



Silas Bronson Library

BOOKS AND HAPPENINGS

The Newsletter of Waterbury's Public Library

FALL 2024

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CELEBRATING WATERBURY'S 350TH ANNIVERSARY

The City of Waterbury is celebrating 350 years since its founding as a colonial village in 1674. The library will have special history collections on view starting in September and a variety of programs celebrating Waterbury's history. You can spot those programs in this newsletter by looking for the Waterbury logo seen here.



Other celebrations citywide include the 350th Anniversary Community Festival on the Green on Friday, September 27, 4 p.m. - 8:30 p.m. and The Gathering in Library Park on Saturday, September 28, 11 a.m. - 7 p.m. The Mattatuck Museum is a great resource for Waterbury history exhibits and programs. Free admission is available by borrowing one of our Museum Passes. Visit our museum pass page at bronsonlibrary.org/museums or call us at 203-574-8225 for more information.

Whether you're interested in Waterbury's history, or if you're researching your family tree, our librarians are always happy to help you learn about our history and genealogy collections, from published books to one-of-a-kind records.



BANNED BOOKS WEEK

Banned Books Week is being held September 22-28 this year, bringing awareness to the growing effort to censor books in libraries all over the country. Now more than ever, we celebrate the right to read whatever you want. We also protect your right to privacy when you use the library's resources. What you read is no one's business but your own.



SEPTEMBER IS LIBRARY CARD SIGNUP MONTH

Start the school year right—make sure everyone in the family has their own library card! To get a card for a child, a parent or other legal guardian must bring to the library a photo ID and proof of Waterbury residency.

Library cards are free for all ages. If you need a replacement card, a small fee will apply. You can also download the free Acorn Catalog app to your phone. After you log into Acorn with your library card number and password, you will always have it available on your phone to use at the library.



NEWS FROM THE FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY

ABOUT US

The Friends of the Silas Bronson Library is a volunteer-run 501(c)3 nonprofit organization dedicated to supporting the library's operation and mission through fundraising, outreach, and other volunteer activities. The Friends provide vital funding for library programs, especially those for children. A contribution is made to the library each year to support public programs and services. Additionally, all sales from our Readers' Garden Bookstore go directly to the library to support programs and services.

The Friends oversee the Philip V. Benevento Fund for Cultural Programs for Adults at the Silas Bronson Library. The fund was established in 2016 in honor of Waterbury's City Historian and former Silas Bronson Library Board member Philip V. Benevento. The fund continues to grow through individual donations made to the Friends of the Silas Bronson Library and allows the library to present programs they might not otherwise be able to afford.

MONTHLY MEETING OF THE FRIENDS

Second Tuesday of the month, 6 p.m.

September 10, October 8, November 12

Hybrid: Auditorium and Zoom

Are you interested in supporting the library? Looking for a volunteer opportunity? Come to our meeting and find out how you can get involved!

To register for Zoom participation, email us at silasbronsonfriends@gmail.com.



Readers Garden Book Store

The Friends of the Library book store is located on the first floor of the library. Purchases can be made using cash, credit card, or check at the library's front desk.

Book Store Pricing

Hardcover: \$1.00	VHS: 25¢
Paperback: 50¢	Children's books:
Audiobooks: \$3.00	25¢ (paperback)
DVD: \$1.00	50¢ (hardcover)
CD: 50¢	



ONLINE RESOURCES

Visit our online resources at bronsonlibrary.org/digital

ACORN APP

Access your library account, use the app instead of your library card, and search our catalog, all on your phone. Download the Acorn Catalog, then log in with your library barcode number and password.



AMERICA'S HISTORICAL NEWSPAPERS

Search or browse the *Waterbury American* from 1844 to 1865, one of more than 100 historical newspapers in this database.



ANCESTRY LIBRARY EDITION

Gain free access to billions of historical documents, including census records and immigration records, to help you find out more about your family history.



AUTO REPAIR SOURCE

Accurate, authoritative, and up-to-date service and repair information for thousands of domestic and imported vehicles.



BLACK LIFE IN AMERICA

Search or browse the *Waterbury American* from 1866 to 1877, one of thousands of newspapers in this database.



LIBBY

The Libby app connects you to our OverDrive collection of ebooks, audiobooks, and magazines on your smartphone or tablet.



MANGO

Learn a new language with Mango, which has dozens of languages to choose from.



MUSEUM PASS PROGRAM

Our museum passes give you free or reduced price admission to more than a dozen museums, zoos, and science centers.



NEWSBANK

Use NewsBank to search for news articles from more than 10,000 sources, or browse more than 30 popular magazines.



NORTHSTAR DIGITAL LITERACY

Build your computer skills and confidence in using new technology for work or daily life.



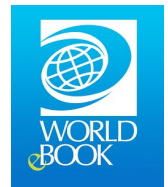
REPUBLICAN-AMERICAN

Search for articles published in the *Republican-American* from 2004 to the present.



WORLD BOOK

The World Book is more than just an encyclopedia! Discover activities, ebooks, theater, science, social studies, and more.



UNIVERSAL CLASS

Brush up your skills with hundreds of free online courses to help you learn new skills or prepare for tests.



Learn Something NEW

Access Universal Class through the Libby app or on a browser using the link on our website.

PROGRAMS FOR ADULTS

AFTERNOON COMPUTER CLASSES

Tuesdays, 1:30 p.m.

Computer Classroom



September 10: Mouse and
Keyboard Skills

September 17: Understanding Windows 10

September 24: Organizing Computer Files

October 1: Internet Browsers & Keyword Searching

October 8: Internet Skills: Printing, Saving, & Editing

October 22: Staying Safe Online

October 29: PowerPoint

November 5: Word

November 12: Excel

November 19: Putting It All Together: Using Your
Computer for Everyday Tasks

EVENING COMPUTER CLASSES

Wednesdays, September 18, October 23,

November 20, 6:30 p.m.

Computer Classroom



September 18: Word

October 23: Excel

November 20: PowerPoint

MYSTERY BOOK CLUB

Tuesdays, September 17, November 19, 1 p.m.

Bunker Hill Branch Library

We have a new book club at the Bunker Hill Branch! Books will be available to borrow from the branch and the main library. Parking is free in the lot behind the library.



September 17: *The Violin Conspiracy*

by Brendan Slocumb

November 19: *The Lost Man* by Jane Harper

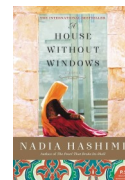
SISTERS TO SISTERS BOOK CLUB

Thursdays, September 5, October 3,

November 7, 6 p.m.

Auditorium

New members welcome!



September 5: Reader's Choice

October 3: *In Their Presence* by Dale Bratter

November 7: *A House Without Windows*

by Nadia Hashimi

On October 3, author Dale Bratter will join Sisters to Sisters to discuss her book, *In Their Presence*, and her video, "A Week in the Country."



BUNKER BOOKIES

Thursdays, September 12, October 10,

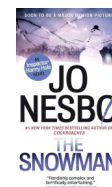
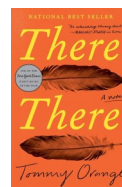
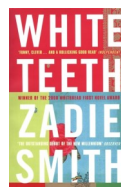
November 14, 1:30 p.m.

Bunker Hill Branch Library

September 12: *White Teeth* by Zadie Smith

October 10: *There, There* by Tommy Orange

November 14: *The Snowman* by Jo Nesbo



New! Meet up with friends to play Scrabble, Chess, or Checkers at the Bunker Hill Branch Library. You can also relax with a jigsaw puzzle or coloring pages at the branch any time it's open.

PROGRAMS FOR ADULTS

BRASS BOOK CLUB

Thursdays, September 26, October 24,
November 21, 12:30 p.m.

Zoom

Seniors 60+ are invited to join us for
a monthly book discussion.



September 26: *The Ferryman*

by Justin Cronin

October 24 : *Trust* by Hernan Diaz

November 21: *The Heaven & Earth*

Grocery Store by James McBride



Advance registration is required. Sign up at
bronsonlibrary.org/programs or call us at 203-574-8225.

COLORING & CONVERSATIONS

Fridays, September 27, October 25,
November 15, 2:30 p.m.

Auditorium

Meet and chat during our Coloring and
Conversation Club. Whether you are
looking to relax and de-stress, practice your English
conversation skills, or meet new people, you are
welcome to join us! Coloring pages and supplies will be
provided.



WATERBURY & THE CT FREEDOM TRAIL

Wednesday, September 11, 6 p.m.

Main Reading Room

Learn about the sites in Waterbury that are
part of the Connecticut Freedom Trail,
including the burial ground in front of the
library, and other sites in Waterbury that
might someday join the Freedom Trail.
Presented by library director and historian
Raechel Guest.



ABSENTEE VOTING INFO SESSION

Thursday, September 12, 5:30 p.m.

Main Reading Room

Deputy Secretary of the State Jacqueli-
ne Kozin will present information about
voting logistics and what the upcoming Absentee
Voting Referendum means for our community.



GARDEN REVITALIZATION PROJECT

Saturday, September 14, 10 a.m.

Patio

Join us in revitalizing the library's garden with Bent of
the River Audubon Center. Help us create a beautiful
garden by planting native plants in our garden and
learn about the importance of gardens and plants in
cities in the process. All ages are welcome!

GENEALOGY TIPS: FAMILYSEARCH.ORG

Thursday, September 19, 6:30 p.m.

Hybrid: Computer Classroom & Zoom

Familysearch.org is a powerful
and free tool with billions of
records for genealogy research.



Learn how to effectively search and explore the site.
Join in-person in our computer classroom, or sign up
in advance at bronsonlibrary.org/programs to join
via Zoom from home.

GARDEN OPENING AND CRAFT

Saturday, September 21, 1:30 p.m.

Patio

Come see our newly revitalized garden and learn
about the native plants that are in it, then make your
own native plant mini garden to take home!
Sponsored by Bent of the River Audubon Center.

PROGRAMS FOR ADULTS

DOWNTOWN WALKING TOURS

Saturday, September 21, 11 a.m.

Wednesday, September 25, 5 p.m.

Friday, September 27, 12 p.m.

Meet in Front Lobby

Celebrate Waterbury's 350th Anniversary with a guided history tour of downtown led by library director and historian Raechel Guest. Pick from three different dates to fit your schedule. Tours will last approximately one hour and will be held rain or shine.



PUMPKIN SPICE SUGAR SCRUB

Thursday, September 26, 2:30 p.m.

Auditorium

Make your own pumpkin spice sugar scrub. It exfoliates and smooths your skin. Make one for yourself or as a personalized holiday gift.

FINDING LOCAL HISTORY AT THE LIBRARY

Thursday, September 26, 6:30 p.m.

Auditorium

In celebration of the 350th anniversary of the founding of Waterbury, join us for an introduction to the many local history and genealogy resources of the Silas Bronson Library. Learn about the hidden gems that can help you learn about local events, your neighborhood, or your family.



URBAN FORESTRY

Saturday, October 5, 1:30 p.m.

Main Reading Room

Urban areas are hotter in the summer without trees to provide shade and lower reflected heat levels. Find out why, where, and when to plant a tree in the city. Presented by Bent of the River Audubon.

FASCIA'S CHOCOLATES: 60 YEARS OF SWEETNESS

Wednesday, October 9, 6 p.m.

Main Reading Room

Everybody loves chocolate, and Waterbury's own Fascia's Chocolates is "Celebrating 60 years of sweetness" this year. Join Carmen Romeo, President of Fascia's Chocolates, as he talks about the company's fascinating history and the legacy they are building. The session will include the origins of chocolate and how chocolate gets from Bean-To-Bar and then how Fascia's takes from Bar-To-Box.



HISPANIC HERITAGE MONTH CELEBRATION

Saturday, October 12, 11 a.m. - 4 p.m.

Front Plaza

We're celebrating Hispanic Heritage Month with a grand finale celebration featuring music, dance, art, community vendors, and food trucks. Organized in collaboration with the Afro Caribbean Cultural Center, Latinos Unidos, Hispanic Coalition, LEAD (Latinos for Educational Advocacy and Diversity), Madre Latina, The Rivera Memorial Foundation, The Greater Waterbury Puerto Rican Day Parade & Festival Committee, Polanco & Cabrera Foundation, Pa'lante Theater Company, and more!

PROGRAMS FOR ADULTS

BENEVENTO CULTURAL PROGRAM FINDING YOUR ITALIAN ANCESTORS

Friday, October 4, 1:30 p.m.

Hybrid: Auditorium and Zoom

In celebration of Italian American Heritage and Culture Month, professional genealogist Alec Ferretti will provide tips on using U.S. military, vital, parish, immigration, and naturalization records to find the origins of Italian immigrant relatives.



Join in person in our auditorium, or sign up in advance at bronsonlibrary.org/programs to join on Zoom from home.

*Sponsored by the Philip V. Benevento Fund
for Cultural Program for Adults*

GENEALOGY TIPS: CENSUS RECORDS

Friday, November 8, 1:30 p.m.

Computer Classroom

Census records can tell your family's story over decades of time. Get tips on exploring federal Census population records online, as well as lesser known agricultural, state, local, and foreign censuses.



DOWNSIZING MADE EASY

Thursday, November 21, 6:30 p.m.

Auditorium

Whether you are planning to move, re-organize your home, or get rid of unwanted clutter, downsizing your space can be a challenge. Professional organizer Jan Baltrush will offer practical tips for purging unwanted items, setting time frames, finding places to sell or donate belongings, and getting through the process of downsizing.



ART EXHIBITS

Each month we feature different local artists in our first floor exhibit spaces. Exhibits are open whenever the library is open.

September & October

We'll be hosting two exhibits in September and October. Our display cases in the front lobby and a special display wall in the Main Reading Room will feature artifacts and images celebrating Waterbury's 350th Anniversary.



The gallery wall on the first floor will feature artwork by Black, Latine, and Afro Latine artists, curated by the Afro Caribbean Cultural Center.



November

Two artists, a g & Yoyo C., will exhibit their work in November.

Yoyo Collado is an audio and visual artist from Waterbury. Her work blends music, photography, and community conversation, highlighting stories of change.



a g is a creative and passionate Hartford native. They are dedicated to empowering their community by cultivating safe spaces for self-care and creative expression. As a visual and performing artist, they infuse every creation with authenticity and altruism.

GEEKDOM & TEEN PROGRAMS

SCRABBLE MEETUP

Mondays, September 23, October 21,
November 25, 2:30 p.m.

Main Reading Room

Come play Scrabble at the library. Bring a friend, or meet new friends. We'll have all the supplies you need.



CHESS MEETUP

Tuesdays, September 3 & 17, October 1 & 29,
November 26, 6 p.m.

Auditorium

Chess players are welcome to join us to share their love of the game, meet new chess players, or learn the game. All ages and skill levels welcome.



DND 101

Wednesdays, September 4 & 18,
October 2 & 30, November 6 & 20,
6 p.m.

Auditorium

Learn the basics of DND 5th Edition through a tutorial campaign.



CHESS ON ZOOM

Thursdays, September 5 & 19,
October 3 & 31,
November 7 & 21, 4:30 p.m.

Zoom

Our chess master will be available to play against you, teach new techniques, and answer questions.

Advance registration required. Sign up at bronsonlibrary.org/geekdom



ANIME CLUB

Wednesdays, September 11 & 25,
October 9 & 23, 4:30 p.m.

Auditorium

Join us for anime, trivia, and snacks.



NOT YOUR PARENTS' BOARD GAMES

Saturdays, September 21, October 19,
November 16, 2:30 p.m.

Main Reading Room

Discover a whole new world of board games beyond traditional choices and see what all the fun is about!



TEEN PROGRAMS

MARDI GROSS

Saturday, October 26, 11 a.m. - 3 p.m.

Building-Wide

Come in costume for our annual Halloween event.

We'll have a special Anime

Paper Lantern craft, green

screen photography, a movie marathon,

and plenty of candy!



TEEN GAME NIGHT

Tuesdays, September 10 & 24, October 8 & 22,
November 5 & 19, 6 p.m.

TeenZone

Relax at the library with our board games. For ages 13-18.



CHILDREN'S PROGRAMS

BABIES AND BOOKS

Tuesdays, 10 a.m.

Picture Book Room

Enjoy lullabies, nursery rhymes, and finger plays. Works best with one child per adult. For children age 24 months and under.



WONDERFUL WEDNESDAY STORIES

Wednesdays, 10 a.m.

Picture Book Room

Join us every Wednesday and listen to wonderful stories that can transport you to far away places. For ages 2 - 5.

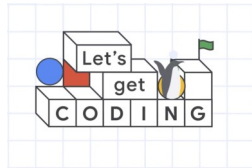


CODING CLUB

Wednesdays, 3:30 p.m.

Computer Classroom

Learn the basics of coding with our librarians. Younger children may require adult assistance. For ages 6 - 11.



BABIES, BOOKS, & BUBBLES

Wednesdays, 5 p.m.

Picture Book Room

UConn Waterbury's CAP Lab will share a story followed by bubbles of fun. Bubbles are visually engaging and offer infants an opportunity to exercise their fine motor development by grabbing, pinching, and clapping them. For ages 2 and under.



LITTLE MOVERS STORY TIME

Thursdays, 10 a.m.

Picture Book Room

Join us for a story time with music, dance, nursery rhymes, and fables. For ages 2 - 4.



JAMMIN' WITH MISS JULIE

Thursdays, 6 p.m.

Children's Room

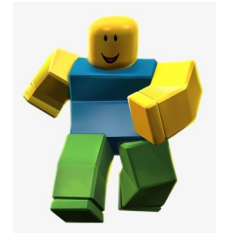
Come wear your PJ's and your dancing shoes if you so choose. We'll have stories, music, and dancing for children ages 3 - 5.

ROBLOX

Fridays, 3:30 p.m.

Computer Classroom

Come play Roblox at the library on your own or with friends. For ages 6 - 11.



WHERE IN THE LIBRARY IS SILAS THE CAT?

Wednesdays, September 18,

October 16, November 20, all day
KidZone

Use clues provided by our librarians to find where Silas the Cat, our stuffed animal, is hiding. When you find him, take a photo to show the librarian and win a prize! For ages 2+



CHILDREN'S PROGRAMS

LEGO MY LEGO

Tuesdays, September 24, November 26, 6 p.m.

Children's Room

Come build a LEGO creation using your imagination or one of our LEGO Plans. Completed projects will be displayed in the Children's Room. For ages 4+



POKÉMON CLUB

Thursdays, September 5 & 19, October 3 & 17, November 7 & 21, 3:30 p.m.

Children's Room

Come meet other kids who share your love of Pokémon. Join us for Pokémon Go, Pokémon cards, Pokémon manga, and Pokémon crafts! Adult supervision required for trading cards. For ages 6 - 11.



SATURDAY MORNING MOVIE

Saturdays, October 5, November 2, 11 a.m.

Children's Room

Bring the kids to the library to watch a fun movie. Both movies are rated PG.

October 5: *Wonka*

November 2: *Wish*



P-A-N (Phonics, Alphabet, Numbers)

Saturdays, September 21, October 5 & 19, November 2 & 16, 10 a.m.

Children's Room

Join us for a story time learning about letters, numbers, and the sounds they make. We'll also have a craft sponsored by the letter of the day. For ages 2 - 5.



BILINGUAL STORYTIME

Fridays, September 6, October 4, November 1, 11 a.m.

Picture Book Room

Español o Inglés, it's okay with Mr. K. Hear stories in Spanish and English. Great for Spanish speakers learning English and English speakers learning Spanish. For ages 2 - 5.



GRANDPARENTS' DAY CRAFT

Friday & Saturday, September 6 & 7, all day

Children's Room

Stop by the library to celebrate and show appreciation for your grandparents with a special craft. For ages 3 - 11.

FORGET THE FALL STORY TIME & CRAFT

Tuesday, September 24, 4:30 p.m.

Children's Room

Join us for a sea-themed story time and make a crab headband to take home. For ages 6-11.

CHILDREN'S PROGRAMS

SHOW YOUR MENTAL STUFF, HISTORY BUFF!

Thursday, October 10, 5 p.m.

Children's Room

Celebrate Waterbury's 350th anniversary with a friendly competition of historical proportions. Test your knowledge of Waterbury's people, places, and things. We hope you will be able to make history. For Grades 4-8.



Register in advance by calling 203-574-8212 or email bronsonkids@waterburyc.org.

STREGA NONA'S HARVEST

Wednesday, October 16, 10:30 a.m.

Children's Room

Italian American story teller Angela Buzzelli returns to the library as Strega Nona, for a special story time celebrating Italian Heritage Month. For ages 3-5.

AMERICA RECYCLES DAY

Friday, November 15, 4 p.m.

Children's Room

Celebrate America Recycles Day with magic from the Wizard of Basura. It's all about the three Rs: Reduce, Reuse, and Recycle with the Master of Mystery. For ages 2+.



MAGIC SCRATCH MASKS & STORY TIME

Tuesday, November 19, 6 p.m.

Children's Room

Join us for a magical craft and story time. For ages 6-11.



Mardi Gross

and

HALLOWEEN ComicFest

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 26

11 a.m. - 3 p.m.

Free Candy

Movie Marathon

Outdoor Activities

Food Truck

Our building-wide Halloween event returns! Bring the kids in costume for a fun-filled day. We'll have activity stations throughout the library, indoors and outdoors.

Free Books and Comic Books

Scary Stories for Kids

Spooky Crafts

Green Screen Photography



SILAS BRONSON LIBRARY
267 GRAND STREET
WATERBURY, CT 06702
ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED



SILAS BRONSON LIBRARY

Something for Everyone

LIBRARY HOURS

Main Library

Monday 9 a.m. - 4:45 p.m.
Tuesday-Thursday 9 a.m. - 8 p.m.
Friday 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.
Saturday 9 a.m. - 4:45 p.m.

*Note: The library will close at 4:45 on
Tuesday, October 15 and Tuesday,
November 12.*

Bunker Hill Branch

Tuesday 12 p.m. - 8 p.m.
Thursday 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.
Friday 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.

*For weather closings, please check
our social media or website.*

LOCATIONS

Main Library

267 Grand Street
Waterbury, CT 06702

Bunker Hill Branch

192 Bunker Hill Avenue
Waterbury, CT 06708

CONTACT INFORMATION

Main Number: 203-574-8200
Bunker Hill Branch: 203-574-8240
Circulation Desk: 203-574-8206
Children's Division: 203-574-8213
Director's Office: 203-574-8222
Reference Desk: 203-574-8225
TTY/TDD: 203-574-8226

LIBRARY CLOSINGS

Labor Day, Monday, Sept. 2
Columbus Day, Monday, Oct. 14
Veterans Day, Monday, Nov. 11
Thanksgiving Day, Thursday, Nov. 28

PARKING INFORMATION

Main Library

Kiosk parking is available on Grand
Street. Additional parking is available
in the Buckingham Garage.

*Parking rates: \$1 per hour; free after
6:30 p.m.*

Bunker Hill Branch

Free parking is available in our lot on
Aurora Street.

bronsonlibrary@waterburyct.org

203-574-8200

bronsonlibrary.org