



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

Leslie Goode *President*
Ellie Andy *Vice President*
Nina Fleming *Secretary*
Marjorie Yesley *Treasurer*
Susan Farrar *Co-Treasurer*
Rich Boulet *Library Director*

Meredith Amado, Bonnie Copper, Michael Donahue, Nina Fleming, Jane Garfield, Kay Grover, Susan Hudson, Fran Jennings, Tim Laflam, Ken Schweikert, Donna Scheutzow, Norm Scheutzow, Phil Schirmer, Linda Slaven and Anne Smallidge.

Letter From the President

Another summer season has blown by and here it is – September again – my favorite month in Blue Hill with its beautiful light, days warm enough to swim outside, crisp nights, a garden full of vegetables to harvest, and back to a reasonable chance at making a left turn out of the library parking lot and from Parker Point Road onto Main Street.

The summer brings increased energy to the library with tons of activities and events for all ages. We're fortunate to have so many writers, readers, makers, and creative thinkers in our midst that all year we benefit from lively presentations and discussions. I hope you were able to join us for at least a few this summer and have others marked on your calendar for September.

Our annual Paint the Peninsula party was another rollicking time this year. Many thanks to the nearly 80 artists who went out a rainy morning (remember all those rainy mornings in July?) to create beautiful work to display and sell that evening. The event raised over \$14,000 for the library and demonstrated, yet again, the impressive range of talent and generosity in our community. To celebrate the contributing artists and see more of their work, please join us for the **Paint the Peninsula artists' reception** in the Howard Room on Friday, September 8 from 4:30-6pm.

September also means an end to the frenzy required for weekly used book sales and returning to monthly sales. This year, Saturday, September 2 will be the last sale organized by our stalwart volunteer, Ellie Andy. Ellie has been the engine making our sales run beautifully for many years. Her decision to step back, though not entirely depart, has us both cheering for her and distraught. Many thanks to Ellie for all of her terrific work! And many thanks to all of the many volunteers who contribute time, energy, and affection to the library and our used book sales. We are in the process of developing new volunteer staffing and roles. Please be patient with us as we work through the transition and let us know if you have time to help with the many opportunities to get involved – sorting, cleaning, and shelving books, publicizing the sales, staffing on Saturday mornings, coordinating volunteers – if you have an interest, we have a place for you!

I look forward to seeing you at the library in September.

Leslie Goode, President, Friends of the Blue Hill Public Library

Book Nook Book Sales

**Saturday
September 2
9am-2pm**

Our weekly summer sales were a huge success with near record proceeds!! Many thanks to all who visited, bought - AND DONATED!!!

The quality, variety, and the number of books we can offer depends entirely on the quality and variety of the donations we receive. Books of all genera are welcome, but of special value are art, poetry, nature, cooking, history, and books about Maine. Please check with the library for donation guidelines. Because of your generosity, the Friends can continue to offer special programming and purchases at the library through the proceeds from our book sales.

FIRST SATURDAY SALES RESUME IN SEPTEMBER with lots of new titles. In the Bass Room will be mini collections of children's books (Muppets, Cowboys and Japanese stories) as well as other specials and unique titles. Lots of How-To books on art techniques-watercolor, illustration, etc

Most books are just a dollar or two, and children may choose one free book from the youth section!

From the Director's Desk

Rich Boulet, Library Director: rboulet@bhpl.net

Customer Service

I was buying a vacuum recently from a nearby shop that on that day was being staffed by three generations of the same family. There was the patriarch, his son who is somewhere in my age bracket, and the teenager helping out on a summer day. The older gentleman asked me "Sir, what do you do for a living?"

I love my job and enjoy talking about it but I braced myself for The Question. From the produce section at Tradewinds, to just walking down the street, I am frequently asked about library matters, or more specifically, *why libraries still matter*. I remember a young relative of mine, astonished that I was going to graduate school to study librarianship asking me as he lifted his finger to his lips, "what, you need to go to school to learn how to go shhhh?"

Living in the information age means libraries are thought by some to be outmoded, replaced by the digital media that follows and surrounds us – on our phones, televisions, computers, watches, etc. This is a particularly narrow view of what libraries do, now and in the past. Living in this age also has some people thinking that we just can't afford the cost of libraries any longer and that they are dying a slow, quiet death.

On the contrary, libraries here and everywhere are as vibrant and in demand as they have ever been and are being called on to offer much more than ever. Last year alone, for example, we welcomed an all-time record number of visitors through our doors, almost 130,000, including many of them during afterschool hours before parents get out of work. This also includes nearly 20,000 people who attended any of the 1,100 library and community-sponsored events, 10,000 sessions on our in-house computers plus a good portion of the nearly 24,000 WiFi logins on our network.

Of course, loaning books and other media remains a big part of what we do. From a collection of about 40,000 items (books, DVDs, magazines, audiobooks, etc.) we counted almost 100,000 material circulations, meaning that on average each item was used two and a half times.

In Blue Hill we do all of this with just 17% of our operating budget coming from tax-based sources while spending nearly 80% of our expenditures within 50 miles, most of it on the Blue Hill Peninsula, enriching the local economy in ways that can't be measured.

Even though the library is busier than it ever was, offering an

unprecedented amount of services, all at an astounding bargain to taxpayers, I still regularly get asked innocent but also misguided questions about what it is that we do in this digital age.

One answer comes from a book I recently read that I'd recommend highly to anyone, *Biblio Tech: why libraries matter more than ever in the age of Google*. Author John Palfrey brings his unique background as Head of School at Phillips Andover Academy, former professor of law at Harvard and founding chairman of the Digital Public Library of America, arguing:

From the opening of the BPL [Boston Public Library], the first public library, to the expansion of public libraries across America through the Carnegie Libraries, the library as an institution has been fundamental to the success of our democracy. Libraries provide access to the skills and knowledge necessary to fulfill our roles as active citizens. Libraries also function as essential equalizing institutions in our society. For as long as a library exists in most communities, staffed by trained librarians, it remains true that individuals' access to shared culture is not dictated by however much money they have.

For many citizens, libraries are the one place where the information they need to be engaged in civic life is truly available for free...The reading room of a public library is the place where a daily newspaper, a weekly magazine, and a documentary film are all available for free. In many communities, the library's public lecture room is the only place to hear candidates for office comparing points of view or visiting professors explain their work on climate change, immigration or job creation. That same room is often the only place a family without a lot of money can go see a dramatic reading or a production of a Shakespeare play....Democracies can only work if all citizens have equal access to information and culture that can help them make good choices, whether at the voting booth or in other aspects of public life.

...By failing to invest in libraries at this time of transition away from the analog and toward the digital, we are putting all these essential functions at risk just when we need them most.

Happily, back at the vacuum cleaner store, the elder shopkeeper's reaction pleasantly surprised me: "Libraries! Why we need those now more than ever. Course, they're all doing so much more these days, not just loaning books, not like when we were kids." He went on to talk proudly about the beautiful libraries in Ellsworth and Northeast Harbor, how they really need to invest in the historic Ellsworth Library and extolled the Northeast Harbor Library as an essential place for kids after school and vital to village life on Mount Desert Island. An astute observer of what to say to a customer, I can see how this gentleman has been in business since before I was born. And of course I bought the vacuum.

Must See Movies

The Taking of Pelham 123 (1974)

Thursday, September 14, 7pm

Starring Cast: Walter Mathau, Robert Shaw, Martin Balsam

Directed by: Joseph Sargent

Release Date: 1974

Story: In New York, armed men hijack a subway car and demand a ransom for the passengers. Even if it's paid, how could they get away? Critics called it one of 1974's finest films.



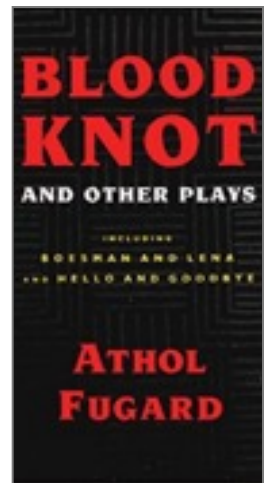
Play Reading

Blood Knot

Wednesday, September 20, 6:30pm

Written by: Athol Fugard

The only two characters in the play are the brothers Morris and Zachariah. Both were raised by the same black mother, but have different fathers, and Morris is much more fair-skinned than Zachariah. The lonely Zachariah has struck up a pen-pal relationship with a white girl and entertains fantasies that she might fall in love with him. The more level-headed Morris tries to disabuse Zachariah of such notions and warns him that in segregated South Africa, such a relationship can only mean trouble, especially since the girl has indicated in letters that her brother is a policeman.



New on the Shelves

Nonfiction

Maddux, Carlen, *A Path Revealed: How Hope, Love, and Joy Found Us Deep in a Maze Called Alzheimer's*
Price, Adam, *He's Not Lazy: Empowering Your Son to Believe in Himself*
Green, Joshua, *Devil's Bargain: Steve Bannon, Donald Trump, and the Storming of the Presidency*
Worcester, Daren, *Open Season: True Stories of the Maine Warden Service*
Burdick, Joesph, *Install Your Own Solar Panels: Designing and Installing a Photovoltaic System to Power Your Home*
Pearlman, Catherine, *Ignore It!: How Selectively Looking the Other Way Can Decrease Behavioral Problems and Increase Parenting Satisfaction*
Kingsbury, Noel, *Planting: A New Perspective*
Harvey, Janet, *Angel City: Town Without Pity*
Morrison, Grant, *The Invisibles Book Two Deluxe Edition*
Morrison, Grant, *Doom Patrol Book Three*
Morrison, Grant, *The Invisibles Book One*
Jardine, Alison, *Make Great Art on Your iPad*
Pamuk, Orhan, *The Red-Haired Woman*
Olson, Lynne, *Last Hope Island: Britain, Occupied Europe, and the Brotherhood That Helped Turn the Tide of War*

Biography

Boles, John B., *Jefferson: Architect of American Liberty*
Bontinck, Dimitri, *Rescued from Isis: The Gripping True Story of How a Father Saved His Son*
Hansen, Suzy, *Notes on a Foreign Country: An American Abroad in a Post-American World*

Johns, Barbara, *The Hope of Another Spring: Takuichi Fujii, Artist and Wartime Witness*
LeFavour, Cree, *Lights On, Rats Out: A Memoir*
McDonough, Jimmy, *Soul Survivor: A Biography of Al Green*
Taylor, Cory, *Dying: A Memoir*

Fiction

Abrams, David, *Brave Deeds*
Barton, Fiona, *The Child*
Basu, Diksha, *The Windfall*
Brown, Sandra, *Seeing Red*
Culliton, Emily, *The Misfortune of Marion Palm*
Davis Huber, Laurel, *The Velveteen Daughter*
Dee, Jonathan, *The Locals*
Fairstein, Linda, *Deadfall*
Gallagher, Mia, *Beautiful Pictures of the Lost Homeland*
Geary, Karl, *Montpelier Parade*
Gerritsen, Tess, *I Know a Secret: A Rizzoli & Isles Novel*
Goldman, Matt, *Gone to Dust*
Grafton, Sue, *Y Is for Yesterday*
Handler, David, *The Girl with Kaleidoscope Eyes*
Hilderbrand, Elin, *The Identicals*
Iskandrian, Kristen, *Motherest*
Jemisin, N. K., *The Stone Sky*
Krueger, William Kent, *Sulfur Springs*
Messud, Claire, *The Burning Girl*
Moriarty, Sarah, *North Haven*
Neuvel, Sylvain, *Sleeping Giants*
Nugent, Liz, *Unraveling Oliver*
Parker, T. Jefferson, *The Room of White Fire*

Patterson, James, *Crazy House*
Penny, Louise, *Glass Houses*
Schmidt, Sarah, *See What I Have Done*
Sexton, Margaret Wilkerson, *A Kind of Freedom*
Taylor, Sara, *The Lauras*

Walker, Wendy, *Emma in the Night*
Waugh, Evelyn, *Brideshead Revisited*
Wiseman, Ellen Marie, *The Life She Was Given*
Yap, Felicia, *Yesterday*
Zevin, Gabrielle, *Young Jane Young*

Geological Insights from Malaysia Airlines Flight Search

Dr. Millard F. (Mike) Coffin, PhD, will give a talk about "Geological Insights from Malaysia Airlines Flight MH370 Search," discussing insights geologists discovered about the ocean floor landscape during the search for the Malaysia Airlines flight that went missing in March 2014.

Professor Mike Coffin is a marine geophysicist at the Institute for Marine and Antarctic Studies (IMAS). His research focuses on large-scale volcanism on the seafloor (large igneous provinces, or LIPs), tectonic plate boundaries, divergent continental margins, and interactions between the solid Earth and Earth's environment. Primarily an observational scientist, Coffin has led or participated in 31 blue-water research voyages in the Pacific, Southern, Indian, and Atlantic oceans.

The talk will be held September 6 at 7 p.m. in the Howard Room. Call the library at 374-5515 for more information.

"Let's Talk About It" Series

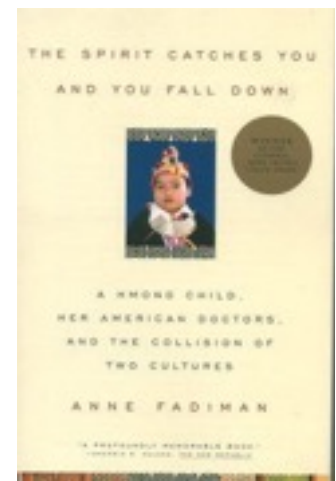
The Blue Hill Public Library has been selected by the Maine Humanities Council to offer "Let's Talk About It," a free reading and discussion series that will be hosted by UMaine Lecturer in English, Marge Irvine, at the Blue Hill Public Library starting Tuesday, September 12th at 6:00 PM. The theme of the series is "Exploring Human Boundaries: Literary Perspectives on Health Care Providers and Their Patients," and it will be offered every two weeks on Tuesdays going through November 7th. A different book will be discussed at each meeting with copies available ahead of time through the Library.

This series explores notions of illness and wellness from different perspectives, examining (in part) how both are defined by cultural and social values and by the notion of "expertise." Who has expertise, and how is this determined? Health care professionals do not always focus on what is most important to the patient and the patient's family. These classic 20th-century accounts of illness, death, and dying dramatically illuminate these complex issues.

The books to be read are as follows: *The Spirit Catches You and You Fall Down* by Anne Fadiman; *The Plague* by Albert Camus; *The Yellow Wallpaper* by Charlotte Perkins; *The Diving Bell and The Butterfly* by Jean-Dominique Bauby; and *W;t* by Margaret Edson.

Margery Irvine teaches Maine literature and writing at the University of Maine and has been a scholar/facilitator for the Maine Humanities Council for many years. She developed the discussion series, "Making a Difference" for the Maine Humanities Council.

This program is free and open to the public, but registration is required and space is limited. Participants may register through the library's events calendar, or by calling the library at 374-5515.



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September 2017

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Spring flowers are long since gone. Summer's bloom hangs limp on every terrace. The gardener's feet drag a bit on the dusty path and the hinge in his back is full of creaks." .

~Louise Seymour Jones

In this edition...

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Friends President **Leslie Goode** discusses the difficult task of finding a replacement for book sales coordinator **Ellie Andy** who is retiring in September. Library Director **Rich Boulet** talks about why we need libraries now, more than ever. Dr. Millard F. (Mike) Coffin will give a talk about geological insights from Malaysia Airlines flight MH370 Search. Marjory Irvine will lead a discussion series entitled **Let's Talk About It**. This month's **Must See Movie** is The Taking of Pelham 123, starring Walter Mathau. The **Play Reading** is Blood Knot by Athol Fugard. And, as usual, you will find a complete listing of **New Titles**.

Friends of the Blue Hill Library
5 Parker Point Lane
Blue Hill, Maine 04614



Hours

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Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday,
and Friday: 9am - 6pm
Thursday: 9am - 8pm
Saturday: 9am - 5pm
Book Nook Book Sales:
First Saturday of the month,
9am-2pm



Blue Hill Library