

VOL. 9 ISSUE 3
May - June 2016

Privately Funded

Hours:
Mon. - Thurs. 10 a.m. - 8 p.m.
Sat. - Sun. 1 p.m. - 5 p.m.
(Open Sat. & Sun. all year)

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Derby Neck Library

A Regional Library

Currents

On the Paths of Genius: Finding Olmsted in CT with David Leff

On Tuesday, June 7 at 6:30 pm, local author and historian David Leff will be at the Derby Neck Library to give his presentation "On the Paths of Genius: Finding Olmsted in Connecticut". Mr. Leff recounts the fascinating story of Olmsted, America's "father of landscape architecture." Born in Hartford in 1822, Olmsted would



go on to design major parks in New York City, Boston, Washington D.C., and many other cities. Among his Connecticut designs, Leff will cover Seaside and Beardsley Parks in Bridgeport, Walnut Hill in New Britain, and the Institute of Living campus in Hartford. Attendees will learn about Olmsted's several formative years in Collinsville as well as other ways in which his home influenced his designs.

This is a free program. Registration is requested, but not required.

Over a century of service to the Valley Community

Civil War Drummer Boy Who Became a General with Jack Konicki

Join us on May 24 at 6:30 pm for a presentation from local history researcher Jack Konicki who will be discussing a Winsted youth who would go on to become a prominent financial figure in the Lower Naugatuck Valley. The man? Charles Pine. Attendees will learn about his life and journey to become a generous benefactor to local charities, institutions, and to the education of Ansonia students. This is a free program. Registration is requested, but not required so bring a friend!

FREE homework HELP



Having trouble with that one math problem on your homework that you just can't get? Need help finishing that book report? Maybe you need help studying for finals? From 3pm-5pm Monday through Thursday at the library's Information Desk, students are invited to bring their homework, text books, and other related materials for free tutoring in Math and English from Library staff. There is no registration required for this service, but it is on a first-come, first-served basis. Ask Ian Parsells, the head librarian, for more details.



Great Give 2016: Support the Library

The Derby Neck Library will be taking part in the 2016 Great Give! Join thousands of your neighbors, in giving back on May 3-4 to strengthen our community. Our community is made richer, more vibrant and more cohesive when we come together and demonstrate powerful, collective and effective philanthropy.

To support the Library, visit our Web site, www.derbynecklibrary.org, and click the Great Give link!



ANDREW'S PICKS

The Assassin (Hou Hsiao-Hsien, 2015).

If Andrei Tarkovsky or Terrence Malick directed a wuxia film, it might look something like this. *The Assassin* is one of the most ravishingly beautiful films I've ever seen, and also one of the most unusual. Hou's storytelling is elliptical and ambiguous, and seems only obliquely concerned with the excitement and drama inherent in the Tang Dynasty tale from which the film is adapted. I found myself frequently losing the thread of the plot, yet rarely have I been so completely enraptured by a movie. Its action scenes, the most gorgeous since Ang Lee's *Crouching Tiger, Hidden Dragon* (2000), are extraordinarily peculiar. They erupt seemingly out of nowhere, and then break off without definite conclusion. By creatively interrupting the normal pleasures of a typical martial arts film—and indeed, more generally, of a typical narrative film—Hou invites the viewer to transcend the easy answers provided by ready-made plot points and intellectual categories, and to dwell instead in the incomprehensible mystery that lies beyond them. By relying largely (but not exclusively) on long takes, Hou deprives the viewer of what Tolkien called “the purposed domination of the author,” thus freeing the viewer to receive an authentic unconcealment of that-which-is. The film is like an ikon or a koan inviting a contemplative experience, a true example of what Tarkovsky called “sculpting in time.” And *The Assassin* is powerfully hypnotic, breathtakingly delicate, and surpassingly lovely. There are shots in this film that are among the most stunning images I have ever seen; but my words can do them no justice, and I can but urge the reader to seek out this movie as soon as possible.



THE ASSASSIN

literary clubs upcoming meetings

Women's Forum, a discussion group that focuses on short stories, with some topics in history as well, meets on the 3rd Monday of each month. We serve free coffee and tea and attendees may wish to bring a light lunch. On Monday, May 16 from 12:30 to 1:30, we will discuss two short stories by Hartford's Charlotte Perkins Gilman—"The Cottagette" and "If I Were a Man." Copies are available at the library. On Monday, June 20 from 12:30 to 1:30 we will be treated to a power point presentation given by Pat Sweeney -- "A History of Frances Osborne Kellogg's Osborndale Farm and Her Career as an Environmentalist."

The Evening Book Club meets on the last Monday of each month and focuses on novellas by award-winning authors, and an occasional memoir. On

Monday, May 23 from 6:30 to 7:30 we will discuss "The Country of Pointed Firs" by Maine's Sarah Orne Jewett. For Monday, June 27 our book is "One Writer's Beginnings," a memoir by Eudora Welty.

A History of Frances Osborne Kellogg's Osborndale Farm and Her Career as an Environmentalist

Join us for another of Pat Sweeney's power point presentations on the history and activities of the Osbornes and Kelloggs. On Tuesday, June 14 from 6:30 to 7:30 the topic will be a fascinating and informative history of Osborndale Farm—based on new,

original research. This talk will also focus on Mrs. Kellogg's career as a dairy farmer, cattle breeder, land conservator, and all around environmentalist. Her interests in gardening will also be discussed.



FROM THE ARCHIVES ... 1889

by Patricia E. Sweeney

From an incomplete newspaper clipping that we own, dated May 10, 1889, is announced the first meeting of the "Derby Literary and Scientific Institute." This group was comprised of a large number of local men who were leaders of industry and civic affairs, included are Wilbur F. Osborne and his father John White Osborne. As was typical of that era, all substantial community societies were registered for incorporation with the State of Connecticut. In describing their pursuit of intellectual endeavors, this group of men stated that their annual income as a club would not exceed \$6,000, and they would be establishing a small library and reading room — to serve as a respite for members to sit and peruse appropriate books, to share knowledge, and to function as a place to hold public lectures. They would pass by-laws, elect officers, and design a common seal (to stamp books, I presume). Notice of meeting dates would be published in a Derby newspaper. The state accepted their paperwork for incorporation on April 3, 1889. We can assume they had success in meeting their goals to spread learning among their male membership.



Looking forward to warmer weather? So are we here at the Derby Neck Library. Plans are under way for Summer Reading and Miss Kathi's music, reading and art programs will continue through May and the middle of June. There will be a two week break from June 27 – July 7. The programs will then resume in July and August. Summer Reading will start earlier this year due to the schools letting out at least a week earlier than in the past. Derby Neck Library will be ready for them with an active kickoff to "Ready, Set Read". On Monday, June 20th we will have outdoor games in our garden area for all ages. Children will be able to sign up or Summer Reading inside the Library and get their bags with all the info you need to start planning for the great activities we have scheduled. Then they can head outside to participate in a variety of games for all ages. Toddlers and younger children will have their own area and activities lead by Miss Kathi, while Paul Mordoff (Mr. Bubbles) of Party Talent will lead the older children in a variety of outdoor games. Don't worry if the weather does not co-operate because we will move indoors!

Keep a watch for our July/August newsletter issue, check our webpage: derbynecklibrary.org, or follow us on Facebook and Twitter to see a list of times and activities, so you can mark your calendars to bring your children to the library this summer. In addition to the programs we will have new books about sports, health and safety to encourage your children to read throughout the summer.

Computer Classes

Learn the basics of Microsoft Word and Excel, email, and how to search the Internet for whatever interests you. Start any day, but you can only attend once a week. Classes last an hour and are held on Mondays at 6pm and Tuesdays/Wednesdays at 10:30am.

Dinner and a Movie

Taking place on the 1st Thursday of the month, adults are invited to the library's Dinner and a Movie. Featuring movies new and old on Bluray, this popular program has something for everyone 18 and over! Dinner will be served at the half-way point being served throughout. On May 5, we will watch the Cary Grant and Jean Arthur classic *Only Angels Have Wings*. June's movie will be announced on fliers in the library and on our Web site.



recurring children's programs

All programs will be drop-in with no registration required. We welcome patrons from all towns to come and enjoy the programs. Prethrees classes are for ages Birth-3yrs and offer age appropriate stories, finger plays, Nursery rhymes, puppets, coloring pages and music. Name tags and a different theme are provided each week. Classes regularly occur on Mondays at 10am.

Been There Done That Movin' On Twos and Threes is for children who have been coming to the classes for a while and are capable of following more specific directions to musical games and are ready to learn new songs. Each week a different type of instrument is introduced and shared. Classes regularly occur on Tuesdays at 10am.

Toddler Science is for children ages 3 and up. Experiments, books, music and crafts encourage you and your child to explore the world around you. Relearn things you forgot as you work with your toddler to learn about such subjects as space, magnetism, chemistry and physics. Classes regularly occur on Tuesday at 11am.

Music and Movement programs are for ages Birth to 5 and use instruments, scarves and singing to enhance children's language proficiency. Songs and dancing combine to help children learn about rhythm and practice motor skills needed to improve their communication abilities. Scarves and musical instruments add to the fun. Classes regularly occur on Thursdays at 10am and 11am.

Valley Shakespeare Festival presents



Pericles

The Valley Shakespeare Festival will return to the Derby Neck Library for a performance of the Bard's "Pericles". PERICLES, one of Shakespeare's most popular plays in his own time, is the story of a prince whose life is threatened after he solves the puzzle of a murderous king. Forced to flee across the seas, he embarks on an odyssey that will see him fall in love, lose a daughter, and eventually recover everything he thought he'd lost. This will be a FREE performance for guests paid for by the library.



Smash Club for Teens

On Wednesdays from 2pm-5pm, teens and tweens are invited to the new Smash Club! Using the library's Nintendo Wii U, teens will play various games on the system, particularly Super Smash Bros. Differing from our regular Video Game Tournaments, Smash Club will be about fun and not competition. Other games that we play will include Pokken Tournament, Mario Maker, Mario Kart 8, Injustice, and more multiplayer games will be purchased as they come out. Whether you're a beginner or a highly-skilled gamer, this club will have something for everyone.

Tech Talks

"Tech Talks", the program series that focuses on topics related to modern technology that you may be interested in learning more about, is a recurring program that takes place on the third Wednesday of every month at 10:30am and in the evening on the Monday prior at 6:00pm. Both sessions will happen in the same week. Topics will be announced on fliers in the library and on our Web site.

2016 Community Puzzle

As part of our Holiday Fun Day in December, we unveiled our new 2016 Community Puzzle! The Community Puzzle is an annual project where patrons are tasked with piecing together a 2000 piece puzzle to reconstruct a historical Derby location. This year, the Osborne Homestead Museum is the featured site. Once finished, the puzzle will be framed and mounted in the library's Common Area along with a memorial plaque thanking all assemblers who worked on it. So if you help assemble the puzzle, don't forget to sign in and be a part of history. If you helped with 2015's puzzle, check it out in the Common Area. Can you spot the hidden cow?

STAFF:

Ian Parsells, Head Librarian

Kathleen Gordon, Children's Librarian

Patricia Sweeney, Reference Librarian

Roberto Carmona, Head of Circulation

Christina Baclawski, Andrew Bisaccia, Kim MacDonald,

Christopher Ochoa, Carol Senfield, Norman Strumello

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Kemmesies, Richard Knoll, John Rak, Bruce Sill, John Walsh

Teen Film Club

Every Tuesday throughout the year at 4pm, join us for the award-winning Teen Film Club. Learn the ins and outs of amateur film production working alongside fellow teens in areas like writing, directing, acting, and editing. All work is done in-house and all films produced by the club are put into the library's DVD collection and onto the library's Youtube channel.

I-Spy Teen Movie Night

On Thursday, June 23 at 5:00pm, teens/tweens are invited to the first I-Spy Teen Movie Night of the summer! This will be the first of two I-Spy movie events (the second will take place in early August). Both movies will be on Blu-Ray and as always, refreshments will be served! But, there's a twist. At each movie, teens will need to keep their eyes peeled for special moments and details. A list of clues will be given at the start of the film. The teen who spots the most will win the prize! Registration is required.

Teen Video Game Tournament

Looking for some competitive gaming this summer with a chance to win some great prizes? On June 30 from 3-5pm, you will get your first chance of the summer when you compete on the Wii U. Curious what we're playing? Check the flyers in the library and on our Website for more information. Registration is strongly recommended, but not required. Sign-up sheets will be available at the circulation desk.

Calendar of Events

May 2016

May 2, 9, 16, 23	Pre-Threes classes for children	10:00 am
May 2, 9, 16, 23	Mommy & Me: Art Partners for children	11:00 am
May 3, 10, 17, 24	Been There Done That classes for children	10:00 am
May 3, 10, 17, 24	Science for Toddlers	11:00 am
May 5, 12, 19, 26	Music and Movement classes for children	10:00 & 11:00 am
May 3, 10, 17, 24, 31	Teen Film Club	4:00 pm
May 4, 11, 18, 25	Smash Club! for Teens/Tweens	2:00–5:00 pm
May 2, 9, 23	Computer classes for adults	6:00–7:00 pm
May 3, 10, 17, 24, 31	Computer classes for adults	10:30–11:30 am
May 4, 11, 25	Computer classes for adults	10:30–11:30 am
May 7, 14, 21, 28	Needlers Club for adults	1:00–4:00 pm



MAY							2016						
SU	M	TU	W	TH	F	SA	SU	M	TU	W	TH	F	SA
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7						
	8	9	10	11	12	13	14						
	15	16	17	18	19	20	21						
	22	23	24	25	26	27	28						
	29	30	31										

May 5	Dinner and a Movie – <i>Only Angels Have Wings</i>	5:30 pm
May 16	Tech Talks – Evening	6:00 pm
May 18	Tech Talks – Morning	10:30 am
May 16	Women's Forum	12:30 pm
May 23	Evening Book Club	6:30 pm
May 24	Civil War Drummer Boy Who Became a Gen.	6:30 pm
May 30	LIBRARY CLOSED (MEMORIAL DAY)	

June 2016

June 6, 13, 20, 27	Pre-Threes classes for children	10:00 am
June 6, 13, 20, 27	Mommy & Me: Art Partners for children	11:00 am
June 7, 14, 21, 28	Been There Done That classes for children	10:00 am
June 7, 14, 21, 28	Science for Toddlers	11:00 am
June 9, 16, 23, 30	Music and Movement classes for children	10:00 & 11:00 am
June 1, 8, 15, 22, 29	Smash Club! for Teens	2:00–5:00 pm
June 7, 14, 21, 28	Teen Film Club	4:00 pm
June 1, 8, 22, 29	Computer classes for adults	10:30–11:30 am
June 4, 11, 18, 25	Needlers Club for adults	1:00–4:00 pm
June 6, 20, 27	Computer classes for adults	6:00–7:00 pm
June 7, 14, 21, 28	Computer classes for adults	10:30–11:30 am

JUN							2016						
SU	M	TU	W	TH	F	SA	SU	M	TU	W	TH	F	SA

June 2	Dinner and a Movie for Adults	5:30 pm
June 4	Valley Shakespeare Festival: Pericles	2:00 pm
June 7	On the Paths of a Genius with David Leff	6:30 pm
June 13	Tech Talks – Evening	6:00 pm
June 14	History of Frances Osborne Kellogg's Farm	6:30 pm
June 15	Tech Talks – Morning	10:30 am
June 20	Teen Summer Readathon Begins	
June 20	Teen Photo Scavenger Hunt Begins	
June 20	Women's Forum	12:30 pm
June 20	Summer Reading Kickoff for children	3:00 pm
June 23	I-Spy Teen Movie Night	5:00 pm
June 27	Evening Book Club	6:30 pm
June 29	Bring the Hoopla for children	3:30 pm
June 30	Summer Video Game Tournament for Teens	3:00 pm

