New England Reptiles and Raptors Presents

Birds of Prey

Tues., May 8th 4:00 PM

Join naturalist, artist, and falconer Marla Isaac for this presentation of live birds of prey, a fascinating group of predators that few people fully understand! Marla will talk about the lives of these aerial hunters including: natural history, biology, adaptations, habitats, poaching, falconry and the management of these animals in the wild and how the laws and regulations protect them. Owls, hawks, falcons and vultures await you up-close and personal. Sponsored by the Library Foundation of Needham.

**RESCHEDULED FROM A PREVIOUS DATE.**

The Progressive Era: The Promise of America with Dr. Gary Hylander

Tues., May 15th 7:30 PM

The Progressive Era stretches roughly from 1890 to 1920. The hiss of steam, the rustle of greenbacks and the shrill of factory whistles filled the air. Captains of Industry amassed enormous fortunes in steel, railroads and oil. By the turn of the century, America had also emerged as an imperial power as well. To manage these enormous changes, President Theodore Roosevelt and the Progressives believed that government honestly administered, guided by experts and inspired by the ideals of the social gospel, could bring order, prosperity and security to all Americans. This is the fifth and final lecture in this series, and is sponsored by the Library Foundation of Needham.

Library Hours:

Mon. - Thurs. 9:00 am - 9:00 pm
Fridays 9:00 am - 5:30 pm
Saturdays 9:00 am - 5:00 pm
Sundays 1:00 pm - 7:00 pm

Contact the Library at 781-455-7559

One Book, One Community Read

After the success of last year’s One Book, One Community Read, the Trustees of the Needham Free Public Library, as part of their Diversity Initiative, are pleased to announce this year’s title: Life, Animated: A Story of Sidekicks, Heroes, and Autism by local author Ron Suskind.

Imagine being trapped inside a Disney movie and having to learn about life mostly from animated characters dancing across a screen of color. “A fantasy? A nightmare?” This is the real-life story of Owen Suskind, the son of the Pulitzer Prize-winning journalist Ron Suskind and his wife, Cornelia. An autistic boy who couldn’t speak for years, Owen memorized dozens of Disney movies, turned them into a language to express love and loss, kinship and brotherhood. The family was forced to become animated characters, communicating with him in Disney dialogue and song until they all emerge, together, revealing how, in darkness, we all literally need stories to survive.

Autism now affects 1% of the world population, and an astonishing 1 in every 41 births in the US are diagnosed with autism spectrum disorder. While America’s 3.5 million autistic people are just as diverse as the wider population, many possess a subtle weave of gifts and challenges that, year by year, are revealing underlying—and often unrecognized—capacities of the human mind.

The Library will once again provide copies of the book for you to take (and return for the next person), starting in late May and will again host a series of Book Discussions in September 2018, along with other programs relating to this year’s topic.

Children’s Movie: Ferdinand (Rated PG, 107 minutes)

Fri., May 25th 2:00 PM

After a huge sensitive Spanish fighting bull named Ferdinand accidentally sits on a bee and reacts badly, he’s mistakenly believed to be a danger to people and taken away to a remote farm. There he meets other animals who soon become his friends. When Ferdinand is picked to fight in a stadium, he decides that the only option is to try to escape and return home to the little girl who raised him. He and his friends steal a truck and leave with other farm animals. During their journey, Ferdinand discovers that he’s willing to fight...to protect his friends. Sponsored by the Needham Free Public Library.

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

**Children’s Story Times in May**

**Terrific Toddlers for ages 1-2 years**
- Tues., May 1, 15, 29 10:00 AM
- Stories mixed with songs, rhymes, fingerplays, rhythm and sensory activities.

**Babies & Books for up to one year**
- Tues., May 1, 15, 29 11:00 AM
- Babies and their adult caregivers explore the rhythms and patterns of speech with songs, lap games and a story or two.

**Drop-In Child’s Play for ages 0-2 years**
- Wed., May 2, 9, 16, 23, 30 10:00 AM
- Songs, rhymes, lap games, books and more in this interactive program.

**Pre-School Palooza for ages 3-6 years**
- Mon., May 7, 14 10:00 AM
- An interactive themed storyline with picture books, music and movement, followed by a craft (45 min.).
- Children who are ready may attend independently.
- Caregivers are also welcome.

**Storytimes from Around the World**

**Chinese Storytime for ages 5 and under**
- Sat., May 5 10:00 AM
- This is a Drop-in program for ages 5 and under and is led by a group of Chinese-speaking mothers. The program consists of 45 minutes of reading, followed by a simple craft.

**FAMILY ACTIVITY MORNING**
- Sat., May 19 10:00-11:30 AM
- Families are invited to the Children’s Room where together they can explore an arts/crafts project, work on a construction assignment and play games that enhance literacy, logic or math skills. All ages are welcome. This will be an ongoing event on the third Saturday of every month from 10-11:30 AM.

**Children’s Programs in May**

**Ready, Set...Move with Cici Hunt: for ages 3-5**
- Wed., May 2 11:00 AM
- Mon., May 21 11:00 AM
- Join Cici Hunt in this fun-filled music and movement class for children and their caretakers. **Registration is required, beginning two weeks prior to the start of the program.**

**Sing-Along with Ed Morgan**
- Fri., May 11 3:00 PM
- For children 2 years and up accompanied by an adult. This is a drop-in program—please arrive on time.

**Music with Sarah for ages 5 and under**
- Tues., May 8 (ages 2-5) 10:00 AM
- Tues., May 8 (ages 2 and under) 11:00 AM
- Fri., May 25 (ages 2-5) 10:00 AM
- Fri., May 25 (ages 2 and under) 11:00 AM
- Join Sarah Gardner and bring your little ones to play instruments, sing & dance along. Become part of our little library band!

**Funding for Music Enrichment Programs provided by the Friends of the Needham Public Library.**

**Knitting with Friends for grades 3 and up**
- Wed., May 9, 16, 23, 30 3:30-5:00 PM
- **Registration Required**
- Come and learn the basics of knitting and make a simple scarf. The library will provide knitting needles and yarn. No previous experience is necessary. This is a series that will run through June and attendees are expected to be at all sessions. **Space is limited. Registration required and is for all 8 sessions.**

**Pre-school Crafts for ages 2+ years**
- Thurs., May 24 10:30-11:30 AM
- Drop-in for age appropriate Make-N-Take Crafts!

**Bookventurers Book Club for Grades 3-5**
- Sat., May 12th 3:15 - 4:15 PM
- This month’s title is *The Land of Stories: The Wishing Spell* by Chris Colfer. Registration is requested, in person or call 781-455-7559, ext. 204. ● Read the book ● Discuss it with other kids ● Participate in book themed activities ● Make new friends! ● Enjoy book themed snacks.
May Book Discussions

NPL Book Group
Tuesday, May 8th
1:00 PM
The Woman in Cabin 10
by Ruth Ware
In this tightly wound, enthralling story reminiscent of Agatha Christie’s works, Lo Blacklock, a journalist who writes for a travel magazine, has just been given the assignment of a lifetime: a week on a luxury cruise with only a handful of cabins. The sky is clear, the waters calm, and the venerated, select guests jovial as the exclusive cruise ship, the Aurora, begins her voyage in the picturesque North Sea. At first, Lo’s stay is nothing but pleasant: the cabins are plush, the dinner parties are sparkling, and the guests are elegant. But as the week wears on, frigid winds whip the deck, gray skies fall, and Lo witnesses what she can only describe as a dark and terrifying nightmare: a woman being thrown overboard. The problem? All passengers remain accounted for—and so, the ship sails on as if nothing has happened, despite Lo’s desperate attempts to convey that something (or someone) has gone terribly, terribly wrong...*June 12, 2018—Eleanor Oliphant is Completely Fine by Gail Honeyman*

NPL Evening Book Club
Wednesday, May 16th
7:00 PM
Help Choose Next Year’s Titles
Please join us as we choose next year's titles for the NPL Evening Book Club! *June 20, 2018—Everybody's Fool by Richard Russo*

Diversity and Discussion Book Club

Cosponsored by the Trustees of the Needham Free Public Library and the Needham Human Rights Committee

The Hate U Give by Angie Thomas
Thurs., May 24th
7:30 PM
Sixteen-year-old Starr Carter moves between two worlds: the poor neighborhood where she lives and the fancy suburban prep school she attends. The uneasy balance between these worlds is shattered when Starr witnesses the fatal shooting of her childhood best friend Khalil at the hands of a police officer. Khalil was unarmed. Soon afterward, his death is a national headline. Some are calling him a thug, maybe even a drug dealer and a gangbanger. Protesters are taking to the streets in Khalil’s name. Some cops and the local drug lord try to intimidate Starr and her family. What everyone wants to know is: what really went down that night? And the only person alive who can answer that is Starr. But what Starr does—or does not—say could upend her community. It could also endanger her life. *June 21, 2018—The Underground Railroad by Colson Whitehead*

Teens and ‘Tweens Programs in May

May the 1st be With You ‘Tweens and Teens Movie
Star Wars Episode VII: The Force Awakens
(Rated PG-13, 2 hrs., 16 minutes)
Tues., May 1st
5:00 PM
Set thirty years after the events of Star Wars Episode VI: Return of the Jedi, Star Wars Episode VII: The Force Awakens picks up the story of a galaxy turned upside-down with the deposition of the evil Empire and the rise of the Rebel Alliance to take its place. With the cruel First Order rising to fill the void left by the Empire’s destruction and the Resistance dedicated to eradicating their influence, heroes Finn and Rey will need to stop the villainous Kylo Ren and the First Order from assuming total control of the galaxy, with the help of old heroes Han Solo and Leia Organa. Couldn’t make it to our last Interactive Movie Experience? Come join us for this showing of Star Wars: The Force Awakens. There will be all sorts of food and fun, with an intermission in the middle. Participants are welcome to come dressed as your favorite Star Wars character! **Registration is Required for this event** To register call 781-455-7559, option 2. Please ask for Erin (Adult Reference) for more information about this exciting event.

Joy of Coloring for ‘Tweens/Teens and Up
Mon., May 7th
3:30-5:00 PM
Coloring enthusiasts are welcome to color in the Young Adult Room! The Library will supply all you need (pencils, markers, coloring sheets, as well as a few snacks). Come for the coloring and conversation with your fellow coloring enthusiasts! Coloring sponsored by the Library Foundation of Needham.

‘Tweens/Teen Crafternoon
Thurs., May 25th
3:30 PM
Spend an hour and a half with friends, enjoy some snacks, and craft. All materials, drinks and snacks provided. Please ask for Erin (by calling 781-455-7559, option 2) with questions and for more information. Sponsored by the Friends of the Needham Public Library.

This Month in the Friends’ Gallery
Needham High School Boston Globe/Scholastic Art Award Winners
**Upcoming Events...**

**2018 McIver Lecture Series—**
**The Beanpot Connection**

Dr. James Bird, Boston University: Fluid Dynamics (a.k.a. Bubbles!)

Sun., June 10th  2:00 PM

Continuing the theme of the “Beanpot Connection,” Dr. James Bird, Asst. Professor, College of Engineering, will discuss his current research interests in fluid dynamics with a specific focus on the capillary dynamics of drops and bubbles. Combining both experiments and theory, he investigates problems such as how drops spread on surfaces and how bubbles pop. His research is motivated by problems in a variety of fields, including healthcare (e.g. virus transfer via droplets), energy (e.g. boiling and condensation), and materials (e.g. foams). This is the third of four lectures and is sponsored by the Trustees of the Needham Free Public Library in memory of former director Vivian D. McIver.

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**Summer Reading Kickoff: Science Tellers—**
**Wild West: The Mystery of the Golden Piano**

Tues., June 26th  4:00 PM

Grab your spurs and journey with us to the Wild West, where a legendary bank-robbing outlaw is back in town, about to strike again! After the Sheriff mysteriously vanishes, two young kids must saddle up to foil the great heist — but not before stopping a runaway train, escaping an abandoned mine shaft and discovering how a mysterious piano can play an ‘instrumental’ part in putting a rotten cowboy back behind bars. Throughout this absolutely wild adventure story, volunteers from the audience will help us explore the fascinating science behind chemical reactions, acids and bases, combustion, air pressure, inertia and more. Don’t miss this classic action-packed western with ‘notes’ of science! Sponsored by the Friends of the Needham Public Library in support of the 2018 Summer Reading LIBRARIES ROCK! Program.

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**FRIENDS ANNUAL MEETING AND PROGRAM:**
**Cooking and Gardening with Herbs with Liz Barbour**

Wed., June 6th  7:00 PM

Liz Barbour of *The Creative Feast* will take you on a slide presentation tour through her cottage sized gardens. Learn how to use every inch of a small garden to maximize its beauty and its bounty using herbs as part of an edible landscape. Take in the varieties of ornamental and edible plants as Liz offers tips about how to plan ahead so that you can truly enjoy the fruits of your labor. Following the slide presentation will be a cooking demonstration and sampling of three delicious recipes featuring fresh herbs. **Registration is Required,** starting May 21st at the Reference Desk on the second floor. There will be no wait list, as registration is limited. This program will be preceded by the Annual Meeting of the Friends of the Needham Public Library. The program begins after the completion of the annual meeting. Sponsored by the Friends of the Needham Public Library.

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**friends’ summer book sale**

Friday, June 1st
12:30 - 4:30 PM

Saturday, June 2nd
9:00 AM - 4:00 PM

Sunday, June 3rd
1:00 - 4:00 PM

Sunday is Bargain Day: all items are half-price and a brown bag is $8.00.

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