



FRIENDS  
OF THE  
AVON  
LIBRARY

# Beyond the Bookends



Newsletter of the Friends of the Library & the Board of Trustees

Spring 2019

## You're invited to A Dolley Madison Squeeze

Thursday, April 11, 2019  
2:00 pm - 3:30 pm  
Part of National Library Week!



- \* Mingle with fellow dignitaries
- \* Nibble on delightful, inventive treats of the era
- \* Swap recipes, make a paper fan, and create a calling card

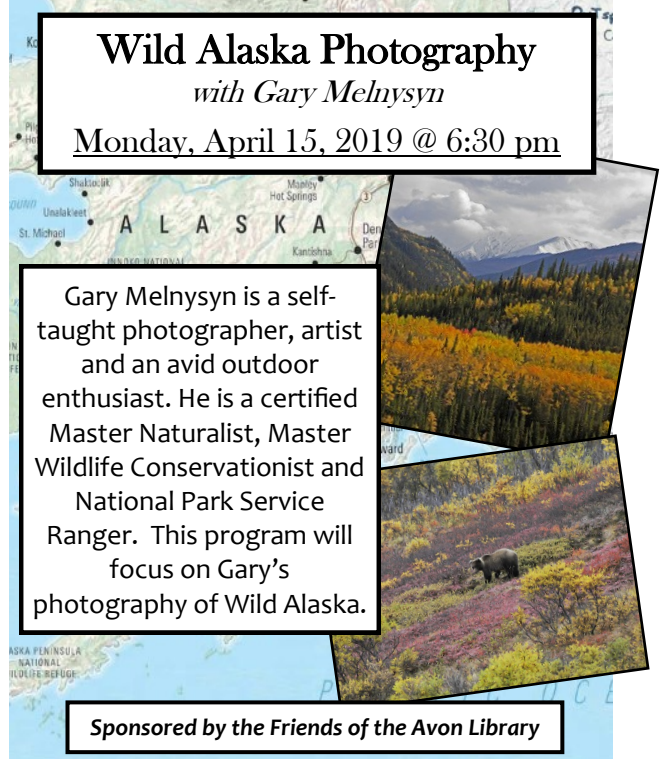
This once-in-a-lifetime opportunity offers you the chance to have a tête-à-tête with the Presidentess. Let Dolley regale you with tales of escaping the White House during the British attack on Washington City and protecting the portrait of His Excellency George Washington. Ask questions no one else could answer but the First Lady herself!

All ages are welcome at this free program - no registration required!

Sponsored by the Friends of the Avon Library

## Wild Alaska Photography with Gary Melnysyn

Monday, April 15, 2019 @ 6:30 pm



Gary Melnysyn is a self-taught photographer, artist and an avid outdoor enthusiast. He is a certified Master Naturalist, Master Wildlife Conservationist and National Park Service Ranger. This program will focus on Gary's photography of Wild Alaska.

Sponsored by the Friends of the Avon Library

## Letter from the President of the Friends of Avon Public Library

March 2019

Dear Friends,

You've probably heard about the organizational guru, Marie Kondo, and her clutter-reducing methodology. Her first book, *The Life-Changing Magic of Tidying Up* promotes the practice of keeping only those items that "spark joy" in your life. Although I haven't embraced every aspect of the *Kon-Mari* craze, there are a few strategies I've adapted for my own version of tidying up.

- \* My closet: I don't need six pairs of black shoes, when only one pair "sparks joy." Thank goodness for consignment shops.
- \* My bookshelves: I don't need to hold onto thousands of books and old videos collecting dust and taking up limited space. I keep the books that still "spark joy" knowing I can find all the books I want and need at the Avon Public Library.

Many of the items I've culled from my own overstuffed bookshelves, will spark joy for others at the Friends of the Avon Library annual used book sale. Tidying up my bookshelves will help raise funds for the many programs we support.

Speaking of sparking joy, the Friends of the Avon Library have sparked joy for many through our support of this past season's *Sundays at Three* Winter Concert series. If you're looking for even more joy this spring, look no further than the Avon Public Library. Check out the latest and greatest technology we've funded, from new computers in the computer lab to a virtual reality station. Thanks to your generous donations and volunteering efforts we continue to support book clubs for adults, for teens, and for children, computer classes, visiting magicians, a travel series, a film series, and yes. . . even the kitchen sink (as part of a much needed new toy kitchen for the children's department).

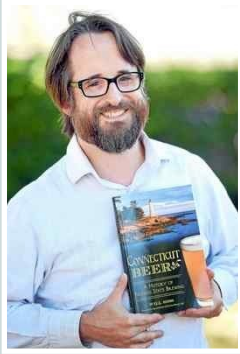
Now, back to my library book. (*The Poet X*, by Elizabeth Acevedo) Happy reading everyone!

Lynn Katz, President, Friends of Avon Free Public Library

**Celebrate National Beer Day with Will Siss, the Beer Snob**

Sunday, April 7, 2019  
2:00 pm

Part of National Library Week!



Will Siss started writing his Beer Snob column in 2005. He wrote Connecticut Beer: A History of Nutmeg State Brewing in 2015, and has been talking about beer at libraries and historical societies ever since.

His program will focus on the history of beer in Connecticut, from colonial times to the present day. Mr. Siss will share information about Connecticut breweries and teach you

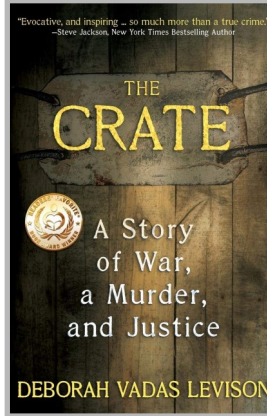
how to drink like a Beer Snob!

Books will be available for sale and signing at this event. Samples from CT breweries will also be available. You must be 21 or older to partake of the samples, please bring proper identification.

**An Afternoon with Author Deborah Levison**

Wednesday, April 10, 2019  
2:00 pm

Part of National Library Week!



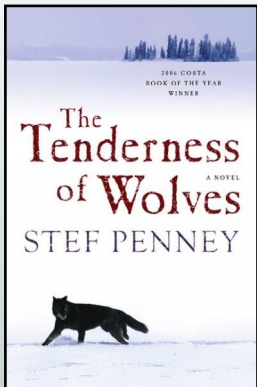
Join us for a special author talk and book signing with author Deborah Levison. Her multi award-winning debut book, *The Crate: A Story of War, a Murder, and Justice*, tells the true story of a gruesome present-day crime that rocked her family of Holocaust survivors and dredged up terrible memories of the past. A journalist and publicist, Deborah Levinson writes for regional, national and international media, and lives with her family in Connecticut.

Copies of Deborah's book will be available at the event for purchase and signing.

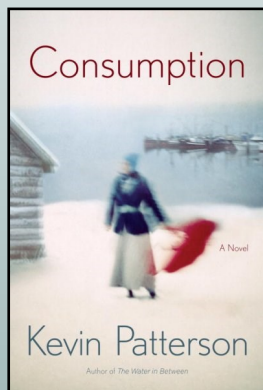
Co-presented with the Jewish Historical Society of Greater Hartford. No registration is required, all are welcome to attend!

*Canada Book Discussion Series*

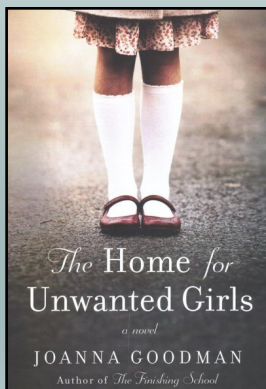
We will be discussing the use of Canada as a setting in each work of fiction.



Tue., March 5th  
7:00 pm



Tue., April 9th  
7:00 pm



Tue., May 7th  
7:00 pm

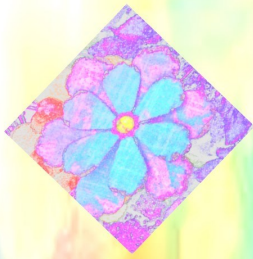
Copies of all books will be available at the Reference Desk

INFINITY MUSIC THERAPY SERVICES

# ART DAY DRUM CIRCLE

Be a part of our drumming adventure!

SATURDAY  
MAY 4TH  
4 PM



# Art Day in May

**Saturday, May 4  
1:00 pm - 4:00 pm**

**ALL AGES ARE WELCOME!**

*Join us in the Children's Room for  
creative art in the afternoon!*

**Clay, paint, weaving,  
collage, and pastels!  
Write and illustrate a book!**

**No need to sign up, just drop in!**

## Authors Coming to AFPL in May:

Sat., May 4 @ 2:00 pm

Mocktails with author panel  
including **Renee Rosen, Chanel  
Cleeton** and **Susan Messnier**

Wed., May 8 @ 7:00 pm

Bestselling author **Alafair Burke**

Sat., May 11 @ 1:00 pm

*Murder for Mother's Day:*  
murder-themed foods and a  
book launch event with **Liv Constantine**



## Outstanding Film Series

Join us this spring for our **Outstanding Film Series!** Post-film discussion by Professor Bob Kagan, Department of Communication, CCSU & the University of Hartford.

**Thursdays @ 6:30 pm**

March 14 - *Winter in Wartime* (Netherlands)

April 18 - *The Intouchables* (France)

May 16 - *Whiplash* (U.S.A.)

June 13 - *Paper Clips* (documentary)

No registration required for this free program!

*Sponsored by the Friends of the Avon Library*

[www.avonctlibrary.info](http://www.avonctlibrary.info)

## Teen Readers Unite (TRU)

### May Book Discussion

Tuesday, May 14th

**5:00 pm - 6:00 pm**

In honor of May being Mental Health Awareness Month, May's title is *Changing Ways* by local teen author Julia Tannenbaum, who will be present at the discussion. This event is open to teens in grades 7-12, as well as interested adults. You can pick up a copy of the book at the Children's Desk (2nd floor) beginning on April 15th. For more information, please contact [mhicking@avonctlibrary.info](mailto:mhicking@avonctlibrary.info).



## Spring Storytime Sign Ups are Coming Soon!

Sign up online @ [www.avonctlibrary.info](http://www.avonctlibrary.info)

**Avon residents may register  
beginning Friday, March 1<sup>st</sup>**

Nonresident registration begins Monday, March 4<sup>th</sup>

**Most Storytimes begin the week of March 18<sup>th</sup>!**

# PETER AND THE WOLF

**FRIDAY  
MARCH 15  
2:00 PM**



**A SPECIAL "NO SCHOOL" PERFORMANCE  
FOR ALL AGES**

**SPONSORED BY THE FRIENDS OF THE AVON LIBRARY**

FRIENDS of the  
Avon Free Public Library  
281 Country Club Road  
Avon, CT 06001

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Permit No. 6

# AvonCon 20<sup>⚡</sup>19

We solemnly swear we're up to no good

Saturday, April 27, 2019 ~ 11:00 am - 4:00 pm

★ *all ages ~ free admission* ★  
*costumes encouraged ~ food available onsite*

- ★ Birds of Prey live bird event
- ★ History of Witchcraft in Connecticut lecture
- ★ Calligraphy sessions
- ★ Caricature workshop with Matt Ryan of *Free Lunch Comics*
- ★ Spelling bee
- ★ Play Quidditch (led by our friends from the Ridgefield Library)
- ★ Draw-off with Matt Ryan of *Free Lunch Comics*
- ★ Food fun, drop-in crafts, and photos with the green screen



For more information, visit our website  
@ <https://avonctlibrary.info/avoncon>



## Why We Care About Ruth Ware

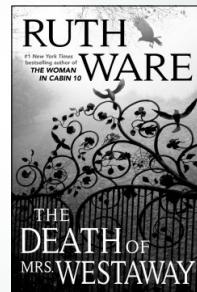
Monday, April 8, 2019 @ 6:30 pm

Part of National Library Week!



Bring your book club to our discussion about the rise of women telling stories about women with an edge. Nels Highberg, Associate Professor of English and

Modern Languages at the University of Hartford, will lead our talk, featuring the works of author Ruth Ware.



Sponsored by the Friends of the Avon Library

### Holiday Closings

April 19 - Good Friday  
April 21 - Easter Sunday  
May 27 - Memorial Day



**Don't forget! We will be open 1-5 pm on  
Sundays through the end of April!**