

Phoebe Griffin Noyes OLD LYME LIBRARY

Letter from the President

When I was approached to join the Board of Trustees three years ago, the Nominating Committee had no idea how strongly I felt about libraries. I certainly wasn't a regular patron, and the challenges of my career and motherhood meant that I wasn't about to be any time soon. Little did they know what a huge role libraries had played in my life and how passionate I am to ensure their future. I was so fortunate to have grown up within walking distance of the (former) Niantic Public Library. The library was a rite of passage—I could go by myself, choose my own books, and linger as long as I wanted. If I stayed too long, my mom could even call there to make sure I was home in time for dinner. I would trudge in all weather to the library and proudly bring back a pile of books so high that I could barely see where I was walking. I remember the proud defiance I felt when the librarian asked if I was really going to read all those books. Oh yes, I really was. And I did.

As I grew up libraries were always there for me, whether or not I actually stepped foot inside. Of course my favorite collegiate library nooks allowed my escape from boisterous housemates when I needed to focus and study. But when I later traveled for work as an adult, just seeing a public library in a strange new town lent a sense of calm and belonging. I knew that I had a safe place to go if I had time to kill. The very existence of a public library makes

a town feel more welcoming.

Fast forward to today, and I am so fortunate that my kids have grown up within walking distance of their own public library. They each loved receiving their very own library card. I'm sure they too can remember the first few times they set out alone to return books and find exciting new ones. They have much less down time than I did, and they now have a digital cloud at their fingertips. But they know that the library is there whenever they need it, like a faithful friend.

I have just taken on my first year as President, and I am honored to be vested with the responsibility of ensuring that our treasured library remains available and relevant to you for many years to come. Our upcoming Renewal Project is less about the books and other resources we offer than improving the functionality and accessibility of our beautiful building. By this time next year, we'll be welcoming you to enjoy redesigned and refreshed spaces, both inside and outside our walls. Our vision to be the community's vibrant hub for engagement, discovery and creativity hasn't changed. We're just giving our beloved Phoebe a makeover and some new accessories to welcome the future, and you, to the Old Lyme Library. Like a faithful friend.

--Kirsten Sicuranza, President

Renewal Project Update

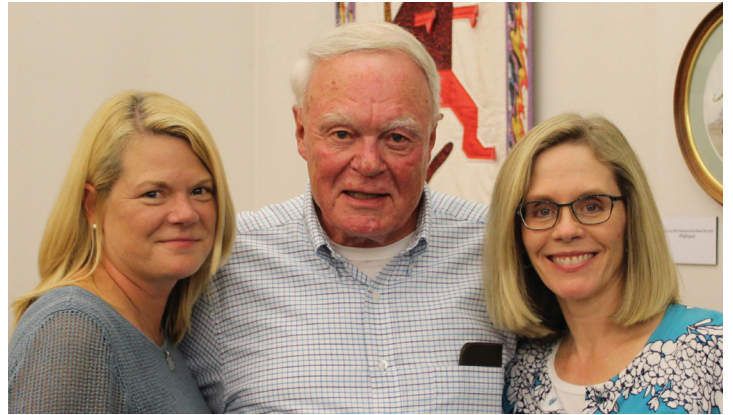
You may not have noticed much change when visiting the Library recently, but the Library's Renewal Project is well underway. This past December, the Connecticut State Bond Commission voted to forward our project, and in March we officially signed a contract with the State of Connecticut to receive the promised \$1,000,000 grant. In the meantime, the Library Board of Trustees voted to engage the architectural services of TSKP Studio to complete the design and the construction plans. After working collaboratively this past winter to finalize the design, in late April we began developing the final construction documents and selecting furnishings and finishes. More recently, we have started strategizing with Burlington Construction, our construction management firm, to lay out the construction timeline and determine how best to maintain Library operations during construction. At this point, we anticipate beginning work on the building in September and completing the project by next summer. Stay tuned!

—Katie Huffman, Director

Latest News & Updates

New Board Member Emeritus

The Board of Trustees inducted Edward "Ned" Perkins as a member emeritus at their 2018 Annual Meeting. Ned served on the Library Board from 1997–2003 and again from 2010–2016. He served as Treasurer from 1999–2003 and then as President from 2010–2014. During his tenure and beyond, Ned advocated for the Library staff and worked tirelessly behind the scenes to ensure they were supported in their work and felt appreciated. Since formally leaving the Board, Ned has continued to serve on a variety of committees, including Finance, Nominating, and, most recently, the Renewal Campaign. We're honored to continue working with Ned to fulfill the mission of the Library.



Ned (center) with his daughters, Kristen Shea (left) and Leslie Anderson (right) at the 2018 Annual Meeting. Not pictured, Kendall Perkins.

Lunch with Luanne

On Sunday, March 31st, the Library hosted an intimate lunch and conversation with bestselling author Luanne Rice. More than 75 people attended the sold-out event to hear Luanne talk about books, writing, life, and finding inspiration in Old Lyme—everything that makes life here so special. Luanne shared how important the Library has been to her over the years, beginning as a young, aspiring writer who would bike down to the Library reading room for a quiet writing spot. We're always so pleased to learn how our Library contributes to enrich our community.



Upcoming Events & Activities for Adults

Summer Reading: Book Bingo for Adults

Join us for another summer of fun! Complete details can be found on the Library's website.

LeadingTOGETHER Thriving Community Conversations

Tuesday, June 4, 4pm

Residents and state leaders are invited to discuss issues affecting Eastern CT. Co-hosted by the Community Foundation of Eastern Connecticut.

Friends of the Library Annual Meeting

Thursday, June 6 at 10am

Featuring Robert Kim Bingham, local author of *Courageous Dissent: How Harry Bingham Defied His Government to Save Lives*.

Pollinator Gardens & Living Landscapes with Eleanor Robinson and Anna Penniman

Monday, June 17, 6:30 pm

Learn how to attract pollinators to your garden.

Kombucha Lecture by Amy Mastrangelo

Thursday, July 18, 6:30 pm

This informative talk will provide a brief history of kombucha, an overview of its health benefits, and how it is made.

Dear Mary: Letters Home from the 10th Mountain Division (1944-1945), Author talk and Book Signing

Wednesday, June 26, 6:30 pm

Local Author Sydney Williams will be on hand to talk about his newest book, *Dear Mary*, which consists of letters between his parents between December 1944 and July 1945 along with author commentary on Italy at that time.

Uboat Hunters during the Great War, Author talk and Book Signing

Monday, July 22, 6:30pm

Author Roy R. Manstan discusses his new book *The Listeners* which traces the origin of SONAR to a group of scientists and engineers who assembled at Fort Trumbull from 1917-1919, supported by naval personnel from the sub base.

Summer Reading Events & Activities for Kids & Tween/Teens

Check out our online calendar at oldlyme.lioninc.org/events for the most up-to-date listings and to register for our programs.

Events for Kids

Summer Reading KickOff Party: Alien Invasion—A Universe of Stories!

Friday, June 14, 3-5pm

This summer, space is the place! Come to our alien themed party to pick up your launch packet—it has everything you need to blast off into a summer of literacy and learning!

Sweet Beats Family Music Summer Concert

Wednesday June 26, 5:30pm-6:30pm

Join Eleanor Robinson and Casey Marsh for a special summer concert on the library lawn. Spread out a blanket, bring a picnic snack, then sing and dance.

Wee Wings with Horizon Wings Raptor Rehabilitation & The Duck River Garden Club

Wednesday, July 10, 4-5pm

Children ages 3+ are invited to interact with live birds and listen to a reading of *Baby Owl's Rescue*.

Night Skies Starlab Traveling Planetarium

Thursday, July 25, Time TBD (registration required)

Experience the wonder of the universe inside the dome of this traveling planetarium which seats 30.

Shark Week at the Phoebe!

Monday, July 22–Friday, July 26

Come to shark themed storytimes and drop in for shark crafts throughout the week. Take a photo in our "JAWS-some" photo booth and check out some shark stories.

Starry Skies: An Intergenerational Pastel Workshop

Wednesday, August 14, 4-6pm (registration required)

Come create a pastel masterpiece in the style of Vincent Van Gogh. Working in tandem with artist and instructor Greg Maichack, participants will learn about exciting post-impressionist concepts. All materials provided. Children under 10 are required to work with an adult caregiver.

Summer Reading Wrap-Up Party

Friday, August 16, 3pm-5pm

Congratulate yourself on completing your mission! You've read a galaxy of books and now it's time to touch down and celebrate. Turn in your final summer reading materials and celebrate your success with light refreshments and the grand prize raffle drawings!

Celebrate Library Card Sign-Up Month at the Carousel

Thursday, August 29, 6-7pm

September is Library Card Sign-Up Month! Get a jump on it by visiting the Carousel in Old Lyme! Children can sign up for a new card or use their existing card to ride the carousel for free.

Toddler Time Tuesdays (recommended for ages 2-5)

Session 1: June 18–July 23, 10:30-11am

Session 2: August 13–September 10, 10:30-11am

Baby Time Playgroup Thursdays (recommended for ages 0-2)

Session 1: June 20–July 25, 10:30-11am

Session 2: August 15 – September 12, 10:30-11am

Events for Tweens/Teens

A Universe of Stories KickOff: Alien Party!

Friday, June 14, 3-5pm

This summer, space is the place! Come to our alien themed party to pick up your launch packet—it has everything you need to blast off into a summer of literacy and learning!

Teen Movie Night (Film rated PG-13)

Thursday, June 27, 5-7pm (registration requested)

Space Food History and Space Burritos (Ages 11+)

Thursday, July 11, 3:30-4:30pm (registration required)

Delve into the weird world of zero gravity snack time.

Space Camp Redux with Stu Sharack

Tuesday, July 16, 3:30-4:30pm (registration required)

Mr. Sharack has been running an exclusive two week Space Camp for many years, and he's coming to us to offer a peek into his curated Universe.

Scifi Universe (Grades 8+)

Tuesday, July 18, 4-5pm (registration requested)

Scifi Universe is a summer only, teen only book club.

DIY Alien Buddy (Ages 11+)

Tuesday, July 23, 3:30-4:30pm (registration requested)

What might an outer space creature look like? Imagine something strange and wild, and make pocket sized version of it!

Scifi Universe (Grades 8+)

Thursday, July 25, 4-5pm (registration requested)

Scifi Universe is a summer only, teen only book club.

Galaxy Nail Art... and Henna too! (Ages 11+)

Thursday, August 8, 4-5:30pm (registration required)

Recreate the wonders of the night sky on your nails, or choose to adorn yourself with Henna instead!

LED UFO (Ages 11+)

Tuesday, August 13, 3:30-5pm (registration required)

Construct a UFO that lights up with LEDs and paper circuits.

Starry Skies: An Intergenerational Pastel Workshop

Wednesday, August 14, 4-6pm (registration required)

Come create a pastel masterpiece in the style of Vincent Van Gogh. Working in tandem with artist and instructor Greg Maichack, participants will learn about exciting post-impressionist concepts. All materials provided.

Summer Reading Wrap-Up Party

Friday, August 16, 3:30-5pm

Congratulate yourself for having read a galaxy of books this summer and join us and your fellow readers in our final mission, the Universe of Stories wrap-up party. We'll be sharing cake and drawing grand prize raffles.

Moon Phase Charms (Ages 11+)

Friday, August 23, 3:30-4:30pm (registration required)

Join us for moon phase inspired jewelry DIY.

Special thanks to Essex Savings Bank, The Community Foundation of Eastern CT, and the Friends of the Library for sponsoring these events!



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The Library is a proud partner of the Old Lyme Arts District. Save the Dates for these upcoming special events!

Make Music Old Lyme: Friday, June 21, Lyme Street

Old Lyme Midsummer Kick-off Concert: Friday, July 26, Florence Griswold Museum

Old Lyme Midsummer Festival: Saturday, July 27, Lyme Street

POSTAL PATRON
Old Lyme, CT 06371

Spring 2019

**DOUBLE
YOUR
DONATION**
with matching funds

YOUR LIBRARY NEEDS YOU!

With matching funds available, there's never been a better time to donate!

Your support makes a difference in our community every day. When you support the Library, so many wonderful things happen:

- **Literacy is strengthened.** Last year, over 2,000 children attended storytimes.
- **Appetites for knowledge and entertainment are fed.** Last year, more than 68,000 items were checked out.
- **The community grows.** Last year, local organizations used our meeting spaces more than 200 times.

- **Perspectives expand and minds broaden.** Last year, over 1,700 adults attended lectures and special events.
- **Empathy grows as stories are told.** We can't quantify this, but we see it everyday.

If you'd like to make even more of a difference, now is the time to give! **An anonymous donor has offered \$20,000 in matching funds to help us meet our goal. Any gifts made by June 30th will be increased by 100% up to this match!** Giving is easy—use the enclosed envelope to mail in a donation today or give online at oldlymelibrary.org.