



Friends of the Milford Library Newsletter

Fall 2016

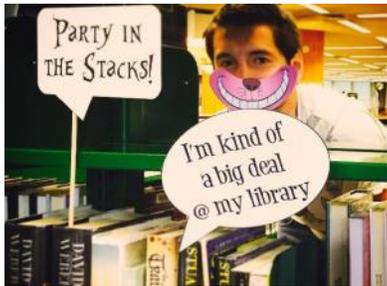
57 New Haven Avenue, Milford, Connecticut

Buy Your Tickets for the Friends' Party Before the Price Goes Up

The ticket price for Friends of the Milford Library's "Party in the Stacks!" changes on October 1.

"Individual ticket prices for the Saturday, October 22 Party are presently \$35 for members of the Friends and \$40 for non-members," noted Committee Chairs Lois Barr Button and Lisa Thornell-Gargiulo. "After October 1, all individual tickets will be \$50. Also, we encourage you to invite friends, family, and colleagues to sit at a reserved table for eight, priced at \$400."

Tickets are available for sale on the Friends website



(www.ci.milford.ct.us/milford-public-library/pages/friends-of-the-milford-library) and at the Library Circulation Desk. A limited number of tables are still available for the event. Attendees must be 21 and over.

Guests who attend the "Party in the Stacks!" will also enjoy imaginative, book-inspired hors d'oeuvres prepared by Christopher Martins restaurant, including:

- ◆ Alice in Wonderland Mushrooms
- ◆ Green Eggs & Ham
- ◆ Cloudy with a Chance of Meatballs
- ◆ Dracula tomato and eggplant stacks with 'spiked' garlic
- ◆ Chicken Little
- ◆ Forrest Gump Shrimp

The fun-filled event, which will run from 7 p.m. to 10 p.m., will feature many literary-themed surprises, as well as DJ music and dancing, photo booth, and an exciting silent auction. By wearing garb inspired by a book or by dressing as their favorite book characters, participants will vie to win the "Best Dressed Literary Costume" contest. Costumes are encouraged, but are optional.

Sponsors include The Crushed Grape and ShopRite of Milford. For more information, call 203-783-3291.

Come to the Unveiling of Milford's WPA Mural

The City of Milford's Permanent Art Collection Committee, the Milford Arts Council and the Milford Public Library invite you to join in celebrating the unveiling of *We Shall Pass This Way But Once* the newly restored WPA (Works Progress Administration) mural on Thursday, October 6, 2016 6:30-7:30 p.m. at the Library. Light refreshments will follow the unveiling ceremony.

For forty years, this mural greeted students as they entered Milford's Central Grammar School on West River Street, then the town's largest educational institution. Designed by Louis Agostini (1902-1977) and painted by Frank Rutkoski (1905-2000), both Connecticut artists, the oil-on-canvas mural was commissioned in 1937 and installed on April 2, 1940. When the school was being demolished in 1986, Bill Meddick, Executive Director of Milford Arts Center, and Frank Vespi, Board of Education Arts Coordinator, rescued a large portion of it.

Conservators at the Williamstown Conservation Center in Williamstown, Massachusetts restored this mural over the past five months, including the consolidation of loose and flaking paint, thorough cleaning, filling of losses of original paint and attachment of the artwork to a new linen support.



Thomas Branchick, Director of the Williamstown Conservation Center, works on the restoration of Milford's WPA mural, *We Shall Pass This Way But Once*, which will be unveiled on Thursday, October 6 at the Milford Public Library.

The Library will run special programs in conjunction with the Unveiling Celebration:

Saturday, October 1, 2:00 p.m. Enough to Live on: The Arts of the WPA celebrating the 80th anniversary of the Federal Arts Projects; produced by Connecticut filmmakers Michael Maglaras and Terri Templeton.

Monday, October 3, 7:00 p.m., Hamish Lutris, Associate Professor, Housatonic Community College, The WPA and the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC). The CCC was the popular New Deal natural resources development and protection program that operated from 1933 to 1942.

Books Galore Sold During Oyster Festival

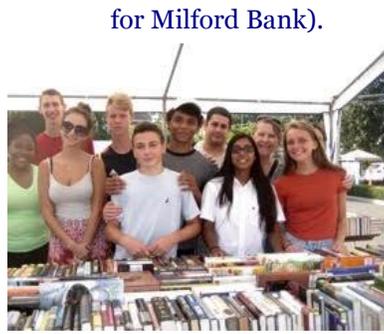
The Friends' white tents in the Milford Bank parking lot were jammed with buyers from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. during the Milford Oyster Festival. We thank all our generous book donors who give us the attractive inventory that makes our sale so popular. Many thanks, too, to all our wonderful volunteers, both members of the Friends and students from both Foran and Law. We have an awesome team!

This sale is an enormous, year-round undertaking that is enthusiastically and skillfully spearheaded by Friends Board member Amy Bringardner. Without her leader-

ship, the sale and all the money and goodwill it generates for the Library would not happen.

The high school volunteers from Foran and Law, who cheerfully carried the loads of books and worked to replace those sold during the day, were ably recruited by Cookie Reshenk and Janice Pellegrino.

Finally, a big thanks to Milford Bank who supplies our space, lends us tents and chairs, and gives us bags and goodies to distribute to our customers. We are especially indebted to Jorge Santiago, Celeste Lohrenz, and Friends' Assistant Treasurer Karuna Kasbawala (who also works for Milford Bank).



Save Thursday, December 8 for our Holiday Book Sale

Put a big circle around this date on your calendar ...

Thursday, December 8, 6:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.
That's the date that we will be holding our Holiday Book Sale at the Milford Public Library.

You will be able to spend time browsing the wonderful supply of nearly new books for sale, listen to the holiday music provided by choral groups from Foran High School, and enjoy the refreshments, including cookies and cider. If you'd like to sign up to work on the sale, email milfordlib.friends@gmail.com.

Please consider joining our volunteer corps – there are lots of diverse ways to contribute:

- * Bake refreshments
- * FOML press coverage
- * Oral history video project
- * Plan trips
- * Organize special events
- * And so much more

Contact Us:

- Email: milfordlib.friends@gmail.com
- On FB: [facebook.com/FriendsofMilfordLibrary](https://www.facebook.com/FriendsofMilfordLibrary)
- Friends of the Milford Library page on the Library website

Friends of the Milford Library Plan Trip to Yale's Newly Renovated Bienen Library

Friday, October 14 will feature a special Friends of the Milford Library tour of the newly renovated Bienen Library at Yale. This 1963 architectural gem, one of the largest buildings in the world devoted entirely to rare books and manuscripts, will reopen in early September following a 16-month renovation.

Designed by Gordon Bunshaft of the firm of Skidmore, Owings and Merrill, the Bienen is famous for its white, gray-veined marble "window" panes which serve as beautiful, light filtering panels that allow rare materials to be displayed without damage. If you've never seen this remarkable building, now's the time to see the renovated building with its restored original luster, upgraded library's climate-control system and expanded classroom space.

The Friends will be treated to a one-hour tour by Moira Fitzgerald, Head of the Bienen's Access Services. The tour starts at 11:00 a.m. and is free to Friends members, \$15 for non-members (includes a membership). If you wish to join the tour, email milfordlib.friends@gmail.com or call 203-783-3291.