

Stafford Library

The **BIGGEST** Bargain in Town!

Winter/Spring 2010

Did you know you can use the library in your pajamas? We're open 24/7 online.

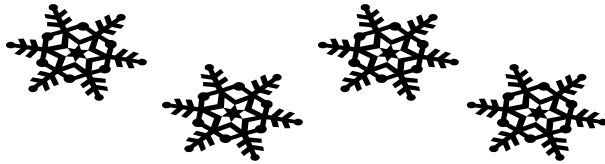


10 Levinthal Run
Stafford, CT 06075

860-684-2852
www.staffordlibrary.org

Current Library Hours

Monday-Thursday: 10am-8pm
Friday and Saturday: 10am-5pm
Closed Sundays



Library Quote

"The library:
A place where human beings
serve human beings."
- Will Manley, Retired Librarian

Celebrate National Library Week

April 11 – 17

Join us for a
"Night of a Thousand Stars"

Monday, April 12
Beginning at 5:30 pm

Featuring performances by
Stafford Musical Groups

Madrigal Singers - Stafford High School Choral
Group directed by Laretta Dillon
Lady Song and Treble Troubadours - directed
by Susan Leavitt

Light refreshments will be served.

What's the hottest all-access card in town?
A Stafford Library card.

ADULT HAPPENINGS



Valentine's Day Card Making

Join us **Tuesday, February 9th at 6:30 pm** to make your own Valentine's Day Cards. Call 860-684-2852 to register.



Tai Chi Classes

If you need assistance with a health condition, such as rheumatoid arthritis, chronic back pain, fibromyalgia, stress, or prevention of osteoporosis, try our free Tai Chi programs. Tai Chi is an ancient Chinese system of health maintenance and self-defense that employs a series of slow, relaxing movements in coordination with breath, postural integration and mental imagery. It is often described as "moving meditation."

The Stafford Library is offering a series of four Tai Chi classes with Kathy Brenner, of Wallingford. Ms. Brenner has studied Tai Chi for 20 years and has taught Tai Chi to several hundred persons of all ages for 10 years. She has won several gold, silver and bronze medals in international competitions.

The four sessions will be held for one hour each on four consecutive Wednesdays: **March 31st, April 7th, April 14th, and April 21st from 7 to 8 pm.**

Do this for yourself. The classes are free, but registration is required. Please call the library at 860-684-2852 to reserve your space. Please wear comfortable clothing.



Rare Book Program

Michael Dooling, of Rare Books & Manuscripts in Middlebury, CT, will present an overview of the rare book world on **Tuesday, April 27th, from 7 – 8:30 pm.**

Mr. Dooling's program consists of a well-illustrated PowerPoint presentation, and he will bring several rare books and manuscripts as examples from various periods, different bindings, illustrators etc. Questions from the audience will be strongly encouraged.

Bringing a book or two to discuss – something you have always wondered whether or not it is rare—is also encouraged. Mr. Dooling will not do appraisals on the spot but will be able to tell guests in general terms whether a book or manuscript has value and why.

Please call the library at 860-684-2852 to reserve your spot. Light refreshments will be served.

Cooking Classes/Club

The library is offering monthly cooking classes. The first program on **Monday, February 2, at 7 pm** will teach residents how to make homemade pizza the easy way. Residents who join the club will be required to sign up to give a simple class on a favorite recipe. Call the library at 860-684-2852 to sign up or to ask questions.

The Big Read



The Stafford Library is again participating in The Big Read. Our book this year is *The Adventures of Tom Sawyer* by Mark Twain, and our book discussion will be led by Dr. Kirby Judd on **Thursday, May 13, at 7:30 pm.** This year, 2010, is the 175th anniversary of Mark Twain's birth and April 21, 2010 is the 100th Anniversary of his death.

The Big Read project is a national program sponsored by the National Endowment for the Arts and the Institute of Museum and Library Services. The Stafford Library is one of 20 libraries, in partnership with the Hartford Public Library, participating in The Big Read event. *The Adventures of Tom Sawyer* is also being read by communities across the United States as part of a drive to bring citizens back to the joy of reading and to restore reading to the center of American culture.

The Friends of the Stafford Library is sponsoring this event. They are donating 20 copies of the book to the Stafford Library for patrons to borrow in preparation for The Big Read.

Call the Stafford Library at 860-684-2852 to register for the book discussion. Refreshments will be served.

Message From the Library Director

For the last two years, I have had the pleasure of serving as Membership Chairman for the Friends of the Stafford Library. I am thrilled to share with you that the Friends of the Library currently has 137 members in 2009. Each of those individuals and families who became members understands how important the extra programs and services offered by the Friends are to the Stafford Library and Stafford community. Without the Friends, there would be no museum pass program, no downloadable audio books, no multiple copies of Nutmeg books for children in grades 4-8, no baby bag program, nor would there be an active summer reading program. I extend to every member my heartfelt gratitude for your kindness and generosity to the Stafford Library.

I will be sending renewal letters to existing members sometime in April. I do hope you will continue to be a member in 2010 and that your neighbors will join you. My goal for 2010 is 170 members. I know Stafford residents will not let us down.

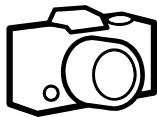
Gratefully,

Ann M. Davis



Snapshot:

One Day in the Life of Connecticut Libraries



On **Thursday, February 18, 2010**, libraries all over Connecticut will be taking a “snapshot”—collecting information to capture the impact that Connecticut libraries have on their communities on a typical day.

We’re calling it “Snapshot Day.”

Snapshot Day is a joint project of the Connecticut Library Association, the Connecticut State Library, and the Connecticut Library Consortium. The aim is to encourage libraries all over Connecticut to collect basic data—how many people use the library on a given day, how many people use computers, attend programs, etc. Connecticut’s libraries are busier than ever these days, with people coming not only to check out books, but to use computers, look for a job, or attend the many programs our libraries offer. All across the state, libraries are the cornerstones of their communities, places where people come together to visit, learn, and share ideas.

On February 18th, we hope to capture a slice of life of Connecticut’s libraries. There will be a chance for patrons to comment on what their library means to them, and pictures from libraries all over the state will be available on the Snapshot Flickr page. Please visit the Snapshot website, <http://snapshotctlib.wordpress.com/> to find out more about this exciting project.

**Better yet, visit the Stafford Library on February 18th
and become part of Snapshot Day 2010**



ADULT HAPPENINGS

Friends of the Library Programs



Travel Programs

The Friends travel programs continue. Charlotte Andrews of Stafford will present her program on Turkey in February. Date is to be announced.

Helen and Rick Dewey of Stafford will present their program on Alaska on **Thursday, May 20th, at 7pm**. Slides will be shown, and refreshments will be served.

Call the library to reserve your space.

Richard C. Clark is Back as Ernest Hemingway!

If you attended Richard Clark's Mark Twain program two years ago, you will be pleasantly entertained again with Mr. Clark's program "Life, Language and the Pursuit of Happiness—Ernest Hemingway Alive!" on **Wednesday, March 10th, at 7pm**.

"Relive with Ernest those days from WWI through the inauguration of JFK. The tragedies and triumphs, the joys and sorrows; the sacred and the profane, the loves and losses. ... The life force of the master craftsman considered by his peers as 'the greatest writer since Shakespeare.'"

Richard Clark has spent over 30 years in New England regional theater and New York Theater.

Please call the library at 860-684-2852 to reserve your space. Refreshments will be served.

Friends Annual Meeting

Join the Friends at their annual meeting on **Thursday, April 15th, at 7pm**. Their guest speaker is Craig Hotchkiss, program manager for the Mark Twain House, who will present "**Mark Twain in Hartford: 1871—1891.**" Refreshments will be served. Call the library at 860-684-2852 to sign up.



Help the Library Save Money

Because we are cutting down on postage to try to save your tax dollars, we encourage you to sign up to receive overdue notices by email. Please stop in the library to sign up or call us at 860-684-2852 for further information.

Of course it helps the library more when materials are returned on time. We appreciate this, and it will save you money at the same time.



Looking for a Good Book to Read?

Looking for a good book to read on those cold nights when you just want to curl up with a good book? We can offer suggestions. At the circulation desk, you will find a form entitled "Looking for a Good Book to Read?" Using the completed information on the form, a librarian will make suggestions to match your reading interests.

Thank-You to the Conservation Commission

This is a special thank-you to the Stafford Conservation Commission for generously donating \$500 to the Stafford Library for new conservation and science materials for our library. We were able to add books to our children's, teen, and adult collections. Stop in the library to receive a listing and to borrow them.



Storm Closings

It is possible that during severe storms the Stafford Library may find it necessary to close early or open late this winter. If this happens, please tune in to WTIC-AM 1080 radio or WFSB-TV (Channel 3) for announcements.

Cannot Come to Us?

If you cannot come to the library due to illness or disability, please call us. Nancy Phillips, our library assistant, will deliver materials to you. Call the library at 684-2852 for details or to set up a date and time.

TEEN HAPPENINGS



Drivers License Information Night

Are you a teen that plans on getting a drivers license this year? Or are you a parent of a teen who will be driving soon?

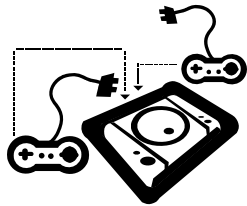
The driving laws in Connecticut for teens have gotten very complicated in recent years. Steve Rourke from AAA Driving School will be at the Stafford Library on **Thursday, February 4th at 6:30 pm**. Mr. Rourke will show a video, talk about the laws in Connecticut concerning teen drivers and answer any questions that you may have.

Parents and teens are encouraged to attend. Refreshments will be served. Call 860-684-2852 or visit us online at www.staffordlibrary.org to register.

Volunteers Needed!

Do you need to do community service projects for school or Confirmation? Do you just like to be involved in your community and help out? The library can really use your assistance. The Children's and Teen Departments at the library are looking for help.

We are especially interested in people that are computer savvy and can use Publisher or Powerpoint to create advertisements for our programs. We can also use volunteers to help with our children's programs and our PlayStation After School Gaming each week.



Looking for something to do?

Come to
After School Gaming
Tuesdays @3pm
Play Rock Band on our PlayStation 2!

Want to see more programs for teens at the library?

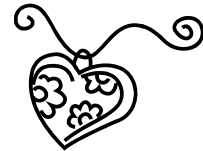
Fill out the **Teen Program Survey**
Located at the Circulation Desk
Let us know what types of programs you would be interested in.



Craft Programs

Come to the library and make something cool to take home. Programs are being held on the following **Thursdays at 4pm**:

January 14th - Birdfeeders
February 11th - Valentine's
Day Cards
March 11th - Jewelry Making
April 8th - Recycled Crafts



Call 860-684-2852 or visit us online at www.staffordlibrary.org to register.

Visit us online!
go to
www.staffordlibrary.org
and click on TEENS!



Artists Wanted

Do you think the walls in the Teen Area are a little bare? Help us liven them up with your artwork. Draw your own version of the cover of your favorite book or make an illustration of a scene from young adult book. Bring your drawings to the circulation desk and we will hang them in the teen area.

Anime Club

We are looking for teens who would like to get an Anime Club started here at the library. If you are interested, please email lsmith@biblio.org and let us know.

CHILDREN'S ROOM



Winter/Spring Story Times January 11th - April 15th

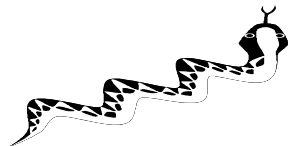
Story times are an important enriching experience for children of all ages. Come and learn poems, finger plays, rhymes, music, narrative poems and both traditional and contemporary children's literature. Children will learn to interact with puppets and each other. They will learn to listen, predict and relate what they learn in the stories to themselves and the world around them.

Siblings are welcome and age distinctions are a guide, not a restriction. Sign up for one or more and see which group best fits your child.

Mondays @ 10am for 0-2 yr olds: Songs, finger plays, board books, toys, rhymes and stories for mom and baby to have fun.

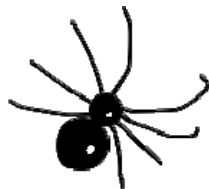
Tuesdays @ 10am for 2yr olds: Songs, finger plays, rhymes and stories will help your child gain learning readiness skills.

Wednesdays @ 1pm for ages 3 and up: Songs, large and small motor skills activities, stories, puppets and a learning activity teach your child to cooperate and listen while having fun.



Jeepers Creepers Reptile Program

Brian Kleinman from Riverside Reptiles will present *Jeepers Creepers* on **Thursday, February 18th at 6pm**. Encounter some creepy looking creatures. You will be able to see and touch a variety of reptiles, amphibians, arachnids, insects and more. Call 860-684-2852 or visit our website, www.staffordlibrary.org to register.



Vacation Week in April

Every day there will be fun at the library. From recycling projects, science experiments and movies to Stafford farms and planting seeds, there will be something to do every day of vacation. Check the Calendar of Events on page 7 for more details.



Children's Garden

This is our second year with our Children's Garden. Special thanks go to Jim Tumel, Sam Neves, Academy Gardens and the Staffordville PTO. We grow flowers and vegetables to be used in our cooking programs. Join the fun or just walk by and enjoy the view.



Tea Sets Needed

Every spring we host an American Girl Doll Tea. We would like to thank those of you who have generously donated tea cups, saucers, dessert plates and tea pots. We are in need of more, so if you have any, please consider donating them to the library. We are happy to have mismatched sets. This is a lovely program that we enjoy hosting and appreciate anything you can give.

Post a comment on our children's blog or find out the latest news about what's going on in the Children's Department.

Visit us online at www.staffordlibrary.org and click on Children!

Calendar of Events for Children and Teens

Register for events online at www.staffordlibrary.org or call 860-684-2852

January

14th @ 4pm: *Craft - Birdfeeders*



February

4th @6:30pm: *Drivers License Info Night* (Teens and Parents)

11th @4pm: *Valentine's Day Cards*

18th @6pm: *Riverside Reptiles* - See and touch a variety of reptiles, amphibians, arachnids and more.



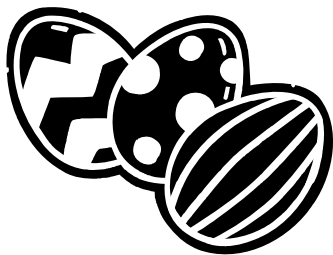
March

1st @6pm: *Dr. Seuss' Birthday Party* - Come for a special Dr. Seuss story time to celebrate his birthday.

11th @4pm: *Craft - Jewelry making*

17th @4pm: *St. Patrick's Day Party* - Make a leprechaun pocket and find some gold.

20th @1pm: *Easter Craft & Egg Hunt*



April

Winter/Spring story time session ends April 15th.

8th @ 4pm: *Craft - Recycled Craft.*

19th @ 4pm: *Celebrate Spring* with Arlene Avery - Plant seeds and enjoy a Stafford farm program.

21st @2pm: *Movie*

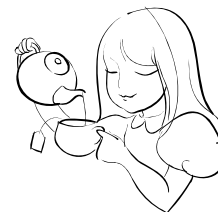
22nd @2pm: *Earth Science Experiment*

23rd @2pm: Learn how to *Help the Earth* with Ella Ingraham.



May

8th @ 2pm: *American Girl Tea* - Mothers and daughters have tea and hear a story by Joyce Marie Rayno. Bring your dolls, too.



17th Registration for the Summer Reading Program will be given to the schools. Join this fun, wonderful activity with prizes and entertainment all summer long.

June

5th @ 10am-1pm: *Opening Day for Summer Reading for Children* - Come enjoy juggling, balloon animals, face painting, pony rides, bubbles and more to welcome summer and celebrate the beginning of the Summer Reading Program for children.

19th *Opening Day for Summer Reading for Teens and Adults.*

Friends of the Stafford Library 2009

Thank You to More Friends

\$5 Individual Memberships

Esther Fontanella
Judith Locke

\$10 Family Memberships

Joyce and Bob Arthur
Roger and Jeanne Bouthillier
Mark and Meredith Greene
Werner and Nancy Kaufhold
Doreen and Leslie Moulton
Kristin & Gabriel Thayer & Family
Cheryl Verney

\$20 Membership and Donation

Ruth C. Amrein

\$25 Membership and Donation

Margaret Vasington

\$50 Bronze Membership

Viljo and Mary Paakkonen

\$100 Silver Membership

Victoria Hine
Mike Krol
Karen McKelvey

Coming!

Friends Winter and Spring Programs

February – Local resident Charlotte Andrews will present a travel program on Turkey.

March – Richard W. Clarke of the “Keeping History Alive” series will offer a portrayal of Ernest Hemingway.

April – **Annual meeting** – A speaker from the Mark Twain House will be our guest.

May – Local residents Helen and Rick Dewey will present a travel program on Alaska.

See page 4 for more details on the programs being offered.



Continuous Used-Book Sale

Did you know the Friends of the Stafford Library offers a continuous used-book sale in the coffee bar area of the library? The books are updated on a regular basis. You can find many gems. Prices are \$1 for paperback books and VHS tapes and \$2 for hardcover books and DVDs. We hope you will stop in and check our inventory regularly.

Connecticut Science Center Coupons

The Stafford Library now has available to Stafford families a 20 percent off coupon for general admission for up to four people to the Connecticut Science Center. This offer is available for one coupon per family through May 31, 2010.

Museum and Local Attraction Passes

The Friends have generously provided free or reduced-admission passes to the following local attractions. Passes circulate for three days, using your adult library card.

The Children's Museum
Connecticut Trolley Museum
Harriet Beecher Stowe Center
Mashantucket Pequot Museum and Research Center
Mystic Aquarium
Mystic Seaport
New England Air Museum
Roger Williams Park Zoo
Springfield Museums
Wadsworth Atheneum
William Benton Museum of Art