

The Page Turner

Easton Public Library's Quarterly Newsletter



Have You Seen Our Brand New Study Booth?

With the help of the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA), the Easton Public Library was able to purchase a Decibel® Double booth for studying, work, conference calls, and meetings. Available on a first come, first served basis, this quiet study option is situated in what was the Innovation Space. The Conference Room, Community Room, and several carrels are also available for study purposes.

Some of the grant money has and will be used to upgrade the Wi-Fi system inside the Library and on the grounds, for improved Internet access, and for patrons to be able to use their devices outside the Library. New patio furniture for the front, sides, and back of the Library is on track for spring. Take a trip to the Library and see these new additions for yourselves!

Easton Public Library
691 Morehouse Road, Easton CT 06612, 203-261-0134
<https://www.eastonlibrary.org>



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From the Director

Hello! The holidays are here, and I hope that all of you have the opportunity to spend them with friends and family. I am so excited about our new grant-funded study/meeting booth, which has already seen a lot of use. People are loving it! I am also looking forward to this winter's One Book/One Town Community Read, *Piglet: The Unexpected Story of a Deaf Blind Pink Puppy and His Family*, by Melissa Shapiro, DVM. Shapiro, a Westport veterinarian, will speak at the Library on January 22. We will also get to meet Piglet, so save the date!

Happy Holidays, and enjoy the winter season!

Lynn



Library Update

Masks are required for anyone who is not vaccinated.

Curbside pickup is still available. Patrons can call the Library at 203-261-0134 or email a request to eplnews@eastonlibrary.org. Homebound delivery is also available. Call the Library or email your request to Penelope at pjp@eastonlibrary.org.

Fines will not be incurred, at least through June 30, 2022. The issue will be reassessed at that time by the Library Board.

The Community Room has a capacity of 50, and the Conference Room has a capacity of 6.

Staff News

Kristine Oulman will be finishing her Masters degree in Library and Information Science from Wayne State University, sometime in December.



Mary Beth Rassulo was interviewed by our friend and former Easton Public Library Youth Services Librarian Kym Powe for the Connecticut State Library's inaugural issue of CT Pages.

Patron Voices: Verne Gay

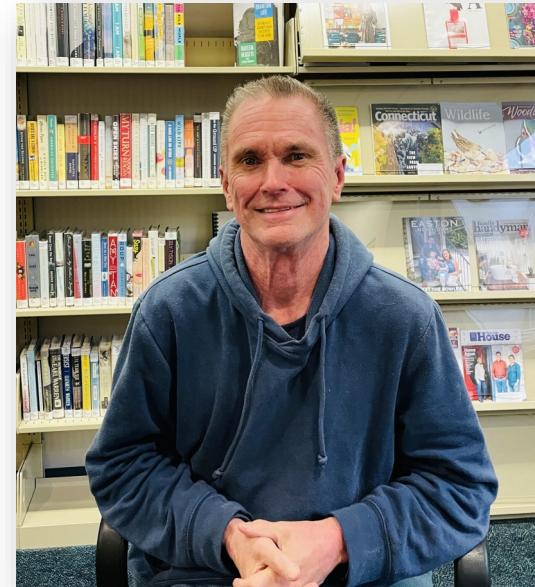
I've been coming to the Easton Public Library for over thirty years, but only over the last few have I made this virtually a second home, or a second virtual office, if you will. As a remote worker, my job requires a certain degree of concentration. Among other responsibilities, I review TV shows for the Long Island-based newspaper, Newsday. And yes, in case you were wondering, even watching TV requires a little quiet and concentration now and then.

I have long found our wonderful Library the perfect setting for this kind of work. There are no distractions, the Wi-Fi is fast, while the surroundings are at once both serene and serious, practical and congenial. I'm also reasonably certain that on most days, I'm the only one watching TV on a laptop. Another important point: People come here to read, not (thankfully) to watch.

Best of all is the staff—this remarkable staff, a peerless group of professionals who have made the Easton Public Library the finest in all of Fairfield County. (Of course, I may be biased on this matter, but I happen to believe I am right.) Library Director Lynn Zaffino has thoughtfully, intelligently, skillfully structured a Library that is in step with the culture at large. Kristine Oulman is the Youth Services Librarian—empathetic, kind, thoughtful, hardworking—while Mary Beth Rassulo is Assistant Director/Head of Youth Services, likewise empathetic, kind, thoughtful, and hardworking. There's Shannon Bruchal, who runs our Library's excellent technology and social media programs with a huge assist from Ryan Tice, who seems to know everything about the Library. Just ask him.

Then, Penelope Papadoulis. Penelope has been with the Easton Public Library for longer than I'm sure she wants me to reveal. Simply put, she is a treasure. She knows everything about this treasure too—The Easton Public Library—because she has been such an important part of its history.

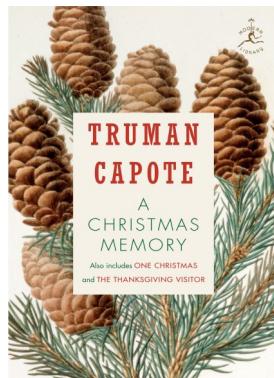
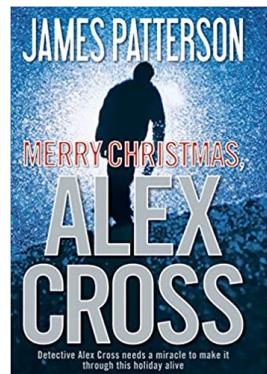
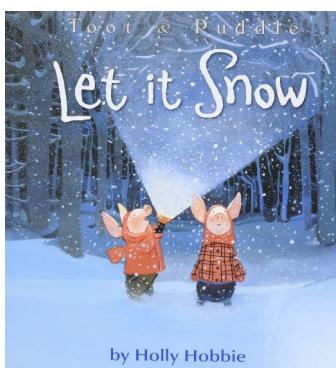
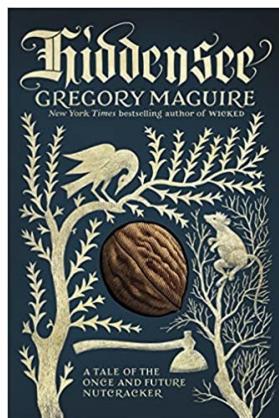
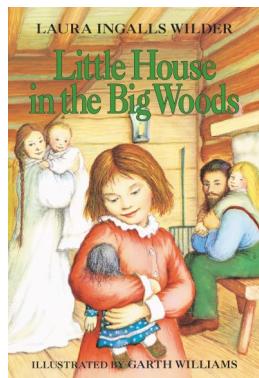
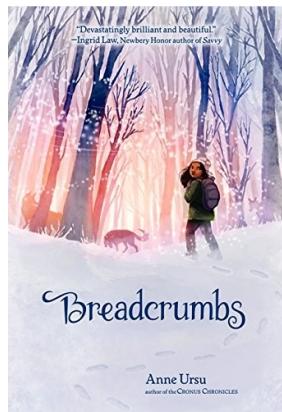
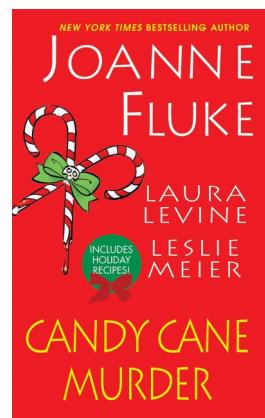
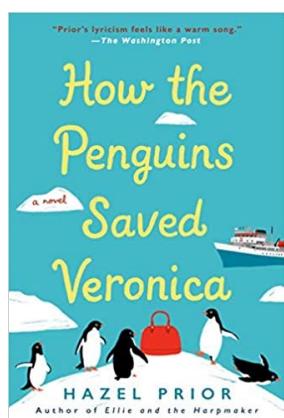
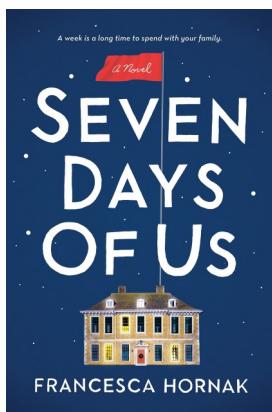
At the Easton Public Library, you can be in constant touch with the outside world, or if you so choose, hermetically sealed off from that world. Here you can think, and focus, and concentrate on the task at hand. Here you can wander the stacks and find a book you overlooked. Here you can listen to the silence, and hear what you are thinking. This is a wonderful resource run by wonderful people. We're lucky to have it—*have them*. Sometimes I can't believe we do.

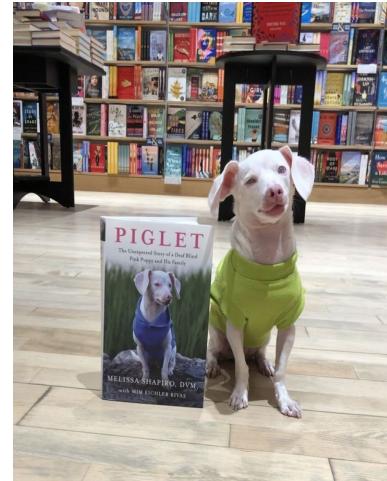
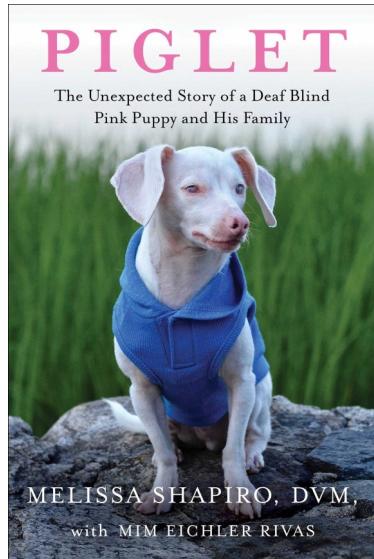


"This is a wonderful resource run by wonderful people. We're lucky to have it—have them. Sometimes I can't believe we do."

Staff Picks: Holiday & Winter Books

What book did each staff member choose? Visit us at the Library for the answers!





One Book/One Town Community Read 2022

PIGLET:

The Unexpected Story of a Deaf Blind Pink Puppy and His Family

Author Presentation—Meet Melissa Shapiro, DVM & Piglet!

Shapiro will be joined (via Zoom) by Tricia Fregeau, a Massachusetts teacher who coined the term “Piglet Mindset” and began using it as a teaching tool with her third graders. Fregeau’s ideas paved the way for a formal Piglet Mindset curriculum.

Saturday, January 22, 2:00 p.m.

Pet Adoption Information Event—February

More information to come.

Community Book Discussion

Thursday, March 10, 7:00 p.m.

Books are available now to purchase or to borrow.



Community Partner Spotlight: Friends of the Library

The Friends of the Easton Public Library has long been a vital source of support for the Library. Through fundraising events, they are able to help fund programming, electronics, collection materials, and other items the Library needs. In March of 2021, a new Friends group was formed, and they have been busy ever since.

After Library Giving Day in April 2021 and a Wine & Cheese Party in June 2021, the Friends presented a two-day Book Sale that netted over \$5,000. “Book sales are good for the environment and great for the community,” says Friends President Beth Cliff. “The books get recycled and find new homes, and people find great books at a great bargain. You can never overspend at a library used book sale!”



“This new, expanded Friends group represents different constituents and is demographically mixed—our members are people with young kids, older kids, and no kids, and people who have lived here a long time as well as newcomers,” says Beth Cliff. “The Friends of the Easton Public Library is a nice way to bring the town together as volunteers.”

Our next event is the Tree Lighting and Holiday Market on Sunday, December 5 from 2:00 to 6:00 p.m. For more information about the Friends of the Easton Public Library, go to <http://eastonlibraryfriends.org>. New members and volunteers are always welcome.

“The Friends of the
Easton Public Library
is a nice way to
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The Friends of the Easton Public Library invite you to our annual

Holiday Market & Tree Lighting*

Sunday, Dec 5, 2-6 PM
At the Easton Public Library

*Local gifts! Music! Santa & Ms. Claus!
It's a wonderful time to be together!*

- 14 local crafters
- Kids activity table
- Used children's books
- Raffles
- Sing-along w Ms. Claus!
- Hot chocolate and cookies
- The Barlow Chamber Singers
- Visit with Santa!

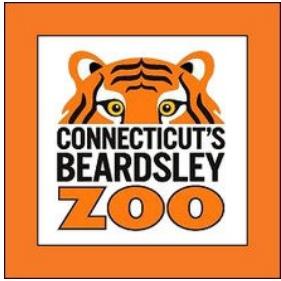
*tree lighting at 5 PM

Museum Passes



One of the things that the Friends of the Easton Public Library provides is museum membership passes, so we can offer discounted passes to all your favorite museums!

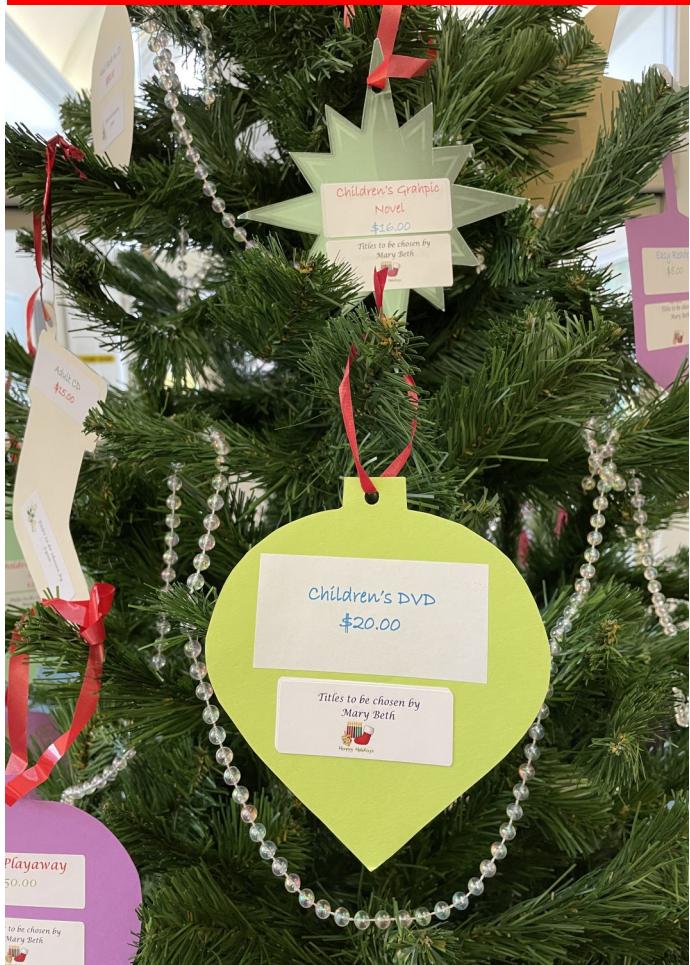
This year we are adding The Shore Line Trolley Museum, in East Haven, CT, and the Basketball Hall of Fame, in Springfield, MA. We also have passes for The Beardsley Zoo, Pez, The Stamford Nature Center, and Connecticut State Parks.



Stamford Museum & Nature Center



The Giving Tree



Donate a book or other item to the Library, and at the same time, honor a friend or loved one. Whether it's for the person who has everything, a memorial gift, to commemorate a special occasion, or to celebrate your favorite reader, this gift truly keeps on giving.

Just stop by the Library or contact us by phone or email with the item of your choice, and the amount. A Librarian will choose an item that is needed for our collection. The person you've honored will receive a letter stating that the gift is in their honor. A bookplate with your name, as well as the honoree's name, will be placed in the item you've donated.

Art Exhibits



Easton Arts Council

Regional Juried Photography Exhibit

Through January 7, 2022

Community Room

This annual photography contest is open to amateur and professional photographers. Easton residency is not required. For more information, go to <http://www.eastonartscouncil.org/>.

Jonathan Milo

Seasons of Nature

Through the month of December

Conference Room

Jonathan Milo has been a professional artist and illustrator for the past 31 years. He specializes in wildlife and outdoor sporting art. He graduated from Paier College of Art where he majored in Illustration, and soon after, he began providing work for such clients as *Outdoor Life*, Orvis, *Sporting Classics*, *Gray's Sporting Journal*, and *American Angler* magazine. Most recently, six of his paintings were selected as part of the permanent collection of the Bass Pro Shops store in Bridgeport, CT.



Paul O. Rawson

Seasons of Nature

Through the month of December

Glass Display Case

Paul O. Rawson is a watercolorist and an industrial designer. His work includes landscapes, seascapes, and animals, as well as industrial designs for which he has the patents. During the pandemic, he started sketching with pen and ink and including friendly messages on the back of each card. He sent out hundreds of these to the people in his congregation at Jesse Lee Baptist Church, which was a warm gesture during a dark time. The recipients of these cards gathered them together to create this exhibit.



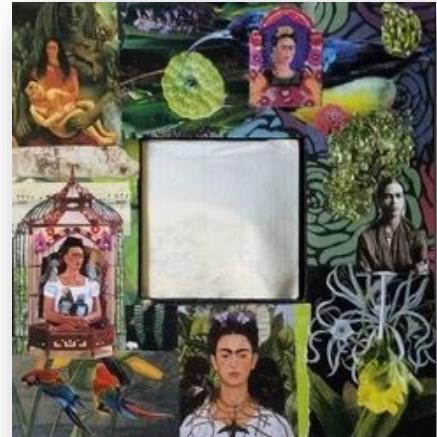
Lee Walther

Melange

January 2—February 15

Conference Room & Glass Display Case

Lee Walther began working as a mixed-media artist focusing on FUNctional art. Her training as an artist is rooted in her life experience and involvement with the art world in fashion, theater, museums, galleries, and artist representation. She finds inspiration from found objects, nature, and organic materials, as well as from personal collections amassed over the years.



Easton Arts Council

Winter Celebration of the Arts — Member Art Show

**January 10—February 25
Community Room**

Art Reception: Saturday, January 22, 7-10 p.m.

For more information, go to <http://www.eastonartscouncil.org/>.

Tom Savard & Family

Creativity Runs Deep

February 16—March 30

Conference Room & Glass Display Case

Tom Savard-Tom studied Graphic Art and Photography, specializing in alternative photographic processes and hand-coloring while receiving his MBA from the University of Connecticut. He is the recipient of numerous Photography and Art-related awards. **Sister Judith Savard**-A Religious of the Sacred Heart of Mary for 45 years, Judith was Head of the Art Department and Professor of Art and Art History at Marymount Manhattan College. She was always fascinated by the state-of-the-art technologies available at the time and was a pioneer in that field. **Missy Savard**-Fairfield resident Missy Savard is an accomplished professional who works in watercolors, oils and printmaking. She has been an exhibiting Artist Guild Member of Silvermine Arts Center for the past twenty years.

Harold Savard-Father to Tom and Missy, and brother of Judith, Harold was a 60-year Easton resident. A lifelong artist with exceptional drawing skills, Harold created thoughtful paintings and sculptures.



Focus on the Cataloging Department



A lot of work goes on behind the scenes before library materials are ready for the shelf. Penelope and I work hard to make sure all of the materials are ready for use as quickly as possible. At Easton Public Library, we have a hand in every stage of obtaining new materials for patrons to enjoy.

The process begins with us placing the orders for new items. Usually, the orders come from the librarians, but we are responsible for certain areas of the Library as well.

The next step is receiving the items upon delivery. I open the boxes and give the media to Penelope, who catalogs non-print materials. I bring the books to my desk, and now the real work begins. First, a barcode is given to each item, then the item gets a call number, so we can tell where the item will live within the Library, and then spine labels are added. The books are stamped, and additional labels are added to the CDs, DVDs and audiobooks. Finally, with one last scan, the new items are ready for the public.

Cataloging doesn't just apply to processing new materials, however. We also handle damaged materials and replacements. Sometimes I will fix the spines of books, and Penelope will give an audiobook or DVD a new case. The cataloging department also handles changing an item's location in the computer system so patrons can easily find items in the Library.

If you're looking for a certain item, there's a good chance that I will remember if I cataloged it, so I will know if it has arrived. Penelope is the best person to ask for recommendations on the next great audiobook, since she oversees that collection and is always listening to them in her spare time. - Ryan Tice



Collection Spotlight: Parenting



Our Parenting Collection recently got a face lift! If you're looking for advice on raising kids during the "new normal," come browse the shelf. There are books on teaching kids to be social justice advocates, keeping your kids' mental health in check, interracial adoption, and so much more.

These books are located across from the Circulation Desk.

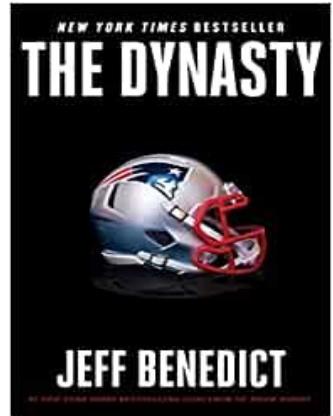
Meet Our Staff:

Up Close and Personal With Bob Knapik, Circulation Assistant



Bob joined us in March of 2021 as a Circulation Assistant. He has worked at a variety of libraries, including public, corporate, and academic libraries.

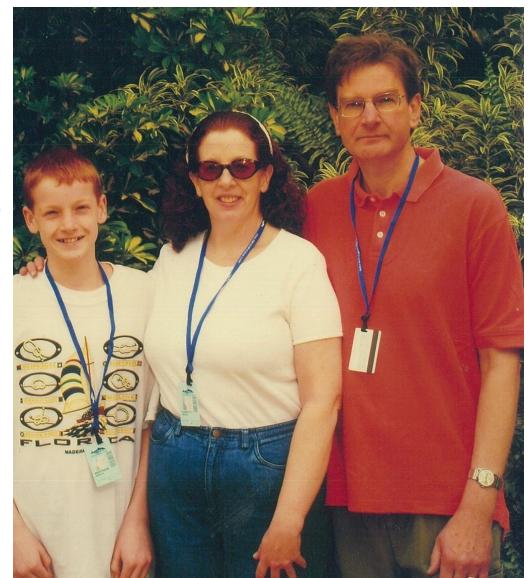
What book are you currently reading? "I recently finished *The Dynasty* by Jeff Benedict, which deals with the New England Patriot football dynasty. The main theme is the relationship and interaction between owner Robert Kraft, head coach Bill Belichick, and quarterback Tom Brady. Being a Patriot fan, I could not get enough of the inside story."



What do you like most about your job? "Working at the Circulation Desk affords the opportunity to have new and varied encounters each day. Meeting new people, chatting with those you already know, or just sharing experiences with Library patrons is quite gratifying."



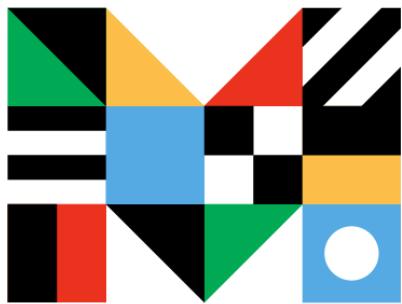
What do you like to do when you're not working? "I like to maintain the household. There is always something that needs attention around the house. Other than that, I like antiquing, going on walks with my wife, or watching sports. Gardening is also a passion. It's great to be outdoors, enjoying the seasons. It can be a lot of work, but the satisfaction of watching what you planted and cared for flourish is well worth the effort."



What made you choose a career in Libraries?

"Reading, of course. I also found libraries and librarians invaluable in helping with projects throughout high school and college. I thought I would like to continue with that tradition. Libraries are simply a great environment to work in or visit."

Look What's New!



MANGO

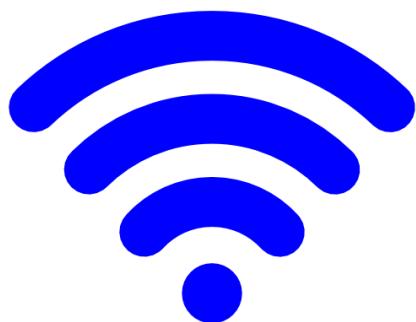


Mango Languages

We've got a new language learning app called **Mango**! Accessible via computer or on your smartphone or tablet, **Mango** is easy and fun to use.

Graphic Novels for Adults

Our graphic novel collection for adults now has its own home in the Adult Fiction section. Check out some of your favorite novels in graphic novel format, or discover new stories and authors. We will be adding to the collection, so visit often!



Have you noticed our improved Wi-Fi?

We have been able to improve the quality of our Wi-Fi, thanks in part to the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) grant we received. Outdoor access is coming soon!



Thank You!

The Library Board of Trustees and the staff of the Easton Public Library are so grateful for the donations we receive throughout the year. We would especially like to thank **the Easton Garden Club and the Geisert Family Fund** for their generous contributions to the Library.

Holiday Hours

CLOSED Thursday, December 23

CLOSED Christmas Eve, Friday, December 24

CLOSED Christmas Day, Saturday, December 25

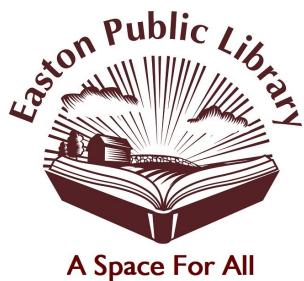
CLOSED New Year's Eve, Friday, December 31

CLOSED New Year's Day, Saturday, January 1

CLOSED Martin Luther King, Jr. Day, Monday, January 17

CLOSED Presidents' Day, Monday, February 21

Upcoming Winter Programs



Easton Public Library
691 Morehouse Road
Easton, CT 06612
Phone: 203-261-0134
Fax: 203-261-0708
<http://www.eastonlibrary.org>

Library Hours

Monday-Wednesday: 10-6
Thursday: 10-7
Friday: 10-5
Saturday: 10 – 3
Sunday: Closed

Color Key

Adults—Blue

Teens—Green

Kids—Red

Intergenerational—Purple

For more information, call us at 203-261-0134. Click here to register for any of these programs: <http://www.eastonlibrary.org/calendar-list>.

Registration is required. For virtual programs, registrants will receive a Zoom link the day of the program. Events subject to change due to COVID.

Toddler Be-Bop (Walkers - Age 3), on hiatus

In-Person Preschool Story Time (Age 3-5), on hiatus

Virtual Story Time (Age 0-5), Thursdays, 10:30 a.m.

Virtual Easton Yarnsmiths, Tuesdays, 3:30 - 4:30 p.m.

Virtual Year of Wonders Book Discussion, 12/9, 1/13, 2/10, 10:30 a.m.

Red Cross Blood Drive, 12/28, 11:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m., 2/11, 11:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

Beyond Reading Virtual Book Discussion, 12/16, 1/20, 2/17, 7:00 p.m.

Grab & Go Card for Seniors Craft Kits (All Ages)

In-Person Review Crew (Gr. 4-5), 2/7, 4:30 p.m.

In-Person Book Brigade (Gr. 2-3), 2/14, 4:30 p.m.

DIY Candle Making (Ages 18 and Up) (rescheduled), Date TBD

Virtual Career Coaching with Cathy Alfandre, 1/19, 10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m., 2/24, 5:30-7:30 p.m.

Grab & Go Winter Crafts (Gr. K-5), Available the week of 1/17

Virtual TLC: Teen Library Council (Gr. 9-12), 1/21, 2/18, 3:30 p.m.

EAC Youth Art Paint & Frame Workshop, (Ages 5-18), 2/5, 10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

Take Your Child to the Library Day: Button-Making (Ages 2-10), 2/5, 1:00-3:00 p.m.

Paint Night, 2/11, 7:00 p.m.

Digital Animation with JBHS Robotics Team (Gr. 6-8), 2/12, 2/19, 2/26, 3/3, 1:00 p.m.

In-Person Mock the Movie: *Plan 9 From Outer Space* (Gr. 6-12), 2/25, 4:00 p.m.

EAC Winter Celebration of the Arts Reception (rescheduled), 2/25, 7:00-10:00 p.m.

In-Person Pet Adoption Information Event, February 26, 3:15-5:15 p.m.

EAC Youth Art Show Drop-Off (Ages 5-18), 2/27, 12:00-3:00 p.m.

Bookworm Crafters (Gr. K-1), 2/28, 4:30 p.m.

Classic Film Series with Jon Sonneborn: *Wells Fargo* (rescheduled), 3/17, 7:00 p.m.

Chess Workshop & Tournament (Gr. 6-12), (rescheduled) 3/19, 1:00-4:00 p.m.

One Book/One Town Author Presentation with Piglet! (rescheduled), 3/26, 2:00 p.m.