

VOL. 9 ISSUE 6
November - December 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)

(203) 734-1492
(203) 732-2913FAX
307 Hawthorne Avenue
Derby, Connecticut 06418
www.derbynecklibrary.org
email: headlibrarian@biblio.org



Release Your Inner Artist with Janet Schwartz

Join us on November 22 at 6:00 pm for Release Your Inner Artist with Janet Schwartz. This art workshop is for aspiring artists who want to learn a technique that will help "jump-start" their creativity. As a lifelong educator and practicing artist with a degree in Art Education, Janet is passionate about this workshop and loves helping others overcome Artist is a hands-on

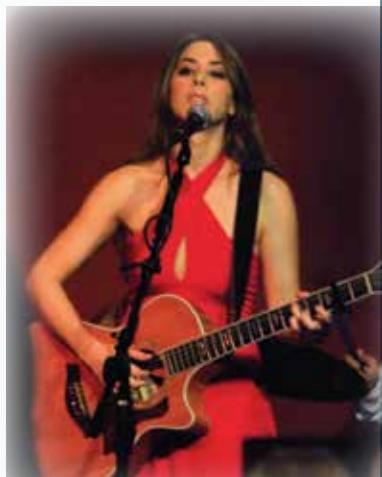


their fears about starting a painting. *Release Your Inner* workshop designed to help adults overcome the stumbling block of perception and focus on seeing what is really there. Participants learn to simplify what is seen to capture the essence of the subject. Working with pastels, Janet will guide participants to see their subject in darks, lights and mid-tones rather than focusing on the individual's perception of what objects should look like and overcomplicating their work. Through a series of images that are more and more in-focus, each participant will create what initially looks like an abstraction but gradually evolves into something more familiar. This is a free program but registration is required. The sign-up sheet is at the front desk.

Fall in Love Music Performance with Sheri Miller

On Saturday, November 12 at 2pm, the Derby Neck Library is excited to once again host critically-acclaimed singer-songwriter Sheri Miller for a performance titled "Fall in Love." Featuring original works as well as covers of popular songs, Sheri will play an eclectic solo set singing and accompanying herself on guitar. This is a free performance for all ages. No registration is required so bring your family and friends!

Sheri Miller is a musician from New York City whose influences include the Beatles, Fiona Apple, Stevie Wonder, Joni Mitchell, the Rolling Stones, Etta James, and Johnny Cash to name a few. She has worked alongside Grammy-winning writers including J.D. Souther of the Eagles. She's released 2 LPs and is working on her third commercial record. Anthony DeCurtis of Rolling Stone calls Sheri's music "Alluring... She makes a powerful first impression, and then, even better, a series of more complex and lasting ones."



Derby Neck Library

A Regional Library

Currents

Over a century of service
to the Valley Community



Civil War in the West with Professor Lutris

Join us on Wednesday, November 2 at 6:30pm for Civil War in the West with Professor Lutris. This presentation will discuss the ill-fated western expedition of 1862. Headed up by Confederate General Henry Hopkins Sibley, the CSA attempted to bring a force to Colorado in 1862, hoping to take over the extensive and newly-discovered mineral deposits there, as well as seeking a staging area to take California. The effort failed, but the danger to the new territories and states of the west was real, and only narrowly averted by one of the greatest marches of the Civil- or any other- War by a hodge-podge group of miners and cowboys, as well as by the efforts of the venerable Indian scout Kit Carson to defend the area against Confederate threats. The valiant defense of the American West is one of the lesser-known aspects of the Civil War, but one that deserves more attention from historians of the war.

FROM THE

ARCHIVES . . .



By Patricia E. Sweeney

THE NAMING OF THE TOWNS

The Valley towns have each been known by a variety of names over the years, except for **Ansonia**, which was named for Anson Phelps, who settled his import/export business in what was then a section of Derby.

Derby began as a trading post named Paugusset (spelled various ways) after the Indians who resided there. The name Derby, which means a deer park, was fashioned after Derby (pronounced Darby) in England, an industrial town. The Borough of Birmingham was a section of Derby that housed the main manufacturing center after the Ousatonic Dam was completed in 1870.

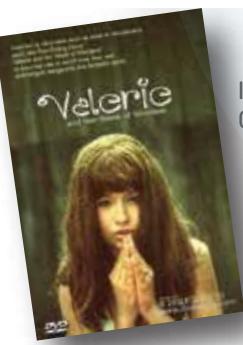
Seymour, once merely a section of Derby, began with the designation Chusetown, named after a popular Indian chief who resided there. His nickname was Chuce. Later the area was known as Humphreyville, since David Humphries had a woolen factory there based on his herd of Merino sheep. When Seymour established an independent town government, it was designed as such to honor Connecticut Gov. Thomas Seymour.

Shelton began as Ripton Parish when settlers numbering 50 families broke away from Stratford Parish. When a town government was formed the name Huntington was chosen to honor Gov. Samuel Huntington. The coming of the Ousatonic Dam created the Borough of Shelton so called for Edward N. Shelton, the president of the Ousatonic Water Company. When a city government was formed the official name became Shelton, incorporating the former town of Huntington with the populous borough.

In the 1960s, the late state representative Carl Ajello of Ansonia strongly encouraged all four municipalities to combine governments and take the name Birmingham. He felt there would be greater attention paid to our local needs with such a combination. One issue he hoped to resolve thusly was the securing of a Connecticut community college to be located in the Valley. However, his efforts did not succeed.

ANDREW'S PICKS

Valerie and Her Week of Wonders (Jaromil Jireš, 1970).



If Lewis Carroll, Hieronymus Bosch, and David Lynch ever collaborated on a film, it might look something like this extraordinary product of the Czechoslovak New Wave. By the late 1960s, a new generation of directors throughout Eastern Europe were rejecting or moving beyond the dogmas of socialist realism. Andrei Tarkovsky's *Andrei Rublev* (1966) and Sergei Parajanov's *The Color of Pomegranates* (1968)—two of the greatest films ever made—were both censored by the USSR's State Committee for Cinematography on account of their explicitly religious themes. Miklós Jancsó's *The Red and the White* (1967), a Russian-Hungarian co-production, was banned for its political ambiguity. But the New Wave directors in Czechoslovakia were perhaps the most radical and iconoclastic of all. Věra Chytilová was forbidden to work for a decade after the release of her "wanton" film *Daisies* (1966). And Miloš Forman's satire *The Firemen's Ball* (1967) ran for three weeks during the Prague Spring, but was "banned forever" following the Warsaw Pact's August 1968 invasion of the country. (Forman subsequently left for Hollywood, where he would go on to direct *One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest* and *Amadeus*.) It was in the aftermath of this crackdown that Jaromil Jireš—whose previous film, *The Joke* (1969), had also been banned—decided to adapt Vítězslav Nezval's gothic-surrealist novel *Valerie and Her Week of Wonders*. The resultant film is a miracle, beautiful and terrible as a dream. It exists, like its heroine (played by the lovely Jaroslava Schallerová), in that liminal space between innocence and experience, on the mist-enshrouded marches of the perilous realm of Faërie. To cross into those borderlands is to plunge simultaneously into the vast, tempestuous deep of the psyche. Will you tear off your outer garments and dive with Valerie into the dark waters? Will you make peace with your father and slay the Leviathan? Will you surface and take her by the hand and walk upon the waves? Will you sit down beneath the Bodhi Tree and open your eyes? Will you lose her, and weep, and find her again? Will you steal fire from the gods and hide it in glittering caves beneath the earth? Will you be tied with her to the stake? Will you die, and fall with her through fire and water, and be born again from above, that you might dance with her around the nuptial bed in a forest glade in springtime? The temptation, of course, is to interpret this timeless quest in exclusively political or psychological terms, thus deracinating it and rendering it acceptable to the (outrageously credulous and fideistic) materialist dogmas of our age. Only a simpleton would reject the insights of Darwin, Marx, Freud, and their descendants—that in accepting their theories he had reached "rock bottom," explained away the Mystery, or rendered metaphysics obsolete. The very reason that myths are endlessly receptive of countless valid interpretations is that they point to an ineffable Something which is not identical with or reducible to any mere interpretation or theory. In the words of Charles Williams, "this also is Thou; neither is this Thou"—in the words of Lao Tzu, "The Tao that can be spoken is not the eternal Tao." In its apophatic dimension, art is a scandal to the intellectual and to the materialist alike. Only the mystic, the lover, can meditate upon the endlessly shifting, unspeakably beautiful metaphors, and glimpse the Beauty that lies beyond them, ceaselessly generating them, sustaining them, and giving them meaning. (So it is that, as Susan Sontag said, "In place of a hermeneutics we need an erotics of art.") The same is true, of course, of this wide universe of contingent phenomena, matter and energy bubbling up eternally out of the Void. Let the interpreters and those who think they "know" play their subtle games. But let all who can bask in the Mystery, as Nobel laureate Bob Dylan put it so well, "With no attempt to shovel the glimpse / Into the ditch of what each one means."

teen events

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 and Dreamcast, teens will play various games on the systems, particularly Super Smash Bros. and Powerstone 2. Smash Club is about fun and not competition. Other games that we play will include Pokken Tournament, Mario Maker, Mario Kart 8, Injustice, Fatal Fury, Soul Calibur, 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.

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.

Tabletop Gamers
Care to play a game? Chess, checkers, Go, card games, board games, dice games! They're all here and ready to be played. We meet on the third and last Thursdays of the month. The upcoming meetings will be on November 17 and December 15/29. This program is for teens, tweens, and adults.

Teen Choice Movie Night
Teens/Tweens are invited to the next Teen Choice Movie Night on Tuesday, November 8 at 5:00pm. There will be multiple movies to select from including Lights Out (horror), Batman: Return of the Caped Crusaders (animated superhero), Star Trek Beyond (SciFi), and Monster Squad (pure 80s awesomeness). We will vote at the beginning for the movie selection. As usual dinner will be served at the midway point. Registration is requested as there is a limit of 20 teens/tweens. The sign-up sheet will be at the front desk.

Smash! Club Video Game Tournament
On December 21 at 4pm, Teens and Tweens are invited to compete in the Smash! Club Video Game Tournament. There will be prizes available based on the number of participants up to a maximum of 3. The game of the day will be announced on flyers in the library and on the Web site. Never played the game? At Smash! Club on December 14, we will devote the entire day to practicing the tournament game. This way, everyone has a chance to git gud!

WERE THE 1940'S FABULOUS? "ON THE HOMEFRONT"

Join us for another in Pat Sweeney's PowerPoint presentations on history in the Valley and the life of Frances Osborne Kellogg. On Tues., Nov. 15 at 6:30 p.m., the topic is local views of the home front during World War 2.

Learn about Mrs. Kellogg's factory in England, her plans for the farm, 1940s fashions, rationed foods, popular entertainments, and more. How did we all pitch in to win the war? Come enjoy a free program full of information combined with fun.



Needlers Club

The Needlers Club of the Derby Neck Library is welcoming new members to join them on Saturdays throughout the year at 1pm in the library's Community Room. Learn a new skill or hone an old one whether through knitting, needlepoint, crochet, beading, or other crafts. There are also refreshments throughout. So drop in on any given Saturday that the library is open!

Literary Club Selections

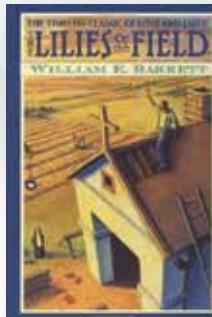
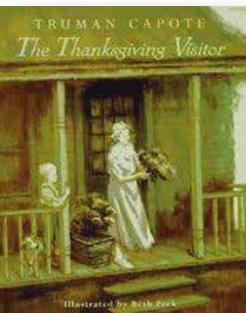
The Women's Forum, a discussion group focusing on short stories, history, and other arts will meet on Mon., Nov. 21 at 12:30 for "On the Homefront," Pat Sweeney's PowerPoint presentation on the 1940s (World War 2) in the Valley towns, including events in the life of Frances Osborne Kellogg found in her letters. On Mon., Dec. 19 at 12:30 we will convene for a pot-luck luncheon to celebrate the holidays.

The Evening Book Club will meet on Mon., Nov. 28 at 6:30 p.m.

to discuss "The Thanksgiving Visitor" by Truman Capote. On Mon., Dec. 19 at 6:30 p.m. our discussion will focus on "The Lilies of the Field" by William E. Barrett. Copies of the books are always available at the library prior to the meetings.

We sit by the cozy fireplace in the

Reading Room. For more information on either of these clubs please speak to moderator, Pat Sweeney.



Children's Corner

November and December will be busy months here in the children's department. We will be having our regular weekly Storytime, Music and Movement and Toddler Science/Social Studies classes throughout the two months along with some special events. We will continue studying the Continents on Tuesdays which includes age appropriate activities, art, snack and music to help the toddlers begin to explore the world. There will be holiday themed cupcake and coloring programs each month to get everyone in a holiday mood.

In November, on Monday the 14th at 10AM, we will have special visitors from the CT Storytelling Center who will provide us with a magical Storytelling performance called *Tellebration!* Check the webpage or this newsletter for all of the dates and times of our programs. Happy Holidays!



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

SUPPORT STAFF: Stephen Bisaccia, Bonnie Chevarella

BOARD OF DIRECTORS: John Walsh, President; Shirley Erickson,

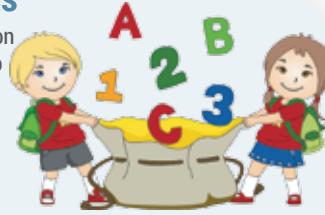
Vice President; Maureen Coffey, Angelo Dirienzo, Laura Donahue,

Rick Dunne, Michael Flora, John Kelleher, Karen Kemmesies,

Richard Knoll, John Rak, Bruce Sill.

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.



Mommy and Me: Art Partners are for all ages. Working together you will explore different mediums such as crayons, markers, colored pencils, watercolor pencils, paint and finger paint. Both you and your child can open up a new expressive world to explore as you share time together creating your own art. All supplies will be provided.

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.

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.

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. The November class will be about "Energy Deregulation and Opportunities for the Consumer" with guest presenters Ellis Ratner and Joe Paul. December's topic will be announced on fliers in the library and on our Web site.

2017 Community Puzzle

This year's puzzle is finished. The new puzzle is ready and will be put out for anyone and everyone to assemble starting at the end of December. For 2017, the puzzle will feature another Derby iconic location: Osbornedale State Park. If you help put it together, don't forget to write your full name on the sign-in sheet because when it's complete we will mount the finished puzzle with a plaque with all the names of those who helped assemble. Don't miss out!

Calendar of Events

November 2016

November 1, 8, 15, 29
 November 1, 8, 15, 29
 November 3, 10, 17
 November 7, 28
 November 7, 28
 November 1, 8, 15, 22, 29
 November 2, 9, 16, 23, 30
 November 5, 12, 19, 26
 November 1, 8, 15, 22, 29
 November 2, 9, 23, 30
 November 7, 21, 28

Been There Done That classes for children
 Science for Toddlers
 Music and Movement classes for children
 Pre-Threes classes for children
 Mommy & Me: Art Partners for children
 Teen Film Club
 Smash Club! for Teens/Tweens
 Needlers Club for adults
 Computer classes for adults
 Computer classes for adults
 Computer classes for adults

10:00 am
 10:00 am
 10:00 & 11:00 am
 10:00 am
 11:00 am
 4:00 pm
 2:00–5:00 pm
 1:00–4:00 pm
 10:30–11:30 am
 10:30–11:30 am
 6:00–7:00 pm



NOV	XI	2016
SU	M	TU
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		

November 2
 November 3
 November 8
 November 12
 November 14
 November 14
 November 15
 November 16
 November 17
 November 21
 November 22
 November 23
 November 24
 November 28

Civil War in the West with Prof. Lutris
 Dinner and a Movie – Captain Fantastic
 Teen Choice Movie Night
 Fall In Love concert with Sheri Miller
 Tellebration! for children
 Tech Talks – Evening
 On the Home Front with Pat Sweeney
 Tech Talks – Morning
 Tabletop Gamers for teens and adults
 Women's Forum
 Release Your Inner Artist with Janet Schwartz
 LIBRARY EARLY CLOSING (Thanksgiving Eve)
 LIBRARY CLOSED (Thanksgiving Day)
 Evening Book Club

6:30 pm
 5:30 pm
 5:00 pm
 2:00 pm
 10:00 am
 6:00 pm
 6:30 pm
 10:30 am
 6:00 pm
 12:30 pm
 6:00 pm
 5:00 pm
 6:30 pm

December 5, 12, 19
 December 5, 12, 19
 December 6, 13, 20
 December 6, 13, 20
 December 1, 8, 15, 22
 December 6, 13, 20, 27
 December 7, 14, 21, 28
 December 15, 29
 December 3, 10, 17
 December 5, 12, 26
 December 6, 13, 20, 27
 December 7, 14, 28

Pre-Threes classes for children
 Mommy & Me: Art Partners for children
 Been There Done That classes for children
 Science for Toddlers
 Music and Movement classes for children
 Teen Film Club
 Smash Club! for Teens
 Tabletop Gamers for teens and adults
 Needlers Club for adults
 Computer classes for adults
 Computer classes for adults
 Computer classes for adults

10:00 am
 11:00 am
 10:00 am
 11:00 am
 10:00 & 11:00 am
 4:00 pm
 2:00–5:00 pm
 6:00 pm
 1:00–4:00 pm
 6:00–7:00 pm
 10:30–11:30 am
 10:30–11:30 am

December 1
 December 19
 December 19
 December 19
 December 21
 December 21
 December 24
 December 25
 December 26
 December 31

Dinner and a Movie for Adults
 Women's Forum
 Tech Talks – Evening
 Evening Book Club
 Tech Talks – Morning
 Smash! Club Video Game Tournament
 LIBRARY CLOSED (Christmas Eve)
 LIBRARY CLOSED (Christmas Day)
 LIBRARY CLOSED (Christmas Day Observed)
 LIBRARY CLOSED (New Year's Eve)

5:30 pm
 12:30 pm
 6:00 pm
 6:30 pm
 10:30 am
 4:00 pm



DEC	XII	2016
SU	M	TU
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		