# THE LIBRARY PAGE

The "mostly monthly" newsletter by The Friends of the Blue Hill Public Library

#### WHO WE ARE

The Friends of the Blue Hill Library is a volunteer group that raises funds for a variety of library purposes not covered by the library's operating budget.

#### WHAT WE DO

We fund: New York Times subscriptions, Must See Movie Series, Play Readings, Opera Previews, Great Decisions Series, Children's Programs, Literacy Programs, purchases of digital media, furniture, a/v equipment, staff appreciation gifts, scholarships for staff and volunteer development, and more!

#### FOL OFFICERS & BOARD MEMBERS

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Ellie Andy	Vice President			
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Rich Boulet	Library Director			

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## Letter From the President

By the time you're reading this the annual plant sale will have come and gone. For now, I'm anticipating all the lovely gems I'll find and then be happily adding to my garden. After a few years of this routine, I now know to save space for surprises. I hope you all will have been there too and returned home with welcome additions for your gardens, book shelves, and tool sheds—as well as a sense of kinship in seeing friends and neighbors, catching up on news and having a home-baked treat—all that, plus the glow of supporting our wonderful library.

I think of the plant sale as a kick off to the summer season. Soon we'll be in the full swing of summer activities, including our weekly used book sales. The June monthly sale will be held on the first Saturday, June 3. After that, we begin weekly sales with July 1 and continue through August. Thanks to all of you who generously donate gently used books to make those sales possible. The volume of what moves through our library basement is staggering.

I'd like to give a big shout out to Ellie Andy and all the volunteers who make our book sales lots of fun and a big financial success. After many years of super dedicated leadership, Ellie has decided to take a step back at the end of the summer. Who could question that decision (as much as we're sorry to hear it!)? We're beginning to plan an approach to filling the many roles Ellie has single-handedly accomplished. It will take a village. We have many ways to help with the book sales—cleaning and sorting donations, filling the shelves, triaging books for the basement sale and those that go to the Blue Hill Hospital and the Tree of Life food pantry, publicizing the dates, or greeting and serving customers during the sales themselves. If volunteering interests you, we would love to hear from you. Please leave a message for me at the library or by email to lgmaine@gmail. com. And, please thank Ellie for all her hard work!

I look forward to seeing you at the library!

## Book Nook Book Sales

Saturday, June 3<sup>rd</sup> 9:00 – 2:00

In the Book Nook Blue Hill Public Library

#### June Mini-Collections Include:

Norman Mailer US Politics, Constitution, and Justice (then and now) Nautical Boats, Boat building, Voyages, Adventure, and Fiction *Also* Coffee Table Books

#### June Special All CDs and DVDs Just 25¢

The Friends are very proud of the vitality of the Blue Hill Public Library and are pleased to play a part in it through volunteerism and the proceeds from our book sales.

We are so very grateful to the folks who visit our sales regularly - and those who stop by on occasion to check us out. We are also thankful to those who donate the diverse and quality books we are able

to offer. Proceeds from the book sales enable the Friends to support the library and its mission by providing special programming and purchases for the adults and children of the community

## From the Director's Desk

Rich Boulet, Library Director: rboulet@bhpl.net

## **Bumbling around New England**

For the first week of April, I drove around much of New England looking at libraries, trying to learn from what others are doing, and also just soaking up the beauty that is the result of the American Public Library movement. This was both a gift and an assignment from the Library Board, recognizing my 15 years at BHPL, for which I am grateful. I used the time to visit many libraries driving southward from St. Johnsbury, VT, down through Massachusetts, and finally on to Connecticut.

What's beautiful to me is that in almost all of these towns, typically sometime in the late 19th to early 20th century, a group of determined citizens got together with big aspirations to create a place built on the notion of making knowledge accessible to everyone. Sometimes, as was the case in St. Johnsbury, there was a philanthropic family that had prospered and wanted to give back to the community. At that library, the Library Director sits in the same room, at the same desk, next to the same window, as all of his predecessors have since 1874. Talk about a return on investment!

One of the best parts of the American Library Movement is that the architecture was typically a reflection of the idealism associated with the endeavor, something that might normally be associated with the tradition of building sacred spaces. An example of this is the H.H. Richardson-designed Ames Free Library in Easton, Massachusetts, which featured "Richardson Romanesque" elements of nearly-ecclesiastical stone construction: towers, engaged columns, arched windows and what appears inside to be a clerestory, shedding sunlight far above the shelves. Also impressive was the fairly recent acquisition of the neighboring estate, which I understood originally belonged to the benefactor family and was what I would perhaps gauchely call a mansion. The home has been converted into an up-todate multimedia center focused on newer technologies, along with meeting spaces, fulfilling the role of the public library as a gathering space. There are also truly beautiful gardens, an outdoor stage and a stone-walled bocce court. Richardson also designed the neighboring Ames Memorial Hall, which is a beautiful complement to the library.

Ambitious library architecture didn't cease a century ago. The **Boston Public Library**, impressive for its 1895 McKim building with its gorgeous murals by, among others, famed French colorist, Pierre Puvis de Chavannes, is in my opinion, even more beautiful for its 1972 **Phillip Johnson wing**. Built of granite that seems to bend in all the right places, the Johnson Wing was renovated in

2016 with colorful and user-friendly interior space that was a delight to spend time in. BPL took what could have been an uncaring, concrete brutalist structure, and turned it into a truly inviting space.

Similarly successful for its ambition was the **Darien Library** in Connecticut, my last stop. Every square inch of its LEED Gold, 4-story, 54,000 square feet (2009 construction) has been used to innovate and better serve patrons. There is dedicated programming space for young kids, a teen hangout zone, impressive meeting and tutoring rooms, an innovative, non-Dewey way of organizing the collection, automated materials handling, user-friendly self-check stations for patrons to check out their own materials, a Bloomberg terminal (for financial professionals) and analog-to-digital media conversion equipment (such as for converting VHS tapes to DVD). This was a truly inspiring stop. I really can't do justice here to the incredible energy that has gone into library services at this facility.

As I went along I snapped pictures of things that interested me. If libraries are an interest of yours (not unlikely given what you are currently reading), I would be happy to share those photos with you. Feel free to give me a call so we can set up a time.

Coming back from the trip I am as pleased with what we accomplish here on a regular basis, as I am aware of how much more we could do to make this the best small-town library on the planet. Together, let's see what surfaces over the next 15 years.

> Sincerely, Rich Boulet, Library Director



Top: Ames Free Library, Easton, Massachusetts. Bottom: Boston Public Library, circa 1902.

## Libraries Visited May, 2015:

St. Johnsbury (VT) Athenaeum Grace Stuart Orcutt Library, St. Johnsbury (VT) Academy Barre (VT) Public Library Howe Public Library, Hannover, NH Norwich (VT) Public Library Brooks Memorial Library, Brattleboro, VT Forbes Library, Northampton, MA Boston Public Library The Public Library of Brookline, MA Albert Alphin Library at Boston Conservatory Ames Free Library, Easton, MA Darien (CT) Library

## New on the Shelves

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#### Nonfiction:

Sandberg, Sheryl, Option B: Facing Adversity, Building Resilience, and Finding Joy Batchelor, Stephen, Secular Buddhism: Imagining the Dharma in an Uncertain World Marzano-Lesnevich, Alexandria, The Fact of a Body: A Murder and a Memoir Walker, Peter, How Cycling Can Save the World Degrasse Tyson, Neil, Astrophysics for People in a Hurry Prum, Richard O., The Evolution of Beauty: How Darwin's Forgotten Theory of Mate Choice Shapes the Animal World - And Us Walton, Richard K., Birding by Ear: Eastern and Central North America Sapolsky, Robert M., Behave: The Biology of Humans at Our Best and Worst Weil MD, Andrew, Mind Over Meds: Know When Drugs Are Necessary, When Alternatives Are Better - And When to Let Your Body Heal on Its Own Rosen, William, Miracle Cure: The Creation of Antibiotics and the Birth of Modern Medicine Elliott, Shaye, Welcome to the Farm: How-To Wisdom from the Elliott Homestead Blais, Richard, So Good: 100 Recipes from My Kitchen to Yours Toht, David, Decks Chabon, Michael, Kingdom of Olives and Ash: Writers Confront the Occupation Sedaris, David, Theft by Finding: Diaries (1977-2002)McCarthy, Tom, Typewriters, Bombs, Jellyfish: Essavs Capelle, Marie, The Independent Guide to Paris 2017 Weir, Bill, National Geographic Traveler: Arizona, 5th Edition Unesco, World Heritage Sites: A Complete Guide to 1,031 UNESCO World Heritage Sites Feess, James, The Savvy Backpacker's Guide to Europe on a Budget: Advice on Trip Planning, Packing, Hostels & Lodging, Transportation & More! Steves, Rick, Rick Steves Best of Italy Steves, Rick, Rick Steves Florence & Tuscany 2017 (2017)Lonely Planet, Lonely Planet the Netherlands Planet, Lonely, Lonely Planet Greece (Travel Guide)

Fodor's Travel Guides, Fodor's Toronto
Kaiser, James, Acadia: The Complete Guide: Acadia National Park & Mount Desert Island
Rees, Laurence, The Holocaust: A New History
Mieville, China, October: The Story of the Russian Revolution
Hoock, Holger, Scars of Independence: America's Violent Birth
Horowitz, David, Big Agenda: President Trump's Plan to Save America
Grann, David, Killers of the Flower Moon: The Osage Murders and the Birth of the FBI

#### Biography

Bagge, Peter, Fire!!: The Zora Neale Hurston Story
Dearborn, Mary V., Ernest Hemingway: A Biography
Ford, Richard, Between Them: Remembering My Parents
Franken, Al, Al Franken, Giant of the Senate
Garrow, David, Rising Star: The Making of Barack Obama
Harrison, Kathryn, True Crimes: A Family Album
Kasich, John, Two Paths: America Divided or United
Koul, Scaachi, One Day We'll All Be Dead and None of This Will Matter: Essays
Paul, Pamela, My Life with Bob: Flawed Heroine Keeps Book of Books, Plot Ensues
Shapiro, Dani, Hourglass: Time, Memory, Marriage

#### Fiction

Alyan, Hala, Salt Houses Benton, Janet, LILLI de Jong Bjork, Samuel, I'm Traveling Alone Brashares, Ann, The Whole Thing Together Browning, Barbara, The Gift Caputo, Philip, Some Rise by Sin Chancellor, Bryn, Sycamore Cleeves, Ann, Cold Earth Crichton, Michael, Dragon Teeth Depestre, Renae, Hadriana in All My Dreams Eberlen, Kate, Miss You Emmich, Val, The Reminders Gordon, Mary, There Your Heart Lies Heat-Moon, William Least, Celestial Mechanics: A Tale for a Mid-Winter Night Heiny, Katherine, Standard Deviation

Hillerman, Anne, Song of the Lion
Ibrahim, Abubakar Adam, Season of Crimson Blossoms
Kies, Thomas, Random Road
Ko, Lisa, The Leavers
Kostova, Elizabeth, The Shadow Land
Le Guin, Ursula K., The Left Hand of Darkness
Lehane, Dennis, Since We Fell
Lent, Jeffrey, Before We Sleep
Louis, Edouard, The End of Eddy
Ludwig, Benjamin, Ginny Moon
Mina, Denise, The Long Drop

## **Must See Movies**

#### Fly Away Home (1996)



Thursday, June 8, 2017, 7 pm, Howard Room

Starring: Jeff Daniels, Anna Paquin, Dana Delany.
Director: Carol Ballard.
Story Line: Amy is only 13 years old when her mother is killed in an auto wreck in New Zealand.
She goes to Canada to live with her father, an eccentric inventor

whom she barely knows. Amy is miserable in her new life...that is until she discovers a nest of goose eggs. The eggs hatch and Amy becomes "Mama Goose". The young birds must fly south for the winter, but who will lead them there? With a pair of ultralight airplanes, Amy, her dad and their friends must find a way to do it. Mukherjee, Abir, A Rising Man Nesbo, Jo, The Thirst: A Harry Hole Novel Patterson, James, 16th Seduction Roberts, Nora, Come Sundown Russo, Richard, Trajectory: Stories Sanderson, Brandon, Words of Radiance Santopolo, Jill, The Light We Lost Tarquini, Mindy, Hindsight Theroux, Paul, Mother Land Turow, Scott, Testimony Waxman, Abbi, The Garden of Small Beginnings

## **Play Reading**

## Blood Knot

Wednesday, June 21, 2017, 6:30 pm



**Playwright:** Athol Fugard **Story Line:** *Blood Knot* is a parable of two brothers who share a one-room shack near Port Elizabeth, South Africa: Zachariah is dark-skinned and Morris, light-skinned. They share the same mother but find their differences

lead them to a common bond as brothers and men. Saving to buy a farm where they may retire Morris is the "slave", cooking and cleaning while Zach earns money for them both. When Morrie joins a lonely hearts club on his brother's behalf, they find themselves awaiting the visit of a White woman who will never arrive.

## **Overdrive Is Back by Popular Demand!**

We heard you; Overdrive, the library's former e-book provider, is back! This service was previously offered through the Maine InfoNet consortium, but had been replaced by a new vendor. Because of the outcry we are now offering it again to BHPL patrons through our website or directly at https://bluehill.overdrive.com/.

OverDrive provides online access to e-books for free, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Books may be checked out for up to three weeks and read on any e-reader. Patrons with older Kindles ("paperwhites" and 1st gen. Fires), as well as newer app-based devices, can now browse a small but growing collection of e-books selected by our staff. BHPL patrons also still have the option to use cloudLibrary, the Maine InfoNet service.

To access these and other digital materials you will need your library card number and internet access. Call the library at 374-5515 for more information or if you need technical assistance. Let us know what you think!





#### Presentation: Edna St. Vincent Millay

Lisa Westkaemper and Michelle Gifford of the Rockland Historical Society will talk about

the organization's acquisition and restoration of the childhood home of Edna St. Vincent Millay, at the Blue Hill Public Library on Thursday June 1st at 7:00 PM. They will also discuss Millay's life and work, and the new literary organization that has been formed to "preserve the birthplace of Edna St. Vincent Millay and celebrate her legacy through education, the literary arts, and significant collaborations within the Maine community and beyond."

Edna St. Vincent Millay is one of Maine's most famous literary figures. Born in Rockland in 1892, Millay was famous for her quick wit, intricate poetry, and numerous love affairs. She received the Pulitzer Prize for Poetry in 1923, the third woman to win the award.

With help from Maine philanthropist Roxanne Quimby, the Rockland Historical Society bought the property of Millay's childhood home in March of 2016. Quimby has also offered matching funds to raise money for its restoration. The historical society plans to restore the original character of the double house and foster a writers' organization to promote the literary heritage of Midcoast Maine.

This event is free and open to everyone. For more information contact the library at 374-5515.

## The Bay School Singers at the Blue Hill Public Library

Bay School students from the upper grades, led by Meg Chittenden, will sing folk songs from around the world in an hour-long concert in the main reading room at the Blue Hill Public Library on Friday, June 2, at 5:00. The public is invited to come be uplifted by the joyful voices of children singing together in harmony! For more information contact the library at 374-5515.

## **Exhibit: Marbled Landscapes**

During the month of June, Maine artist Jonathan Byrer will exhibit enamel paintings at the Blue Hill Public Library in a show titled Marbled Landscapes. He uses a technique of pouring layers of enamel paints onto the canvas, mixing colors that are set in place when dry but that still seem liquid. The dry paint leaves permanent eddies, whirls, and swirling images on the canvas. Jon calls it "painting beyond brushes."

Jon Byrer graduated from the Maine College of Art in Portland, where he received a degree in photography and studied the fine arts. Jon also creates experimental photography and watercolor illustrations for a children's book series. He has been living and working in the mid-coast area for the past 15 years.

About his show Jon offers, "My work is my view of the complex beauty in the Maine landscape. From bodies of water to country roads, I strive to capture the movement in each scene. This landscape is constantly changing; intermingling light, color, and shadow in an evolution through time. My objective is to convey this sense to my viewer through my painting style and technique."

Jon has been living and working in Maine's mid-coast area for 15 years. The show will be in the library's Britton Gallery and Roland Howard Room, available for viewing during library hours subject to the Howard Room schedule. For more information contact the library at 374-5515.

## Piano Jazz with Oliver Scott

Blue Hill Public Library will participate in Blue Hill's series of First Friday events this summer by staying open later, until 7:00 PM, and by hosting live piano jazz in the main reading room from 6:00 to 7:00 PM each first Friday of the month, June through October. The first evening on Friday June 2nd will feature jazz pianist Oliver Scott. Other artists lined up to play for future First Fridays include Daniel Reinke, Yvonne Rogers and Scott Cleveland.

All library services will be available during the extended First Friday hours.

This event is sponsored by the library. There is no charge, and everyone is welcome. For more information, call the library at 374-5515.

#### Fairy Tales and Music From Around the World

On Thursday, June 1 at 4:00 PM, the Blue Hill Public Library will host a fun-filled interactive children's concert/workshop entitled "Fairy Tales and Folk Music from Around the World," featuring Kneisel Hall's team of teaching musicians: violinist Alex Fortes, violist Jennifer Chang, cellist Hannah Collins, and pianist Solon Gordon. We will be exploring pairs of stories and musical works from cultures across the globe and discovering how music can add meaning to a story and vice versa. All levels of musical experience are welcome.

This concert kicks off a week of events called "Kneisel Hall Blue Hill - Together in Music," a long-term outreach initiative dedicated to



sparking a year-round creative dialogue between Kneisel Hall musicians and members of the Blue Hill community. Following this, other workshops will include Blue Hill schools, a visit to Parker Ridge Retirement Community, and a public performance at Kneisel Hall.

The target age range for this event is kindergarten through 6th grade but all are welcome. For more information contact the library at 374-5515.

## "I heard that weather is coming. Is my event still on?"

We report closings to: Facebook, WLBZ2's storm cancellations page, and WERU.

THE LIBRARY PAGE	The monthly newsletter by The Friends of the Blue Hill Public Library	June 2017	In June as many as a dozen species may burst their buds on a single day. No man can heed all of these anniversaries; no man can ignore all of them.	 Library Director Rich Boulet talks about visiting libraries from Vermont to Connecticut. Previews of upcoming events including a presentation about Edna St. Vincent Millay, an exhibit of landscapes by Jonathon Byrer, a performance by the Bay School Singers, piano jazz with Oliver Scott and fairy tales and music from around the world And	as always, a listing of <b>new titles</b> . This month's movie screening is <b>Fly</b> <b>Away Home</b> and the play reading is <b>Blood Knot</b> by Athol Fugard.		Library Blue Hill Library	
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