Bob Begin: Something Old, Something New — Pirates!

Mon., April 1st  7:30 PM
Bob Begin has presented several well-received historical lectures here at the Library over the years with the most recent being John Paul Jones. This time, Bob will be talking about the history of piracy and how it relates to modern day piracy occurring in the Indian/Pacific Oceans. This program is sponsored by the Library Foundation of Needham.

2013 McIver Lecture Series

Red Sox Baseball in the Days of Ike & Elvis: The Red Sox of the 1950’s

Sun., April 7th  2:00 PM
As we get ready for a new season of baseball, join the editors and contributors of Red Sox Baseball in the Days of Ike & Elvis with special guest and former Red Sox player Ted Lepcio, as they talk about the Red Sox teams of the 1950’s. This is the second McIver Series lecture of 2013. Presented by the Trustees of the Needham Free Public Library. Rescheduled from February 2013 due to bad weather.

Dr. Gary Hylander: The Nuremberg Trials

Tues., April 16th  7:30 PM
After the end of World War II, the Allies conducted the trials of 22 leaders of Nazi Germany in this infamous Bavarian city. Join us for this presentation and discussion on the closing coda for World War II.

Gary Hylander, adjunct professor at Framingham State University and Stonehill College, will discuss this case, the fourth in a series of five lectures on famous trials in American history. This program is sponsored by the Library Foundation of Needham.

Author Charles C. Mann — 1493: Uncovering the New World Columbus Created

Sun., April 21st  2:00 PM
Presenting the latest research by biologists, anthropologists, archaeologists, and historians, author Charles C. Mann shows how the post-Columbian network of ecological and economic exchange fostered the rise of Europe, devastated imperial China, convulsed Africa, and for two centuries made Mexico City — where Asia, Europe, and the new frontier of the Americas dynamically interacted — the center of the world. In this history, Mann uncovers the germ of today’s fiercest political disputes, from immigration to trade policy to culture wars. In 1493, Mann has again given readers an eye-opening scientific interpretation of our past, unequalled in its authority and fascination. The book will be available for purchase courtesy of Wellesley Books. This program is sponsored by the Friends of the Needham Public Library.

Author Larry Ruttmann — American Jews and America’s Game: Voices of a Growing Legacy in Baseball

Thurs., April 25th  7:30 PM
Most fans don’t know how far the Jewish presence in baseball extends beyond a few famous players such as Greenberg, Rosen, Koufax, Holtzman, Green, Ausmus, Youkilis, Braun, and Kinsler. In fact, its presence extends to the baseball commissioner Bud Selig, labor leaders Marvin Miller and Don Fehr, owners Jerry Reinsdorf and Stuart Sternberg, officials Theo Epstein and Mark Shapiro, sportswriters Murray Chass, Ross Newhan, Ira Berkow, and Roger Kahn, and even famous Jewish baseball fans like Alan Dershowitz and Barney Frank. The life stories of these and many others, on and off the field, have been compiled from nearly fifty in-depth interviews. Their stories tell, as no previous book has, the history of the larger-than-life role of Jews in America’s pastime. This program is sponsored by the Needham Free Public Library.

For further information about upcoming events, go to www.needdhamma.gov/library.
What’s happening this month in the Children’s Room...

Children’s Programs in April

Drop-in Storytimes for ages 5 and under
- Wed., April 3, 10, 17, 24 10:00 AM
- Fri., April 19 10:30 AM
Stories, music, movement and more. Storytimes are drop-in—no registration required. All children must be accompanied by an adult.

Music, Movement and Me with Sara Epstein**
- Tues., April 9 10:30 AM
- Mon., April 22 10:30 AM
An interactive music and movement program for adults and children under 4. **Registration is required, one session per month only please.

Ready, Set...Move with Cici Hunt: for ages 3-5**
- Tues., April 2 11:00 AM
- Tues., April 23 11:00 AM
Join Cici Hunt in this fun-filled music and movement class for children and their caretakers. **Registration is required, one session per month only please.

Sing-Alone with Ed Morgan
- Fri., April 12 3:00 PM
For children 2 years and up accompanied by an adult. This is a drop-in program—please arrive on time.

Lucy the R.E.A.D. Dog: for ages 3 and up**
- Thurs., April 4 10:00 AM
Join Lucy, a black lab, and Pat Howes for a great program that encourages children to read! **Registration required. Begins one week prior to program. Sponsored by the Friends of the Needham Public Library.

Toddler Movies
- Thurs., April 4, 11 11:00 AM
Short films based on popular storybooks—shown in the Community Room.

All Drop-In Craft Programs feature three crafts that are related to the theme. There will be 25 of each craft, so be sure to come early for first choice.

Children’s Craft Programs in April

Drop-In “April Foolishness” Crafts for ages 2-6
- Thurs., April 4 3:30 PM

Drop-In “Crafts of the Month” for ages 2-6
- Thurs., April 11 3:30 PM

Drop-In “National Library Week” Crafts for ages 2-6
- Tues., April 16 10:30 AM
- Thurs., April 18 3:30 PM

Drop-In “Earth Day & Arbor Day” Crafts for ages 2-6
- Tues., April 23 3:30 PM
- Thurs., April 25 3:30 PM

Drop-In “Recycled” Crafts for ages 2-6
- Tues., April 30 4:00 PM

LEGO Time! Needham Free Public Library’s BLOCK PARTY!

Due to space limitations, the program is limited to 24 children, ages 6+. Wednesday, April 17 3:30 - 4:30 PM
Sign-up for program begins one week before the event. You can sign up by phone or in person.

Young Sprouts Science Fun - Ages 5-8**
- Mon., April 8 4:00 PM
Young Sprouts is something new for “budding” scientists, ages 5-8. Join us as we use hands-on activities, including at least two STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Math) ways to explore our world. This month’s program is “April Foolings – Optical Illusions Play Tricks on You!” **Please sign up beginning one week in advance, by phone or in person.
Game Day for ages 12+
Thurs., April 11
3:00 PM
Join us once a month for an afternoon of board and card games. Sponsored by the Needham Free Public Library, with assistance from the NHS Anime Club.

Stacey Peasley Band — in Concert
Thurs., April 18th
10:30 AM
A professional singer for 15 years and a local music teacher for 10, Stacey’s debut CD, Together, was awarded Creative Child Magazine’s 2012 “CD of the Year Award.” Her songs are slices of childhood that will get young and old boppin’, singin’, clappin’ and dancin’. Stacey performed solo at this year’s NYN event, and we are delighted to be bringing her back, this time with the full band! This program is sponsored by the Library Foundation of Needham.

Children’s Movie – Wreck-It Ralph
(Rated PG - 108 minutes)
Fri., April 19
2:00 PM
Wreck-It Ralph is tired of being overshadowed by Fix-It Felix, the “good guy” star of their game who always gets to save the day. But after decades doing the same thing and seeing all the glory go to Felix, Ralph decides he’s tired of playing the role of a bad guy. He takes matters into his own massive hands and sets off on a game-bopping journey across the arcade through every generation of video games to prove he’s got what it takes to be a hero. On his quest, he meets the tough-as-nails Sergeant Calhoun from the first-person action game Hero’s Duty. But it’s the feisty misfit Vanellope von Schweetz, from the candy-coated cart racing game, Sugar Rush, whose world is threatened when Ralph accidentally unleashes a deadly enemy that threatens the entire arcade. Will Ralph realize his dream and save the day before it’s too late?

April Book Discussions

NPL Book Group
Tuesday, April 9th
1:00 PM
The Paris Wife
by Paula McLain
Paula McLain offers a vivid addition to the complex-woman-behind-the-legendary-man genre, bringing Ernest Hemingway and his first wife, Hadley Richardson, to life. Meeting through mutual friends in Chicago, Hadley is intrigued by the brash “beautiful boy,” and after a brief courtship and small wedding, Hadley and Ernest take off for Paris, “the place to be,” according to Sherwood Anderson. McLain ably portrays the cultural icons of the 1920s—Gertrude Stein and Alice B. Toklas, Zelda and Scott Fitzgerald, and Ezra and Dorothy Pound—and the impact they have on the then unknown Hemingway, casting Hadley as a rock of Gibraltar for a troubled man whose brilliance and talent were charged and compromised by his astounding capacity for alcohol and women. Hadley, meanwhile, makes a convincing transformation from an overprotected child to a game and brave young woman who puts up with impoverished living conditions and shattering loneliness to prop up her husband’s career.

NPL Evening Book Group
Wednesday, April 24th
7:00 PM
Following Atticus: Forty-Eight High Peaks, One Little Dog, and an Extraordinary Friendship
by Tom Ryan
Journalist Ryan shares the heartwarming, surprisingly suspenseful story of his bond (and adventures) with his intrepid and loyal miniature schnauzer, Atticus Maxwell Finch. Mourning a friend who has recently died, Ryan decides to hike all 48 of the 4,000-foot peaks of the White Mountains twice in the 90 days of winter—with Atticus. Despite contracting Lyme disease, Ryan and his faithful companion embark on their journey and face a host of dangerous storms, fierce winds, and temperatures registering 30 degrees below zero. Their greatest challenge, however, arises not on a mountain but in the veterinarian’s office where it’s discovered that five-year-old Atticus has cataracts and presumed thyroid cancer and requires surgery. Through their love for the mountains they climb and their devotion to each other, along with some good luck, the pair are able to continue doing what they love most—being together. Part adventure story, part memoir, but most important, a love story, this entertaining and joyous book proves that dog really is man’s best friend and vice versa.

This Month in the Friends’ Gallery

Needham Open Studios

April Book Discussions

Library Hours:
Monday - Thursday: 9:00 am - 9:00 pm
Friday: 9:00 am - 5:30 pm
Saturday: 9:00 am - 5:00 pm
Sunday: 1:00 pm - 5:00 pm
Upcoming Events...

Ed the Wizard — Reading is Magic
Sat., May 11th 10:30 AM
Dressed like a wizard right out of a fairy tale, and with the help of many volunteers, Ed the Wizard weaves together the importance of building and maintaining reading skills using magic, comedy, and suspense. Families with children of all ages will enjoy this program. This program is sponsored by the Library Foundation of Needham.

Dr. Gary Hylander — Worse than Murder: The Rosenberg Atomic Spy Trial
Tues., May 21st 7:30 PM
In an America caught up in the hysteria of a second Red Scare, McCarthyism, and International Communism, Julius and Ethel Rosenberg were executed for espionage in June, 1953. More than 50 years later, their trial and execution remain the subject of great emotional debate and acrimony.

Gary Hylander, adjunct professor at Framingham State University and Stonehill College, will discuss this case, the fifth in a series of five lectures on famous trials in American history. This program is sponsored by the Library Foundation of Needham.

Children’s Movie — Return to Nim’s Island
(Rated PG - 90 minutes)
Fri., May 24th 3:30 PM
After his cruise ship discovery of Nim and his beautiful island, Edmund tries to explain the wonder of his find to his classmates only to find that nobody will believe him. Frustrated, Edmund runs away and sneaks aboard the same fateful cruise ship as his last adventure and steals a row boat to make his way to Nim’s Island. At the same time, Nim’s world is turning upside down, as she’s faced with the possibility of having to move to the mainland for her father to pursue his scientific research. Left alone for her last weekend on the island, Nim finds Edmund, as well as the pirate animal poachers that followed him! Soon, Nim and Edmund are in a stealth battle of cunning and wits to rescue her beloved sea lion Selkie. With Nim’s know-how and Edmund’s bravery, they are able to defeat the pirates and maybe even solve the scientific mystery that would allow Nim to stay on her beloved Island.

DID YOU KNOW...

Celebrate the 125th Anniversary of the Needham Free Public Library by perusing 125 interesting, curious and little-known facts about the Library....

101. The puppet theater and murals in the Children’s Room, painted by Connecticut artist Ted Esselstyn, depict fanciful scenes of the Charles River. They were given to the library by the Friends of the Needham Public Library.

102. In 2012, some 85 craft programs for children took place in the Children’s Room craft room.

103. The library hosted 14,273 children at performances and programs in 2012.

106. Mrs. James Henry Powers donated her childhood dollhouse to the library in 1977. It was made by her uncle, Andrew Casey, who spoke seven languages fluently and served in General Custer’s 7th Calvary unit.

125th Birthday Celebration Cake — Created by Amazing Cakes by Joanne

Thanks to the Friends of the Needham Public Library for providing financial assistance in the production of this Newsletter.