

WINTER 2022

OFF THE SHELF

FRIENDS OF THE MILFORD LIBRARY
NEWSLETTER

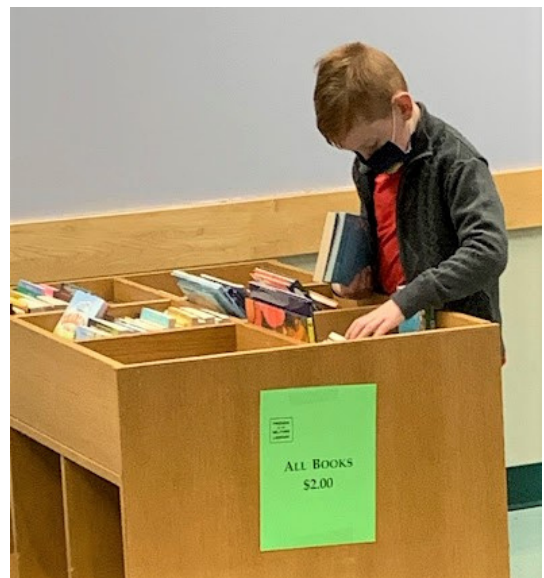
THE HOLIDAY BOOK SALE WAS A SUCCESS!

The Friends of the Milford Library Holiday Book Sale, which took place in early December, was a success on many fronts. The sale offered something for everyone with hardcover and trade paperback books in the categories of fiction, nonfiction and children. Additional offerings included cookbooks, history, popular novels, mysteries, biographies, picture books and more.

“The book sale was well-attended. People were waiting outside before the doors opened and there was a steady stream of customers from morning through late afternoon,” reports Amy Bringardner, who organized the event. “Since the sale has not taken place in the past two years because of the pandemic, it was rewarding to see the phenomenal interest that this event generated.”

She added, “There were a fair number of customers who attended the sale with plans to stockpile their book collections for winter reading. We also saw many families who bought children’s books. It was a heartwarming event.”

The Friends Holiday Book Sale has been gathering a fan base since it was launched in 2016. High-quality book donations are earmarked for the sale throughout the year.



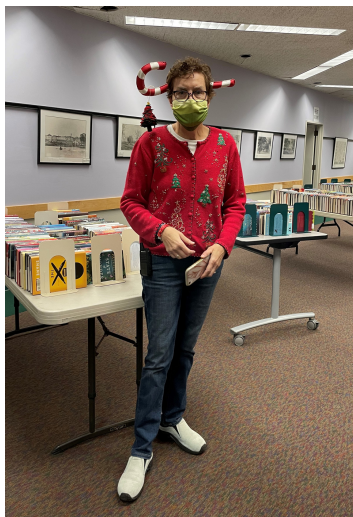
THANK YOU VOLUNTEERS!

Behind every successfully organized event is an extraordinary volunteer team.
Thank you for your time and talents!

Holiday Book Sale

Adult Volunteers

Amy Bringardner (Chair)
Patrick Barrett
Pat Beers
Shelly Buynak
Cheryl Cappiali
Kathy Goldbach
Sylvia Hazard
Judy Kennedy
Sandy and Bob Steady



Amy Bringardner

Student Volunteers

Sophia Ayoub (Foran)
Deepika Chitirala (Law)
Angela Chu (Law)
Jasper Chu (Law)
Shannon Crandley (Lauralton Hall)
Amelia Deeds (Lauralton Hall)
Gemard Guery (Law)
Zakary Hart (Foran)
Grace Hess (Law)
Maria Korman (Foran)
Sakshi Mehta (Law)
Sanaa Mohammed (Amity)
Grace Mrsich (Foran)
Shruti Simhadri (Law)
Moulika Sivalenka (Law)



Cheryl Cappiali

Baubles, Bangles & Bling Bazaar

So popular, the jewelry sale held in November sold out early!

Judy Kennedy (Co-Chair)
Cheryl Cappiali (Co-Chair)
Amy Bringardner
Kathy Goldbach
Ronda Zalenski

Party in a Bag!

Paula Goncalves (Chair)
Peggy Bolger
Carol King
Arlene Painter
Pam Pilla
Judy Salemm



Peggy Bolger, Arlene Painter, Paula Goncalves
& Judy Salemm fill bags.

MORE FROM FOML

Thank You Party and Annual Meeting

The Thank You Party and Annual Meeting will be held at the end of March 2022. Details will be provided closer to the date.

Despite another challenging year, FOML has a lot to be grateful for and to celebrate. In 2021, FOML continued its support of the library and the Milford community in many ways.

- We funded:
 - Library programming for children, teens, and adults
 - Summer reading programs
 - Take & Make bags
 - Museum passes and a new reservation system
- Book Awards were presented to five high school juniors
- Scholarships were awarded to two high school seniors
- “Welcome to Milford” bags were gifted to new library patrons
- Little Libraries have been “open for business”
- Friends Welcome Table volunteers are, once again, greeting library patrons

The Book sales are back and the lobby sale is open for business. A Children’s Pop-up book sale was held in June and the Holiday Book Sale was a great success. Cocoa & Kisses, Garden Grams, and a Trivia Night round out the fundraising efforts in 2021.

Members are FOML’s biggest asset. We are extremely grateful for the continued support shown by our members and the Milford Public Library appreciates all that we do.

2021 Best of the Best of Carm's Corner!

And the winner is...

Hour of the Witch, by Chris Bohjalian

Mary Deerfield would be considered a battered woman today. In 1662 New England she is her husband’s property with limited rights. Mary endures physical and emotional abuse including being stabbed with a fork (known then as the devils tines). Mary eventually files a petition for divorce. Her character is maligned and she is accused of witchcraft during the hearing. She does her best to defend herself and not surprisingly, the petition is denied and Mary is returned to her husband. This is Bohjalian at his best.

***** **5 star rating**

FOML BOARD OF DIRECTOR OPENINGS

Friends of the Milford Library Needs Your Help!

Can you share your time and talents with us? FOML is seeking board members to join the team and help move the Friends and its mission towards even greater success! FOML is looking for enthusiastic and creative applicants for the following positions:

President - Lead and ensure the mission of the organization is executed

VP Public Relations - Coordinate and manage programs that promote the public image and increase the community's and members' awareness of FOML

VP Special Events - Organize and oversee all aspects of fundraising for the organization

Secretary - Record minutes for all meetings and conduct the correspondence of the organization

Full position descriptions and applications can be found on the Friends page of the Milford Public Library's website, www.milfordlibrary.org. All applications will be kept confidential and will be reviewed by the Search Committee. Positions can be shared with a friend.

Questions? Email your inquiry to milfordlib.friends@gmail.com. We'd love to hear from you!

ADVOCATE FOR YOUR LIBRARY!

It's Budget Time!

The Mayor's Proposed Budget for the 2022-2023 budget year is scheduled to be published in January.

Public comments are welcome at the upcoming Board of Finance and Board of Aldermen Public Meetings, typically held in February and April. This year's meeting formats have not yet been announced. Please consider advocating for the library by attending and/or sending comments for one or both public meetings. **Write, email, or call your alderman and share what the library means to YOU!** Find your alderperson at <https://www.ci.milford.ct.us/board-of-aldermen>

Just a few words about what the library means to you personally and that you support the library budget will help and will be greatly appreciated. By relating personal stories such as a parent sharing the joy their child experienced at story time or using our computers for job searching, or a new retiree economizing by borrowing books, or learning something new at a program, you can really make an impact.

Additional information will be sent to members when the schedule is available. Thank you in advance for stepping up and using your voice to advocate for the Milford Public Library!

MUSEUM PASS PROGRAM

The Friends invite library patrons to beat the winter “blahs” by visiting a nearby museum at a discounted rate.

“FOML has been funding the **Museum Pass Program** for many years by purchasing the passes we circulate to our patrons,” explains Library Director Chris Angeli. “In 2018, FOML also began funding the software that allows patrons to reserve the passes online, print copies of passes from home, and for staff to keep records of museum pass usage. Effective January 2022, the library will be transitioning to a new pass management system which FOML has funded.”

Currently, museum passes are available for the locations listed below. (Please check "Passes to Cultural Attractions" on the Milford Library website at www.milfordlibrary.org for updates to the list of participating museums.):

Free admission with a Library pass.

Hartford:

- **Connecticut Historical Society Museum & Library**
- **Connecticut's Old State House**
- **Harriet Beecher Stowe Center**

Old Lyme:

- **Florence Griswold Museum**

Stamford:

- **Stamford Museum & Nature Center**

Reduced admission with a Library Pass:

Bridgeport:

- **Beardsley Zoo** (Valid for \$9 admission per person for up to 6 visitors)

East Haven:

- **Shore Line Trolley Museum, East Haven, CT** (50 percent off admission for up to 6 visitors)

The Library Pass Program works as follows:

Adult card holders are offered passes to a wide variety of museums. These passes allow free or discounted admission depending on the venue.

The library circulates two types of passes:

1. Physical passes, which may be reserved online, but must be checked out and returned to the library.
2. Printable passes, which can be reserved and printed at home. (Library staff can assist with reservations and printing.)

Adult users may reserve one pass per day. Reservations may be made up to 30 days in advance of the date of visit to the museum. Patrons may pick up the physical pass after 3 p.m. on the library business day prior to the reserved visit. Physical passes must be returned to the library on the day of visit (passes can be returned in the library's book return).

Note: Holiday weekend schedules may impact the ability to pick up passes. Please check with library staff.

To use a printable pass at the museum, a valid photo ID is required and the name on the printed pass must match the identification shown. The pass is good only for the reservation date specified on the printed pass. Please note that some venues will not accept mobile versions of the pass.

SUPPORT

BOOK SALE



Looking for a used book or DVD to buy? Stop by the Milford Public Library and peruse the selection of gently used books and DVDs available for sale. On display in the downstairs lobby, **the sale is available whenever the library is open!** All books and DVDs sell for just \$1 each.

MERCHANDISE



CLEARANCE SALE 70% Off! Adult and child size face masks are available at the circulation desk for a \$3 cash donation (cash or check accepted).



Looking for a gift for a library lover? FOML is selling book bags, mugs, and window clings! All merchandise can be purchased at the library circulation desk. Cash or check only. Checks should be made payable to the Friends of the Milford Library.

- Canvas Book Bag: \$10.00
- Coffee Mug: \$10.00
- Window Cling: \$5.00



SHOP! AMAZON SMILE



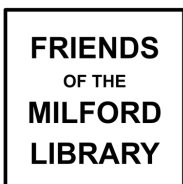
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Thank you to our newsletter contributors:

Amy Bringardner, Kathy Goldbach, Carol King, and Pam Pilla

SPRING 2022

OFF THE SHELF

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NEWSLETTER

LINDA GOTTLIEB SPEAKS AT ANNUAL MEETING

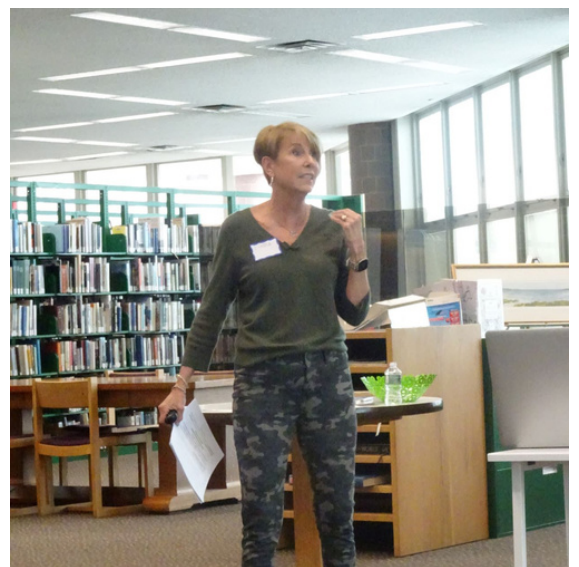
During the Friends of the Milford Library's annual meeting last month, guest speaker Linda Gottlieb, a Milford-based fitness and wellness coach and trainer, encouraged the audience to take advantage of the change in seasons and "go green" with an outdoor exercise program.

"Most of us are paying a lot more attention to environmentally respectful living, yet we drive to an indoor gym to get our exercise. The spring season is a perfect time to consider taking advantage of the great outdoors with a workout plan. Our cold, indoor-centric lifestyle will soon be traded in for springlike weather and nature bursting out all over. The benefits of taking in Mother Nature as part of an exercise plan are many. Exercising outdoors can be calming or challenging, it saves time and there is science that points to the fact that exercising outdoors will help you feel better, physically and emotionally," Linda explained.

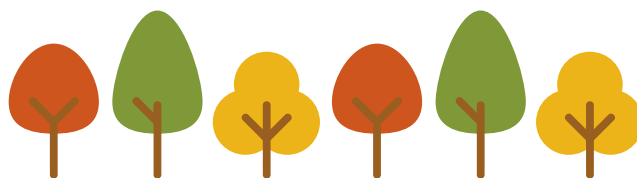
A 2011 study published by the American Chemical Society concluded that outdoor exercise may lead to:

- Improvement in mental well-being and feelings of revitalization;
- Increased energy and positive engagement;
- Decrease in tension, confusion, anger and depression.

"Those who exercise outdoors tend to work out their muscles and their minds. Many people zone out during mundane activities, such as walking on a treadmill. However, outdoor activities engage your senses and captivate your attention by providing mesmerizing scenery. While exercising outdoors, your focus may include watching for potholes, traffic, weather changes, animals, pedestrians, rocks, hills--these natural occurrences keep you young and aware!" said Linda.



LINDA GOTTLIEB SPEAKS AT ANNUAL MEETING



"Elements of aromatherapy add to the benefits of outdoor exercise. When you head to the forest and take that deep breath, the plants and trees absorb carbon dioxide and release oxygen, making them a perfect natural air purifier with additional healing properties. Surely you recall someone suggesting you add a live, green plant or two to your indoor spaces; it's not only for decorative purposes!" she explained.

She suggested that attendees give outdoor exercising a try for 20 minutes, three times a week and advised spending a minimum of 5 hours outdoors each month. This helps prevent depression and increases calm and happiness. Any time in nature is beneficial but spending more time in wilder spaces does seem to give you more benefits."

ABOUT LINDA GOTTLIEB



Linda Gottlieb - master fitness coach, wellness educator and cancer exercise trainer - has extensive expertise in the fitness industry, from development and presentation of hundreds of exercise/wellness classes to director of a 30,000 square ft. full-service health club to management of fitness facility projects for luxury hotels.

Based in Milford, she specializes in working closely with active aging and medically challenged individuals seeking to improve their health and their lives by leveraging the power of consistent exercise.

She is one of the first certified Cancer Exercise Trainers in the US, sanctioned by the American College of Sports Medicine and the American Cancer Society along with being the first certified Cooper Institute Active Living Every Day behavior change program facilitator in the state of Connecticut.

Linda is currently on staff at Yale University and Griffin Hospital in the role of cancer exercise trainer providing fitness interventions for cancer clinical trials utilizing in person and telephonic coaching. She can be reached at Linda@FitTraining.net

BOOK SALE!

The Friends of the Library are planning a summer reading book sale Saturday, June 18 at the library. Children's books and adult trade paperbacks will be on sale from 10am to 3pm. All books will be \$2. Stock up on best quality books for your summer reading!



MORE FROM FOML

Baubles, Bangles & Bling Bazaar

A sale of gently used jewelry will take place at the Milford Library on **Saturday, May 7 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.** “Baubles, Bangles & Bling Bazaar,” a quality collection of used jewelry, will be on display outside of the Children’s Library on the first floor. The sale, presented by Friends of the Milford Library (FOML), is a fundraising effort to support programs at the library.

“We have an assortment of bracelets, rings, chains, stones and sterling silver pieces,” notes co-organizer Judy Kennedy. “We received a significant number of items that we refer to as ‘Barbara’s Private Collection,’ which was donated in Barbara’s memory by her daughter. This is a very extensive collection of costume jewelry. No item in this sale will be priced at more than \$10.”

Judy notes that she and co-organizer Cheryl Cappiali initiated the fundraiser about three years ago. “We had great success when we launched this sale and we are hoping for similar success this year,” she says. “We offered a similar sale last November as a prelude to the holiday season and it was a sell-out!”

SALE
SALE
SALE
SALE



National Library Week

Thank you library staff for all you do!

In honor of National Library Week, FOML gave a gift bag to each library staff member. Thank you Paula Goncalves for putting the gift bags together.



Pictured on the right :
Paula Goncalves, Pam
Pilla, & Chris Angeli

FOML ANNUAL MEETING 2022

Events, Updates, And New Board Members

The Annual Meeting of the Friends of Milford Library was held on Sunday, March 27th at the library.

Acting President Pam Pilla opened the meeting and welcomed members to our first in-person meeting in two years, and reviewed FOML's 2021 accomplishments. Pam is looking forward to 2022, with new FOML Board members and new opportunities for members to volunteer. Upcoming events include the [a Spring Jewelry Sale on May 7, 2022](#).

Chris Angeli gave a library update. She expressed her delight in being able to see everyone in-person and thanked the members of FOML for continuing to provide financial and volunteer support. Chris said the closing of the library on March 13, 2020, necessitated by the pandemic, forced many changes in how services were delivered. Although it has been a challenging two years, Chris was happy to say that the Children's Department remodeling was completed and in-person children's programs are resuming.

Two new rooms for study and meetings have opened on the second floor and the Program room is currently being remodeled. The library received American Rescue Plan Act funding through the CT State Library and the City of Milford. The money will be used to purchase new furniture for the second floor and to digitize the microfilm collection to allow online searching. A new projector is being installed in the Program room to optimize the use of hybrid programs. There are plans to build a patio area outside the Children's Department. The library happily reported an increase in new patrons during the pandemic. She thanked her staff for their dedication as front-line workers during the past many months and expressed thanks to the Library Board and to the FOML Board members who continued to meet and pivot services and programs.

The meeting included the election of officers. Those elected were VP of Public Relations Diana Lockwood-Bordaña, VP Fundraising Jennipher Israelite, Secretary Regine Guyett, Treasurer Kathy Goldbach (incumbent), and Assistant Treasurer Paula Goncalves (incumbent).



Pictured on the left: Jennipher Israelite, Kathy Goldbach, Pam Pilla, Diana Lockwood-Bordaña, Paula Goncalves & Regine Guyett

Events, Updates, & New Board Members

Meet Our New Board Members

Jennifer Israelite. Jennifer grew up in Milford and graduated from Foran High School. She went on to graduate from Bryant University with a degree in Marketing and Sacred Heart University with an MBA in Finance. After working for ten years in corporate finance she went back to school for a master's in education from Sacred Heart. Jennifer is now working as a business teacher at Jonathan Law High School. She also spends time giving back to the community and is currently Treasurer of the Milford Junior Woman's Club. Jennifer lives in Milford with her husband and three sons.

Dr. Diana Lockwood-Bordaña. Diana is a consultant and works with schools and organizations looking to implement science, technology, engineering, art & math (STEM & STEAM) programs. She works with schools to establish structures for success in STEM education and the workforce. She is also the author of *The STEAM Kids Guide 2 Awesome!* and *The Kid Scientist Handwriting Book*. She empowers learners to practice a STEAM Mindset and celebrate failing forward.

Regine Guyett. Regine is a Senior Reliability Engineer at Schick. She has been a member of Friends since 2021. She has lived in Milford since 2019 and enjoys being part of this city. Outside of work, she enjoys hiking, walking, painting, reading books, playing the piano and going out to breweries/restaurants.

Thank you Arlene Painter & Carol King!

At the annual meeting, two members were recognized for their service to FOML. Arlene Painter served as the FOML Secretary five years. She was given a gift of appreciation. In addition, the book, *War and American Life*, published in May 2022, will be donated to the library by FOML in Arlene's honor. Carol King also received a gift, in recognition for her invaluable help with writing press releases and articles for the newsletter for the past several months.

We will miss you Pat Onofreo!



We are sad to report that Pat Onofreo, longtime FOML member and Friends Table volunteer, died in January 2022. Pat will be deeply missed by us all. Thank you for your service with FOML.

Picture on the left: Pat Onofreo and Carm DeVito

SUPPORT

BOOK SALE



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Thank you to our newsletter contributors:

Kathy Goldbach, Carol King, Pam Pilla and Diana Lockwood-Bordaña

SUMMER 2022

OFF THE SHELF

FRIENDS OF THE MILFORD LIBRARY
NEWSLETTER

AFTER 16 YEARS AT THE MILFORD LIBRARY NANCY ABBEY RETIRES

In 2006, Nancy Abbey was looking for a career change and the opportunity to work in a nice community. She found it at the Milford Library, taking on the role of assistant director. "It seemed like it would be a good fit," she said.

Now, as she prepares for her retirement, Nancy can confidently say her hunch was correct. During the past 16 years at the Milford Library, she has been personally involved in major changes with the library's business model, seen tremendous technological progress under the library's roof and played an instrumental role in the development of educational programs that serve the community at-large.

"Nancy has left an indelible mark here at the library," states Library Director Chris Angeli. "She has built up and expanded our adult programming, and in doing so developed relationships and partnerships with many community organizations. Her genuine, caring and thoughtful interactions with patrons of all ages, combined with her dedication and passion to the role of the public library, have been an inspiration and role model to her colleagues and a real treasure for the community of Milford."

Under Nancy's watch, the Milford Library created a variety of cultural program for adults, funded by the Friends of the Milford Library. Among the offerings are a Sunday Concert Series, in which musical performances take place monthly. "We try to have something for everyone," says Nancy. "The monthly performances range from jazz trios to classical guitar performances."

Also, she has organized a variety of lectures that appeal to an extremely broad group. Talks geared to history buffs as well as presentations catering to local gardeners are just a few of the programs the library has offered. "By organizing the various presentations, I have had the privilege of meeting a diverse group of impressive people," Nancy notes. She has high praise for FOML and its funding of these programs. "In all of the libraries in which I have worked, I have never seen such an active and dedicated group of volunteers as those of the Friends of the Milford Library," she says. FOML President Pam Pilla returns the compliment. "Nancy has scheduled all adult programming, which FOML funds. She volunteered on the Party in the Stacks and was extremely good at bringing in prizes for the silent auctions. She was

a guest speaker at Friends events (Friday with Friends 2017-2020 and annual membership meeting 2021) where she shared books to be released and her recommendations. This was always great fun and well-received. We wish Nancy all the best in her retirement."

Although she officially retired on June 29, Nancy will continue to have a presence at the library. She will remain in charge of the Classic Book Discussion series that she started 14 years ago. The discussions take place on the last Thursday of each month at 10 a.m. The book for July 28 is "The Professor's House" by Willa Cather. In August, the book for discussion is "To Have and Have Not" by Ernest Hemingway.



NANCY ABBEY RETIRES STORY CONTINUED

— HAPPY — Retirement

The decision to retire did not come easily to Nancy. “It took me three years to finally do this,” she says. “I wanted to see the pandemic through and I didn’t want to leave until the renovations of the Children’s Library were complete.”

She adds, “When I started here, the Milford Library was a standalone model, now we are part of a consortium of approximately 50 libraries throughout the state.” “Working together, the consortium has increased offerings and made patrons much happier! Further, the advances in technology have expanded our selections to include ebooks and audio books.”

She continues, “There are many things that make the Milford Library exceptional, but it is the people who come here and the staff members who work here that I will miss the most.”

Once retired, Nancy plans to volunteer with the Animal Haven in North Haven and the Peabody Museum in New Haven. “I also look forward to visiting the Hamden Library,” she says laughing. “I live in Hamden but have not had much opportunity to visit the library there!”

Note: For those who enjoyed hearing Nancy’s recommendations of books to look out for, here is her parting list:

“Demon Copperhead” by Barbara Kingsolver

The Giant’s House” by Elizabeth McCracken

“The Hero of This Book” by A.M. Holmes

“My Dinners With Ruth” by Nina Totenberg



THE BOOK SALE WAS A GREAT SUCCESS!

The Friends of the Library had their Summer Reading book sale June 18th. Children's and adult trade paperbacks were on carts outside the library entrance. The sale brought families and adults looking for books to read in the backyard, beach, or porch this summer.

Thanks to Amy Bringardner for managing the sale along with volunteers Pat Beers, Kathy Goldbach, Judy Kennedy, Shelly Buynak and Sylvia Hazard.



High School Awards 2022



Pictured left to right:
Emma Vaccino
&
Debora Silva

High School Awards 2022

The Friends of the Milford Library are proud to announce the winners of our High School Book Award and Scholarship recipients. The winners are selected by members of the Friends' High School Awards Committee, led by Peggy Bolger, in concert with the school personnel at the Milford High Schools. All of the award winners have exhibited outstanding personal character, made a positive impact on their school or community, and demonstrated a strong and consistent love of reading.

Scholarships are awarded to High School seniors with plans of furthering their education. This year's scholarships were awarded to:

- Lynelle Fernandez from Joseph A. Foran High School
- Sophie Masselli of Jonathan Law High School.

The Book Award is presented annually to a member of the Junior Class at each of the High Schools in Milford. Each student chooses a book for their school which is donated by the Friends with a bookplate commemorating the student's achievement.

Additionally, each winner received a personally inscribed copy of *Only In Milford* by Milford author, DeForest Smith.

This year's winners and their books are:

- India Joyner of Platt Tech chose *My Hero Academia Volume* by Kohei Horikoshi
- Debora Silva of The Academy chose *Harry Potter and the Chamber of Secrets* by J.K. Rowling
- Visally Martinez-Cruz of Joseph A. Foran High School chose *Blindness* by Jose Saramajo
- Emma Vaccino of Jonathan Law High School chose *Red Queen* by Victoria Aveyard
- Alexandra Miller of Lauralton Hall chose *The Cost of Knowing* by Brittany Morris

A special thanks to Peggy Bolger Chair, High School Awards Committee, Friends of the Milford Library, and committee members: Susan Linsley, Judy Salemme, Anne-Marie Sutton, and Young Adult Librarian Danielle Valenzano for all their hard work. We couldn't do it without you!

FOML ANNUAL PARTY IN THE STACKS 2022

Where Dreams Come True

Party in the Stacks - Where dreams come true is our storybook themed fundraiser to benefit the Friend of the Milford Library. The focus of the Friends is to encourage relations between the Milford Library and the community, to focus attention on library services, and to encourage and support fund raising activities. All proceeds are used to fund children and adult programs, museum passes and expenses not covered by the City budget.

Please join us on Saturday October 22, 2022 from 7pm - 10pm for a storybook themed evening with friends, food and fun. Tickets are available starting later in the summer.

Other than joining us for a fun filled evening - how else can you help? We are looking for individuals to help on the following committees:

- Decorating & Theme Management
- Sponsorship, Raffle Prizes, Silent Auction
- Ticket Sales & Publicity
- Food & Beverages

We are accepting donations of products, baskets, and gift cards for raffle and silent auction prizes.

Questions? Contact
partyinstacks.milfordlib@gmail.com
for more information.



Visit the Friends table at the Oyster Festival on Saturday, August 20th. Tickets to the Party in the Stacks will be available for sale!



SUPPORT

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FALL 2022

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NEWSLETTER

PARTY IN THE STACKS A HUGE SUCCESS!



On Saturday, October 22nd, the Milford Public Library was transformed with Jack & The Beanstalk, Willy Wonka's Chocolate Factory, and the Emerald City. The annual Party in the Stacks: Where Dreams Come True was a night of fun, dancing, Milford Trivia, a raffle and

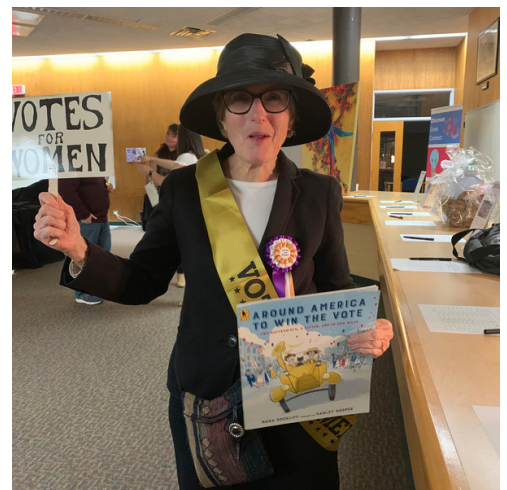
auction! Many thanks to the hard work of numerous volunteers, generous sponsors and donors, and amazing party guests!

Party guests visited Alice in Wonderland on the library landing and the photo booth where many took pictures that night! Brian Smith emceed the evening and there was dancing to the music of The DJ Company. Many guests earned a golden egg from the Willy Wonka area and tested their storybook and Milford history knowledge playing trivia!

They enjoyed delicious, themed appetizers and desserts from Christopher Martin's Restaurant, and a specialty drink or adult beverages from The Crushed Grape.

Silent auction prizes included literary themed gifts, tickets to local theaters and sports, countless ways to pamper yourself. A lucky winner bid to hang out with some of Milford's finest, the Firefighters, and another won the experience "Mayor for a Day!"

The Friends proceeds fund ALL your and your kids' favorite library programming! Thank you again to our generous sponsors, including The Milford Bank, TrinityPoint Wealth, Mattie's Service Center, Colonial Toyota in Milford, The Crushed Grape, Christopher Martin's Restaurant, and ShopRite of Milford.



HELP TO ADVOCATE FOR THE LIBRARY!

One of the ways that Friends groups and library patrons can support their library is speaking up or advocating for the library at the local government level for budget and community needs.

There are several steps to the City of Milford Budget process each fiscal year:

- The Mayor's Proposed Budget is typically published in January
- Board of Finance (BOF) holds a Public Meeting, February
- Board of Finance Recommended Budget is published, March
- Board of Alderman Public Meeting on the BOF Recommended Budget, April
- Board of Alderman Adopted Budget published, May-June

The Milford city budget process begins with the Mayor's Proposed Budget which is currently under development for fiscal year 2023-2024. City departments, including the library, develop their individual budgets and send it to the mayor.

Please contact the Mayor's Office in support of the library via phone, letter or by submitting a webform, see contact details below. Send a simple note that you love, support the library, and that you would like the budget to reflect how important the library is to you and to our community. It will go a long way in helping our cause and would be greatly appreciated. If you would like to share your library story, it will also make an impact.

To contact the Mayor's Office:

Phone: 203-783-3201 Address: 110 River St, Milford, CT 06460

"Contact Us" Webform: Be sure to select Mayor's Office in the dropdown for "What does this comment regard"

<https://www.ci.milford.ct.us/home/webforms/contact-us>

Thank you in advance for advocating for the Milford Public Library!



JOIN US FOR A FRIENDS WINTER SOCIAL

Pre COVID, a Friends only, monthly "Friday with Friends" social event was held on the first Friday of the month. The gathering could include a speaker, an activity or a field trip and it was an opportunity to get to know each other. With the Winter Social Gathering, we hope to resume Friday with Friends.

Save the Date:

Friday, December 16th, 10am-noon

In the Library program room

Coffee, tea, and light refreshments will be served



*Optional: Yankee Swap (Secret Santa with a twist) bring a \$10 wrapped, unmarked gift to swap

Little Library at Walnut Beach Closed for Repair



The Little Library at Walnut Beach (outside Firehouse Art Gallery) is temporarily closed. The Little Library has served the community well for seven years, but due to wear and tear and safety concerns, the library box needs to be replaced.

The replacement Little Library was ordered from <https://littlefreelibrary.org> and has been delivered. A work order has been submitted for installation. Hopefully it will be back in service soon. Stay tuned for an announcement.

The Friends encourage the public to utilize our other Little Library at the Milford YMCA (near the soccer fields) which will be open year-round and stocked with books for both adults and children to borrow or swap. The Little Library at Gulf Beach is seasonal and has closed for the winter. Little Libraries follow the simple concept of "take a book, leave a book."

Each of the Little Libraries has volunteer stewards who are responsible for overseeing and checking on the stock of books. When leaving a book, keep in mind that space is limited and no books are to be left outside the Little Library box.

VIRTUAL AUTHOR SPEAKER SERIES

Check it out! FOML funds the virtual author speaker series. Bookmark the link to the speaker site, and register for upcoming programs. You can also view past programs! <https://libraryc.org/milfordpubliclibrary>



THE ANNUAL HOLIDAY BOOKSALE

The annual Friends of the Library Holiday Book Sale will be Saturday, December 3 from 10am to 3pm. All children and adult books, DVDs and book sets will be \$2. The carefully curated fiction and nonfiction books are first quality-perfect for gifts or adding to your collection. The sale will be in the Milford Library program room. Give the gift of a good book!

Saturday, December 3
10am - 3pm

All Books \$2.

Library Program Room



SUPPORT

BOOK SALE



Looking for a used book or DVD to buy? Stop by the Milford Public Library and peruse the selection of gently used books and DVDs available for sale. On display in the downstairs lobby, **The sale is available whenever the library is open!** All adult and young adult books and DVDs sell for just \$1 each. Children's books are just 50 cents each.

MERCHANDISE



Looking for a gift for a library lover? FOML is selling book bags and mugs! All merchandise can be purchased at the library circulation desk. Cash or check only. Checks should be made payable to the Friends of the Milford Library.

- Canvas Book Bag: \$10.00
 - Only a few left!
 - Get yours before they're gone!
- Coffee Mug: \$10.00



SHOP! AMAZON SMILE



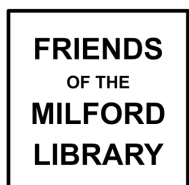
Shop & Support! By signing into smile.amazon.com, Amazon will donate 0.5% of every eligible purchase to the charity of your choice. Sign in today and choose the ***Friends of the Milford Public Library.***



Also available on the Amazon App!

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- 2) Download and open the Amazon app.
- 3) Find 'Settings' in the main menu (≡). Tap on 'AmazonSmile' and follow the on-screen instructions to turn on AmazonSmile on your phone.

BECOME A FRIEND



The Friends of the Milford Library is a non-profit, 501(c)3 volunteer organization. The focus of the group is to foster relations between the Milford Library and the community, to focus attention on library services, and to encourage and support fund raising activities. To join the fun and learn more visit: milfordlibrary.org or contact us at milfordlib.friends@gmail.com.

***Thank you to our newsletter contributors:
Amy Bringardner, Pam Pilla and Diana Lockwood-Bordaña***