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Wilton Library Association Newsletter

December 2007

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Hello!

The winter holiday season is upon us and, having just enjoyed a wonderful Thanksgiving with friends and family, many of us are forging ahead with shopping for special gifts and retrieving special recipes for the weeks ahead. In the flurry (frenzy?) of chores you may have planned, please take time to join us for two lovely events at the Library - events that bring folks together to kindle a spirit of community and caring in a special way at this time of year.

First, on **Sunday, December 2nd, from 5:30 to 7:30 pm**, the Wilton Library Association Board of Trustees invites you all to join them for the Library's ***Annual Holiday Party***. We promise good cheer, holiday music, our traditional spread of refreshments and festive beverages, and a chance to chat with friends and neighbors. Please stop by and let us thank you for your support for our efforts during the year past.

On **Friday, December 7th, from 5 to 7 pm**, the Library will join other business members of the Wilton Chamber of Commerce in helping to host the popular ***Wilton Holiday Walk***. As you and your family wander through the Center to shop and perhaps to catch a glimpse of Santa, make sure you stop by the Library for hot apple cider, sweets of all kinds, and special hors d'oeuvres provided by our generous neighbor, Luca Ristorante. We'll have the Kiwanis fireplace lit and great goodwill on the menu, as well, and look

forward to seeing you all.

Stay warm, safe, and healthy...

Kathy Leeds, Wilton Library's Executive Director

Holiday Fun for Kids

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During the month of December, we have quite a lineup of holiday programs for children of all ages, including:



~~ On **Sunday, December 2nd, from 2 to 3 pm**, a very special Hanukkah celebration for kids ages 5 to 9 will take place. Our Children's Library staff will read Hanukkah tales, help with Hanukkah crafts, and serve special refreshments. We ask that caregivers accompany children attending and register in advance. Because of the activities planned, our registration is limited to 25, including adults and children, so please [sign up soon](#).

~~ On **Monday and Tuesday, December 3rd and 4th, from 10 am to 8 pm**, children of all ages are invited to stop by to create Hanukkah crafts. There is no registration required and no fee for materials. Call 762-3950 for more information.

~~ On **Wednesday, December 5th, from 3 to 4 pm**, popular presenter Raye Forsey will treat children ages 8 to 11 to a Christmas in Great Britain, sharing traditional stories and customs. Raye will focus particularly on the Christmas traditions of her native Wales. Please [register online](#) for this enthralling program!

~~ On **Thursdays, December 6th and 13th, from 6 to 6:30 pm**, the Children's Library will have a special story time with Santa and Mrs. Claus. Kids ages 3 to 6 are invited to stop by for the fun, and no registration is necessary. Call 762-3950 for more information.

~~ On **Friday, December 7th, from 5 to 7 pm**, kids and their parents are welcome to stop by to warm up and enjoy wonderful refreshments (and to borrow a book, video, CD, or DVD!) during the Wilton Holiday Walk.

~~ On **Saturday, December 8th, from 2 to 3 pm**, Ebenezer Scrooge and his friends from Charles Dickens' *A Christmas Carol* will make appearances for a Victorian-style celebration at the Library. Children in grades 2 through 6 are invited for stories, activities, and refreshments with the Dickens characters. [Advance registration](#) is required.

~~ From **Thursday, December 18th through Thursday, December 20th, from 10 am to 8 pm**, kids of all ages can stop by to make their own Christmas creations at the Library. There is no registration necessary and no fee for materials. Call 762-3950 for more information.

On **Friday, December 28th, from 10 am to 6 pm**, children of all ages are invited to drop by to create Kwanzaa crafts. No registration is required, and there is no fee for materials. Call 762-3950 for more information.

Tales to Tails: Read to a Pooch and Boost Skills!



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On **Saturday, December 1st, from 2 to 3:30 pm**, students in grade 2 and up can have fun at the Library reading to a certified therapy dog for 15 minutes. The doggies are well trained and listen attentively, helping kids to hone their reading skills. Bring a favorite book from home or choose one from the Library's collection, but make sure you [register in advance](#), as doggie time is limited.

Call Pat Bergin in the Children's Library at 762-3950, extension 265 for more information and to confirm your reservation and get your assigned time slot.

### **UConn Professor to Speak on Energy Economics and the Future**

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Please join us for a very special chapter in our Environmental Initiative on **Wednesday, December 5th, from 7 to 8:30 pm**, when Adjunct Professor Christopher (Kit) Smith speaks on the global economics of energy. Summarizing in one hour the semester-long energy course he teaches in the UConn MBA program, Kit will discuss what drives energy prices and availability around the globe and what these factors likely mean for our future. Not only will he talk about traditional energy resources, but he'll cover alternative sources such as ethanol, wind power, and solar power as well, stressing where each fits in to the total energy spectrum.



Truly, if you would like to gain an informed perspective on our energy future and the relative cost of all the alternatives open to us, this brief session will stand you in tremendously good stead. A question and answer period will follow Kit's talk, and audience members are encouraged to bring their concerns and queries. Please [register in advance](#) for this informative session sponsored by the Betsy & Jesse Fink Family Foundation for Wilton Library's Environmental Initiative.

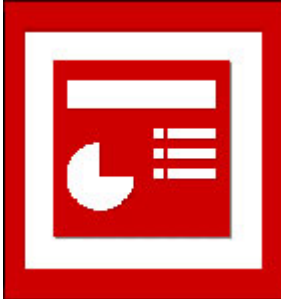
Holiday Book & Gift Sale



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**Beginning November 30th**, the Wilton Library Gallery will be featuring not only paintings from the Silvermine Guild of Artists, but also a "shop" full of beautiful and new books plus CDs, and DVDs that are still in their shrink-wrapping. All of these items have been donated to the book sale, but are in pristine condition and ready for gift giving. Prices are far below retail, some as inexpensive as \$2. There is something for everyone from gorgeous art books, brand new cook books, lots of holiday books, gardening, literature, and a huge number of delightful and special children's books.

Come with your list and shop for everyone! The store will stay in business until the shelves are empty.

As an added shopping opportunity, our annual "Giving Tree" will be decked with dozens of suggestions for holiday giving, including books, DVDs, and programs for all ages. You may grant the Library any of the items on our wishlist (represented by tags on the Giving Tree) in your own name or that of a loved one. Stop by for more information and select perfect gifts for your relatives, teachers, and friends.



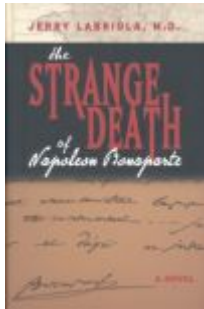
## Intermediate PowerPoint Class - December 6th

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On **Thursday, December 6th, from 12:30 to 2 pm**, our computer guru librarian Mary Anne Franco will teach a hands-on class in intermediate PowerPoint. Participants will learn how to produce advances presentations in this free seminar. Advance registration is required and class size is limited, so [sign up soon](#). Response to free hands-on classes has been overwhelming and Mary Anne will be offering other sessions in winter and spring sessions, but this is the final class for December.

Please note that for hands-on classes, not only is pre-registration required, but you must also arrive on time to insure a great learning experience for all students. There will be no further seating after ten minutes past the posted start time.

Author Talk: Dr. Jerry Labriola

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On **Thursday, December 6th, from 7 to 8 pm**, Connecticut author, [Jerry Labriola, M.D.](#), will discuss his newest suspense novel, *The Strange Death of Napoleon Bonaparte*. The book concerns an American historian and international treasure hunter (Paul D'Arneau) who has been fired from his lofty university position, and is commissioned by the Parisian Gens de Verite to determine if Napoleon was murdered. Armchair Interviews calls the book, "*a grand mix of history and fiction to keep you on the edge of your reading chair.*"

Books will be available for purchase and signing. We ask that you register in advance for this enlightening and entertaining talk. Note that Dr. Labriola will be giving away free copies of his previous books with each purchase!

## Special Visiting Author, Dick Morris to Talk About *Outrage* on December 9th

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The Library is thrilled to present well-known author and political consultant, Dick Morris, to talk about his latest book! Written with his wife, Eileen McGann, the book is entitled, *Outrage: How Illegal Immigration, the United Nations, Congressional Ripoffs, Student Loan Overcharges, Tobacco Companies, Trade Protection, and Drug Companies Are Ripping Us Off . . . And What To Do About It* from **2 to 3:30 pm, on Sunday, December 9th**.



Bill Clinton's former political consultant for twenty years, Dick Morris is the author of five *New York Times* bestsellers (all with Eileen McGann). A regular commentator on the Fox News Channel and columnist for *The New York Post* and frontpagemag.com, Dick Morris is known for his take-no-prisoners political commentary. There will be ample time for audience questions following the talk.

Books will be available for purchase and signing at the conclusion of the program, thanks to Wilton's Open Book Shop. Please [register in advance](#) and arrive on time - latecomers and those without reservations will be seated in order of arrival immediately at 2 pm.



Awards "R" Us!

We all know how wonderful our new building is, but it has recently received wider recognition of the nicest sort.

In November, Wilton Library was granted the **State of Connecticut Award for Excellence in Public Library Architecture** for libraries over 18,000 square feet in size. This award is presented only once every two years, and we were up against some pretty stiff competition.

In addition, Tai Soo Kim Partners and Turner Construction won the **American Architecture Award** from The Chicago Athenaeum: Museum of Architecture and Design for their expansion and renovation of Wilton Library. Presented for a handful of projects each year, the Award celebrates "the most significant new contemporary architecture, landscape architecture, interiors, and urban planning in the United States." How thrilling!



Connecticut Divorce Law 101 with Maurice Segall

On **Monday, December 10th, from 7 to 9 pm**, Attorney Mediator Maurice Segall of Mediation Solutions will discuss the basics of the divorce process specifically in Connecticut. If there is a new chapter unfolding for you or someone you know, come and find out how to navigate these difficult waters with advice and

information from an expert. A question and answer segment will allow time for clarification and amplification of points of special interest to audience members. Please [register in advance](#) and join us on the 10th.

Grieving During the Holidays



As part of Mid-Fairfield Hospice's *In the Midst of Winter* series, we'll present the first of a five-part seminar on coping skills, Grieving During the Holidays on **Tuesday, December 11th, from 4 to 5:30 pm**. Come and learn coping strategies for negotiating the holiday season while dealing with loss.

[Advance registration is suggested.](#)

Additional topics and dates in the series include: January 8th: *Caring for a Loved One Who Is Ill*; February 12th: *Healing Through Spirituality*; March 11: *Lifecare Management: Coordinating Your Parent's Care*; March 25: *Techniques for*

Coping With Stress.

Reel Thursday on December 27th

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Our Children's Library will present a Reel Thursday on **December 27th**, with movies shown for free at **10:30 am** for little kids (*Angelina Ballerina and the Silver Locket* ) and **2 pm** for older kids (*Shrek the Third*).

Children under 8 must be accompanied by adults; children 8 and over must have caregivers remain in the building. No registration is required. Reel Thursdays are sponsored by the Louis Dreyfus Corporation.



## And Finally - More Story Times for Kids

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Our Children's Library staff has added several drop-in story times for kids up through age 6, so take advantage of these moments of peace and learning during the hectic holiday season. There is no need to register for these sessions - just drop in!

On **Mondays, December 3rd and 10th from 10:15 to 10:45 am**, we will offer drop-in story times for ones, twos and threes with caregivers, featuring finger plays, songs, books, and activities selected to introduce children to the Library and to story times.

In the afternoon on **Mondays, December 3rd and 10th, from 2 to 2:45 pm**, children who are 4, 5, and 6 are invited to drop in for stories and fun.

Contact Information

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email: [kathy\\_leeds@wiltonlibrary.org](mailto:kathy_leeds@wiltonlibrary.org)

phone: 203-762-3950

web: <http://www.wiltonlibrary.org>