

Stafford Library

The BIGGEST Bargain in Town!

Winter/Spring 2011

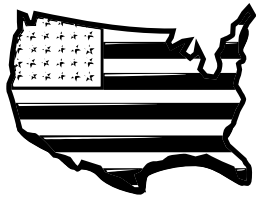
Did you know you can use the library in your pajamas? We're open 24/7 online.



**10 Levinthal Run
Stafford, CT 06075**

Library Hours
Monday - Thursday 10 am—8 pm
Friday and Saturday 10 am—5 pm
Closed Sundays

860-684-2852
www.staffordlibrary.org



Adult Winter Reading Program **Read Your Way Across the U.S.A.**

The Stafford Library is offering a Winter Reading Program for adults only. What better way to spend a cold, wintry evening than curled up snug under a warm afghan with a good book and a hot cup of coffee, tea, or hot chocolate. Of course, the joy of reading is its own reward, but the program also offers a chance to win prizes. The program **begins Tuesday, January 18th and continues through Saturday, March 19th.**

To Read Your Way Across the U.S.A., you'll "visit" five different areas of the United States—the Northwest, Southwest, Midwest, Northeast, and South—by reading a book from each area. Books can be set in the region, the author can be from the region, or the region can be the subject of the book.

For example, if you are a James Grippando fan, you might seek out his suspenseful books set in Miami, Florida, to cover the South; or read a Debbie Macomber book to cover the Northwest, because she lives in Washington State. Nonfiction books and audio books count, too. So, if you read a travel book about Arizona, that covers the Southwest.

After reading five books representing the five regions of the United States, return the raffle entry form to the Stafford Library to receive a free gift AND add your entry into our raffle prize drawings. After you finish five books, consider reading another five. You will receive a second free gift and again your entry will be entered into our drawings.

Please stop in the library to pick up your winter reading packet. A map with the U.S.A. divided by region will be included along with how to find reading suggestions. Unfortunately, the Winter Reading Program is not available online.

Please call Ann Davis at the library at 860-684-2852 with any questions you may have.

FAMILY EVENTS

Celebrate National Library Week @ the Stafford Library
April 10 – 16, 2011



Join us for a
“Night of a Thousand Stars”



Monday, April 11th
Beginning at 5:30 pm

Featuring performances by
Stafford Musical Groups



The Golden Tones - directed by Gloria Ducharme
Lady Song - directed by Susan Leavitt
Madrigal Singers - Stafford High School Choral Group - directed by Laretta Dillon
Treble Troubadours - directed by Susan Leavitt



Snapshot Day
Wednesday, April 13th



The program 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 **Wednesday, April 13th**, 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.

Better Yet, Visit the Stafford Library on April 13th
and become part of Snapshot Day 2011

As a special treat for Snapshot Day, **Brian Kleinman** from **Riverside Reptiles** will present an exciting program, **“Snakes,” at 6pm**. He will bring a selection of snakes for the whole family to see and touch. Call the library at 860-684-2852 or go online to register. Seating is limited, so register early to make sure you don’t miss out on the excitement.



Library Quote

“Whatever the cost of our libraries, the price is cheap compared to that of an ignorant nation.”

- Broadcaster Walter Cronkite



ADULT HAPPENINGS



Area Author Talks and Book Signings

Four area authors will present talks and book signings at the Stafford Library on the following Tuesday evenings at 7 pm.:

- **February 22**, Bruce Dutton, local history, Several books about the history of Stafford.
- **March 1**, Jane Svejck, murder mystery, *Bells, Books and Murder*
- **March 22**, Angelica Fleury, children's book, *The Miracle of a Hairy Woodpecker*
- **March 29**, William P. McDermott, local history, *Stafford, Connecticut 1719-1870: From farm to factory*

Registration is required. Light refreshments will be served.

Connecticut Invents

Join us for an interesting presentation about Connecticut Inventors by Patrick Smith, curator of education at the Museum of Connecticut History, on **Monday, March 7 at 7 pm**.

According to Mr. Smith, " 'Connecticut Invents' explores the famous and not so famous inventions and inventors that have come from our state in the past 200 years. Since the 18th century, Connecticut inventors have created inventions that have shaped the way we work, live and play. Using objects, photos and graphics from the collections of the Museum of Connecticut History, we will discover many ordinary and unusual inventions from the Nutmeg State."

Call the library at 860-684-2852 to save your seat. Light refreshments will be served.

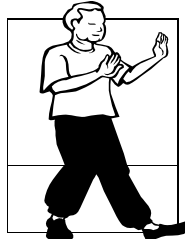


Summer Reading Program

Congratulations to our Summer Reading Program participants who completed the book bingo. This was quite an achievement! They are:

Renee Fagerquist
Amy Guilmette
Carolyn Hornacek
Denise Jennings

Elaine Lueckel
Margaret Maynard
Maggie Stovall
Peg Symonds



Tai Chi Classes

The Stafford Library will again present a series of four Tai Chi classes with Kathy Brenner, of Wallingford. Ms. Brenner will teach the Simple Six Yang Style Tai Chi form in addition to a series of gentle warm-up exercises and qigong. The four sessions will be held on four consecutive Wednesdays: **March 16, 23, 30, and April 6 from 6:30 to 7:30 pm**.

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.

This series is for **Stafford residents only**. The classes are free, but registration is required. Call the library at 860-684-2852 to reserve your space. Call as soon as possible because we must limit the class to 20.

Please wear comfortable clothing to the class.

Looking for a Job? We Can Help!

The Stafford Library will host two free workshops to assist residents with their job search on **Thursday, March 24 and Thursday, March 31 at 7 pm**.

The first class will focus on introducing job seekers to the library's new software program JobNow. With JobNow, you can receive live job coaching; real-time interview practice; assistance in resume/cover letter writing; a 24-hour writing lab; 24/7 learning center for questions in math, writing, and reading; and live tutors for GED, college placement tests, and more.

The second class will include the use of temporary agencies, alternative sources/forms of employment, "survival" jobs, and other job searching tips.

The workshops will be taught by Stafford resident, Ellen Festi. Ms. Festi is a business teacher at South Windsor High School, where she uses her expertise in helping students prepare for their future role in the workforce.

Please call the library at 860-684-2852 to register. We recommend registering early.

Online Opportunities @ www.staffordlibrary.org



Learn a New Language

Are you planning a trip to a non-English speaking country and want to learn the language or at least learn a few phrases to get by?

Or perhaps you are a student taking a foreign language in school and can use a little help. Or perhaps you are a non-native English speaker and want to learn English.

If so, the Stafford Library can help you. Thanks to the Friends of the Stafford Library, we offer **Byki Online** free to our Stafford patrons. Byki is an online program that offers the ability to learn over 80 languages. The program uses a web-based flash card system, offers personal progress tracking and pronunciation analysis, plus much more.

Try it out from our website at www.staffordlibrary.org. Scroll down to "Learn a New Language Today." Sign up with your barcode from your Stafford Library card.

If you prefer to have a formal training session, we are offering a class on **Tuesday, February 15th, at 6 pm**. Our snow date is Thursday, February 17th. Call the library at 860-684-2852 to register. We can only accommodate four patrons, so call quickly. The class will be taught by Teen and Reference Librarian, Lori Smith.

Coming Soon

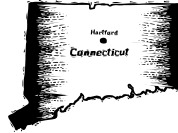
The Stafford Library plans to purchase a couple of Sony eReaders or Nook eReaders for you to borrow and try.

We are also planning a Job Search Corner in the library, which will consist of two computers reserved exclusively for job searching and books to help with resume and cover letter writing, interviewing, and other important resources.



Need a Computer Class?

Thanks to our fabulous volunteers, we offer free computer classes to our Stafford patrons. Stop in the library to complete a brief form, telling us what your needs are and when you are available.



Treasures of Connecticut

Treasures of Connecticut is a joint project sponsored by the Connecticut State Library and the Library Connection consortium. It is a collection of items that has been digitized and made available online for searching. The items in the collection come from libraries and their partnering cultural institutions across Connecticut and include historical photographs, maps, postcards, films and more... New items are added on an ongoing basis.

The Stafford Library is participating with other libraries to have some of its local history collection added to the Treasures of Connecticut website. As of this writing, the 168-page book "Stafford, Connecticut 250th Anniversary" has already been added, and other items are in the works, including a wonderful photo of Stafford around 1877 added by the Stafford Historical Society.

Check our library website at www.staffordlibrary.org. Scroll down to Stafford Local History.

More Stafford History Treasures

This is a special thank you to Stafford resident Kathie Popadin who chose to complete an exciting Internship project at the Stafford Library as part of her online Master's degree program in Library and Information Studies at the University of Alabama.

Kathie created a "starter" online digital collection to display some of the library's historical collection to supplement the collection we have in the Treasures of Connecticut program mentioned above. Her website for this project is <http://staffordhistory.omeka.net>.

Some of the items contained in her website are a program from the Stafford Springs Agricultural Society for a fair held over three days in October 1896; an old postcard of the Stafford Springs House hotel; a program of the Dedication of the Warren Memorial Hall, Stafford Springs on January 31, 1924; and an Annual Report of the Board of School Visitors (predecessor to the Board of Education) from 1881-1882.

Please visit her website to view these valuable historical documents. Library staff will try to continue adding more items in the future as time allows.

TEEN HAPPENINGS

Kaplan SAT Practice Tests

Are you planning to take the SAT this year? Representatives from Kaplan will be here in February and April to give practice tests. Take advantage of this free opportunity to prepare for the test and get some feedback from experienced tutors on how you can improve your scores.

The first **practice SAT test** will be on **Saturday, February 19th from 11am - 3pm**. Students who take this practice test are invited to come back for a **Score Give Back Session** on **Thursday, February 24th from 6pm-7pm**. Students will find out their scores and get some feedback from tutors on how they can improve. Parents are encouraged to attend the Score Give Back Session with students.

The second **practice SAT test** will be on **Saturday, April 9th from 11am - 3pm**. The **Score Give Back Session** for this practice test will be **Thursday, April 14th from 6pm-7pm**. Again, parents are encouraged to attend the Score Give Back Session with students.

Students are encouraged to attend one or both of these practice tests. Tutors from Kaplan will analyze your scores during the Score Give Back Sessions and will give valuable tips on how to get a higher score on the SAT.



Register early to make sure you don't get left out. You can register online at www.staffordlibrary.org or call 860-684-2852

February Craft

Looking for something to do when you don't have school? Join us **Tuesday, February 22nd @ 4pm** for a craft program. Use your creativity to make something beautiful! Call 860-684-2852 or visit www.staffordlibrary.org to register.



Book Swap

Do you have any books, DVDs or CDs that you haven't used in a while. Why not trade them for something else? Bring in any books, DVDs or CDs and trade them for something that someone else brings in. The swap is **Tuesday, April 19th @4pm**. All ages are welcome!

Teen Video Contest

Create a short Public Service Announcement video promoting the summer reading theme "You Are Here" and you could win a prize. Teens across America will see your video and a winner will be selected for each state and CSRP affiliate. For more details, visit <http://www.cslpreads.org/challenge-overview.html>



Attention Travelers

The 2011 summer reading program will have a travel theme. During the summer, we would like to have a display of postcards from around the world. If anyone has postcards they would be willing to let us borrow, or if you know someone who is going on a trip, we would greatly appreciate any postcards we can get for our display. Please contact Lori Smith or Deb Galotto if you have any questions.

Look For
Stafford Library
on
Facebook.

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

CHILDREN'S ROOM

Story Times

Morning

Mondays @ 10am: 0-2 years old - Songs, finger plays, board books, toys, rhymes and stories for mom and baby.

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



Afternoon

Wednesdays @ 3:30 pm: 3 years and up (siblings welcome) - Songs, large and small motor skills activities, stories, puppets and a learning activity that will teach your child to cooperate and listen while having fun.

Library Quote



“It costs nothing to read to a child. A public library card is a ticket to the richest entertainment a child’s mind is ever going to have.”
- Jim Trelease, author of the *Read-Aloud Handbook*



We Salute You Thank you, Volunteers

We have many volunteers who help us throughout the year, but I especially want to thank those who help us each week. They are:

- Computer tutors** – Bruce Cartier, Stacey Dolbier, Richard Marzi, and Jeanette Misaiko.
- Book processing, book sorting, and other valuable projects** – Nancy Fenn, Jean and Mike Hayden, Therese McPherson, Jeanette Misaiko, Jean Oliva, Carol Remington, Phyllis Royx, Jim Schraffenberger, and Nancy Schwanda



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.

Letter from the Library Director

It is with both happiness and sadness that I tell you I am retiring as Library Director from the Stafford Library effective April 1, 2011. It is with happiness because I will be able to spend more time traveling, and I can begin all the other fun projects I have been setting aside. Yet, it is with sadness because I love the Stafford Library, the residents of Stafford, and my profession.

I will be here until March 31 finishing up all the library projects that are still unfinished, so please stop in the library before then so that I may give you a hug and say goodbye. I love you all!

- Ann Davis, Library Director

Calendar of Events

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

January

27 - **Chinese New Year @ 3:30pm:** The Lutz Children's Museum will be here to celebrate the Year of the Rabbit. Learn about China and their ancient customs. Do an activity and have a fortune cookie!



February

7 - **Snowman Craft @ 6pm:** All ages are invited to create a snowman with assorted materials.

11 - **Valentine's Day Card Workshop @ 3:30pm:** Make beautiful cards for your loved ones.

15 - **Byki Demo @ 6pm** (adult program)

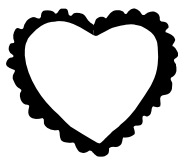
18 - **Game Time @ 2pm:** Come play a board games or Wii. We even have a President's game.

19 - **Kaplan SAT Practice Test @ 11am**

22 - **Teen Craft @ 4pm**

22 - **Author Bruce Dutton @ 7pm** (adult program)

24 - **Kaplan SAT Practice Test Score Give Back Session @ 6pm**



March

1 - **Dr. Seuss' Birthday Party @ 4pm:** Have a fun time celebrating and making a Dr. Seuss craft.

1 - **Author Jane Svejek @ 7pm** (adult program)

7 - **Connecticut Invents @ 7pm** (adult program)

9 - **Reading Night @ 5pm:** Come in your PJ's and share some Mac & Cheese while you listen to stories.

16, 23, 30 - **Tai Chi @ 6:30pm** (adult program)

17 - **St. Patrick's Day Party @ 4pm:**

Find a lucky piece of leprechaun gold, make a magical necklace and bring a leprechaun home.

22 - **Author Angelica Fleury @ 7pm** (adult program)

24 - **Job Now class @ 7pm** (adult program)

29 - **Author William P. McDermott @ 7pm** (adult program)

31 - **Job Search part 2 @ 7pm** (adult program)



April



6 - **Tai Chi @ 6:30pm** (adult program)

9 - **Kaplan SAT Practice Test @ 11am**

11 - **Night of a Thousand Stars @ 5:30pm**

13 - **Snapshot Day - Riverside**

Reptiles @ 6pm: Brian Kleinman will be here with snakes to see and touch.



14 - **Kaplan SAT Practice Test Score Give Back Session @ 6pm**

16 - **Easter Egg Hunt & Craft @ 1pm:** Find what the Easter Bunny left at the library just for you.

18 - **Plant a Seed and Farm Program @ 1pm:** Plant seeds in our children's garden and learn about Stafford farms.

19 - **Book Swap @ 4pm:** Bring in your books, DVDs or CDs and make a trade.

21 - **Earth Day with Ella @ 1pm:** Enjoy some earth friendly activities!



May

2 - **PJ Story time @ 6:30pm**

5 - **Cinco de Mayo @ 3:30pm:** The Lutz Children's Museum will be here to teach us about this Mexican Holiday and how they celebrate it.

7 - **American Girl Tea @ 2pm:** Drink tea and eat sandwiches and desserts while you listen to Joyce Marie Rayno tell a story about an American Girl Doll. A wonderful way to celebrate Mother's Day.



Coming in June - Summer Reading Opening Day Party on June 4th. More info on Summer events in our Summer Newsletter.

Friends of the Stafford Library



Thank You to More Friends April 2010– March 2011



They make all the extras possible.

\$5 Individual Memberships

Sharon Dobson
Barbara Frassinelli
Jackie Granata
Wendy B. Kelley
Patricia Lemire
Edna P. Marvonek
Kay McQuaid
Barbara Passmsore
Mary D. Roberge

\$10 Family Memberships

Kandy and Robert Austin & Family
George F. and Marjorie M. Bouthillier, Jr.
Meg and John Broadhurst
Tanya and David Buchanan and Family

\$10 Family Memberships(continued)

Esther and Ronnie DaRos
David and Susan Demars
Dana and Sharron Dillon
Barbara Hodge
David and Lorraine Holland
Lise Hubbard and Scott & Tyler
Becky and Chuck Kraussmann
Patricia Kula
Linn and Ed Learned
Lisa Ostrowski and Family
Diane Platt
Ann and Joseph Puglisi
Ellen, Lauren and Jenna Sedlak
Mary and Heinz Schwarz
Tom and Brenda Simons
Andrea Summers
Judith Weber
Katherine M. Witkowski

\$15 Donation

Edith R. Zeldes

\$25 Donation

Richard and Ruth Locke

\$50 Bronze Memberships

Judith L. Bothwell
Veronica Halloran
Jean and Wayne Pisciotta

\$100 Silver Membership

Victoria Hine



A HUGE thank you to the many Friends who baked cookies for our Holiday Cookie Sale. I am pleased to report that the Friends raised almost \$700 from this event thanks to the generosity of our many bakers.

- Ann Davis, Library Director

Have a Favorite Author and Want to be #1 on the Reserve List?

Here is an easy way to become #1 on the reserve list for your favorite author. Consider adopting an author. You become #1 on the list and receive a tax deductible donation at the same time. This is how it works:

1. Choose an author whose work you want to read. Agree to purchase any book for the library that author writes. (You may cancel at any time.)
2. We will order the book for you, and you will receive the library's discount. Here are a couple of sample prices:

List Price	Library Discount	Processing Fee	Patron pays
\$25.00	45%	\$1.09	\$14.84
\$27.00	45%	\$1.09	\$15.94

Here is a list of popular authors we hope someone will adopt: Tom Clancy, Jennifer Crusie, Clive Cussler, Barbara Delinsky, Fannie Flagg, Carl Hiaasen, Tami Hoag, Alice Hoffman, Wally Lamb, Jack Higgins, Faye Kellerman, Dean Koontz, Michael Palmer, Adriana Trigiani, and Stuart Woods. There are also some Young Adult and Children's book authors that we would love to have adopted as well.

Please call Ann Davis at the library at 860-684-2852 with any questions you may have.