great Community is a Great Library!* Join in the celebration and plan to spend some time with us during this special week.

Some Statistics to Celebrate:

- Total Library circulation last year was 59,645.
- Last year 19,300 patrons used the Library's public access computers.
- Hundreds of others used the Wi-Fi service.
- A total of 565 programs for ages birth and up were presented by the Library last year.
- Total program attendance was 9,412.
- The Library was open 2,869 hours last year

Thank you to everyone who has already responded to our *Celebration of Memories* project. Below is a sampling of a few special memories we have received.

"looking through the stereopticon (pre view master)"
"the thrill of being old enough to enter the adult area"
"sitting on the window seat and reading"
"as a child everything revolved around the library"
"marble staircase, glass floors, ..."



It is not too late to share. We'd love to hear your memories too!

National Volunteer Week - April 12-18



Many thanks to Michael Rogovsky (pictured) and all our volunteers who help us throughout the year.





March 2015

Reoccurring Programs in March

Registration is requested for all programs. **Local History Info Sessions** and **Tech Time** are on a drop-in basis.

MONDAYS:

- 3/2 6:30 pm **Just for Women** (18+). Reflective quotes will be shared and discussed as they relate to life situations relevant to women. Facilitated by Joan Joyce.
- 3/2, 3/9, 3/16, 3/23, 3/30 6:30 pm - 7:30 pm **Teen Chess Club** (ages 12-17). All levels invited to learn & improve strategy with Mr. Julio Maldonado.
- 3/9, 3/16, 3/23, 3/30 10:00 am **Play, Learn, Create!** (ages 3-5). An opportunity to enhance social and school readiness skills through activities focusing in the areas of art, literacy and language, number concepts, dramatic play, blocks, puzzles/games and music and movement.

TUESDAYS:

- 3/3, 3/10, 3/17, 3/24, 3/31 6:00 pm - 7:30 pm **Local History Info Session**. March's topic: *Local History Postcards* will be available to view and discuss. Research assistance also available.
- 3/31 6:30 pm **Tween Tuesday** (ages 10-12). Tweens will have the opportunity to use their creative talents with several craft projects. All materials supplied. No fee to attend.

WEDNESDAYS:

- 3/4 6:30 pm **Resume "Right-ing"** session. Participants can either start from scratch or bring copies of their existing resumes and cover letters for review and optimizing.
- 3/4, 3/11, 3/18 10:00 am **Baby and Me** (ages 0-12 mos.). Introduces youngest patrons to our library through interaction & songs.
- 3/4, 3/11, 3/18, 3/25 10:00 am - Noon **Local History Info Session**. March's topic: *Local History Postcards* will be available to view and discuss. Research assistance also available.
- 1:00 pm **Wednesday Movie Matinees** (18+). Newly released DVDs will be shown and light snacks provided.
- 6:00 pm - 7:30 pm **YA Wednesdays** (ages 12-17). Nintendo Wii, board games, and Lego.
- 3/18 6:30 pm **Tech Time: Bring Your Tech-Related Questions!**
- 3/25 12:30 pm **Lunchtime Book Discussion, *The Lifeboat*** by Charlotte Rogan. Multiple copies of the book are available. Bring a bag lunch. Dessert and beverage provided.

THURSDAYS:

- 3/5, 3/12, 3/19 10:00 am **Toddler Time** (ages 1-2 yrs.). Weekly story time for baby and parent(s). Caregivers welcome.
- 3/19 10:00 am **Tech Time: Bring Your Tech-Related Questions!**
- 3/5, 3/12, 3/19, 3/26 4:00 pm - 5:00 pm **Teen Spring Watercolor Painting** (ages 12-17). Led by Valley Arts Council member, Rich DiCarlo. All materials will be provided.

FRIDAYS:

- 3/6, 3/13, 3/20 10:00 am **Preschool Story Time** (ages 3-5). Weekly story time with activities.



Annual Spring Book Sale
Fill a bag for \$5.00



Sliver Sluggers
begin 10th season!

Special Events

(Registration is requested for all Special Events.)

- 5-THURSDAY:** 3:30 pm **Lego Time** (ages 4-11). All level of building skills invited. Materials supplied.
- 10-TUESDAY:** 3:45 pm **Reading is Our Thing** (grs. K-4). Celebrate Dr. Seuss' birthday with crafts and activities.
- 14-SATURDAY:** 10:00 am **Read to Sandy** (ages 5-11) Share a book with Sandy, our volunteer therapy dog.
- 11:00 am **Homespun Sarah and All Those Chores** (ages 8-11). Linda Milardo takes participants back in time through props, stories and a craft to explore life as it was during the Colonial American period.
- 12:30 pm **Lego Time** (ages 4-11). All level of building skills invited. Materials supplied.
- 16-MONDAY:** 6:30 pm **Powerful Voices: Connecticut Women Changing Democracy** presented by the CT Women's Hall of Fame. Inspirational stories of suffrage advocates, prominent firsts, social activists.
- 23-MONDAY:** 6:30 pm **The World's Most Haunted House: *The True Story of the Bridgeport Poltergeist on Lindley Street*** presented by author, William J. Hall. Will you believe in one of the most witnessed hauntings?
- 30-MONDAY:** 6:30 pm **Maximize Your Social Security Benefits**. David Cowan, retiree advisor will discuss how to navigate retirement savings and how to increase Social Security benefits.



April 2015



Reoccurring Programs in April

Registration is requested for all programs. **Local History Info Sessions, Sports Talk & Tech Time** are on a drop-in basis.

MONDAYS:

- 4/6 6:30 pm **Just for Women** (18+). Reflective quotes will be shared and discussed as they relate to life situations relevant to women. Facilitated by Joan Joyce.
- 4/6, 4/13, 4/20, 4/27 6:30 pm - 7:30 pm **Teen Chess Club** (ages 12-17). All levels invited to learn & improve strategy with Mr. Julio Maldonado.
- 4/6 10:00 am **Play, Learn, Create!** (ages 3-5). An opportunity to enhance social and school readiness skills through activities focusing in the areas of art, literacy and language, number concepts, dramatic play, blocks, puzzles/games and music and movement.

TUESDAYS:

- 4/7, 4/14, 4/21, 4/28 6:00 pm - 7:30 pm **Local History Info Session**. April's topic: *Lincoln's Assassination*. Research assistance also available.
- 4/21 6:30 pm **Tween Tuesday** (ages 10-12). Tweens will have the opportunity to use their creative talents with several craft projects. All materials supplied. No fee to attend.

WEDNESDAYS:

- 4/1 6:30 pm **Resume "Right-ing"** session. Participants can either start from scratch or bring copies of their existing resumes and cover letters for review and optimizing.
- 4/8, 4/15, 4/22, 4/29 10:00 am **Baby and Me** (ages 0-12 mos.). Introduces youngest patrons to our library through interaction & songs.
- 4/1, 4/8, 4/15, 4/22, 4/30 10:00 am - Noon **Local History Info Session**. April's topic: *Lincoln's Assassination*. Research assistance also available.
- 1:00 pm **Wednesday Movie Matinees** (18+). Newly released DVDs will be shown and light snacks provided.
- 6:00 pm - 7:30 pm **YA Wednesdays** (ages 12-17). Nintendo Wii, board games and Lego.
- 4/15 6:30 pm **Tech Time: Bring Your Tech-Related Questions!**
- 4/29 12:30 pm **Lunchtime Book Discussion**, *The Storied Life of A.J. Fikry* by Gabrielle Zevin. Bring a bag lunch. Dessert and beverage provided.

THURSDAYS:

- 4/9, 4/16, 4/23, 4/30 10:00 am **Toddler Time** (ages 1-2 yrs.). Weekly story time for baby and parent(s). Caregivers welcome.
- 4/16 10:00 am **Tech Time: Bring Your Tech-Related Questions!**
- 4/2, 4/9, 4/16 4/23/ 4/30 10:00 am **Sports Talk Series** (all ages) with Rich Marazzi. Trivia contests, videos, lively conversation & more.

FRIDAYS:

- 4/10, 4/17, 4/24 10:00 am **Preschool Story Time** (ages 3-5). Weekly story time with activities.

April 3-4 - Closed in Observance of Good Friday and Easter Holiday

Special Events

(Registration is requested for all Special Events.)

- 7-TUESDAY: 6:30 pm **Recycle, Repurpose, Reuse Spring Craft Class** (18+) presented by Jeanie Roslonowski.
- 9-THURSDAY: 3:00 pm - 4:30 pm **YA Anti-Bullying Forum** (ages 12-17). Issues pertaining to social media bullying and school violence.
- 11-SATURDAY: 10:00 am **Read to Sandy** (ages 5-11) Share a book with Sandy, our volunteer therapy dog.
- 11:00 am **Family Spring Story Time** (ages 3-6). Listen to stories, recite finger plays, create a craft and more!
- 12:30 pm **Lego Time** (ages 4-11). All level of building skills invited. Materials supplied.
- 12-18 **Celebrate National Library Week/Amnesty Week**
- 13-MONDAY: 11:00 am **Crafty Kids** (ages 4-11). Create spring themed crafts. Materials provided.
- 6:30 pm **Yesterday's Headlines** (local history program) presented by Rob Novak, Jr., local historian.
- 14-TUESDAY: 1:00 pm **Hornbooks, Inkwells & the One Room Schoolhouse** (ages 8-11) with Linda Milardo.
- 6:30 pm **Senior Safety & How to Avoid Scams** with Tracey Parks, The Umbrella Center.
- 15-WEDNESDAY: 11:00 am **Author Visit: Evie North** (ages 3-6), creator of *The Shapels*. Books will also be available for purchase.
- 16-THURSDAY: 1:00 pm **Water Works** (grs. 2-5) presented by the Regional Water Authority. Interactive science program.
- 17-FRIDAY: 1:00 pm **Lego Time** (ages 4-11). All level of building skills invited. Materials supplied.
- 18-SATURDAY: 9:30 am - 1:30 pm **Annual Spring Book Sale**. Shoppers are invited to fill a bag for \$5.00. Bags will be provided.
- 20-MONDAY: 10:00 am - 7:00 pm **Annual Spring Book Sale continues.**
- 21-TUESDAY: 10:00 am - 7:00 pm **Annual Spring Book Sale continues.**
- 27-MONDAY: 6:30 pm **Cooking Demo: Springtime Soups** (18+) with Stacey Ference of Savor Catering.

Message from Miss Sue

Sue Sherman

Play, Learn, Create!

Play, learn and create - three words that perfectly describe the world of a young child, have inspired us to add a preschool learning center-based program here at the Library. Preschoolers age 3-5 will have the opportunity to enhance social and school readiness skills through activities focusing in the areas of art, literacy and language, number/shape concepts, dramatic play, blocks, puzzles/games and music and movement. Each week will consist of different learning centers to give preschoolers the benefit of exploring a variety of areas of interest, all fostering their developmental skills and ultimately contributing to school readiness.

You may wonder "Why another preschool program? My child already attends a weekly preschool story time." *Play, Learn, Create!* is an extension of story time in that it complements the story time concepts such as literacy and shape/number recognition by engaging preschoolers further with more interactive activities. This also promotes both better listening and social skills with their peers. It is known that children require different modes of learning. For instance, children with a sensory issue or the inability to focus may need a more "hands-on" approach to learning. Since *Play, Learn, Create!* is more individualized than group-based, it allows for each child to achieve the goal of a specific learning center at their own pace. While children are encouraged to visit all the centers during the hour long program, they most certainly may choose to spend additional time at a particular one that sparks their interest. This could be beneficial to a more energetic child. The class is designed for preschoolers to attend independently with a parent or caregiver remaining in the Children's Room for the duration of the program. The first session will begin on Monday, March 9 at 10:00 AM and continue through April 6. All materials will be provided. There is no fee to attend, but registration is requested.

Our schedule of great spring programming also includes *Homespun Sarah* and *All Those Chores* on Saturday, March 14 at 11:00 AM and *Hornbooks, Inkwells* and a *One Room Schoolhouse* on Tuesday, April 14 at 1:00 PM. Children ages 8-11 will explore what life was like for children in Colonial America through a story, props and hands-on activities. A variety of events have also been scheduled for April 13 through 17 in recognition of *National Library Week*, *Week of the Young Child* and spring school vacation. The calendar includes *Crafty Kids*, *Lego Time*, a hands-on science presentation by the *Regional Water Authority's Whitney Water Center* and a visit from Evie North creator of *The SHAPELS*. For information on the dates and times, please refer to the newsletter calendar. Reminder . . . registration for our spring session of weekly story times begins on March 16.



TEEN ZONE

Tony DeLos

Greetings Teen Zone fans! March is *Youth Art Month* and for the third year running the Teen Zone will double as an Art Gallery, adorned with the outstanding creativity of Derby's middle and high school students. The display can be seen through the first week of April. Stroll through the exhibition as the DPL joins the national celebration of visual arts emphasizing the value of art education. Teens are also invited to a *four-session watercolor workshop* led by Valley Arts Council member Rich DiCarlo, each Thursday afternoon in March at 4:00 PM. Then in April the Teen Zone will host its second annual *Anti-Bully Forum*. Last spring's forum was so well received that a follow-up gathering was a no-brainer! The forum takes place Thursday, April 9 at 3:00 PM. Join your fellow concerned students for some thoughtful conversation and pizza.

March and April also present opportunities for making new friends and learning new game strategies at our *Teen Chess Club* meetings, Mondays at 6:30 PM and *YA Wednesdays* at 6:00 PM. See you 'round the Zone!

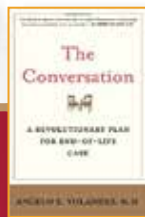


Last year's "Library Art Gallery" featuring the creations of Derby's talented students.

Staff Picks

Cathy Williams
Sue Sherman
Kathy Wilson
Ann Mirisola
Mary Householder
Mary Bisaccia
Lorraine Piazza
Gabriella Novak
Tony Delos
Brian Karkut
Marc Weissman
Andrew Bisaccia

Saving Grace by Jane Green
Rabbit's Spring Adventure by Anita Loughrey (Children's Room)
The Storied Life of A.J. Fikry by Gabrielle Zevin
The Conversation by Angelo Volandes, M.D.
Can't Find My Way Home by Carlene Thompson
Lovely, Dark, Deep by Joyce Carol Oates
One Second After by William R. Forstchen
Nory Ryan's Song by Patricia Reilly Giff (Children's Room)
Every Day by David Levithan (Young Adult)
Tightwad Tod by Daphne Skinner (Children's Room)
Practicing the Power of Now by Eckhart Tolle
Inherent Vice by Thomas Pynchon



TECH CORNER

Marc Weissman

Resume "Right"-ing



With the 2015 in full swing, many of our patrons have resolved to get into the job market. Fortunately, the timing is right as many companies use the calendar year for their budget/hiring year, meaning lots of new job opportunities are being advertised now. Thus, the importance of an eye-catching, up-to-date and concise resume is even more critical. And to this end, Derby Public Library is now offering free "Resume Workshops" the 1st Wednesday of every month from 6:30 PM to 7:30 PM.

During these sessions, patrons are welcome to either start from scratch or bring copies of their existing resumes – and cover letters as well - for review and optimizing. Often times, a more effective resume can be created simply by making a number of subtle tweaks versus wholesale changes. For example:

- **One Page is the Goal:** While not a hard-and-fast rule per se, a single page resume is much more appealing to a hiring manager than a multi-page one. And even if you have an extensive employment background, there are plenty of ways to effectively condense it onto one page.
- **Details, Details:** Most applicants wisely list job accomplishments in the form of a bulleted list. However, many mistakenly use descriptions that are either too general or cliché. The key is to think like a reporter (i.e. who, what, when, where, why and how) to include enough detail.
- **Be Job-specific:** Hashing out the details is but one aspect. The format of your employment history can also make or break consideration. In fact, having different versions of your resume (e.g. chronological, functional, job-specific) increases your chances of success by best conveying to prospective employers that you are serious about the particular position.

For more tips on successful resume writing, be sure to come to our monthly workshops: 1st Wednesday of the month, 6:30 PM – 7:30 PM. See you there. ☺