Author Peter Zheutlin—Rescue Road: One Man, Thirty Thousand Dogs, and a Million Miles on the Last Hope Highway with Special Guest Greg Mahle

Thurs., October 8th  7:30 PM
The extraordinary story of one man who has driven more than 1 million miles to rescue thousands of dogs from hunger, abuse and neglect and given them a second chance at life and love. For years, Greg Mahle struggled to keep the last of his family-run restaurants afloat in Ohio. When it finally closed, he was broke and unsure what to do next. Then a stranded van-load of puppies changed his life forever. Join journalist Peter Zheutlin as he travels with Greg from Ohio to the Gulf Coast on his Rescue Road Trips to bring hard-luck dogs from the deep South to loving “forever families” up north, with the help of many selfless volunteers along the way. The book will be available for purchase and autographing following the presentation. This program is sponsored by the Needham Free Public Library.

NATURE TALKS: Pumpkin Decorating Contest
Sun., October 18th  1:30 PM
Pumpkins will be supplied (courtesy of Volante Farms) to the first 125 participants, with prizes awarded for each age group. Children 3 and up are encouraged to bring their own decorative articles from home, to supplement materials provided by the library, in order to create their pumpkin masterpieces. This event is sponsored by the Library Foundation of Needham and the Friends of the Needham Public Library.

Dr. Gary Hylander—America in the Gilded Age
Thurs., October 29th  7:30 PM
The phrase “gilded age” was coined by Mark Twain to describe the years following the Civil War. Reconstruction came to an end and recently emancipated black Americans found themselves living in a Jim Crow South. The frontier disappeared and transcontinental railroads crisscrossed the land. Captains of Industry made great fortunes in oil, steel and coal, while waves of immigrants flooded into America's cities, toiling long hours in sweatshops, steel mills and factories. At the close of the century, differences with Spain resulted in “that splendid little war,” a war that propelled the United States to a world power and gave the nation its first celebrity president, Theodore Roosevelt. This is the second of a four lecture series and is sponsored by the Library Foundation of Needham.

FRIENDS’ FALL BOOKSALE
Saturday, October 3rd
9:00 AM - 4:00 PM
Sunday, October 4th
1:00 - 4:00 PM
Sunday is Bargain Day: all items are half-price and a brown bag is $8.00.

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 October

Terrific Toddlers for ages 1-2 years
- Tues., October 6, 20, 27  10:00 AM
  Stories mixed with songs, rhymes, fingerplays, rhythm and sensory activities.
Babies & Books for Pre-walkers Birth to 11 months
- Tues., October 6, 20, 27  11:00 AM
  Babies and their adult caregivers enjoy songs, lap games, baby sign language, rhythm and sensory activities, with a story or two (20 min.).
Drop-In Child’s Play for ages 0-2 years
- Wed., October 7, 14, 21, 28  10:00 AM
  Songs, rhymes, lap games, books and more in this interactive program.
Pre-School Palooza for ages 3-4 years
- Mon., October 5, 12  11:00 AM
  An interactive themed storytime with picture books, music and movement, followed by a craft (45 min.). Children who are ready, may attend independently. Caregivers are also welcome.

Elementary, My Dear Readers
- Fri., October 2, 9, 16, 23, 30  4:00 PM
  An interactive themed storytime with picture books, songs, creative games and a craft (1 hr.). Children ages 5-7 may attend independently. Please be aware that the Caregiver must remain in the building.

Drop-In Preschool Spanish in Motion for children 2-5 years old
- Fri., October 9  10:30 AM
  Children accompanied by their caregivers will learn Spanish through fun games and songs. Spanish speaking children who would like to attend a library program in their first language are encouraged to attend as well as children who would like to learn Spanish as a second language.

Spanish in Motion after School Program for grades 1-4
*Registration Required*
- Tues., October 6  4:00 PM
  Children learn Spanish through movement and fun educational activities, concluding with a related craft project to take home. Spanish speaking children who would like to attend a library program in their first language are encouraged to attend as well as children who would like to learn Spanish as a second language.
*Registration is required, starting one week before event.

Children’s Programs in October

Ready, Set.. Move with Cici Hunt: for ages 3-5**
- Wed., October 7  11:00 AM
- Mon., October 19  11:00 AM
  Join Cici Hunt in this fun-filled music and movement class for children and their caretakers. **Registration is required, beginning one week prior to the start of the program. One session per month only please.

Sing-Along with Ed Morgan
- Fri., October 9  3:00 PM
- Thurs., October 15  10:30 AM
  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 3-5
- Tues., October 13  10:30 AM
- Fri., October 23  10:30 AM
  Join Sarah Gardner and bring your little ones to play instruments, sing & dance along. Become part of our little library band! This event will occur in the Community Room.

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

OMG That’s Gross! - A Halloween program for children ages 9-12 *Registration Required*
- Mon., October 26  4:00 PM
  Children will be able to make fake poop, snack on candy eyeballs and enjoy all things that look, smell and feel gross. Wear old clothes and be ready to be grossed out! Not for the faint of heart! *Registration is required, starting one week before event.

Pre-School Halloween Party/Costume Parade
- Thurs., October 29  10:30 AM
  Children 5 and under are invited to the library, for a story and some songs, a costume parade throughout the library and a simple treat. This event will start and finish in the Story Time Room in the Children’s Department.

Drop-In Trick or Treat at the Children’s Desk
- Children of all ages are welcome to visit the Children’s Desk, costumes optional but preferred, from 9:00 a.m. to 4:45 pm on October 31st to receive a free Halloween bag of treats.

Fall Crafts for ages 2-6 years
- Thurs., October 22  10:30 - 11:30 AM

Fall Crafts for Ages 6+
- Thurs., October 22  4:00 - 5:00 PM
October Book Discussions

NPL Book Group
Tuesday, October 13th  1:00 PM

The Sixth Extinction: An Unnatural History by Elizabeth Kolbert

Over the last half-billion years, there have been five mass extinctions, when the diversity of life on earth suddenly and dramatically contracted. Scientists around the world are currently monitoring the sixth extinction, predicted to be the most devastating extinction event since the asteroid impact that wiped out the dinosaurs. This time around, the cataclysm is us. In prose that is at once frank, entertaining, and deeply informed, New Yorker writer Elizabeth Kolbert tells us why and how human beings have altered life on the planet in a way no species has before. Interweaving research in half a dozen disciplines, descriptions of the fascinating species that have already been lost, and the history of extinction as a concept, Kolbert provides a moving and comprehensive account of the disappearances occurring before our very eyes. She shows that the sixth extinction is likely to be mankind’s most lasting legacy. *November 10, 2015 Book—Someone by Alice McDermott*

NPL Evening Book Group
Wednesday, October 21st  7:00 PM

Cascade by Maryanne O’Hara

Desdemona Hart was a Paris-trained, up-and-coming Boston artist when she married in haste and settled in the small, once-fashionable theater town of Cascade to provide a home for her dying father. Now Cascade is on the short list to be flooded to provide water for Boston, and Dez comes up with a creative idea that just might help both the town and her own ambitions. When tragic events unfold, she faces hard choices. Must she keep her promises? Is it morally possible to set herself free? *November 18, 2015—Genius on the Edge: The Bizarre Double Life of Dr. William Stewart Halsted by Gerald Imber*

This Month in the Friends’ Gallery

Vasilia Laskaris

This Month in the Display Case

Fulper Pottery

Library Hours:

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**Upcoming Events...**

**Family Adventures in Reading**
Brings together children ages 6-10 years old and adults to enjoy entertaining and thought-provoking presentations of outstanding picture books. Each 90-minute session includes an engaging, interactive presentation by professional storyteller Diane Edgecomb. The session concludes with an introduction to a library service and socializing over light refreshments. This six-week session will run on Saturday, October 17 – November 14, and on November 28 from 10:30 AM-12 noon.
*Registration is required, and you must be able to commit to attending at least 4 of the 6 sessions in order to register.*

**NATURE TALKS: Bark—Get to Know Your Trees for Ages 10 and up**
Sun., November 1st 1:30 PM
Join naturalist and author Michael Wojtech for a lecture and tree bark identification walk in and around Needham. Michael will be signing copies of his book **Bark, Get to Know Your Trees**, following the talk. This event is sponsored by the Library Foundation of Needham and the Friends of the Needham Public Library.

**For The Love of Food:**
*A Cookbook Club for Foodies*
Mon., November 2nd 7:00 PM
Enjoy a new night time cook book club with books and food as a central focus. Topics include sauces, favorite recipes, cooking techniques, celebrity chefs and more.
*Next Meeting: January 4, 2016*

**ETTY, a one act play performed by Susan Stein, based on the diaries and letters of Etty Hillesum**
Sun., November 22 2:00 PM
Set in Holland during WWII, this one-act play features Etty standing alone on a bare stage, speaking directly to the audience as she witnesses her world and confronts God with her ethical and moral questions. Crafted solely from Hillesum’s writings, this unconventional theater experience brings the audience into Etty's thinking, as she wrestles to write the life she is living—her loves, her work, her wry sense of humor, her knowledge of self and the moment in history. Each performance is followed by an audience-generated discussion that effectively becomes the second act of the play. This presentation is sponsored by the Library Foundation of Needham.

**Meet a Pilgrim from Plimoth Plantation**
Tues., November 24th 4:00 PM
An Historic Interpreter will portray a resident of 1624 Plimoth Colony. Speaking with a regional, English dialect of the 17th century and wearing accurate reproduction clothing, as well as using reproduction artifacts, the interpreter will bring the world of Pilgrims to life. Beginning with the hiring of the Mayflower in England, the interpreter will bring the audience through the voyage, the first winter, and the first Thanksgiving in Plymouth. This event sponsored by the Library Foundation of Needham.

**Dr. Gary Hylander—America in the Gilded Age**
Tues., November 24th 7:30 PM
The phrase “gilded age” was coined by Mark Twain to describe the years following the Civil War. Reconstruction came to an end and recently emancipated black Americans found themselves living in a Jim Crow South. The frontier disappeared and transcontinental railroads crisscrossed the land. Captains of Industry made great fortunes in oil, steel and coal, while waves of immigrants flooded into America’s cities, toiling long hours in sweatshops, steel mills and factories. At the close of the century, differences with Spain resulted in “that splendid little war,” a war that propelled the United States to a world power and gave the nation its first celebrity president, Theodore Roosevelt. This is the third of a four lecture series and is sponsored by the Library Foundation of Needham.

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