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Wilton Library Association Newsletter

May 2007

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The Annual Library Book Sale is about to happen this weekend!

Our very biggest fund raising effort this year will take place within hours as we hold the most magnificent Annual Book Sale ever! In spite of the recent weather and thanks to the enormous efforts of scores of volunteers and the generosity of all of our book, video, CD and DVD donors throughout the year, the Annual Book Sale will come off as planned and in great style. Stop in to shop more than 50 categories of sale items in "like new" condition (all incredible bargains) and fill your shelves for the summer and your bag for the beach! A silent auction of rare books will be conducted Saturday and Sunday, too.

Hours of the sale are:

Saturday, April 28th, 7-10 am: Early Buyers with \$15 admission fee

Saturday, April 28th, 10 am-5 pm: Admission free to public, books full price

Sunday, April 29th, 1 pm-5 pm: Admission free to public, books full price

Monday, April 30th, 10 am-6 pm: Admission free to public, books half price
Tuesday, May 1st, 10 am-2 pm: Admission and books free with donation

The Rotary Club of Wilton will have hot dogs, soda, and coffee and donuts available for you to buy as well, and sales will benefit the Library. Please stop by and shop - we will have the door open for you. You won't believe the great variety and how well our Book Cellar and Gallery sale areas are organized... join us for the best "win-win" effort in town!

See you there!
Kathy Leeds, Director

Did You Know?

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The Wilton Library often collaborates with or provides a venue for our Wilton schools. Fairly soon (as mentioned below), we will host the annual FAPA exhibit and musical performances, but even before that huge exhibit is hung, you can enjoy a very special show that originated as a senior interest project at Wilton High School.



For their senior interest project, WHS students Mara Schechter and Madeline Kennedy explored homelessness within Fairfield County. Meeting with residents at three local shelters, they took photos and gathered stories from residents and visitors. An exhibit of those interviews and portraits entitled "Fairfield County's Homelessness: Interviews and Portraits" is on display now through May in the Adult Computer area.

Schechter and Kennedy hope to break stereotypes about homelessness. "I hope that some people will be moved enough by the exhibit to provide larger forms of help, perhaps even in the political sphere by pushing the government to increase low-income housing," says Schechter. Please take a walk to the southeast corner of our building to see this important project.

### **May Day Fun for Kids**



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May Day has had significance of many sorts in the past for different cultures and countries. According to [Infoplease](#), "It's a celebration of spring. It's a day of political protests. It's a neopagan festival, a saint's feast day, and a day for organized labor. In many countries, it is a national holiday."

At the Wilton Library, we'll celebrate as well. Children of all ages can drop in at any time during the day to make a May Day craft designed to be worn at our two May Pole celebrations at 11:30 am and 4 pm in the courtyard (weather permitting). No registration is necessary - just come and take part in the fun.



Computer Classes for May

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"The Computer Lady," Mary Anne Franco, has an interesting learning opportunity for you this month - and it's free of charge, but class size is limited and [advance registration](#) is required:

### **Downloadable Audiobooks ~~ Thursday, May 3rd from noon to 1:30 pm**

Join in the fun of downloading audiobooks from NetLibrary to your computer at home and then transferring them to an MP3 player to carry with you as you travel or commute. You can have a book with you wherever you go, even if you don't own your own player, because the Library has them available for you to borrow. Join Mary Anne to learn how to find, download, transfer and listen to hundreds of great titles. Note that the NetLibrary service is not compatible with iPod or other Macintosh products. Please register in advance.

### **Let's Talk About It: Learn to Speak Conversational English**

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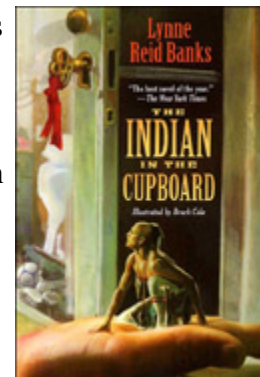


We have had such an enthusiastic response to our ESOL (English for Speakers of Other Languages) classes that we have begun weekly drop-in conversation classes. **Every Tuesday evening in May, from 7 to 8:30 pm**, trained instructors will help all participants practice their English skills in a relaxed and informal setting. Snacks will be provided, so please join us (and invite anyone you think might benefit) whenever you can come. No registration is necessary and you can take part in one, some, or all of the sessions.

Critics Choice for Kids

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4th and 5th graders can read the book, see the movie and then discuss them both with friends over pizza donated by our very good friends at Tom-E-Toes. This month's selection is *The Indian in the Cupboard*, so kids, start reading and sign up for: Movie Night on **Thursday, May 3rd, from 5 to 6:45 pm** ([register online](#)) Discussion and Pizza Night on **Thursday, May 10th, from 5:30 to 6:30 pm** (register online) There is no charge for either program and we only require that you have fun!



According to Amazon, *What could be better than a magic cupboard that turns small toys into living creatures? Omri's big brother has no birthday present for him, so he gives Omri an old medicine cabinet he's found. Although their mother supplies a key, the cabinet still doesn't seem like much of a present. But when an exhausted Omri dumps a plastic toy Indian into the cabinet just before falling asleep, the magic begins. Turn the key once and the toy comes alive; turn it a second time and it's an action figure again.*

*The Indian in the Cupboard is one of those rare books that is equally appealing to children and adults. The story of Omri and the Indian, Little Bear, is replete with subtle reminders of the responsibilities that accompany friendship and love. For kids, it's a great yarn; for most parents, it's also a reminder that Omri's wrenching decision to send his toy back to its own world is not so different from the recognition of their children's emerging independence.*



### **Inside the Music**

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May marks the debut of our *Inside the Music* series during which outstanding musicians will share personal insights about composition and performance.

Allen Brings

Out of One, Many: How Single-Voiced Music Became Many Voiced

Employing a blend of musical illustration and discussion, composer and pianist, Allen Brings, will demonstrate how the monophony that characterized all music in the early Middle Ages in the West evolved into the polyphony that is heard in almost all music today. Dr. Brings will illustrate his talk both by playing the piano and with CD selections from the Library's own outstanding Knott Classical Music Collection. Please [register in advance](#) for this session to take place on **Saturday, May 5th, from 10:30 am to noon.**

Chris Brubeck

Evolution of a Commission

Award-winning composer and musician, Chris Brubeck, discusses his compositional process, focusing mainly on the development of a piece commissioned by The Boston Pops for national broadcast entitled Interplay for Three Violins and Orchestra. The task was to write a concerto for three superstar violinists from three different fields: Nadja Salerno-Sonnenberg, classical virtuoso; Regina Carter, best-selling jazz violinist; and Eileen Ivers, Irish fiddle champion of Riverdance fame. Portions of the award-winning broadcast will be shown during the class. Please [register in advance](#) for this session to take place on **Saturday, May 12th, from 10:30 am to noon.**

John Mucci

The Rise and Fall of Verismo Opera

Employing a blend of musical illustration, slide presentation and discussion, writer, composer, and lyricist, John Mucci, will enlighten us all about Verismo opera. A sort of Italian opera that began in 1890 and flourished between 1900 and 1929, this music was characterized by stories abounding in violent love and hate, themes that mix the basest motives with the most ardent expression. Using examples from the Library's exceptional opera collection, John will examine verismo as the first "reality" event for opera goers. Please [register in advance](#) for this session to take place on **Saturday, May 19th from 10:30 am to noon.**

Tools for Taking the Grey Out of Today's Real Estate Market

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The real estate market has been a roller coaster ride for many in recent months and while you may be thinking about putting your house on the market, some expert guidance might prove profitable. On **Thursday, May 3rd, from 7 to 8:30 pm**, local licensed real estate professionals Patty Hoppole and Stephanie Smith will help you learn how to get the best price in a volatile market. There are no strings attached to this informative talk that will cover the strategies and tactics of staging, advertising, marketing, listing, and negotiating. Please [register in advance](#) for this informative program.



### Senior Center Screening: *Staying On*

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Please join us to view the marvelous epic film based on Paul Scott's novel, *Staying On*, scheduled for **Friday, May 4th from 10:30 am to 2:30 pm**. Trevor Howard and Celia Johnson star in this epic story of a British colonel and his wife who decide to remain in India after the departure of the British raj in the 1940s.

Please note that Ben Van Vechten led a discussion of the novel on April 24th at the Senior Center, but you need not have taken part in that discussion to attend this screening. Please [register in advance](#) and bring your lunch for a truly remarkable experience.

Creating Slide Shows with Michael Franco

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Our terrific digital photography guru, Michael Franco, will demonstrate how to make slide shows from your photos on **Saturday, May 5th, from 11 am to 12:30 pm**. View and share your slideshows via email or in person using Windows Media Player. Michael will even show you how to enhance your shows with titles and credits, transitions, music, and picture planning. Please [register in advance](#) for this exciting and entertaining class.



## Dungeons & Dragons Club for Teens



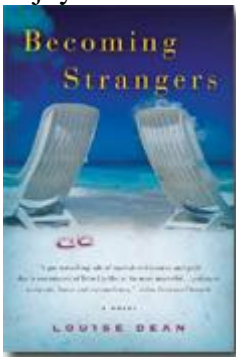
Our very popular Dungeons & Dragons Club for kids in grades 6-9 will meet on **Saturdays May 5th, 19th, and 26th from 12:30 to 2:30 pm**. Parents of kids under age 12 must remain in the Library while the Club is in session (by CT law). A parent volunteer will be on hand to supervise the meeting. Please register online for each session:

- [May 5th](#) online registration
- [May 19th](#) online registration
- [May 26th](#) online registration



## Wilton Schools Fine & Performing Arts (FAPA) Exhibit and Reception

We are so excited that the FAPA exhibit of the work of more than 400 students in grades Kindergarten through 12 is returning to the Library. Please join us to celebrate the artists, enjoy musical performances by several student groups, and enjoy refreshments on **Monday, May 7th, from 6 to 7:30 pm**.



## May Book Discussions

Three lively books discussions will take place in May - be sure to check them out and take part:

Susan Boyar will lead a discussion of *Becoming Strangers*, by Louisa Dean, on **Wednesday, May 9th, from noon to 1:30 pm**. Booklist said, *What keeps an unhappily married couple together? In her impressive debut, long-listed for the 2004 Man Booker [Prize], Dean dissects two hollow unions against the sultry backdrop of a Caribbean resort. George and Dorothy Davis, an English couple married more than 50 years, are worn down by neglect and boredom; Jan and Annemieke de Groot, Belgians married 31 years, are pulled apart by Jan's terminal cancer, which exposes issues they've suppressed for years. Dean is at her best in interior moments, when characters ponder their lives with private, brutal candor. On holiday, friendships form, affairs spark and revelations startle. Adept at sharp dialogue and brisk plotting, Dean is also attentive to character development, choosing authenticity over sentimentality in a book that is poignant, often funny and unexpectedly redemptive.* Please let us know you are coming by [registering in advance](#), and bring your lunch if you like - we'll provide the beverages.

Our International Book Group that features the literature of other lands will take place on **Wednesday, May 9th, from 7 to 8:30 pm** when Vita Silina will discuss *The Rings of*

***My Tree: A Latvian Woman's Journey***, by Jane E. Cunningham. This book is a well-told story of one young woman's journey that starts in pre-WWII Latvia and follows her as she is ripped from her home in Liepaja, separated from family and friends, and ends up, like so many others, in a Displaced Persons Camp in Germany. I encourage you to join us, even if you aren't able to read the book, as Vita will speak about her country and countrymen. Refreshments including international desserts will be served, so please [register in advance](#) so that we may plan to have enough treats on hand.

The Senior Center book discussion this month will be led by program head, Barbara Jones. Every year, Barbara lines up a wonderful series of titles and discussion leaders, but we look forward especially each year to the time she steps up to lead a discussion herself. This month she's chosen ***Martha Washington: An American Life***, by Patricia Brady on **Tuesday, May 22nd, at 11 am** at the Senior Center (in Comstock Community Center, 180 School Road). Booklist says, *Brady paints a portrait of the long-lived marriage between George and Martha as a passionate merger of both minds and hearts. A lively, intelligent, and fiscally shrewd widow, Martha was the perfect match for the more somber and less financially secure George. Unwavering in her devotion to her second husband, Martha quickly became his sounding board as well as his most trusted confidante during the tumultuous revolutionary and presidential years.* Please call the Senior Center to register (834-6240) and let them know if you would like to stay for lunch.



### **Gardening for Children: A Plant for Mother's Day**

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On **Saturday, May 12th, from 2-3 pm**, we'll have a lovely program for children ages 5-8 that is made possible through the generosity of the Coyle Fund.

Aspiring gardeners will plant seeds and decorate pots for Mother's Day gifts. Daryl Beyers, assistant editor of *Fine Gardening* magazine, will lead the group and talk about gardening while pots are decorated and planted. Please [register in advance](#) so that we have enough supplies on hand. We can guarantee moms will be delighted with the results.

Vanity Fair and The House of Mirth with Joanna Ecke and Jean Brey

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We are delighted that book lovers (who love movies, too!) Joanna Ecke and Jean Brey have agreed to lead two discussions of classic books (and the films they inspired) this month:

On **Thursday, May 17th, from noon to 1:30 pm**, they will lead a spirited discussion of William Makepeace Thackeray's ***Vanity Fair***. Long considered a masterpiece of classic literature, *Vanity Fair* is a timeless story about unbridled ambition and a skewering of upper class society. Please [register in advance](#).



On **Thursday, May 31st, again from noon to 1:30 pm**, they'll talk about *The House of Mirth*. A drawing room drama about the whispered politics and wily business of marriage in New York high society, the book is about a beautiful young socialite whose life becomes hampered with scandal, in part because she can't reconcile her heart with the fact that she must marry well to maintain her station. Please [register in advance](#).

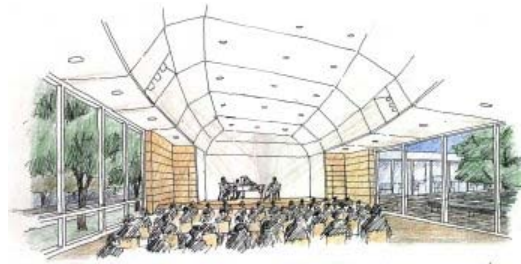
### **Sunday Tea for Library Volunteers on May 20th**



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All of Wilton Library's greatly appreciated volunteers (more than 200 help us out each year in myriad ways) are invited to a special tea in their honor on **Sunday, May 20th, from 3 to 4 pm**. The honored guests will then attend the chamber music concert in our Brubeck Room that follows their tea from 4 to 5:30 pm. Please call 762-3950 to let us know you are coming to the tea - we look forward to honoring your generous gift of time and effort.

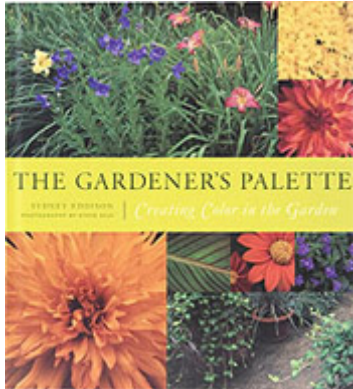
Fontenay Chamber Players Concert

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On **Sunday, May 20th, from 4 to 5:30 pm**, our Brubeck Room will once again be the venue for beautiful chamber music. The Fontenay Chamber Music Players group was formed in 2003 to bring together some of the area's top chamber musicians in an exceptional combination of instruments.



The repertoire on May 20th will feature Maurice Ravel's luminous *Introduction and Allegro* for harp, flute, clarinet, and strings. Players are Maryly Culpepper (flute), Kathryn Taylor (clarinet), Wendy Kerner Lucas (harp), Robert Zubrycki and Salley Koo (violin), Renate Falkner (viola), and Arthur Cook (cello). This concert is sponsored by the Suzanne La Follette Culley Charitable Trust. Please [register in advance](#) to guarantee seating. Pre-registrants must arrive by 4 pm to claim their seats. After 4 pm, and if space is available, waitlisted and walk-in registrants will be admitted. We hope you can join us for a thrilling afternoon.

The Rainbow Contained, with Sydney Eddison



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Popular garden author and lecturer Sydney Eddison will make a special appearance at the Wilton Library on **Monday, May 21st, from 11 am to noon**, thanks to collaborative effort by the Library and the Wilton Garden Club. All are invited to see the author's slide show presentation that provides insights from her book, *The Gardener's Palette: Creating Color in the Garden*. Ms. Eddison teaches gardening at the New York Botanical Garden and lectures widely - you really don't want to miss her visit to Wilton! Please [register in advance](#) and we'll save you a seat. Copies of the book will be available for purchase and signing.



### Spotlight On: Book Group Books

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You don't need to be a member of a book discussion group to take advantage of our very special collection of discussable books located just past the new arrivals in our lobby. Multiple copies of more than 200 fascinating titles have been purchased at the suggestion of local clubs over the past few years, and they are available for everyone to borrow. I often browse these shelves myself because I know the books are likely to be particularly engaging - just perfect for a long plane ride or a day on the beach.

And if you do belong to a discussion group, stop by the reference desk the next time you are in to pick up a request form or call us at 762-3950 to let us know what you need. We will purchase six copies of paperbacks you would like your group to read if they are available and add them to this growing and heavily used collection. We're always happy to obtain copies from other libraries as well, when our supply runs out.

Contact Information

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