

VOL. 16 ISSUE 1  
January - February 2023  
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

Over a century of service  
to the Valley Community

## AGE WELL SERIES FOR SENIORS with Griffin Hospital



**Thursdays, January 26 and February 23 at 1:30pm:** Griffin Health and the Agency on Aging of South-Central CT have partnered to increase access to care and prevent disease among our community. We are doing this through a series of health screenings and healthy living education sessions. These sessions will meet on the fourth Thursday of each month at 1:30 p.m. in the Community Room from January through September. The January topic will be "Diabetic Screening and Blood Pressures." The February topic will be "Balance." Join us for some or ALL of these FREE events and start 2023 in better health! Please register with Tammy at Griffin Health by calling 203-732-1523.

## Valley Views of 1902 Historic Photos Presentation



**Thursday, January 19 at 6:30pm:** This new presentation features a large number of candid photos taken in 1902 as a Derby Neck Library project to record scenes of everyday life and special places. The collection was to be put on display in the library in 1952. Join us as we remember the official public opening of our library in January of 1908 by visiting the past together.



## VITA Free Tax Preparation Services Begin at the Derby Neck Library

Starting on February 5, VITA free tax preparation services will recommence at the Derby Neck Library on Sundays from 1-4:00pm throughout the tax filing season. Households that earned less than \$60,000 in 2022 may be eligible for VITA's free tax preparation services, provided by IRS-certified volunteer preparers. For individuals and families that qualify, VITA volunteers will work with you step by step to ensure you file accurately and on time.

Please contact TEAM, Inc. to schedule an appointment at 203-736-5420 or you may schedule an appointment by going to <https://www.211ct.org/>.

## History Game Night

History Game Night continues on the second Monday of each month at 6:30 p.m. as both a Zoom event and with an in-person meeting in the Community Room. The January meeting is on Monday the 9th at 6:30 p.m. and the February meeting is on Monday the 13th at 6:30 p.m.



## The Valley During World War II

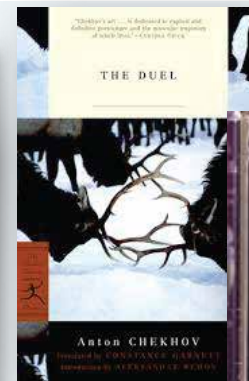
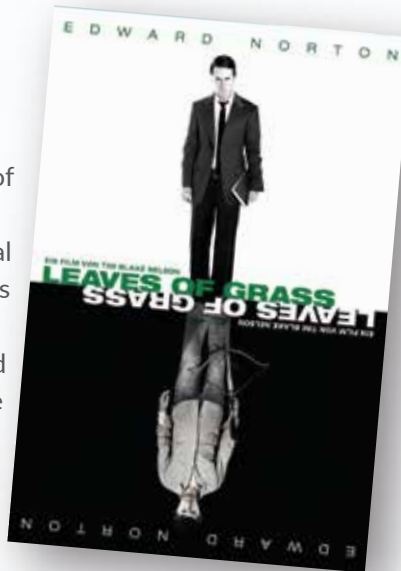
**Thursday, February 16 at 6:30pm:** Reference Librarian Pat Sweeney's PowerPoint will be presented describing the Valley during World War II. Join us to learn how the local towns worked diligently in the war effort. Included are the fashions of the era, favorite films, rationing measures, war bond drives, and much more.



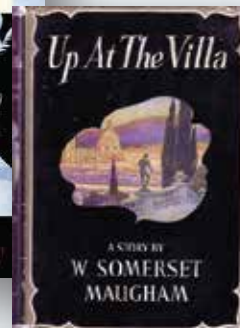
## ANDREW'S PICKS

*Leaves of Grass* (Tim Blake Nelson, 2009).

This is a movie in which one character performs a striptease while reciting *Catullus*, and another recites Walt Whitman while gutting a catfish. It's something of a miracle that a script so self-consciously steeped in literary allusions, not to mention genuine philosophical questioning, doesn't have an ounce of pretentiousness in it. It puts me in mind of the Coen brothers — hardly surprising, since *Leaves of Grass* is written and directed by their friend and collaborator Tim Blake Nelson, one of the greatest character actors of our time. A Jewish Oklahoman who majored in Classics at Brown and studied with the philosopher Martha Nussbaum before beginning his acting career, Nelson manages to satirize both academia and the heartland with a voice that is simultaneously irreverent and profound. Ed Norton stars in a dual role as the Kincaid twins: Bill, a Classics professor at Brown, and Brady, a small-time drug dealer in Oklahoma. The film also stars Nelson as Brady's partner-in-crime, alongside Susan Sarandon, Melanie Lynskey, pre-Americans Keri Russell, post-Mad Men Maggie Siff, a gloriously unhinged Josh Pais, and the great Richard Dreyfuss in a show-stealing role as a Jewish druglord named Pug Rothbaum who operates out of "Maccabee Pipe & Supply" and donates his ill-gotten millions to the state of Israel. Like the Coens, Nelson unflinchingly portrays the violence and stupidity of humanity but also allows his characters moments of grace and something like wisdom. Brady Kincaid, knowing that no truly parallel lines can exist in nature, sees in Euclid's geometry the shadow of a higher and more perfect world: "Man can't create true parallel. It's just more of a concept . . . Well, that concept, that perfection, we know it exists and we think about it, but we can't ever get there ourselves. I think that right there is God." Plato couldn't have said it any better.



## Evening Book Club



**Mondays,  
January 30 and**

**February 27 at 6:30pm:** The Evening Book Club selections as we enter a new year are illuminating and should prove entertaining to readers. On Monday, January 30 at 6:30 we have a meeting to discuss *Up at the Villa* by celebrated author Somerset Maugham. Then on Monday, February 27 at 6:30 our selection is *The Duel* by the highly regarded Russian author Anton Chekhov. Copies of each book are available for participants by asking at the Circulation Desk. Each is also available to read free at Project Gutenberg online. Our meetings are held in the Community Room, and Pat Sweeney is the moderator.

## CULTURE CLUB



**Mondays,  
January 16 &**

**February 20 at 12:30pm:** The Culture Club, meeting in the Community Room, continues to explore the world of short stories. At the meeting on Monday, January 16 at 12:30 we discuss two stories written by Amy Hempel "*Church Cancels Cow*" and "*The New Lodger*." Then on Monday, February 20 at 12:30 we focus on two stories by Zona Gale "*The Biography of Blade*" and "*Bridal Pond*." Join us for stimulating talks prompted by outstanding literary pieces with Pat Sweeney as moderator.

## Afternoon TeaV

**Tuesdays at 1pm:** As in our pre-Covid days, attendees will be meeting on each Tuesday afternoon at 1 pm to enjoy a showing on our large-screen TV. Following the show, we will stay on for a discussion. Light, individually wrapped snacks and flavored teas are served at each meeting. We will continue with the newest season of *The Crown*.



**Dinner & A Movie** **Thursday, February 2 at 5:30pm:** Attendees will enjoy a feature film on Blu-ray with an intermission complete with a pizza dinner. Popcorn and other movie snacks will be offered throughout. In February, we will watch *The Banshees of Inisherin!* As is tradition, there is no January movie! No registration is required. Please note that there will be a difference to how dinner is served. Pizza will be served by a volunteer from the library's Friends group instead of buffet style as in years past. All snacks will be pre-portioned or individually wrapped.



## Computer Orientation Class



**Mondays at 10:30am:** Feeling left behind in a world where computers are everywhere? No matter where you are at skill-wise, whether you need to learn the basics of Microsoft Word, how to search the Internet, or simply how a mouse works, this is the class for you. Bob teaches to the individual and meets you at your needs. Classes last an hour. Instruction in Spanish is available. La instrucción en español está disponible. Call the library and ask for Bob to register.

# Youth



## EVENTS



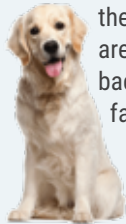
*Happy New Year!* We hope everyone's holiday season was warm and bright. We're hunkering down a bit during the Winter months – especially with Miss Krissy away – but our regular programming schedule will continue with Miss Sarah throughout January and February. This includes our special monthly programs like B.A.R.K., Twitch streaming, and Deckmasters! Our Children's Room continues to have little updates added here and there, and we have new seasonal supplies available for crafting in the Makerspace. Be sure to sign up for our Youth Services Mailing List on our website so you can stay in the loop on any changes! Here's to a 2023 filled with joy, adventure, and plenty of reading!

**Youth Services Twitch Stream! Saturdays, January 14 and February 11 at 2pm:** Follow our Twitch channel to watch Miss Krissy and Miss Sarah play a variety of games like Animal Crossing: New Horizons, Overcooked, Astro Bears, and even older games like The Legend of Zelda: Majora's Mask. No Twitch account is necessary if you just want to watch, but you will need one if you'd like to chat with us. Search for: DNL\_YouthServices. There's lots of content to explore!

**Sit & Social Snacktime Mondays, January 16 and February 20 at 11am:** On the third Monday of every month, parents with little ones are invited to join us after our morning program for snacktime in our Community Room! We'll have an activity and guest speaker on a variety of topics, followed by a period of free play and socialization. Coffee and light refreshments will be served. Come learn alongside other parents and give your child (and yourself) a chance to socialize with others!



**B.A.R.K. Program Tuesday, January 31 and February 28 at 5pm:** Stop in at the library to read to dogs and Be A Reading Kid (B.A.R.K.)! We are so excited to welcome certified therapy dogs Spirit and Brian back to the Derby Neck Library. Both pups love children and are fantastic listeners. Reading aloud to a dog provides an attentive audience and may boost a child's confidence in their reading skills. Each participant will receive a commemorative photo of themselves with the dogs, as well as an experience they won't soon forget! Registration is required for this program!



**Deckmasters Tournament! Saturdays, January 28 and February 25 from 1–5pm:** You've been playing Magic: The Gathering and the Pokémon Trading Card Game for a while now, so here's your chance to really show off your skills! At Derby Neck's Deckmasters Tournament, players are invited to register in our round-robin tournaments as follows:  
Pokémon TCG Tournament: Players up to age 18 using their own decks—limit 4 Pokémon cards worth >1 prize card  
Magic: The Gathering Tournament: Players of all ages using a mystery deck provided by the library

## STAFF:

Ian Parsells, Head Librarian  
Kristina Warrenger, Youth Services Librarian  
Patricia Sweeney, Reference Librarian  
Roberto Carmona, Head of Circulation  
Christina Baclawski, Andrew Bisaccia, Stephen Bisaccia, Bonnie Chevarella, Robert Fink, David Makusevich, Christopher Ochoa, Sarah Zareski  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS: John Walsh, President; Richard Knoll, Vice President; Barbara Badela, Laura Donahue, Autumn Driscoll, Rick Dunne, Shirley Erickson, Karen Kemmesies, John Rak, Randy Ritter, Bruce Sill, Fr. Christopher Tiano, Grace Torres

When all players have battled each other, a prize will be given to whoever has the most wins in each tournament! Registration is on a first-come first-served basis, and all players must arrive by 1:15pm in order to enter.

**Drums and Strings and Shaky Things! Alternate Mondays at 10:30am:** Come get your groove on with Miss Krissy and Miss Sarah every Monday during a hybrid music and movement program! There will be singing, dancing, stories, and a whole lot of shaky things! This program is targeted to ages Birth – 5, but everyone is welcome! No registration required, but sign up for our Youth Services mailing list if you'd like to attend virtually.

**Hybrid Storytime! Alternate Mondays at 10:30am:** Little ones are invited to join Miss Krissy and Miss Sarah for some fun fingerplays, stories, and games aimed at early literacy, language development, and socialization! This program is targeted to ages 3 – 5, but everyone is welcome! No registration required, but sign up for our Youth Services mailing list if you'd like to attend virtually.



**Hybrid PokéPals Club! Mondays at 4pm:** All you really need to take part in this club is a love of all things Pokémon! Join us in-person for a gaming session including the trading card game and Pokémon GO!, or online for Unite, Pokémon Showdown, "Who's that Pokémon", and more!

**Baby Stories and Senses Alternate Tuesdays at 10:30am:** A special story and playtime just for babies and toddlers! We'll start with some songs, stories, and lap bounces, followed by 20 mins or so of free play! We'll have interactive toys perfect for those practicing tummy time up to those learning to stand and walk, such as shakers, interactive mats, water tables, and more! This program is targeted to ages Birth – 3, but older siblings are welcome, too!

**Littles' Art Studio Alternate Tuesdays at 10:30am:** Every other Tuesday, bring your little one in-person for some artistic exploration of various art mediums! One session will feature finger painting, while another will have stamps, and then another will have chalk. Your child will get to experiment with all sorts of artwork, bringing out their little Picasso (and maybe a bit of yours, too)! And the best part is, we clean up the mess. This program is targeted to ages 3 – 5, but everyone is welcome!

**Video Game Club Tuesdays from 3–6pm:** Join us for the Derby Neck Library's Video Game Club! Playing a host of multiplayer games on the library's game systems (Xbox Series S, Playstation 4, Switch, Dreamcast, etc.), players will be able to experience fun yet competitive play both online and in-person. We will also host in-club tournaments from time to time. Now open to all players, young and old. Game on!

**Makerspace! Wednesdays from 3–6pm:** Come check out our brand new Makerspace in the Children's Room! Every Wednesday between 3:00pm and 6:00pm, Miss Krissy and Miss Sarah will be on hand to assist you with any project you'd like to complete. We have a LEGO wall, a 3D printer, a programmable robot, snap circuits, origami, pixel art, ingredients for slime – you name it, we can make it happen! Please note that the Makerspace is flooded with small parts, so we do not recommend it for very young children.



**Teen Game Night Thursdays from 3-6pm:** Join us in our Reading Room for snacks and tabletop games like Survive!, Settlers of Catan, Twister, Jenga, Magic: The Gathering, foosball, pool, and more! We'll also have computers available to play online and browser-based games like Jackbox, Garticphone, skribbl.io, Magic: The Gathering Arena Online, Among Us, Bloocket—whatever you can think of! This program is targeted to ages 12+ and the gaming content will reflect that.





# Schedule of Events



## Special Events/Holiday Closings

January 1	LIBRARY CLOSED (New Year's Day)	
January 2	LIBRARY CLOSED (New Year's Day Observed)	
January 9, 10, 11	VITA Volunteer Training	5pm
January 9	History Game Night "Did You Know?" for Adults (Hybrid)	6:30pm
January 14	Youth Services Twitch Stream!	2pm
January 16	Sit & Social Snacktime for Parents	11am
January 16	Culture Club for Adults	12:30pm
January 18	Friends of the Derby Neck Library Monthly Meeting	6pm
January 19	Valley Views of 1902 - Historic Photos Presentation	6:30pm
January 26	Age Well Series with Griffin Hospital for Seniors	1:30pm
January 28	Deckmasters Tournament!	1pm
January 30	Evening Book Club for Adults	6:30pm
January 31	B.A.R.K. Program for Youth	5pm
February 2	Dinner and a Movie for Adults	5:30pm
February 11	Youth Services Twitch Stream!	2pm
February 13	History Game Night "Did You Know?" for Adults (Zoom)	6:30pm
February 15	Friends of the Derby Neck Library Monthly Meeting	6pm
February 16	The Valley During World War Two	6:30pm
February 20	Sit & Social Snacktime for Parents	11am
February 20	Culture Club for Adults	12:30pm
February 23	Age Well Series with Griffin Hospital for Seniors	1:30pm
February 25	Deckmasters Tournament!	1pm
February 27	Evening Book Club for Adults	6:30pm
February 28	B.A.R.K. Program for Youth	5pm



JAN	I	2023				
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15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				



## Recurring Programs for January and February

\*Please check the website for specific dates and note that listed ages are for target audience, not a restriction.\*

<b>Mondays</b>	Computer Orientation Class for Adults	10:30am
	Drums and Strings and Shaky Things for Ages Birth+ (Alt. Mon.)	10:30am
	Hybrid Storytime for Ages 3-5 (Alt. Mondays)	10:30am
	Hybrid Poképals Club! (In-person and online) for Ages 8-18	4pm



<b>Tuesdays</b>	Little Art Studio Ages 3+ (Alt. Tuesdays)	10:30am
	Baby Stories and Senses (Alt. Tuesdays)	10:30am
	Afternoon TeaV for Adults	1pm
	Video Game Club for all ages (In-person and online)	3-6pm



FEB	II	2023				
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	19	20	21	22	23	24
	26	27	28			

<b>Wednesdays</b>	Makerspace! for Youth	3-6pm
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<b>Thursdays</b>	Teen Game Night	3-6pm
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<b>Saturdays</b>	Needlers Group	1-5pm
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<b>Sundays</b>	Dungeons and Dragons Club (alternating Sundays in-person)	11am & 2:30pm
	Starting Feb. 5: VITA Free Tax Assistance (by appointment only)	1-4pm



\*New programs are added frequently, so check in the Library and our Website for the most up-to-date schedule.\*