

Killingworth Library Newsletter

A publication of the Killingworth Library Association, Inc.

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Library Receives Grant to Evaluate Expansion

The library's finance committee has received a \$15,000 grant award letter from the State of Connecticut for funding a feasibility study to expand the library to accommodate the town's Historical Society collection.

Nancy Bradley, president of the library board, credits Connecticut State Senator Edward Meyer with sponsoring the grant funding. "The Killingworth Library Association would like to explore the possibilities of collaboration between the Killingworth Library Association and the Killingworth Historical Society, a thought which has been discussed for more than a year," Bradley explained. "Senator Meyer recognized that by making the Historical Society collection available for public viewing and educational programming, we can better serve the community at large, students and teachers in the local school system, residents in retirement homes and communities, town government, and social and community service organizations. The grant allows us to start the planning process in earnest." After obtaining community input through focus groups, assessing the current Historical Society collection and working with community leaders, a project plan and scope of work with timeline and implementation detail will be developed.

Alison Karam, library director

Tune in to the Library

Take the next step in video entertainment with downloadable videos – now live through Killingworth Library's own My Library TV.

Patrons with cable, DSL, or wireless Internet access will be able to download and view a wide variety of high-quality videos:

- Cooking shows – *Julia & Jacques Cooking at Home*, *Lidia's Italian-American Kitchen*, *Foodwise*, and more...
- Travel – *Globe Trekker*, *Rick Steves*, *TravelVue*
- Health documentaries
- How-To instructional videos
- 50 classic films (may be burned by users)
- Local and library events

To tune in, simply link through the library's webpage (www.killingworthlibrary.org), enter your library barcode, and enjoy the show.

Recorded Books is offering this 6-month trial free of charge to the library. How could we resist? Try it out and let us know what you think; if enough people are interested, we may continue to ride the wave of the video future.

Tammy Eustis, head librarian

Library Renovates Meeting Room

The library meeting room is getting a facelift. The walls have been painted, and the floor has been refinished with four coats of commercial grade polyurethane. There's a new message board; and you'll soon be seeing new chairs, curtains crafted by patron Amy Koepke, and some new lighting. We're also tossing around the idea of creating a reading corner with a couple of easy chairs and a small table.

It's been eleven years since the room was opened for public use, and the town has kept it busy. The room is used by over fifty community groups, including such diverse organizations as the Cub Scouts and Brownies, the Killingworth Investment Club, and the Killingworth Women's Organization. The room also serves as a classroom for the Middlesex Adult Education High School Program.

Most of the funding for the renovation project came from donations received in memory of past library board president, John P. Hine, Jr. If anyone would like to contribute to the project, contributions can be mailed to the library or dropped off with the librarians. Checks should be made payable to the Killingworth Library Association. (Please write "Meeting Room Renovation" in the memo section.)

Lou Goldblatt, library director



Library patron reads to her children and friend in the Children's Room

Annual Fund letters have been mailed to each household in Killingworth. In case you did not get one or yours was inadvertently lost, you can see a copy by going online to the library's website at www.killingworthlibrary.org. At the "Events" link you will find information on how to make a donation.

Personnel Notes

The Killingworth Library Association welcomes Kathleen Logsdon to its team. The newest member of the library staff,



Kathleen can be found working behind the circulation desk on Tuesday and Thursday evenings and all day Saturday.

Originally from Michigan, Ms. Logsdon is a graduate of the University of Detroit where she earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in Sociology. Marriage brought her to Waterford, where her four children were raised. For several years, Kathleen ran her own arts and crafts

business on Main Street in Essex. That was followed by work in the Waterford High School media center. She also studied library science on a graduate level at Southern Connecticut State University. Kathleen is now a full-time library assistant at Wesleyan University in Middletown.

It was through the state library system's on-line job website that Kathleen found the Killingworth Library posting. The hours and time fit her schedule perfectly, and she finds the patron contact in her new position a pleasant change from the more technical nature of her job at Wesleyan. "In this position, I'm able to blend my technical library skills with the customer relations skills I developed during my years as a retail business owner," Kathleen explained.

"I am thoroughly enjoying my work here and am looking forward to meeting more of the Killingworth population in the weeks and months ahead."

The library board also recognizes the long-time service of retiring volunteer, Enid Sherman. Originally a volunteer in the KES children's library, she began volunteering in the Killingworth Library around 1977 when it was housed in what is now the State Trooper's residence.

In this small space, she worked at the circulation desk and on the care and repair of books. As the book collection grew, the space became ever more crowded. But a new library was in the planning, and Enid has now spent over ten years volunteering at its circulation desk. To this day, she remains impressed with then-head librarian Ginny Chapman's handling of the monumental move from the trooper's house to the new building with no interruption in services to the public.

Enid and her husband Robert moved to Killingworth in 1963 and raised their four children here. Both firm believers in community volunteering, they were active in the Boy Scout and Girl Scout programs with their children. Bob served on the library board for a number of years and played a pivotal role in the building of the present library, serving as "Clerk of the Works" for the project. Since his retirement, the couple



has enjoyed extensive traveling. Avid gardeners, they often plan trips with the Connecticut Horticultural Society.

Understanding that volunteering is a family affair passed on from one generation to another, Enid expressed her concern for the future. "I hope life doesn't ever get so busy that people don't volunteer."

The Killingworth Library Association is grateful that Enid found time to volunteer and that she generously did so for twenty-nine years at the library.

Kathleen Amoia, library director

Library Plans Second Annual Golf Tournament



Winning team from June 2006 tournament: Dave Darling, Frank Sparks, Chris Lawrence, Scott Ryan.

One hundred local golfers came out to enjoy a great day of golf, food, and fun in our first-ever golf tournament held in June of this year. The overall winner that day was the team of Dave Darling, Frank Sparks, Chris Lawrence and Scott Ryan. In other competitions, the Longest Drive was won by John Hine of South Carolina, the nephew of the tournament's namesake and longtime library supporter. Closest to the Pin was won by Eric Auer of Killingworth.

It was such a great success that we have decided to repeat the event. Mark your calendar for the Second Annual John P. Hine, Jr., Memorial Golf Tournament to be held on Monday, June 11, 2007. The Clinton Country Club will host us once again so prepare for a wonderful course and a delicious lunch and dinner.

Shelly Cumpstone, library volunteer and tournament chairperson

The Sky's the Limit

An idea hatched by Karen Milano of Killingworth and taken to children's librarian, Gayle Byrne, is now reaching fruition through the artistic talents and generosity of muralist, Randy Davis. As this newsletter was being put together, Randy, of Off the Wall Murals, was getting ready to bring sky and tree tops to the dome of the library's children's room. Bob Bellonio, library board member and chairperson of the Building Maintenance Committee, has already done the preparation work necessary to get the dome ready.

(continued)

It is Randy's plan to create the look of an atrium. Young readers will be able to raise their eyes to a perpetually sunny sky seen through beam-supported glass. The two o'clock light of an autumn afternoon and a playful combination of soft clouds and autumn-leafed treetops will complete the vision. On the bleakest of winter days, library patrons of all ages will be able to peek at a glorious autumnal sky.

Karen Milano hopes to find a painter to contribute his or her time to painting the rest of the children's room and a generous supplier to donate the necessary paint. Interested volunteers can call Karen at 860-663-3816 or e-mail her at Trailblazer65@hotmail.com.

Kathleen Amoia, library director

From Head Librarian Tammy—

Mark Twain, the wisest of wise guys, once said, "If you wish to inflict a heartless and malignant punishment upon a young person, pledge him to keep a journal a year." Twain would be proud of my achievements: I am a failure at journaling. Other than my birdwatching journal, which now stretches across four volumes and contains numerous breathless entries about waxwings and towhees, I have no record of my life to leave to posterity. This is somewhat distressing. If I can't remember what I ate for breakfast this morning, how am I going to remember all of those fabulous adventures I've had and colorful characters I've met?



Head Librarian Tammy Eustis with some of her favorite books.

Surprisingly enough, I have found answers to these questions in my reading list. I started it in 1986, inspired by my mother's own list, which dates back to 1962 (show-off!). I don't include annotations, reviews or even a star-based rating -- just the author and title, short and simple. The list resides in two notebooks: one plain composition book, which contains all of the years up to 2000, and a prettier blank book that I received as a present; this one holds the New Millennium of Reading. Granted, in this digital age, I often wish the entries were searchable. For example, I know I've read about half of the Alex Delaware mysteries by Jonathan Kellerman... but which ones? (Fortunately, there are new websites out there designed for the purpose of recording one's reading lists, and they do allow for searching. I have yet to play with this new format.)

Flipping through the notebooks, looking for that particular needle in a haystack, can be a daunting and frustrating task. But I have also discovered that reading my

reading list is just as insightful as a family photo album -- maybe more so. A handful of titles on the natural history and wildlife of Yellowstone (entered in 2001) recalls that spectacular visit: seeing my first buffalo up close, running away from a friendly moose, and the cloying smell of sulphur at the geyser basins. I ate dinner with Andre Dubus in New Haven in 1998 (*Meditations from a Movable Chair*) and made my first overseas visit to Italy in 1996 (*Diary of Florence in Flood* by Katherine Taylor). In 2002, I watered gardens for friends over the summer; while waiting for the sprinklers to run their course, I vicariously traveled by reed boat to Easter Island (*Eight Men and a Duck* by Nick Thorpe) and round Ireland with a fridge (*Round Ireland with a Fridge* by Tony Hawks).

Along with these accomplishments, the list also records my failures. In 1999, I promised myself that I would read all of the Newbery Award Winners. Five titles later (*Jacob Have I Loved* by Katherine Paterson was my favorite, by the way), my heartfelt attempt dissolved when I decided to read all of the works of Dave Barry. But look! More Newberys listed in 2000! Well, three titles, then I immersed myself in horror fiction. So much for best-laid plans. I can say that I've read all of the existing Harry Potter books, plus *Moby Dick*... twice. That should make up for my broken promises.

The current year has passed in a blur -- is it really October already?!? -- but my reading list is a friendly reminder of what I fit into those fast-paced months. I attended book discussions (in Killingworth: *The Hungry Ocean* by Linda Greenlaw; in Chester: *The Magus* by John Fowles). I saw Kurt Vonnegut at the Bushnell (*Man Without a Country*). I visited the National Yiddish Book Center in Amherst, MA (*Outwitting History: the Amazing Adventures of a Man Who Rescued a Million Yiddish Books* by Aaron Lansky); this prompted me to take a four-week course on Jewish literature at Wesleyan over the summer. Also in those warm, languid days of July, I sat on a screened-in porch next to a murmuring brook and enjoyed the calls of ospreys over Cedar Lake (*This Mysterious River* by Mel Ellis, a gem of an old novel). More recently, the country observed the fifth anniversary of 9/11, and I read the engaging and bittersweet *Extremely Loud & Incredibly Close* by Jonathan Safran Foer.

So here sits my life, in two simple notebooks, line by line and page by page. I suppose I should admit to Mr. Twain -- and myself -- that I have been keeping a journal all along. My bird journal assumes that posterity will be interested to know that the white-throated sparrows arrived last year on October 19th. My reading list reminds me that I was wrapped up in the delicious intrigue of *The Shadow of the Wind* by Carlos Ruiz Zafon, and I was preparing for yet another discussion at Chester Library (*Tess of the D'Urbervilles*). The only downside to the entire venture is that my list of books I want to read will always be shorter than the list of books I have read. Such is life.

Editor's note: The books on Tammy's list are on display in the "Staff Recommendations" section of the library.

Support the library. Donate to the Annual Fund.

KILLINGWORTH LIBRARY

WINTER kids' programs

signup begins **DEC 1**

Sign-up by phone or in person (residents given priority)
any questions call Gayle at 663-2000

***** STORYTIME *****

especially for children ages 3 + 4
every **THURSDAY** morning 10:00 – 10:30
during the month of **JANUARY**
JAN 4 11 18 25

***** TERRIFIC TWOS *****

especially for children
between the ages of 24 and 36 months.
parents and caregivers are invited to enjoy
some rhyme time fun with their child
every **THURSDAY** morning 10:00-10:30
during the month of **FEBRUARY**
FEB 1 8 15 22

***** MUSIC WITH MARGIE *****

* 2 ½ year olds + older **TUESDAYS 10:45 - 11:15**
session starts **JANUARY 4**

***** PAWS and READ *****

* **Animal-Assisted Reading Program** *

Studies show that children find reading to an animal lots of fun + less intimidating than reading in front of people. These Saturday morning sessions are just the thing for children needing a little something "extra".

THE FOUR HOMES OF THE KILLINGWORTH LIBRARY



Killingworth Elementary School
1964-65



Killingworth Town Hall
1965-72



Resident State Police Office
1972-95



Killingworth Library
1995-present

STOP BY THE LIBRARY TO SEE...

...our bulletin board honoring the volunteers who keep the library running

...the monthly displays in our showcase

...our ongoing book sale

...the renovated meeting room

...the staff recommendations display, featuring lists of upcoming new releases. Find this in the "New Books" section.

...Mr. and Mrs. Santa Claus on December 2 from 10 A.M. to noon.

KILLINGWORTH LIBRARY STAFF

Tammy Eustis.....Head Librarian
Gayle Byrne.....Children's Librarian
Lauren Davis.....Assistant Librarian
Janis Leird.....Technical Services Assistant
Kathleen Logsdon.....Circulation Assistant

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