**Library Notes**

**Newsletter of the Needham Free Public Library**

**March 2021 Issue**

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**This Month in the Virtual Friends’ Gallery**

**Diane G. Bell**

**New England Watercolors**

go to [http://www.needhamma.gov/3168/](http://www.needhamma.gov/3168/) for our virtual slideshow

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**Psychedelic Renaissance with Franklin King IV, MD**

**Sun., March 21st**

2:00 PM

Franklin King IV, MD, a psychiatrist at Massachusetts General Hospital, will define “psychedelic”; discuss psilocybin, LSD and other psychedelic drugs; walk through their history and biology; give an overview of the scientific research; and describe an innovative therapeutic model that is unlike any other. A question and answer session will follow the presentation.

**Bob Begin: Mutiny on the Bounty**

**Mon., March 22nd**

7:00 PM

The Mutiny on the Bounty is quite surely the most famous mutiny in maritime history. The Bounty was an insignificant ship in Britain’s Royal Navy which was the most powerful navy in the world. In the mid 18th century, England’s navy was the equivalent of today’s GOOGLE. As an island nation, the British depended on the navy to protect them from all enemies. The Captain of the Bounty, actually a Lt., William Bligh, was considered to be capable, a good mariner, and a firm disciplinarian while not as bad as many of his peers. Her crew was thought to be adequate. The mission of the Bounty was to sail to the exotic island of Tahiti, gather and transport to England healthy Breadfruit plants which were thought to be an excellent source of food for the plantations in the West Indies. Botanists predicted these plants would thrive and be a solution to the needs of the plantation slaves. After a harrowing journey totalling over 26,000 miles, the Bounty arrived in Tahiti. Following a stay of approx. 5 months, she set sail to return to England. On April 28, 1789, a mutiny took place. Bligh and 18 men considered loyal to him were placed into a 23’ open boat and cast adrift. The mutineers sailed away in the Bounty. What happened to the men in the boat, the mutineers, and what was the reaction of the Royal Navy upon learning one of its ships was taken by mutineers? For some of these answers, tune in to the Zoom presentation by Bob Begin.

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**Tammy’s Tastings with Mixologist Tammy Coxen**

Do you love craft cocktails? Do you like to mix drinks at home, but want to take your mixology skills to the next level? Tammy’s Tastings cocktail classes are for you!

You’ll receive your recipe list 7-10 days prior to the event, giving you plenty of time to shop and prepare any optional specialty ingredients. Tammy will tell the stories of the first few cocktails, including their ingredients and history, using pictures, videos and live demonstrations. We will then take the first break for mixing! You will have the option of mixing your choice of cocktail(s) from the list of 8-10 provided, and get live tips on substitutions and ingredients as needed. The second half will give you more stories and pictures about the rest of the cocktails, followed by a last round of mixing, questions and sharing.

**Two Sessions to Sign-up for:**

**Mon., March 1, 2021: Better with Bubbles @ 7:00 PM**

The only thing better than a glass of bubbly is a cocktail made with bubbly! Sparkling wine doesn’t need to be reserved for a special occasion—opening a bottle makes the occasion special all on its own. But if you’re looking for an excuse, she’s got you covered.

**Tues., March 30, 2021: The Old Fashioned Cocktail @ 7:00 PM**

These days we call any mixed drink a “cocktail,” but that used to refer to a very specific style of drink, celebrating the trinity of spirit, sugar, and bitters. These days, we call that an Old Fashioned, and this class will trace the evolution of that drink from history to the modern day. (Note: not all Old Fashioned’s are whiskey based!) 

Both of these events are sponsored by the Library Foundation of Needham.

*Registration for these programs are required on Assabet to receive the Zoom link. Register here at [https://needhamma.assabetinteractive.com/calendar/](https://needhamma.assabetinteractive.com/calendar/)

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**Needham’s Art in Bloom 2021**

This 13th year will be virtual! Beginning on Monday, March 1st, go to [NeedhamArtinBloom.com](http://NeedhamArtinBloom.com) for a Breath of Spring.
**Children's Virtual Programs in March**

Music with Stacey Peasley for ages 2-5  
Wed., March 3  10:00 AM  
Mon., March 15  10:00 AM

Sing-Alone with Ed  
Fri., March 12  10:00 AM  
Thurs., March 18  10:00 AM

Lego Club with Veronica and Marianna  
Every Wednesday @3:00 PM  
Build and share Lego creations for kindergarten and older.

Preschool Palooza - Wednesdays @ 10:00 AM  
Join Ms. Elise for stories, song, and movement.

Yoga for Kids with Lyn Jekowsky—Saturday, March 13th @10:00 AM  
A 30-minute set of yoga for young children and their families. No experience necessary - all levels welcome for ages 5 and up.

**Read to Tucker the Reading Dog**  
Build confidence in reading with Tucker the popular therapy dog. Alternating Mondays and Tuesdays at 3:00 PM. Individual 15-minute reading sessions for kindergarten and older.

Dance Me a Story  
Tues., March 16th  10:00 AM  
Join Princess Lisa from the Joanne Langione Dance Center for an enchanting tale and dance for ages 1 to 5.

**Minecraft Coding Monkeys**  
Build fantastical virtual worlds out of digital blocks, create mini-games and learn how to write code, register for 1 or all 5 session taught by Microsoft’s Make Code Team for grade 3 to 5  
Who: Aspiring coders grades 3 to 5  
When: 4:00 PM on Mondays  
Where: Zoom

Take & Make Bags  
Rainbow Colors  
Colorful Crafts, available week of March 1st while supplies lasts.

Stained Glass Earth  
Create a window catcher of the earth. Kits donated by NASA for ages 6 and up.  
Available week of March 15th while supplies last.

Perseverance Lands on Mars  
Thurs., March 4  4:00 PM  
Join Piyush Khopkar, Solar System Ambassador, and see how a robot on Mars is operated from Earth. Learn about MOXIE, an instrument in the belly of Perseverance, that makes oxygen like trees do, so people can live on Mars. For ages 8 and up.

Beginning Birding for Kids  
Thurs., March 11  3:30 PM  
Learn about the local birds in your yard and how to identify them. Create two simple feeders to attract birds and practice tweeting bird songs for ages 4 and up. *Sponsored by the Library Foundation of Needham.*

Build Your Own Video Game  
Fri., March 26  3:30 - 5:30 PM  
Learn how to code and create two different video games you can keep with help from the Microsoft Make Code Team for grades 5 to 6.

Registration begins two weeks before events. Go to [https://needham-ma.assabetinteractive.com/calendar/](https://needham-ma.assabetinteractive.com/calendar/) to register for these sessions.
February 2021 Book Clubs on ZOOM

NPL Book Group
Tuesday, March 9th
1:00 PM
The Book of Longings: a Novel
by Sue Monk Kidd

In her mesmerizing fourth work of fiction, Sue Monk Kidd takes an audacious approach to history and brings her acclaimed narrative gifts to imagine the story of a young woman named Ana. Raised in a wealthy family with ties to the ruler of Galilee, she is rebellious and ambitious, with a brilliant mind and a daring spirit. She engages in furtive scholarly pursuits and writes narratives about neglected and silenced women. Ana is expected to marry an older widower, a prospect that horrifies her. An encounter with eighteen-year-old Jesus changes everything. Their marriage evolves with love and conflict, humor and pathos in Nazareth, where Ana makes a home with Jesus, his brothers, and their mother, Mary. Ana’s pent-up longings intensify amid the turbulent resistance to Rome’s occupation of Israel, partially led by her brother, Judas. She is sustained by her fearless aunt Yaltha, who harbors a compelling secret. When Ana commits a brazen act that puts her in peril, she flees to Alexandria, where startling revelations and greater dangers unfold, and she finds refuge in unexpected surroundings. Ana determines her fate during a stunning convergence of events considered among the most impactful in human history.

Please email neemail1@minlib.net if you wish to have your email address added to our monthly Zoom link mailing.

April 13, 2021—
The Book Woman of Troublesome Creek by Kim Michele Richardson

The Bookworm’s Evening Book Club
Monday, March 22nd
7:00-8:00 PM
The Library Book
by Susan Orlean

On the morning of April 29, 1986, a fire alarm sounded in the Los Angeles Public Library. At the moments passed, the patrons and staff who had been cleared out of the building realized this was not the usual fire alarm. As one fireman recounted, “Once that first stack got going, it was ‘Goodbye, Charlie.’” The fire was disastrous: it reached 2000 degrees and burned for more than seven hours. By the time it was extinguished, it had consumed four hundred thousand books and damaged seven hundred thousand more. Investigators descended on the scene, but more than thirty years later, the mystery remains: Did someone purposefully set fire to the library—and if so, who? Weaving her lifelong love of books and reading into an investigation of the fire, award-winning New Yorker reporter and New York Times bestselling author Susan Orlean delivers a mesmerizing and uniquely compelling book that manages to tell the broader story of libraries and librarians in a way that has never before been done before.

April 26, 2021—The Great Alone by Kristin Hannah. Registration required on Assabet to receive the Zoom link.

Register here at https://needhamma.assabetinteractive.com/calendar/

Diversity and Discussion Book Club

Co-sponsored by the Trustees of the Needham Free Public Library, Needham Diversity Initiative & Needham Human Rights Committee
Don’t Ask Me Where I’m From by Jennifer De Leon
Thurs., April 22nd
7:00 PM

Liliana Cruz is hitting a wall—or rather, walls. There’s the wall her mom has put up ever since Liliana’s dad left—again. There’s the wall that delineates Liliana’s diverse inner-city Boston neighborhood from Westburg, the wealthy—and white—suburban high school she’s just been accepted into. And there’s the wall Liliana creates within herself, because to survive at Westburg, she can’t just lighten up, she has to whiten up. So what if she changes her name? So what if she changes the way she talks? So what if she’s seeing her neighborhood in a different way? But then light is shed on some hard truths: It isn’t that her father doesn’t want to come home—he can’t...and her whole family is in jeopardy. And when racial tensions at school reach a fever pitch, the walls that divide feel insurmountable.

But a wall isn’t always a barrier. It can be a foundation for something better. And Liliana must choose: Use this foundation as a platform to speak her truth, or risk crumbling under its weight.

This discussion on Zoom will be facilitated by Jenn Scheck-Kahn. Registration is required at https://needhamma.assabetinteractive.com/calendar/
**Take and Make: DIY Shrinky Dinks**
A Craft at Home Program for Ages 10+ (yes, Adults - you too!)

The Young Adult Librarian, Erin, has another craft for tweens and teens! Register for this program to bring home a bag for yourself to be completed on your own time.

Are you 10 or older? Like to draw? Interested in shrinking things just by heating them up?
See how plastic shrinks in the oven just by heating it for a few minutes!

Sign up opens Monday, February 22 and will remain open until filled (limited to first 20). Materials needed will be provided in the kits (Pickups and distribution for Craft Kits during the week of Monday, March 8 – 12th).

- Kits include:
  - Plastic sheets on which to draw
  - A few supplies to make different types of keychains
  - Fishing line or other string
  - Surprise miscellaneous things
  - Printed sheets of paper with basic designs and shapes for tracing that may or may not be used
  - (Crafters choice)
  - Instructions to be able to complete projects safely

* Kits do NOT include scissors, hole punch, or colored pencils (if you need some, let us know).*
* "To be able to shrink sheets to finished size you will need an Oven" sheets will be HOT

Register Here: [https://needhamma.assabetinteractive.com/calendar/2021-march/](https://needhamma.assabetinteractive.com/calendar/2021-march/)

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**Weekly Program: Tween Craft & Chat Hour!**
A VIRTUAL PROGRAM FOR AGES 10 - 12
WEDNESDAYS FROM 3:30 - 4:30 PM
REGISTRATION REQUIRED TO GET LINK

Register Online for Each Program: [https://needhamma.assabetinteractive.com/calendar/](https://needhamma.assabetinteractive.com/calendar/

Contact Erin at neeya@minlib.net with questions!

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**Virtual Office Hours**
with Erin Bassett,
Needham Free Public Library, Young Adult Librarian

Between the ages of 10 and 18? Looking for some advice on what to read next? Need some help with something? Just want to chat? Join our Young Adult Librarian for a one-on-one help session via Zoom!

Please note: all conversations will be held one at a time, so you may be in our waiting room for a bit as we bring in people one by one. Conversations will be kept short if there are people waiting. Please be patient with us as we navigate a new system of helping! Registration required to receive Zoom link information.

To register and find out what days and times are being offered, check out our Program Calendar Here: [https://needhamma.assabetinteractive.com/calendar/](https://needhamma.assabetinteractive.com/calendar/)

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**QR Codes:**

What is a QR Code? You may have seen these square boxes with what looks like a barcode in them around before. A QR code is a “Quick Response” code, a shortcut of sorts that allows you to get to information quicker. By scanning one of these QR codes with a camera on a smartphone or other internet connected device you will be brought to either the Needham Free Public Library Facebook Page or the Needham Free Public Library Instagram Page—quick and simple, no need to type in any websites or anything! Give it a try, and while there, give the Needham Free Public Library a Like or Follow!

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The Library can print out your print jobs (20 page maximum) for you. Please send your document(s) to neemail1@minlib.net, and call us at 781-455-7559, ex. 502, to let us know it’s been sent. Documents will be put out with curbside delivery within 2 hours of notification.
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<td>10 am PreSchool Palooza Ages 3 to 5</td>
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Registration Required for Children’s Events
www.needhamma.gov/3035
Events subject to change
Filmaker Jen Kaplan—*A Father’s Kaddish*

**Tues, April 20th  7:00 PM**

Jen Kaplan, a local filmmaker recently finished a new film entitled “*A Father’s Kaddish*.” The film tells the poignant story of how one father uses art to grieve the loss of his son.  

In 2005, Jared Branfman died of brain cancer at the age of 23. A week after his death, his father, Steve Branfman, a potter and teacher, went into his studio, took some clay and made a chawan, a Japanese style tea bowl. Each day for one year, he made one chawan - they were the only pots he made. Steve’s daily chawan made at his wheel was his own personal Kaddish (the traditional Jewish prayer of mourning).

For almost a decade, these 365 bowls sat unfinished on shelves in his studio. After nine years of mourning, Steve glazed and fired the chawans, bringing them to life with color and sheen. According to Kaplan, “It was like Steve was finally able to start a new chapter in his grief process. As a filmmaker, I felt humbled to capture his heart wrenching process.”

Steven Branfman who lives in Newton, is the founder of a studio in Needham (Gorse Mills Studios) and teaches at Thayer Academy in Braintree. We will be streaming the documentary and hosting a conversation afterwards.  

*Sponsored by the Library Foundation of Needham.*

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Boston Sunday Globe columnist Beverly Beckham—

*“Evolution of a Columnist”*

**Sun., April 25th  2:00 PM**

How does a columnist transform observations of everyday life into essays that move and enlighten readers—week after week, and year after year? Beckham examines themes that spring from the daily lives of her family, friends, readers and herself. With insight and clarity, she makes them relevant to everyone. Curious and observant, she examines a wide range of contemporary issues and presents them in thought-provoking ways to make them personal. Some of her recent columns are “The Summer of Covid-19 Fed My Soul, but Broke My Heart,” and “Why Isn’t Kindness News?” Her 15-year-old column about becoming an empty nester, “I Was the Sun, the Kids Were My Planets,” is so popular that it has been republished many times. Beckham finds inspiration in talking with her audiences and hopes attendees will come with plenty of questions.

*This event is sponsored by the Friends of the Needham Public Library.*

*Registration for these programs are required on Assabet to receive the Zoom link. Register here at [https://needhamma.assabetinteractive.com/calendar/](https://needhamma.assabetinteractive.com/calendar/)*

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Needham Free Public Library is getting a new website! Please take a moment to complete this survey (link this word) and provide feedback so we can better serve you in the future. Go to: [https://form.jotform.com/210495456690159](https://form.jotform.com/210495456690159)

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Are you looking for some advice on what to read next? Need some help figuring out Overdrive/ Libby/Hoopla or any one of our other online resources or databases? Any other questions? Our Reference Librarians are here to help! Join us every other Monday afternoon from 2:00-4:00 PM on Zoom for our biweekly Reference Office Hours. this month’s will be on March 8th and 22nd, 2021. Registration is required to receive the Zoom link. Register is located here at [needhamma.assabetinteractive.com/calendar](https://needhamma.assabetinteractive.com/calendar). Please note: all conversations will be held one at a time, so you may be in our waiting room for a bit as we help each patron individually. Think of it as waiting for the librarian to be free at the desk!  

Send questions to neemail1@minlib.net or call us at 781-455-7559 ext. 502. We are happy to help!