



Friends of Acton Public Library



On June 25, 26 and 27, the Friends of Acton Public Library held their annual Big Summer Book and Bake Sale. The sale, which has come to be an event anticipated by year-round town and community residents, summer residents and visitors, and several book dealers who travel from out-of-state, was a definite success. And that success was achieved because of the contributions of a multitude of people. We would like to send a huge thank you to the book, media and puzzle donors, the people who clean, sort and categorize donations every week throughout the year, the volunteers, adult and teen, who set up the sale, those who baked, those who worked as cashiers, those who kept the sale tables neat and organized throughout the 3 days of the sale, those who took down the sale and cleaned up, the amazing staff of Acton Library and everyone who came and made purchases and supported the library. The profit from the sale, including several extremely generous donations, was definitely greater than anticipated.

Because of the work that everyone involved put into the project, as well as our successful membership drive, we will be able to continue to provide strong funding for programming, to pay for program and poetry contest supplies, to underwrite the Summer Reading kick-off and wind-up, to pay for programs related to Summer Reading, to purchase museum passes and to cover half the cost of toiletries and personal hygiene supplies made available in the restrooms. The library is a community treasure, and it is a privilege to play a part in its success! Love the library? Think about joining the Friends. Membership brochures are available at the circulation desk. Membership is by a donation in the amount of your choice. For information, contact the co-presidents, Nancy at nancyaprescott@gmail.com or Emily at Emily.lebovitz@gmail.com, or the membership chair, Joanne at jogalli731@gmail.com.



Have you ever wanted to share something in one of our display cases, but felt you couldn't because the collection was too small? Do you have objects that fall outside the scope of a typical thematic collection that you want to share with the community?

These atypical collections might straddle multiple topics and themes, for example, a few trophies you've won, alongside some models you've built, alongside a favorite artwork you've created. When it comes to atypical collections, the possibilities are endless! You might display photographs you took on a favorite family trip, alongside the souvenirs you bought on the trip. Be creative! What would you share with the community if the opportunity presented itself?

Inquire about sharing an atypical collection in one of our display cases! Contact Fiona Saunders fsaunders@actonlibrary.org or Karen Giugno kgiugno@actonlibrary.org.



The Beacon

September-October 2026

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LIBRARY HOURS

Monday - Thursday
10 - 8
Friday - Saturday
10 - 5
Sundays
starting Oct. 18
1-5

CLOSINGS

Labor Day
Mon. Sept. 7

Indigenous Peoples Day
Mon. Oct. 12

Register for library events on
our website
www.actonlibrary.org
or call 860-395-3184

Books in a Variety of Languages

by Amanda Brouwer, director

In our catalog, we have over 2 million different items, both physical and digital. Did you know that some of the items we have are in different languages? The catalog shows that there are over 120 languages represented in the collections held. Whether you want to read an item in your native language or if you are working on your second language fluency, we have a growing collection here and throughout our Lion Consortium. In the Lion Consortium, there are 30 libraries that will send items back and forth. So, if you want an item in Spanish from Hamden or Norwich, we can have it delivered here for you to pick up! Other languages such as French, Chinese, Italian and even some Japanese are available. In Old Saybrook, about 5% of our residents speak Spanish and we have been working on ordering some items to make sure there are items to read for all ages. We also have a collection in the children's room where the item is in both Spanish and English. Through our digital collections on Libby, Palace Project, and hoopla, there are many more items to choose from - both eBooks and audiobooks! If you would like some help looking for these items in our catalog, please call our main number 860-395-3184 and ask for a reference librarian and they can walk you through the steps.





IMAGINARY TAILS WITH IZZY

Tuesdays from 3:30 p.m. - 4:30 p.m.

Come read your favorite book with Izzy, our friendly certified reading dog! Sign up at the Children's Desk for 10-minute reading spots.



PEACE CRANE FOLDING

Thursdays at 1:00 p.m.

Join us each week to fold Origami Peace Cranes. The purpose is to bring people together and find inner peace while folding the cranes. Once we reach 1,000 cranes, the cranes will be donated to a charity of the group's choosing. Directions and materials provided. No experience needed.



ACOUSTIC ARTISTS STORYTELLER SERIES

Wednesday, September 16 at 6:00 p.m. - Anna May

Wednesday, October 14 at 6:00 p.m. - Mark Binder

Acoustic Artists Storyteller Series at Acton Library is back! Stories and songs paired with pics and visuals. Each artist will bring something special to the experience. Registration suggested.



FAMILY PAINT NIGHT

Wednesday, September 23 at 6:00 p.m.

Wednesday, October 21 at 6:00 p.m.

Join YA librarian, Brian Story, for a fun evening of craft and conversation. Families are especially welcome. All paint supplies will be provided along with light refreshments. Registration suggested.



TABLETOP GAME NIGHT

Wednesday, October 7 at 6:00 p.m.

Join us for tabletop games for all ages. A time to gather and gab, eat and play. Card games, RPG's, board or console games and more. Design your night or join others in their fun and competition. Light refreshments available. Registration suggested.



MAKE-UP FX

Saturday, October 17 at 3:00 p.m.

This class features engaging demonstrations, where students can witness the creation of zombie makeups, torn throat wounds, and realistic burns. The goal is not only to impart technical skills but also to inspire creativity and a passion for the art of special effects makeup. Applications may be limited by constraints of time and number. Registration suggested.

Adult Events

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



TECH TIME WITH BRIAN

Mondays by appointment

TECH TIME WITH REBECCA

Thursdays by appointment



MEET-UP MONDAYS

Mondays at 1:00 p.m.



COMPASSION-KNITS

Wednesdays at 3:30 p.m.



CRAFT NIGHT: Woven Potholder

Tuesday, September 15 at 3:00 & 6:00 p.m.

Weave a potholder. Materials provided.



CRAFT NIGHT: Decoupage Pumpkins

Tuesday, October 20 at 3:00 & 6:00 p.m.

Decoupage 3 small pumpkins. Materials provided.



COOKBOOK CLUB

4th Tuesdays at 6:00 p.m.

September 22

What to Cook When You Don't Feel Like Cooking by Caroline Chambers



October 27

New England Open-House Cookbook by Sarah Leah Chase

Check out a copy of the chosen cookbook for the month, make a recipe within the cookbook & bring it to the meeting for members to sample. This is required to attend. Registration suggested.



SHORELINE CIVIL WAR

ROUNDTABLE

1st Tuesdays at 6:15 p.m.

September 1 & October 6



OUTDOOR WALKING GROUP

Thursdays

Sept. 10- Oct. 29 at 10:30 a.m.





HYBRID: WHAT'S IT WORTH?

Tuesday, September 8 at 6:00 p.m.

Author, Auctioneer, Appraiser and Radio show Host Mike Ivankovich will introduce you to "What Determines Value"...and reveal what your Antiques, Collectibles, and Personal Treasures are really worth today. Each attendee is invited to bring in an item for Mike to appraise. Mike will appraise as many items as time allows.

Mike will be virtual. Patrons are encouraged to participate at the library but there is a Zoom alternative.



SATURDAY CINEMA:

Saturday, September 12 at 2:00 p.m.

Join us for a movie on our 9-foot screen.

Project Hail Mary (2026, PG-13, 156 min.)



ESTATE PLANNING

Tuesday, September 29 at 6:00 p.m.

Many individuals delay planning simply because they feel overwhelmed or unsure where to start. This seminar will provide attendees with an understanding of: the difference between wills and trusts, powers of attorney and healthcare directives, planning for minor children, avoiding common probate issues, and steps to protect assets and reduce stress for loved ones. Attendees can ask general questions and leave feeling more informed and empowered to make thoughtful decisions for themselves and their families. Presented by Legacy Law Partners.



EDGAR ALLEN POE LIVE

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

The unrivaled master of the macabre, none other than Edgar Allan Poe himself, is conjured back from the shadows for a most extraordinary hour of enigma and dread. On this remarkable eve, let the mists of time part as the venerable actor, Mr. Campbell Harmon, weaves a tapestry in which Poe's very essence is entwined with his eerie tales and haunting history.

APL POETRY WRITING GROUP

1st Wednesdays at 6:00 p.m.

Writing in community creates community. Gather together with Old Saybrook's new poet laureate Sandra Yannone to write together and share your new creations monthly. All welcome regardless of writing experience. Bring your notebook or laptop or use our supplies.



WEDNESDAY BOOK CLUB

1st Wednesdays at 10:30 a.m.

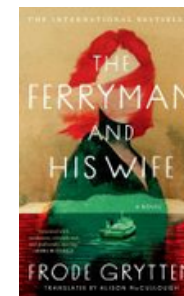
September 2

When I Was Puerto Rican
by Esmeralda Santiago



October 7

The Bee Sting
by Paul Murray



BOOKS ON TAP

2nd Wednesdays at 6:00 p.m.

September 9

@ Myrcene Ale
The Ferryman and His Wife
by Frode Grytten



October 14

@ The Cuckoo's Nest
Miss Benson's Beetle
by Rachel Joyce

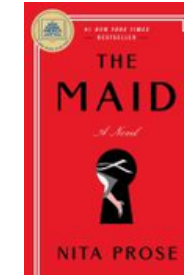
Registration suggested.



HYBRID: SOCIAL JUSTICE BOOK DISCUSSION

Monday, September 28 at 6:30 p.m.

One Day, Everyone Will Have Always Been
Against This
by Omar El Akkad
Registration suggested.



MYSTERY BOOK CLUB

4th Wednesdays at 1:00 p.m.

September 23

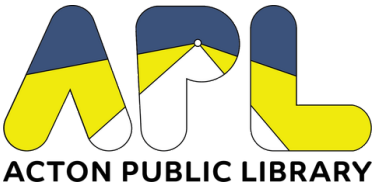
The Maid
by Nita Prose



October 28

Left for Dead
by J.A. Jance





Children's Events



PLAYGROUP
Mondays at 10:30 a.m.
(no class 9/7 & 10/12)
No registration.



STORY TIME
Tuesdays at 10:30 a.m.
Registration is suggested.



SING & STOMP
Fridays at 10:30 a.m.
No registration.



GRAB & GO CRAFTS
Fridays
Available while supplies last.
No registration.



TINKER LAB
Mondays at 3:30 p.m. starting September 14 **(no class 10/12)**
Join us for Tinker Lab! We'll use problem-solving skills to imagine, explore, tinker, build, code, play, and design!
September: All things "building!" Strength test, cardboard construction.
October: Chain reaction time; marble runs, Rube Goldberg machines, and domino falls.
For Grades 2 - 6. Registration required.



POKEMON CLUB @ APL!
Saturday, September 26 & October 24 at 2:00 p.m.
Join our once-a-month Pokémon club where you can learn the card game with other enthusiasts, do a Pokémon activity, or make friends and talk all things Pokémon! Cards will be available for all to use during the program; no purchase necessary.
Free and open to ages 6-11. Registration required.



HAUNTED GRAHAM CRACKER HOUSES
Saturday, October 3 at 10:30 a.m.
Join us for some spooky housebuilding fun!
Come build and decorate your own Halloween graham cracker house. We'll provide the building materials; you bring the creativity!
You may bring your own candy for decorating if you have a specific design in mind.
****ONE HOUSE PER FAMILY****
This program was made possible by the Friends of Acton Library.
Free and open to all. Registration required.

GREAT HALLOWEEN COSTUME SWAP DRIVE

Monday, September 21—Saturday, September 26



Drop off new or gently used Halloween costumes for children ages 0-11 at the Children's Room at Acton Public Library now through Saturday, September 26th.

We are also accepting costume accessories like crowns, masks, and other props.

Costumes and accessories must be clean and in good shape with no rips, stains, or other damage.

Then join us on either Thursday, October 8th, or Friday, October 9th, to find YOUR perfect Halloween costume!

***We will not be accepting Halloween makeup, fake blood, or face paint for sanitary reasons.**

***Costumes and accessories must be brought into the library and not left at the book drop.**



Young Adult Events



DROP-IN GAME DAY
Thursdays at 3:00 p.m.
Starting September 10



DUNGEONS & DRAGONS CLUB
Fridays at 3:00 p.m.
September 25
October 9 & 23



YA LIBRARY ADVISORY BOARD PLANNING MEETING
Tuesday, September 15 & October 13 at 3:30 p.m.
Do you want to help at the library? Have a club you'd like to run? Help decide on games, displays, programs and collections? Join us!



STRESS OUT - PEACE IN
Tuesday, September 22 & October 20 at 3:00 p.m. & 3:30