



# Friends of Acton Public Library

The Friends of Acton Library hope you will visit the Big Summer Book and Bake Sale which starts at 3 p.m. on June 27th and ends at 3 p.m. on June 29th. This annual event is our biggest fundraiser of the year and a favorite of local residents and visitors of all ages. Proceeds from the sale are used by the library to fund programming throughout the year including the popular Summer Reading Program. For more details, please check the library website or Facebook page.

If for any reason, you can't make our Big Summer Book Sale, please don't forget that the Friends sell used books throughout the year. Books are available to purchase during regular library hours. Sale books are on the A-Frame bookshelf located in the library lobby. Current donated books, all in excellent condition, are restocked weekly and can be paid for at the circulation desk. Do you need a last minute gift for a friend or neighbor? Or, are you looking for a great book to add to your personal collection? The A-Frame is a great place to check out our selections and support the Friends.

As always, thank you to our many generous donors who have contributed all the wonderful books throughout the year. We could not have our successful sales without you! Book donations will be paused for a couple of weeks in early July to give our volunteers and, ever-helpful library staff the chance to regroup and gear up for another busy year.

If you are interested in volunteering some time to help the Friends with any of our activities, we would love to hear from you.

Please feel free to contact one of the co-presidents, Nancy Prescott at [nancyaprescott@gmail.com](mailto:nancyaprescott@gmail.com) or Emily Miller at [beacon137@aol.com](mailto:beacon137@aol.com).



## Art & Collections

### In the Gallery

July - Paintings by Kathy Axilrod  
August - Paintings by Steve Cryan

### In the Display Case

July - Milk bottles of Kay Trabucchi  
August - Betty Boop memorabilia of Ellen Kennedy



# The Beacon

July-August 2024

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## LIBRARY HOURS

Monday - Thursday  
10 - 8  
Friday - Saturday  
10 - 5

CLOSED Sundays  
through October 13

## CLOSINGS

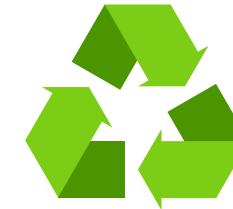
Independence Day  
Thurs. July 4

Register for library events on our website  
[www.actonlibrary.org](http://www.actonlibrary.org)  
or call 860-395-3184



## RECYCLE AND DONATE

by Amanda Brouwer



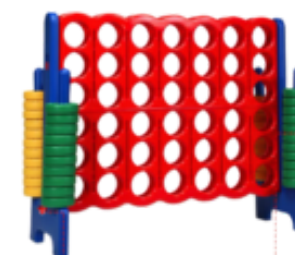
Do you know all the things you can recycle or donate here? Obviously, everyone knows you can bring books here (and now also jigsaw puzzles) for the Friends of the Acton Library sale. Just a reminder, the books need to be clean, not moldy, and not smelly. But, did you know you could bring your spent batteries for proper recycling? We also have a receptacle to bring eyeglasses and hearing aids for the Old Saybrook Lion's Club.

In the front lobby, we have a bin that gets picked up about every other week for shelf stable foods for the Shoreline Soup Kitchen. If you have a worn out American Flag, we have a box here from the Westbrook VFW, who collaborates with the Boy Scouts to properly retire them.

We are on the lookout for Legos for our Children's Room, so if you have any that you no longer use bring them on by!

**Join us Wednesday, August 21  
from 11:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.**

for lawn games and pizza to celebrate the conclusion of Summer Reading. Pizza will be served starting at noon, while supplies last!





### COOPERATIVE LEGOS

Tuesday, July 2 at 6:00 p.m.

Participants will cooperatively build LEGO Deep Sea Creatures. Registration suggested.



### READ TO HENRY

1st Saturdays, July 6 & August 3 at 10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

Read to our local therapy dog Henry, the Bernese Mountain Dog! No registration.



### OPEN MIC

Wednesday, July 17 at 6:00 p.m.

Join us for a strum and a song. A poem or rant. Some comedy or read aloud? Karaoke? Hosted by YA librarian, Brian Story. Registration suggested.



### FAMILY PAINT NIGHT

Wednesday, July 24 at 6:00 p.m.

Join YA librarian, Brian Story, for a fun evening of craft and conversation. This month we will customize Shelter pet portraits or send us a pic of your pet to paint! Families are especially welcome. All paint supplies will be provided along with light refreshments. Registration suggested.



### FAMILY GAME NIGHT

Wednesday, July 31 at 6:00 p.m.

Join YA librarian, Brian Story, for a fun evening of games. Bring your self or squad, for Minute 2 Win It style competitions. Families are especially welcome. All game supplies will be provided along with light refreshments. Registration suggested.



### RYAN MITTEN RETURNS

Wednesday, August 14 at 6:00 p.m.

Join us for a hands-on experience through music. A lifelong cellist, Ryan Mitten has a unique perspective and style. Music lovers of any age will appreciate his versatility. Registration suggested.



### FAMILY GAME NIGHT

Wednesday, August 28 at 6:00 p.m.

Join YA librarian, Brian Story for a fun evening of games. Bring your self or squad, for a ChickaPig Tourney!. Families are especially welcome. All game supplies will be provided along with light refreshments. Registration suggested.



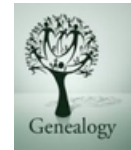
**TECH TIME WITH BRIAN**  
Mondays by appointment



**COLORING & CONVERSATION**  
1st Thursdays at 2:00 p.m.  
No meeting July 4  
August 1



**COMPASSION-KNITS**  
Wednesdays at 4:00 p.m.



**VIRTUAL- GENEALOGY INTEREST GROUP**  
4th Thursdays at 10:30 a.m.  
July 25 & Aug. 22



**COOKBOOK CLUB**  
4th Tuesdays at 6:00 p.m.  
July 23: American cuisine  
August 27: Japanese cuisine

Find your own recipe for the chosen cuisine. Make the dish and bring it to share with the group.



**MEXICAN TRAIN**  
2nd Thursdays at 2:00 p.m.  
July 11 & Aug. 8



**RUMMIKUB**  
4th Thursdays at 2:00 p.m.  
July 25 & Aug. 22

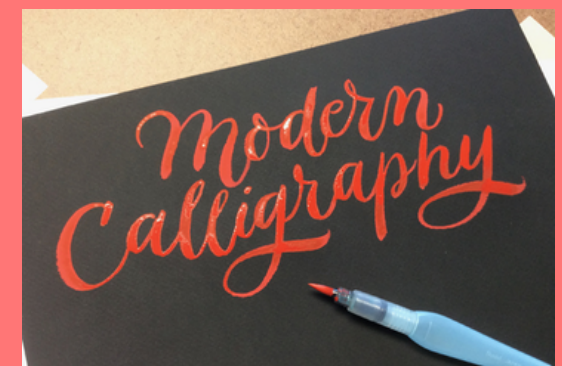


**TRI-OMINOS**  
Thursday, August 29  
at 2:00 p.m.

**CRAFT NIGHT**  
3rd Tuesdays at 6:00 p.m.  
July 16 - Watermelon Watercolor

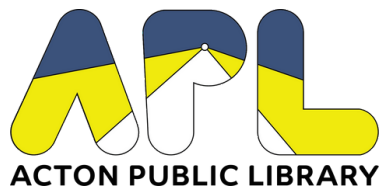


August 20 - Modern Calligraphy



Registration is suggested as space is limited for all adult programs.





# Adult Special Events



## TRAVEL WRITING WORKSHOP

Tuesday, July 30 at 6:00 p.m.

If you love to travel and explore - either locally or far & wide - and would like a chance to discuss and write about some of your most memorable moments, beautiful, surprising or interesting travel experiences and adventures, in a fun relaxed, supportive atmosphere, come join us for this 2-part workshop led by Caroline Joy Adams, M.Ed. Part 2 will be held Tues. Aug. 6.



## WHY DOES MY DOG DO THAT?

Tuesday, August 13 at 6:00 p.m.

Join Janet Cody, certified dog trainer, and her dog, Buggy, to learn how to improve your leadership and relationship with your dog. Common issues that dog owners have such as “my dog won’t come when I call him” or “my dog pulls me when we walk or he sees another dog”—will be discussed with hope and solutions!

**Registration is suggested as space is limited for all adult programs.**



# Adult Book Groups



## WEDNESDAY BOOK CLUB

1st Wednesdays at 10:30 a.m.

July 3

Klara and the Sun  
by Kazuo Ishiguro



August 7

The First Ladies  
by Marie Benedict



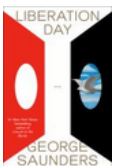
## BOOKS ON TAP BOOK GROUP

2nd Wednesdays at 6:00 p.m.

at Myrcene Ale

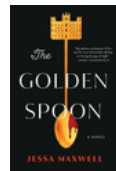
July 10

Really Good, Actually  
by Monica Heisey



August 14

Liberation Day  
by George Saunders



## FOODIE FICTION BOOK CLUB

3rd Thursdays at 2:00 p.m.

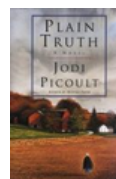
July 18

The Golden Spoon  
by Jessa Maxwell



August 15

The Recipe Box: a novel with recipes  
by Viola Shipman



## MYSTERY BOOK CLUB

4th Wednesdays at 1:00 p.m.

July 24

Plain Truth  
by Jodi Picoult



August 28

The Woman in Cabin 10  
by Ruth Ware



# Family Nights

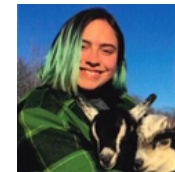
**Sponsored by the Friends  
of Acton Public Library**



## SCIENCE HEROES

Thursday, July 11 at 6:00 p.m.

Join us on a treasure-hunting adventure deep within the jungle! The audience helps the performer act out the tale, as we use the events in the story to explore several exciting science concepts.



## XEN'S CRITTERS

Thursday, July 18 at 6:00 p.m.

Join us on the library's front lawn to learn all about Xen's Critters, for both the cute and cuddlies, and the creepy crawlies.



## HANDS ON DRUMMING

Thursday, July 25 at 6:00 p.m.

Join us on the library lawn for an evening of hands on drumming with Craig Norton.



## BLUE MOON RAPTORS

Thursday, August 1 at 6:00 p.m.

Join us on the library lawn for a special presentation from Blue Moon Raptors.



## FERNCROFT WILDLIFE RESCUE

Thursday, August 8 at 6:00 p.m.

Join us at the library to learn all about the fascinating world of the opossum.



## MYSTIC AQUARIUM TOUCH TANK

Thursday, August 15 at 6:00 p.m.

Join us for a very special touch tank event presented by Mystic Aquarium.

**Registration is required as space is limited  
for these programs.**



**LEARN & PLAY PLAYGROUP**  
**Mondays at 10:30 a.m.**  
**Summer session July 8 - August 12**

This child-focused playgroup is for young children and their caregivers. Participants will have the opportunity to interact with others, make new friends, and learn by playing in a literacy-enriched environment. Each session will include activities, sensory materials, and toys. Registration is suggested.



**STORY TIME**  
**Tuesdays at 10:30 a.m.**  
**Summer session July 9 - August 13**

Story time for all! Children and a caregiver are welcome to join Miss Emily for stories, fingerplays, songs and so much more. Registration is suggested.



**SING & STOMP**  
**Fridays at 10:30 a.m.**  
**Summer session July 12 - August 16**

A song and dance party for children of all ages and their grown up. Sing & Stomp is a noisy half hour of songs, dances and fingerplays. Cool down afterwards with toys and music. Registration is suggested.



**RECYCLED GRAB & GO CRAFTS**  
**Fridays July 12 - August 16**

Stop by the library each week to pick up one of Miss Rebecca's Grab & Go craft kits. Available while supplies last. No registration required.



**EARTH AGENT ACTIVITY KIT**  
**Wednesdays, July 10 - August 7**

Become an Earth Agent this summer! Sign up each week for a very special STEM themed activity kit. Kits are limited and registration is required.



**ASTRA DANCE**  
**Saturday, July 13 & August 10 at 10:30 a.m.**

Join us for a very special dance party presented by Astra Dance Studio! Free and open to children ages 3 and up. Space is limited and registration is required.



**DROP-IN SESSIONS**  
**Tuesdays at 12:30 p.m.**



**MONTHLY MINDFUL GUIDED MEDITATION FOR SUCCESS**  
**Tuesdays at 11:30 a.m.**  
**July 30 & August 27**



**SUMMER DROP IN**  
**Thursdays at 12:00 p.m.**  
**July 11, 18 & 25**  
**August 8 & 15**



**DUNGEONS & DRAGONS 2.0 16+**  
**Wednesdays at 6:00 p.m.**  
**July 10**  
**August 7 & 21**



**HYBRID - DUNGEONS & DRAGONS CLUB**  
**Fridays July 12 - August 16**  
**at 11:45 a.m.**



**MAKEUP FX CLASS WITH DECIMATED DESIGNS**  
**Saturday, August 3 at 11:00 a.m.**

Join Kyle Pasciutti of Decimated Designs. They lead the way in crafting distinctive creations, transforming concepts into reality. With precise design, expert craftsmanship, and extensive industry knowledge, they give form to your ideas. Come chill with us on a Summer Saturday to learn tips and tricks from the FX Pro's.



**BUILDWAVE STEAM GAMES**  
**Thursday, August 8 at 11:00 a.m.**

During the event, participants build with waves of diverse materials like Lego®, Plus-Plus®, and more. Each building wave is enhanced by a dynamic audiovisual experience unlike any other. As participants complete wave after wave of building, they gain creative confidence, enhance teamwork, and experience design fundamentals in a unique and memorable context. Learn more at [www.buildwave.com](http://www.buildwave.com) Suggested for ages 8+. Registration is suggested as seating is limited and is available one month prior to the event.