November 2021

There is so much going on in November at SFL! As we ramp up for the holiday season we are happy to have a calendar full of programming for all ages. We have book groups, craft groups, and two amazing Sunday night events. Scroll down for all the details. We hope to see you.

Have you seen our new Little Free Library? It is located at New Heights: A Vista Life Innovations Program in Pawcatuck.

ENSURING THE FUTURE
Pat Lawrie Memorial Bequest

It is a special, perhaps unique, aspect of libraries that they are living organisms of which the past, present and future each constitute a vital part. It is those who have gone before us that help make that present and ensure that future.

In 2002 Pat Lawrie lost a brave battle with breast cancer and died at the tragically early age of 55, deeply mourned by her husband, David Rathbun, her family, her friends and the community she served so faithfully. In gratitude for her life, a Memorial Bequest was created, the funds at that time dedicated to the purchase of travel books, a recognition both of her career in the travel industry and her service as Treasurer to the Library. However, as we moved into the digital age, the sources of travel information changed and the need for travel books lessened. In response David and his family revisited the purpose of the Bequest and requested that the funds be used instead to purchase books by young American writers.

Over the past eighteen months we have added to the collection over a hundred books by such debut authors, many whom we will hear from in the coming years as they advance their careers, books that many of our patrons will recognize. Among these are ‘Homeland Elegies’ by Ayad Akhtar, ‘Leave the World Behind’ by Ruman Alam, ‘The Vanishing Half’ by Brit Bennett and ‘American Dirt’ by Janine Cummins and too many more to list here. Most recently added are ‘Snowflake’, by Louise Nelson, ‘In Every Mirror She’s Black’ by Lola Akerstrom and ‘My Monticello’ by Jocelyn Nicole Johnson. Twice a year we plan to update this list in the newsletter.

This is a beautiful example of the way in which libraries are living memorials and we are grateful to David Rathbun and his son for their continuing support of the Library in honor of Pat whose life will continue to enrich the community that she loved.
TEXT ALERTS

Text alerts are here! Our community members have been requesting a text alert option for library notifications. We are delighted to provide yet another way to make the library easy to use.

LEARN MORE HERE

A NOTE FROM MRS. FREY

November is a month for gratitude – from Veterans Day to Thanksgiving, we recognize the many things we are thankful for in our world. There is always something that shines in our lives, sometimes we just have to pause and take a silent moment to find and acknowledge it. Let’s try to do that every day this month.

READ MORE HERE

BELINDA’S BOOK NOTES

Each month enjoy beautifully written Book Notes by our Director Emeritus, Belinda de Kay.

November brings us Shakespeare, Melville, and Seasons of the Mind.

READ MORE HERE
MEET OUR NEW STAFF MEMBER

Each month we will highlight a member or members of our library community. Check back each month to learn more about our staff, our trustees, our volunteers, and our supporters.

This month we want to welcome one of our new staff members, Marion! Please stop by and welcome her to our team of friendly helpers.

OUR FAVORITES THIS MONTH

Check out what our staff enjoys from the SFL Catalog. Access books, eBooks, and more!

LIBBY AND OVERDRIVE NEED A PIN

Last month we reinstituted the PIN requirement for our Libby/Overdrive collection. If you haven’t used Libby/Overdrive since October 13, you will now need your PIN to login. If you don’t remember your PIN call or stop by the Library during regular hours or email stonlib@stoningtonfreelibrary for help.
How to access SFL's Digital Library from home!

Getting started: You’ll need a device that connects to the internet and your library card number. Please contact us at SFL if you need access to or to renew your library card.

STEP 1) Download the Libby app from your device's app store. Or, visit libbyapp.com in your preferred internet browser.

STEP 2) In Libby, follow the prompts to find your library and sign in with your card number. (This can be done for all libraries you have a card with!)

STEP 3) Browse SFL’s collection and borrow a title!

Please contact us at SFL if you need your card number or to renew your library card.
We will be closed for Veterans Day

THURSDAY

NOVEMBER 11

Thank you, veterans

Our Digital Library is always open
THANKSGIVING HOURS

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 24:
CLOSING AT 1:00 PM

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 25:
CLOSED

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 26:
OPEN AT 10:00 AM

Our Digital Library is always open!

ADULT PROGRAMMING
Ernie O'Malley, A Life

Harry Martin and Cormac O'Malley

Appointed General at 23, Ernie was the towering combat figure of the IRA during the War of Independence (1919-1921), & The Irish Civil War (1922-1923). Honored as an Irish hero, he received a state funeral in 1957. In his second, equally compelling creative life, he wrote world acclaimed books on both conflicts and had a tumultuous marriage with the American heiress sculptor, Helen Hooker.

November 7, 2021 at 5 PM
Copies of the book will be for sale.
This in-person event is free and open to the public at the La Grua Center.
Attendees must wear masks regardless of vaccination status.

Note Location: La Grua Center, 32 Water St., Stonington, CT
Poetry Reading: The Glass Globe
Presented by Connecticut Poet Laureate
Margaret Gibson

STONINGTOM FREE LIBRARY
November 14, 2021 at 5 PM
This in-person event is free and open to the public at Stonington Free Library.
Attendees must wear masks regardless of vaccination status.

20 High Street Stonington, CT | 860-535-0658 | stoningtonfreelibrary.org
SFL Knitting Group

WEDNESDAYS
1 PM - 3 PM

All crafters are welcome to join us in the library every Wednesday from 1-3 pm. Masks are required in the library for everyone’s safety.

Email
ivyhope@stoningtonfreelibrary.org
for more information!

BOOK GROUPS
First Wednesday of the month @ 5:30

10/6
The Exiles

11/3
The Book Woman of Troublesome Creek

12/1
The Night Tiger

What are the SFL Book Groups Reading?

10/14
Sabrina & Corina

11/18
Killers of the Flower Moon

12/9
The Giver of Stars

Second Thursday of the month @ 2
WEDNESDAY EVENING BOOK GROUP

Evening Book Group Members will discuss:

*The Book Woman of Troublesome Creek*

by

Kim Michele Richardson

Wednesday, November 3rd at 5:30pm

New to the group?
Email ivyhope@stoningtonfreelibrary.org for more information.
Afternoon Book Group Members will discuss:

*Killers of the Flower Moon*
by David Grann

Thursday, November 18th
2:00 pm - 3:00 pm

New to the group? Email ivyhope@stoningtonfreelibrary.org for more information.
Human Services Book Discussion
Sponsored by the Stonington Free Library

The Guest List by Lucy Foley
Friday, November 19th
12 - 1pm
at Stonington Human Services
166 S Broad St. Pawcatuck, CT

If you have questions
Call Human Services 860-535-5015
Stonington Free Library 860-535-0658
or email ivyhope@stoningtonfreelibrary.org

YOUTH PROGRAMMING
Virtual STORY TIME
Sept. 13 - Dec. 27

MONDAY MORNINGS on our
YOUTUBE channel.
November Grab and Go Bags
Pick up November 1st

Thanksgiving Jeopardy

Ages 3-10

Bags will include a Thanksgiving version of Jeopardy and a sticker scene for the younger people in your family

While Supplies Last
TAKE HOME HOLIDAY
GINGERBREAD HOUSE

Decorate your own Gingerbread House

Pickup
Thursday, December 9th
Reservation REQUIRED
We provide all supplies
ONE house per family

All Ages Welcome

Reservations open November 19th
December Grab & Go Bags
Ages 4-12

Craft materials to go along with our Beanstack Reading Challenge

December 6th
While Supplies Last

WAYS TO SUPPORT THE LIBRARY
Are you a Charter Oak Member?

If so, help Charter Oak Credit Union Give Away $100,000 in 100 days to The Stonington Free Library.

Charter Oak Credit Union will match all qualified* charitable donations YOU make between Tuesday, August 17, 2021 and Wednesday, November 24, 2021 to The Stonington Free Library. Please click here to read qualifying information and to access the form to be submitted to SFL along with your contribution. We hope this Matching Gifts program will inspire you to make a gift to The Stonington Free Library.

Thank you so much for supporting us!

*Donations must be at least $25 and will be matched in increments of $25 ($25, $50, $75, and $100, etc.); Charter Oak Credit Union will match up to a maximum of $500 per Charter Oak Credit Union member during these 100 days. https://charteroak.org/content/matching-gifts/

LIBRARY HOURS

Holiday Closings:
Thursday, November 11

Wednesday, November 24 – closing at 1 pm

Thursday, November 25

Call us at 860-535-0658 or email us.

Monday 10 – 7

QUICK LINKS

STONINGTON FREE LIBRARY

BROWSE THE LIBRARY’S CATALOG
There are many ways you can support the Library:

- Donate to the Library Annual Fund
- Become a Library Sustainer
- Celebrate and raise funds

The Stonington Free Library | www.stoningtonfreelibrary.org
860.535.0658 | 20 High Street P.O. Box 232 Stonington, CT 06378

STAY CONNECTED