

## librarEmail

### Wilton Library Association Newsletter

#### May 2008

in this issue

- May Day for Kids at the Library
- Parent/Student Substance Use and Abuse Survey Results
- Book Discussions in May
- Constitution Series Concludes on May 1st
- May's "How To" Technology Classes
- Norwalk Symphony's (Not) Just for Kids - Brass Section
- The Amore Trio & Volunteer Appreciation - Sunday, May 4th
- Wilton Schools Fine and Performing Arts Exhibit
- Helping Seniors Remain at Home
- *New Yorker* Cartoonist Roz Chast Visits on May 7th
- Mother's Day Activities for Children
- Spotlight On: Special Funds
- Experience The Cloisters in New York City - May 12th/May 13th
- Pangea Day - Global Film Event on May 10th
- Author Talk: Elizabeth Kendall, *Autobiography of a Wardrobe*
- Using Native Plants in Our Gardens and Landscapes
- Fairy Doll Workshop for Kids on May 24th
- Late Breaking News: Liz Jorgensen Returns!

Hello!

May is bursting with exciting events at the Library, and the weekend of May 17-18 is particularly noteworthy, with back-to-back "signature" occasions for exceptional entertainment, jazz, and giving opportunities.

As you may know, Wilton Library is a private association that provides library services to all who live, shop, and work in Wilton. Every year we receive a grant from the Town of Wilton to help fund our efforts, but more than 20% of our budget for library materials and operations comes from charitable donations. The public/private partnership works well to maintain the excellence in service, collections and programs that our community of users needs and expects.

On **Saturday, May 17th, starting at 6 pm**, the Library will be transformed for our spring gala, *Moonlight in the Garden*. Cocktails, dinner, jazz by the Rex Cadwallader

Trio, silent and live auctions will all be part of this celebration to benefit the Library. Please call Anne Rowlands (762-3950, extension 216), for more details and to reserve your tickets. It will be an evening to remember - plus the proceeds will fund programs, technology, and services everyone can enjoy.

We'll do a quick turnaround the following morning (thanks to our wonderful volunteers and staff members!) to host another in our exceptional *Hot & Cool: Jazz at the Brubeck Room* concert series on **Sunday, May 18th, at 4 pm**. I'm thrilled that this concert will feature **The Brubeck Brothers Quartet**, an exciting jazz group featuring two members of one of America's most accomplished musical families, Dan Brubeck (drums,) and Chris Brubeck (bass & trombone). Guitarist Mike DeMicco and pianist Chuck Lamb complete this dynamic quartet. A reception will follow the performance, which is funded by the William and Karen Tell Foundation (which supports our continuing *Hot & Cool: Jazz at the Brubeck Room* series), with special thanks to Ed and Catherine Romer. [Advance registration](#) is strongly recommended and pre-registrants must arrive by 3:50 pm to be guaranteed seating. After 3:50 pm, and if space available, wait-listed and walk-in registrants will be admitted. The suggested donation for this Sunday afternoon "happening" is \$10 per person.

I hope to see you on the 17th and 18th - and throughout the month at the Library.  
Kathy Leeds, Director

**Special Note:** Please don't forget to vote for the Town budget either on Tuesday, May 6th (after the Annual Town Meeting that starts at 7:30 pm) or on Saturday, May 10th, during the adjourned voting session. We count on your support to pass the proposed budget that includes our Library's grant from the Board of Selectmen - particularly on May 6th at the Annual Town Meeting to prevent further cuts (beyond the \$50,000 already taken) that will further impact service delivery in the coming year.

### **May Day for Kids at the Library**

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In what has become an annual tradition at the Library, kids are invited to take part in our May Day festivities. On **Thursday, May 1st**, children of all ages can drop by from **10 am to 8 pm** to create a May Day craft. Materials will be provided for this "drop-in" activity and no reservations are necessary.



The Library's custom-made May Pole will be set up in the courtyard (or in the Children's Library if the weather doesn't cooperate) from **11 to 11:30 am** and children who want to participate can wear or carry their creations from the drop-in crafts to do a traditional May Day dance. Please join us to welcome spring!

### **Parent/Student Substance Use and Abuse Survey Results**

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Later that evening, on **Thursday, May 1st, from 7 to 9 pm**, we'll hold a panel discussion on the survey distributed to parents and students last fall about drug, alcohol, and tobacco use.

The results are in and the combined surveys from parents and their children form the largest survey sample size since 1998. Survey results will be presented on screen, with an expert panel on hand to explain the results, answer questions, and address concerns. Please [register in advance](#) to reserve a seat.

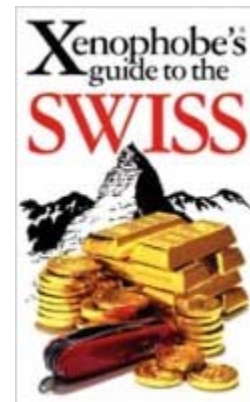
This program is sponsored by Positive Directions, Wilton Youth Services, the Task Force to Reduce Underage Drinking, and Wilton Library.

### Book Discussions in May

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Our regular book discussions in May are open to all interested participants:

The popular International Book Group that discusses literature of other lands will hold its next meeting on **Thursday, May 1st, from 7 to 8:30 pm**. Our guest speaker will be **Jacqueline Smith** from Switzerland who will discuss *The Xenophobe's Guide to the Swiss*, by Paul Bilton. You'll be sure to expand your horizons and friendships by attending. Refreshments and international desserts will be served. Please [register in advance](#).



On **Wednesday, May 14th, from 12 to 1:30 pm**, professional book discussion leader **Susan Boyar** will talk about *The Emperor's Children*, by Claire Messud. You may bring lunch, and beverages will be provided. Please [register in advance](#).

On **Tuesday, May 27th, at 11 am**, discussion leader Barbara Jones, joined by Seema Saksena of India, will talk about *The Space Between Us*, by Thrity Umrigar for our special Senior Center discussion series. This group meets the fourth Tuesday of each month September through May (with no meeting in December), and all are welcome to attend. Please call the Senior Center for details and to register at 834-6240. The Senior Center is located at Comstock Community Center, 180 School Road, Wilton.

## Constitution Series Concludes on May 1st

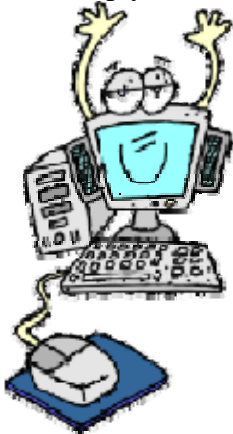


This winter and spring, the Wilton Library and the Wilton Historical Society have joined forces to present an extraordinary scholarly series entitled, *The United States Constitution: A Living Legacy*. On **Thursday, May 1st, at 7:30 pm at the Wilton Historical Society** (224 Danbury Road), noted scholar Sandy Levinson of the University of Texas, Harvard, and Yale law schools will speak about interpreting the Constitution.

Professor Levinson will address questions regarding our Constitution, including:

- How should we read the Constitution?
- What are the different methods by which the Supreme Court interprets the document?
- Is the Constitution the best guide for twenty-first century America?

A question and answer session will follow the talk. Please note that this talk is fully subscribed, but you may [sign up for the wait list](#), in the event that current registrants are unable to attend. We are most grateful to The Wilton Bank and Devereaux A. Clifford and Family, whose grants made the 2008 series possible. We've already begun planning for a 2009 series based on the tremendous demand shown for this year's initiative and will keep you informed as those plans advance.



## May's "How To" Technology Classes

On **Saturday, May 3rd, from 11 am to 12:30 pm**, digital photography expert Michael Franco will give step-by-step instruction in the use of **Online Photo Sharing** sites such as KodakGallery, Flickr, Shutterfly, Snapfish, and more. You can learn how to sign up, upload photos, send invitations to others, view what others have uploaded, make basic repairs to photos and more in this demonstration-style class. Please [register in advance](#), as space is limited.

On **Tuesday, May 13th from 6:30 to 8 pm, and Thursday, May 15th from 12:30 to 2 pm**, Head of Wilton Library's Network Services, Mary Anne Mendolo Franco will teach classes on **Intermediate Word** skills. You'll learn how to format text, work in a table, and find and insert pictures into a document. Basic computer skills, including mouse proficiency are required for these "hands-on" classes (limited to 10 students per class). Please register in advance for [May 13th](#) or [May 15th](#).

On **Tuesday, May 20th, from 6:30 to 8 pm and Thursday, May 22nd, from 12:30 to 2 pm**, Mary Anne will teach you how to format a spreadsheet and create graphs in her

**Intermediate Excel** classes. Again, basic computer skills, including mouse proficiency are required for these "hands-on" classes (limited to 10 students per class). Please register in advance for [May 20th](#) or [May 22nd](#).

Please note: *to insure the best learning experience for all in our "hands-on" classes, latecomers will not be seated after ten minutes past the posted starting time.*

### **Norwalk Symphony's (Not) Just for Kids - Brass Section**

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The final segment in an outstanding series for music-loving kids and their families will take place on **Saturday, May 3rd, from 2 to 3 pm** in the Brubeck Room. We urge children ages 3 through 10 to bring their families as members of the [Norwalk Symphony](#)'s brass section play and explain their instruments, offering an up-close-and-personal, hands-on experience for budding music makers. This year's four-part series was made possible by a grant from the Xerox Foundation.

Please [register in advance](#) so that we can save you a seat, and feel free to call me at the Library (762-3950, extension 215) if you have questions or would like to help us fund future cultural programs for children or teens.

### **The Amore Trio & Volunteer Appreciation - Sunday, May 4th**

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The Library is fortunate to have over 200 wonderful volunteers and we'll take the afternoon of Sunday, **May 4th, from 3 to 4 pm**, to honor them with a special Appreciation Tea. Please call the Library (762-3950) to let us know that you are coming, and come reap the thanks that you so deserve!



Following the Tea, volunteers and others who love wonderful classical music are invited to attend a concert, on **May 4th from 4 to 5 pm**, in the Brubeck Room. Part of our *Connecticut's Own* classical music series, this concert will feature The Amore Trio, a talented group of Connecticut musicians who play violin, cello, and piano. Founded in 2002, the group seeks to bring the beauty of the great composers to Connecticut residents in a variety of settings, including libraries. The afternoon's program will include selections from Bach, Beethoven and Brahms. [Advance registration](#) is suggested and pre-registrants must arrive by 3:50 pm to be guaranteed a seat. After 3:50 pm and if space is available, waitlisted and walk-in registrants will be admitted. There is no charge for the concert, but contributions are always welcome.

### **Wilton Schools Fine and Performing Arts Exhibit**

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On **Monday, May 5th, from 6 to 7:30 pm**, everyone in town is invited to attend the annual reception for the Wilton Schools Fine and Performing Arts exhibit, featuring over 400 works from students in Kindergarten through 12th grade. The evening's reception will include refreshments and musical performances by selected student groups.

If you aren't free that evening, please note that the exhibit will continue at the Library through Thursday, May 29th. Please stop by and see the amazing work done by Wilton's students!



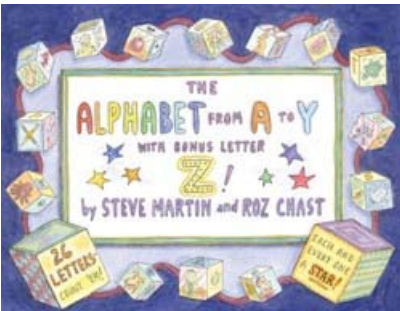
### **Helping Seniors Remain at Home**

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On **Tuesday, May 6th, from 10:30 am to noon** in the Rimer Room, Lea Mintz, Community Liaison with Family & Children's Agency in Norwalk, will return with an encore discussion about helping seniors maintain their independence by remaining in their own homes. Senior independence is so very important not only to the seniors themselves, but also to

their children or caregivers. Lea's talk will provide expert tips and strategies for keeping seniors safe and sound at home.

There is no charge for the program, but we ask that you [register in advance](#).

### **New Yorker Cartoonist Roz Chast Visits on May 7th**



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Roz Chast is internationally recognized as a regular contributor to The New Yorker Magazine since the 70s. Nine collections have been published of Chast's work, most recently *Theories of Everything*, a twenty-five year survey. Roz is known for her cast of recurring hapless characters. In her cartoons, she addresses the issues of our time: guilt, anxiety, aging, families, friends, money, real estate, and as she would say, "much, much more!" The editor of *The New Yorker*, David Remnick, has

called her "the magazine's only certifiable genius."

Her most recent book, *The Alphabet from A to Y With Bonus Letter Z!*, written with celebrated entertainer and writer Steve Martin, creates an alphabet that will captivate Mom and Dad as much as the kids. For each letter, readers will find Martin's zany humor in an alliterative couplet, accompanied by a cleverly detailed Chast drawing. From Bad Baby Bubbleducks who "beat up his bed with bashed up bananas," to Quincy the kumquat who "queried the queen," Chast and Martin's lettered world will delight readers of all ages. And it only gets better with each rereading. The ABCs have never had it so good!

Roz will have books available for purchase and signing at the conclusion of her talk - come meet her in person when she joins us in the Brubeck Room on **Wednesday night, May 7th, at 7 pm!** Note that this talk was postponed in February due to inclement weather.

Please [register immediately](#) in person, by phone (762-3950), or online to reserve a seat. Pre-registrants must arrive by 6:50 pm to be guaranteed seating. After 6:50 pm, and if space is available, waitlisted and walk-in registrants will be admitted.

### **Mother's Day Activities for Children**

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Mother's Day is fast approaching (Sunday, May 11th), and children can show their appreciation for mom by making a very personal gift at the Library:



On **Thursday, May 8th (10 am to 8 pm) and Friday, May 9th (10 am to 6 pm)**, children of all ages can drop by during Library hours to make a special Mother's Day themed craft. No reservations are required, and we'll supply materials and guidance.

On **Saturday, May 10th, from 2 to 3 pm**, Daryl Beyers, Assistant Editor of [Fine Gardening Magazine](#), will talk to kids ages 5 through 8 about gardening. Participating children will plant seeds and decorate pots for Mother's Day gifts. [Advance registration](#) is required. This lovely program has been made possible by the Coyle Family Fund.



### **Spotlight On: Special Funds**

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Perhaps you have noticed that many of our programs and collections are made possible by special funds (the Betsy & Jesse Fink Foundation, the William and Karen Tell Foundation, and the Coyle Family Young Reader's Fund are just a few examples). We are very fortunate to have a growing group of generous individuals, families, and organizations who choose to support Wilton Library through annual gifts to a specific fund, in addition to or in lieu of gifts to the annual Friends Campaign.

If you are considering a significant annual gift of \$2,500 or more, but want to be more involved in how it is used, we would be delighted to work with you, your family, or organization to find a "funding fit," perhaps for a speaker or music series, for technology or programs specifically for children or teens, or for a special book or media collection. We work closely with the funder and report back annually on all purchases made. It's a more "hands on" way to help out this terrific Library, and we promise to make it a meaningful experience! Call 762-3950 ext. 215 (Kathy Leeds) or 762-3950 ext. 216 (Anne Rowlands) to learn about our current "wishes."

**Experience The Cloisters in New York City - May 12th/May 13th**



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As part of our very popular museum day trip series, we'll host a lecture and guided visit to The Cloisters Museum in New York.

On **Monday, May 12th, from 11 am to noon** in the Brubeck Room, Steven Wander, a specialist in medieval art, will present an illustrated lecture on medieval art at [The Cloisters](#). Professor Wander, formerly assistant professor and chair of the Art History department at the University of California, Irvine, is currently an adjunct at the University of Connecticut, Stamford, returning to teaching after a career in business. He was educated at the Fieldston School in Riverdale and received his PhD from Stanford University. This talk will serve both as an introduction to the museum and as a preview to the second museum destination in this spring's collaborative series of Wilton Library and St. Matthew's Episcopal bus trips.

All are welcome to attend the lecture, whether in anticipation of visiting the museum the following day, or just wishing to learn more about The Cloisters Museum and its collections. Please [register in advance](#) for this beautifully illustrated presentation.

On **Tuesday, May 13th**, departing from the Library promptly at **9:30 am** and returning at approximately 4:30 pm, we'll sponsor a comfortable mini-bus trip to The Cloisters so that you can see the medieval masterpieces in person. Our visit will include a guided tour through the building and gardens. Participants may choose to eat lunch at either the Trie Cafe in the Museum itself or at the nearby New Leaf Cafe (lunch is not included in the cost of the excursion). Cost for bus and museum admission, including our tour is \$55 for Adults and \$50 for Seniors (65 and older). Space is limited to 22 seats and we must receive payment in advance to reserve your place. Please call (762-3950) with your credit card information or stop by the Library's front desk immediately to register to be included in what is sure to be a popular trip!

### **Pangea Day - Global Film Event on May 10th**

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On **Saturday, May 10th, from 2 to 6 pm**, the Library will take part in a global film event, Pangea Day. We are excited to be showing an international film created from 24 short films that will be broadcast simultaneously around the world to celebrate the human spirit. The intent of this screening is to allow viewers to enjoy and experience life through the eyes of others. The day was conceived by TED award-winning documentary filmmaker, Jehane Noujaim. The Technology, Entertainment and Design (TED) award is given to individuals whose work has had and will have a powerful and positive impact on society.



The films will be sent via broadcast, videoconference and the Internet and viewed in

places such as Cairo, Dharamsala, Kigali, London, New York City, Ramallah, Rio de Janeiro and Tel Aviv, so that millions will see the images at the very same time. Please come to the Brubeck Room to witness this global community event. There is no charge for the showing, but we ask that you [register in advance](#).

### **Author Talk: Elizabeth Kendall, *Autobiography of a Wardrobe***

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On **Thursday, May 15th, from 11 to 12:30 pm**, we invite you to meet author Elizabeth Kendall. Her newest book has been described as the "wholly original story of a woman's life from her wardrobe's point of view, in the wardrobe's own exquisitely controlled savvy, always vibrant voice--a feat of imagination as emotionally subtle and stirring as it is dazzlingly particular." Part memoir, part fashion and cultural history of the last five decades, *Autobiography of a Wardrobe* gives us a one-of-a-kind self-portrait of great charm that could belong to any woman who reads it.

A question and answer period will follow Elizabeth's talk and books will be available for purchase and signing. Please [register in advance](#) - and wear your most interesting clothes (just kidding!).

### **Using Native Plants in Our Gardens and Landscapes**

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We have all battled too much water, too little water, invasive growth, wild life, and weeds in our quest for a beautiful garden that we can easily maintain. Garden Consultant/Designer David Sanders of Nature by Design will tell us how the use of native plantings may help solve some of these problems while benefiting the environment in so many other ways. Native plantings compete well with weeds and other pests, permitting a reduction in the use of fertilizer and pesticides. This, in turn, strengthens the ecology of your yard in attracting the beneficial birds, bees, and butterflies. David will show us how to use a wide variety of native plantings in our landscapes.



A question and answer session will follow the slide presentation and talk. There is no charge for the program, but we ask that you [register in advance](#).

## Fairy Doll Workshop for Kids on May 24th



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On **Saturday, May 24th, from 2 to 4 pm**, our Children's Library has a special treat in store for kids who come by. Lesley Keogh will offer expert instruction and guidance to those who wish to create their own Fairy Dolls. No reservations are required and all materials will be provided. Simply come and have some creative fun!

## Late Breaking News: Liz Jorgensen Returns!

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On **Tuesday, May 13th, from 11:30 am to 1pm**, due to an overwhelmingly enthusiastic response to her appearance in April to talk about keeping teens safe while remaining sane oneself, Liz Jorgensen will return to the Library for a follow-up talk on how to set limits for your teen(s). She will also address the results of the teen survey about drugs and sex (presented in a separate program on May 1st).



Bring your lunch, if you like. This program is made possible by Parent Connection and is co-sponsored by Wilton PTA Council, Wilton Youth Council and the Wilton Library. Please [register in advance](#).

## Contact Information

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phone: 203-762-3950

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