

FRIENDS OF THE MILFORD LIBRARY

Join a group of fun, active volunteers

Help needed with:

Train Station / Little Libraries

- Design kiosks
- Construct kiosks
- Stock with books

Oral History Project

- Establish program
- Find subjects
- Coordinate interviews
- Arrange presentations

Book Award Project

- Define qualifications, select book

Library Book Sale Table

- Accept book donations
- Greet library patrons

Public Relations

- Publicize events
- Produce newsletter
- Maintain Friends' bulletin board
- Update clipping file
- Social media projects

Welcome To Milford! New Resident Packets

- Gather contents and assemble packets

Special Events

- Planning
- Refreshments



2014 Accomplishments

The Friends of Milford Library, reported its results for 2014 at its recent members' meeting. "We can be proud of what we have accomplished in 2014," noted President Anne Bolin.

During 2014, the Friends of Milford Library:

- Raised over \$14,000, mostly through the ongoing library book sale
- Sponsored adult programs in the amount of over \$5000, funding lectures, concerts, movies, dance programs, workshops and classes such as monthly genealogy classes and the gardening series
- Supported children's programs in the amount of over \$7000, including the creative writing club for tweens, story hours, summer reading clubs, drama workshops, seasonal passes for families to enjoy Connecticut museums and zoos
- Set up 'Books for Commuters' at the Milford Train Station.



2015 Program Plans

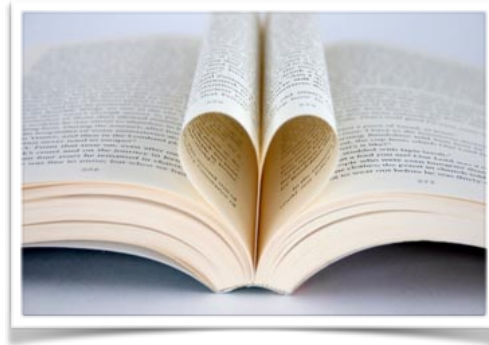
- The Little Libraries committee will design, construct and stock book kiosks at parks, the railroad station and beaches.
- Programs for teens are planned, including high school book awards for Juniors with a demonstrated love for books.
- An oral history project will pair teens with mentors to organize interviews with artists represented in the City's art collection.
- A 'Welcome to Milford' program, in collaboration with Milford businesses and organizations, will create packets to introduce newcomers to our City.

"We are excited about our plans for the new year," concluded President Anne Bolin, "and welcome all who would like to join us in making these interesting projects a reality. We welcome new members and new ideas, and hope you will join us in supporting the programs and activities of the Milford Public Library."

Next Quarterly Meeting

Saturday, February 14, 2:30 – 4:30

Plan to attend our February 14th Friends meeting where we will hear two great speakers. Tom Kuser of WSHU will be talking about The CT Books for the Blind program (conducted in sound studios in our Library) and Assistant Reference Librarian Cathy Ratzenberger will get us talking with, "Romance Writing, It's Not What You Think It Is."



FOML Officers/Committee Chairs

President: Anne Bolin
 Vice President, Membership: Amy Bringardner
 Vice President, Public Relations: Marion Morra
 Secretary: Kathy Goldbach
 Treasurer: Wil Laza
 Little Libraries Chairperson: Lisa Thornell

The Friends of Milford Library is a non-profit volunteer organization that sustains the programs and activities of the Milford Public Library that are not supported in the City budget.

To learn more about the Friends, visit www.milfordlibrary.org and click on the link for Friends of the Milford Library. You can fill out a volunteer application online. Check the Friends out on Facebook, www.facebook.com/FriendsofMilfordLibrary

Contact us: 203-783-3291 / milford.lib.friends@gmail.com

Join the fun. Volunteer today



Friends of the Milford Library Newsletter

Spring 2015

Neighbors, Town Departments Work Together on Little Libraries Project: Launch Parties To Be Held in May

The Little Libraries Project has brought together neighbors from various areas of Milford as well as town employees.

Each of the three new Little Libraries, sponsored by the Friends of the Milford Public Library, have been constructed by interested Little Libraries Committee members and will have stewards, responsible for overseeing it and checking on its stock of books.

The Gulf Beach Little Library is a product of neighbors. It was built by Pat Simon, who lives near Beth Hanson, a member of the Friends of Milford Library's public relations committee. Simon taught and coached in the Milford school system until his retirement a few years ago. He was assisted by his young grandsons Julian and Tristan. Neighbor Cathy Collins, an art teacher in Milford and member of the Milford Arts Council, provided artistic talent and a sea creature design.

Milford resident Jack Button built the Little Library that will be located at the Milford YMCA. Jack (*at right*) has also constructed the third Little Library, with help from his wife Lois, which will be located at the Firehouse Gallery, run by the Milford Arts Council.



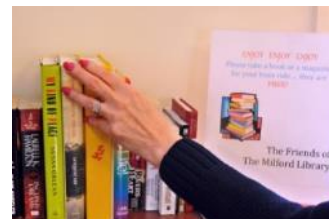
Milford Librarian Christine Angeli and Parks and Recreation Director Paul Piscitelli, along with the Milford Department of Public Works, have been instrumental in working with the Friends of the Milford Library to bring the Little Libraries project into being. These newly built Little Libraries will join the Books for Commuters, which the Friends opened in December in the waiting room at the Milford Train Station.

Little Libraries Committee Chair Lisa Thornell-

You Can Bid to Win a 6-Night African Safari for Two

We are planning a silent auction fundraiser featuring a South African Safari for Two valued at \$5,950. Dollars raised will support the Milford Library and Milford Arts Council. Proceeds will be split between Friends of the Milford Library in support of library programs and The Milford Arts Council to restore Milford's WPA mural that will eventually hang in the Library. More details to come...

Gargiulo announced that three Launch Parties will be held in May for the new Little Libraries at the Milford YMCA, the Firehouse Gallery, and Gulf Beach. "We are excited," said Thornell-Gargiulo, "to unveil these gathering places where neighbors share their favorite literature and stories. With its tagline, 'take a book, return a book', each newly built box of free books will be open 24/7. Everyone is encouraged to bring a gently used book to donate to start the Library off. I invite everybody to stop by to find out more about the project." Events will be held rain or shine.



Books for Commuters at the Milford Train Station

Mark These Dates and Join Us:

Little Library Launches:

Saturday, May 16, 10 a.m. at the Milford YMCA, 631 Orange Avenue. Located off of the parking lot, near the ball fields.

Thursday, May 28, 6:00 p.m. at the Firehouse Art Gallery, 81 Naugatuck Avenue, Walnut Beach. Stop by the exhibition opening, *Abstractions*, at Firehouse Art Gallery.

Friday, May 29, 6:00 p.m. at Gulf Beach on Gulf Street.

Other Friends' Events:

Monday, June 8, 6:00 p.m. High School Book Award Reception, Milford Library.

Friday, June 19 10-11:30 a.m. Friday with Friends event

Saturday, August 15 Oyster Festival Book Sale, Milford Bank Main Office parking lot, Broad St.

New Volunteer Opportunities

Adopt a Library Shelf. Be responsible for keeping one of the library's bookshelves neat and organized. Work on your own schedule, at your own pace.

Fridays With Friends. Help plan and set up scheduled coffee hours.

Oyster Festival Book Sale. Assist in organizing, setting up and manning the Friends' Book Sale.

Contact Us:

Email: milfordlib.friends@gmail.com

On Facebook: [facebook.com/FriendsofMilfordLibrary](https://www.facebook.com/FriendsofMilfordLibrary)

Friends of the Milford Library page on the Library website

Three New Friends' Programs Underway

Welcome to Milford: Volunteers have recently met to assemble "Welcome to Milford bags" which will be given to Milford newcomers when they apply for a Milford Library card. Included in the new blue and yellow Friends Welcome bags are the brand new Milford Chamber of Commerce Guide, Environmental Concerns Commission's Milford Favorite Walks Booklet, Milford Living Magazine, information about the Library and Friends' programs, and bookmarks.

Oral History Project: Volunteer Barbara Cairney is the new chair of the Oral History Project. Students at Foran High School and adult volunteers have begun interviewing and videotaping artists represented in the City's Permanent Art Collection.

Bill Meddick, founder of the Milford Arts Council and the first artist interviewed for the Oral History Project.



Friends Table in the Downstairs Lobby: Friendly volunteers welcome Library patrons, accept book donations and give out information about Friends activities. The table is staffed 'most days' from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. by 18 devoted volunteers, including Peggy Bolger, Jeannie Young Bump, Fran Cappelli, Cheryl Cappiali, Carmella DeVito, Martha Farrington, Zazu Gray, Ellie Kopnick, John Livi, Ro Muscatelli, Flo Munz, Patricia Onofreo, Carol Sahutsky, Judy Salemme, Rhea Spiegel, Carol Ann Stankiewicz and Carol Tavella.

If you want to join in any of these new activities, please email us.

Did You Know That...

*You can donate to the Friends (at no cost to you) just by making purchases on Amazon Smile? List the Friends of the Milford Library as your non-profit of choice and a percentage of every purchase will go directly to us.

* You can now pay for your Friends' membership and make donations online?

* You can purchase items for the Library from their Wishlist? Look for us on the Library's website and follow the directions.

Many Thanks...

- ◆ For their generous contributions to the Friends: *Corporate donors* Barrett Outdoor Communications, Inc., Orange Research Inc., Duffner Family Fund; *Patrons* Mrs. Ray Litchman, Edward Pierce, Anne Bolin; *Sponsors* Martha Chutjian and Eric Jenkins.
- ◆ Peggy Bolger for donating postage and mailing out our membership renewals.
- ◆ Jack and Lois Button for donating time, materials and expertise to the Little Libraries project.
- ◆ Beth Hanson for taking and printing all the wonderful photographs of our events.
- ◆ Carol Sahutsky for coordinating the refreshments we all enjoy at our programs.
- ◆ Jeff Bouvier for the generous donation of 175 books for our book fair.
- ◆ Student volunteers from Foran High School who have helped us with our meetings and programs—they have manned the door, set up chairs and tables and done it all with smiling faces.
- ◆ Wonderful Friends volunteers who, in February and March alone, logged in over 300 hours on our volunteer time sheets.

Friends to Hold Book Sale at Milford Bank during Oyster Festival

Amy Bringardner, Vice President Membership and Chairperson for Book Sales, announced that the Friends will be sponsoring a Book Sale at the Oyster Festival on Saturday, August 15.

"We are delighted", said Amy, "to work with the Milford Bank on our inaugural Book Sale at the Oyster Festival. We will set up in the Milford Bank's Broad Street parking lot. While the Friends sell books every day in the downstairs lobby of the Library, our presence at the Oyster Festival will introduce us to a new group of book lovers."

"We invite everybody to visit our Oyster Festival Book Sale and go home with some really great buys. In the meantime, if you have books you would like to donate please email us (milfordlib.friends@gmail.com)."

Five Milford High School Students to Receive First Annual FOML Book Award on June 8

This year, the Friends of the Milford Library have instituted a new High School Book Award program. Led by FOML committee members Peggy Bolger, Carrie Bryant, and Judy Salemme, and working with school personnel in all five of Milford's high schools, the Friends will recognize one student per school who has exhibited outstanding personal character, made a positive impact on their school or community, and demonstrated a strong and consistent love of reading. Each award winner will receive a book and a duplicate copy of that book will be given to the student's school library with a bookplate commemorating the student's achievement. The Friends will hold a reception for all five students, their families, friends and school officials on Monday, June 8 at 6 p.m. All are welcome.



Friends of the Milford Library Newsletter

Fall 2015

57 New Haven Avenue, Milford, Connecticut

A Huge Success ... The Friends of the Milford Library's First Oyster Festival Book Sale

After several years' absence, book lovers flocked to enthusiastically support the popular Oyster Festival Book Sale, reinstituted this year by The Friends of the Milford Library. The big white tent, sitting in the Broad Street parking lot of the Milford Bank facing the historic Milford Green, was jammed with buyers from the minute it opened at 9:00 a.m.

Kudos for all those who helped ...

Milford Bank, for being such a loyal, helpful, accommodating partner (with special shout-outs to Jorge Santiago, Nancy Parker, and Karuna Kasbawala);

The Oyster Festival Committee who went above and beyond to assist us;

Jay Sullivan of Rick's Plumbing Service, Inc. in Milford, who donated his time and his truck to move over 250 heavy cases of books from the Library to the Bank;

Randy Rajaniemi of Canon Solutions America for our banners;

The energetic sales volunteers, including not only members of the Friends and their teen-aged offspring, but nearly 20 students from Foran and Jonathan Law high schools, who tirelessly and cheerfully helped throughout the day;

The generous book donors, who throughout the year contributed the terrific, gift-quality, almost new hard cover and paperback books for adults and children, CDs, DVDs and records that the buyers loved; and

The broad and enthusiastic support of the lovely crowd who showed up ready to buy.

As a result of the extraordinary efforts of all of these individuals and organizations, the Friends' support for library programs for the coming year will be better than ever.

Thank you Milford!



We are excited to announce that the Friends of the Library group will be holding a holiday book sale at the library on the evening of Friday, December 4, during the Lamplight Stroll!

Mark These Dates and Join Us:

Friday, **9/18** 10-11:30 a.m. Friday with Friends Coffee Hour, Program Room, Milford Library

Friday, **10/16** 11:30 a.m. Tour of Yale's Sterling Library

Friday, **11/20** Visit the New York City Public Library and Grolier Club

Friday, **12/4** evening Book Sale during the Milford Lamplight Stroll, Program Room, Milford Library

Sunday, **12/13**, 2-4 p.m. Friends Holiday Reception, Program Room, Milford Library

Many Thanks...

For their generous contributions to the Friends:

Patrons Walter Dolde, Karuna Kasbawala

Sponsor Patricia Brennan

Contact Us:

Email: milfordlib.friends@gmail.com

On Facebook: [facebook.com/FriendsofMilfordLibrary](https://www.facebook.com/FriendsofMilfordLibrary)

Friends of the Milford Library page on the Library website

*Purchase via Amazon Smile and the Friends earn \$. See our webpage.

Five Milford Students Win Friends' Book Award



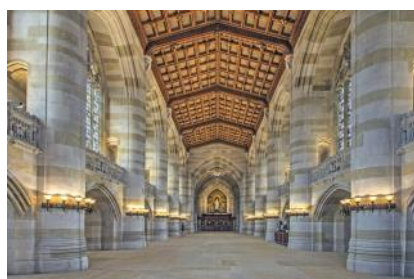
Left to right: Superintendent of Schools Dr. Elizabeth Feser; Milford Library Director Christine Angeli; Sara Beck, Jonathan Law High School; Emily Johnson The Academy; Milford Author Deforest W. Smith; Galilea Yanza, Platt Tech; Colleen Bradley, Laurus Hall; Kaleigh Paskiewicz, Joseph A. Foran High School, and President of Friends of the Milford Library Dr. Anne Bolin.

Five Milford students were honored on June 8 with the Friends of Milford Library Book Award at a ceremony held at the Library. Presented by Superintendent of Schools Dr. Elizabeth Feser and Friends President Dr. Anne Bolin, the students, who were selected by the faculty at each school, were honored for their demonstrated strong and consistent love of reading, outstanding personal character, and the positive impact they have made on their school and community. The awardees received a signed copy of *Only in Milford* by Deforest W. Smith. A copy was also given to each student's school library with a bookplate commemorating the achievement. Friends' Committee members Peggy Bolger, Carrie Bryant, and Judy Salemme worked with school personnel in all five of Milford's high schools to institute the new Awards Program. Noted Friends President Anne Bolin, "We are delighted to honor these students for the important role that reading has played in their lives, as well as for their integrity and their commitment to the City of Milford."

Friday with Friends Event

Friday, October 16 at Yale's Library

Join Ken Crilly, Associate University Librarian for Program Development & Research in the Yale University Library, on Friday October 16, at 11:30 AM, as he leads the Friends of the Milford Library on a tour of Yale's Sterling Memorial Library. The gothic-style entrance nave of Sterling underwent an extensive restoration from July 2013 through August 2014. In the nave, we'll see the cleaned and repaired stained glass windows, new lighting which showcases the restored ceilings, upper-level architectural details, the patterning that emerged from cleaning the sandstone and limestone walls, and the repaired mural of Eugene Savage's *Alma Mater*. We'll also learn about the repurposing of several spaces within the nave (such as the old card catalog areas), so that the space now better supports the activities of a twenty-first century research library. Beyond the nave, Ken will show us several other reading rooms and collections on the first floor of Sterling, which serves as the



principal library of one of the great academic research libraries in the world. Total tour time: approximately 1 hour.

Board of Directors News

The Board is pleased to announce the recent appointments of Janice Pellegrino as Treasurer of The Friends and Karuna Kasbawala as Assistant Treasurer.

Currently the librarian at Joseph A. Foran High School, Janice has had expertise in the legal field and environmental consulting areas prior to her role as librarian in the education and public sectors. She brings strong computer technology

Little Libraries Launched



Three launch parties were held in May to open the Friends Little Libraries at the Milford YMCA, the Firehouse Gallery and Gulf Beach. Constructed by interested Little Libraries Committee members, each Little Library has stewards responsible for overseeing and checking on its stock of books. With its tagline, 'take a book, return a book', the newly built boxes of free books are open 24/7.



skills and website management experience to the Board. Formerly Assistant Treasurer, she fills a vacancy created by the resignation of Wilbert Laza.

Karuna has been employed by the Milford Bank for 16 years and is currently Assistant Manager of the Woodmont Office. She offers her skills and experience in retail banking and customer service to the Board. She fills the role vacated by Ms. Pellegrino.