



Weekly Library News, 2017

November 30, 2017

Betty Sanders – Holiday Arrangements from Your Yard

Many of you may remember the wonderful Container Gardening programs hosted by the Friends of the Milford Town Library featuring Master Gardener Betty Sanders. Well, Betty will be back on Wednesday, December 6 at 7pm, once again thanks to the good graces of the Friends of the Milford Library. This time she will be doing something different, just for the holidays.

The Holidays are a busy time for everyone. Decorating your home is a special challenge as Thanksgiving is quickly followed by Christmas and New Year's. Master Gardener Betty Sanders will show you how to save time and money by creating "basic" designs, made primarily from greens that are often readily available from your (or your friends') yards.

The designs can then be made to fit each holiday with just a few easy changes – changing seasonal ornaments or flowers. Sanders starts with building the basic arrangement and then looks at ways to make it different for each special day. The pieces that are created will be raffled off at the end of the program.

This program is sponsored by the Friends of the Milford Town Library and is free and open to the public.

Center Book Group

The Center Book Group will meet on Tuesday, December 19th at 10am at the Milford Senior Center to discuss **Less** by Andrew Sean Greer.

Mediocre novelist Arthur Less is about to turn 50 when he gets an invitation to an ex-boyfriend's wedding. Feeling that neither his personal or professional lives is going as he once envisioned, he begins accepting every literary invitation (reputable or not) that comes his way.

Soon, he's jetting off to New York, Paris, Berlin, Morocco, India, and Kyoto—having misadventures along the way, told in hilarious detail. Critic, Ron Charles of the Washington Post wrote, "I could not enjoy **Less** More." In the New York Times Book Review, Christopher Buckley opined, "Like Arthur, Andrew Sean Greer's **Less** is excellent company. It's no less than bedazzling, bewitching and be-wonderful."

Newcomers are always welcome to come to these informal, but informative discussions. For more information about the Center Book Group or to reserve a copy of **Less** call the Information Desk at 508-473-2145, ext. 2

December 1, 2017

Mitten Tree

December brings the traditional Mitten Tree to the Milford Town Library. The Children's Room has the annual Mitten Tree now up ready and waiting to be bedecked with kind donors' mittens, hats, gloves and scarves, to help keep heads and hands warm and toasty during cold winter months.

The tree will be collecting its bounty until December 18th, when all the items will be taken down and delivered to charitable institutions which will distribute them to those in need. You may bring your new handmade or purchased items to the Children's Room anytime the library is open.

Contemporary Book Group

The Contemporary Book group will meet on Wednesday, December 27, at 7pm in the Children's Program Room to discuss *The Sleepwalker* by Chris Bohjalian.

When Annalee Ahlberg goes missing, her children fear the worst. Annalee is a sleepwalker. Her affliction manifests itself in ways both bizarre and devastating. Once, she merely destroyed the hydrangeas in front of her Vermont home. More terrifying was the night her older daughter pulled her back from the precipice of the Gale River Bridge.

The morning of Annalee's disappearance, a search party combs the nearby woods, her husband flies home from a business trip, her older daughter Lianna is questioned by a police detective, and the younger daughter swims the Gale River looking for clues.

Conjuring the strange and mysterious world of parasomnia, a place somewhere between dreaming and wakefulness, *The Sleepwalker* is a masterful novel from one of our most treasured storytellers.

To reserve a copy of *The Sleepwalker*, or for more information about the Contemporary Book Group, please call Shelley at 508-473-2145, ext. 2 or email, ssgammat@cwmar.org.

Recommendations that are a Little Bit Weird

This week's "best of" title comes to you straight from the Southern Reach. *Annihilation* by Jeff VanderMeer leads off the Southern Reach trilogy, and it's also being released as a movie starring Natalie Portman in early 2018. The book's a slim volume, but a trippy read. Check out the movie trailer to see if it's for you. (Spoiler: It's for you.)

In the "dying to read" category, we have *When the English Fall* by David Williams. It's Another Post-Apocalyptic Novel. But it's set in an Amish community, so the threat isn't from the collapse of modern civilization and lack of amenities, it's from outside a self-sufficient community. Ooh, good twist. This is a debut novel written in diary form. Looks fascinating.

Also fascinating, but in a different way: *Undisclosed* by Steve Alten, which the author describes as "faction." Alten made his name with *MEG*, a series lead-off about a megalodon shark released from the depths to wreak havoc on the modern world. Now he's publishing the modern version of Whitley Strieber's

December 1, 2017

Communion, but with his own publishing house, which is also releasing the “must-read companion book,” **Unacknowledged**, by Dr. Steven A. Greer, shelved in nonfiction. **MEG** is being made into a movie starring Jason Statham (**The Meg**) and will be released next year. This paragraph is all apocalyptic handwringing and self-publishing predatory sharks! The movie will probably be fun, though. If you’d rather watch apocalyptic aliens instead of sharks, try **The Fourth Kind** with Milla Jovovich, which is more “faction,” but is at least terribly fun.

Don Iacovelli: American Folk Paintings

Milford artist, Don Iacovelli, will have his folk art paintings on display near the Information Desk during the month of December. All of these charming works of art Don has chosen to share with us this time have a winter theme and are perfect for snowy months.

Don is a retired public school music teacher who treasures the arts in all its forms. He is also a composer and performer. When he retired from teaching, he turned his creative energy to painting.

Don paints in the style of folk art and was influenced by the works of Grandma Moses and her great-grandson Will Moses, who has become his mentor. The folk art style brings to mind a kinder, gentler time of community, family activities and love. His paintings try to incorporate children and adults at play, cozy homes and neighborhoods.

Don spends most of his time painting and creating new scenes that depict activity of past times. A child mischievously tossing a snowball, people skating and sliding, just having fun. Summer picnics, kids fishing, barn dances, and many other wonderful joyful times. Clustered homes with windows aglow with warmth, and a sense that in their world everything is all right.

His paintings hang in many homes; some have been customized with a particular home in the scene. A few of Don’s paintings hang here in the Milford Town Library, at Sutton Town Hall, Countryside Nursing Home and Rehab Center, Draper Place and more.

To contact Don, call: 508-473-1282, or email: diacovelli@verizon.net

Happy 10th Birthday Kindle!

In November 2007, Amazon debuted the Kindle, the first e-reader. Selling for \$399, it sold out in hours. The rest is history.

Competitors followed with their own e-reader versions and soon Nooks, Kobos, PocketBooks and Sony E-Readers, and TrekStors were all over the market with predictions that the printed book was destined to be discarded in history’s dustbin.

Fortunately, 10 years in, librarians, booksellers, publishers and retailers are finding that the physical book is alive, well and thriving with approximately 65% of the market, and e-books holding at 35%.

December 1, 2017

Our patrons enjoy free-e-books via the Digital Catalog and also via Libby, the mobile app from Overdrive. All that's needed is a valid library card # to check out the materials. If your card has expired, call the Circulation Desk to update it at 508-473-2145, ext. 218.

Looking Back

Along with the Milford Historical Commission, we're asking for your help in identifying people in a photo of the 1946 Sacred Heart Choir. About half about the 20 men and women in the photo have been identified including Theresa, Chris and Angie DeCesare, Gina Mazzini, Bobby Cosentino, Alba Tassone, and Ada DiGiannantonio.

Perhaps you yourself belonged to the choir—or an aunt, uncle or grandparent did. We have a copy of the photo at the Reference Desk at the library and will be posting to our Facebook page as well. If you can help put names to these faces, we'd love to hear from you.

Diabetes Tip

The American Heart Association & the American Diabetes Association concluded that non-nutritive sweetener (Splenda, Truvia, Equal, etc) may assist with weight loss or weight control. Keep in mind that a "sugar-free cookie" (or similar food item) still contains calories, carbohydrates & sometimes fat & will contribute to weight gain and higher sugar levels. From Jo Fleming, RN, CDC, MRMC Patient Education Coordinator.

Volunteers Needed

The Milford Town Library is seeking a few adult volunteers to help deliver books on an on-call basis to patrons who cannot come to the library themselves. The ideal volunteer is compassionate, reliable, and flexible. Please call Anne at [508-473-2145, ext 219](tel:508-473-2145) or email aberard@cwmares.org.

Metrowest College Planning Center

Open office hours for the Metrowest College Planning Center return on Wednesdays from 4 to 7pm in the ESL Classroom at the Milford Town Library.

An advisor is available for consultations and questions about any part of the college process from applications, financial aid, transferring and more. An appointment is not required.

The Metrowest College Planning Center is a project of Framingham State University and Mass Bay Community College.

December 1, 2017

Drop-In Knitting and Crocheting

The Drop-In Knitting and Crocheting Classes continue on Monday evenings at 6pm in the Children's Program Room. Informal instruction is provided as needed by a variety of well-seasoned knitters and crocheters.

Should you be a novice knitter or one who just prefers to knit in the company of others and pick up a tip or two, this may be the group for you. Drop in and check it out. Start preparing now for the scarves and mittens or hats you'll be needing come winter.

ESL Classes

Regular Drop-In ESL classes are meeting once again. You may stop by either the Circulation or Reference Desks for a copy of each month's schedule, or a printable copy can be found on the library's website: www.milfordtownlibrary.org/english-as-a-second-language/. For more information, call the Reference Desk at 508-473-2145, ext. 2.

Citizenship Classes have resumed on Thursdays from 6 to 8pm in the ESL Room sponsored by Catholic Charities. Materials, including books, etc., cost \$30.00. No prior registration required

Health Outreach

Patrons needing help with Mass Health information or forms may be assisted on the 2nd and 4th Mondays of each month from 2 to 6pm in the ESL Room on the Lower Level. Assistance is also available at the Edward M. Kennedy Community Health Center (near CVS and Papa Gino's, on Route 140) every Monday morning. While drop-ins may be accommodated if time allows, *an appointment is strongly recommended*--please call 800-853-2288 to set one up.

Ongoing Programs

- **Food Pantry** donations from the library have been greatly appreciated. Donations are delivered weekly by a staff member.
- **Museum Passes** are available to many area museums, zoos and attractions thanks to the **Friends of the Library**.
- **Membership to the Friends of the MTL** continues to be only \$10 a year.
- **Book Sale Table** has items for all ages replenished weekly.

Visit us: www.milfordtownlibrary.org

Library News is compiled weekly by Reference Librarian Mary Frances Best