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Wilton Library Association Newsletter

April 2008

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Hi!

There is so much happening at the Library in April for all ages that it takes my breath away! Perhaps most exciting of all is our **annual book sale fundraiser** (Saturday, April 26-Tuesday, April 29) (proceeds go directly to help support Library operations). This year's sale features a record-breaking more than 70,000 books, DVDs, videos, CDs and audiobooks for all ages and interests! In addition, our first ever live auction of rare books, an exciting silent auction, and four days of sales. For more information, including auction book titles, check our [website](#).

Schedule for all book sale events:

- **Saturday, 7-9 am:** Early Buyers with \$15 admission fee.

- **Saturday, 9-5 pm:** Free admission, silent auction.
- **Saturday, 11 am:** New Rare Book Live Auction.
- **Sunday, noon-5 pm:** Free admission, silent auction.
- **Monday, 10-5 pm:** Books half price.
- **Tuesday, 10-2 pm:** Books free with donation.

AND our terrific Rotary Club will be on hand to sell food for the Library's benefit on Saturday!

Please come by - you will be amazed at the condition, selection and sheer number of well-priced items available.

See you at the Library,
Kathy Leeds, Wilton Library Director

Quickbooks by SCORE

~~~~~  
On **Tuesday, April 1st**, come join us from **6 to 8:30 pm**, as we do something far from "April foolish!" Caren Schwartz, principal of Time & Cents Consultants, will provide an overview of Quickbooks, including the software's useful reports. Sponsored by Fairfield County SCORE and the Wilton Library, the session will begin with a reception at 6 pm, followed by a two hour demonstration-style class from 6:30 pm on.



SCORE is a nationwide organization of successful professional men and women who volunteer their time for free, individual business counseling and low cost workshops (this one is offered without charge). Please [register in advance](#) for what's sure to be a popular learning opportunity.

### *Impressionists by the Sea at the Wadsworth*



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On **Wednesday, April 2nd**, St. Matthew's Episcopal Church and the Library will once again join forces to sponsor a museum bus trip - this time to the Wadsworth Atheneum in Hartford. The New York Times recently lauded both [the museum](#) and [the special exhibit](#) - we couldn't have chosen a better time for our visit!

We'll leave the Library parking lot at 9:30 am and travel by comfortable mini-bus to Hartford, arriving in time for a guided tour of the current special exhibition, "Impressionists by the Sea." Suggestions for dining in the area will be provided, including lunch at The Russell, a top-rated café within the museum itself (the price of

lunch is not included in the cost of the trip).

The cost of the trip - \$55 for adults and \$53 for seniors (62 and over) - includes admission to both the Museum (with its outstanding permanent collection) and the special exhibit. We'll depart for Wilton at 3 pm, arriving back at the Library at 4:30 pm, traffic conditions permitting. Please call (762-3950) or stop by the Library to reserve your seat, as space is limited. Credit cards, checks and cash will all be accepted for payment.

Ben's Farewell Poetry Seminar

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You may have heard that our seminar leader extraordinaire, Ben Van Vechten, is moving with his wife Suzanne out of the area this summer. Ben has drawn large, appreciative crowds to his literature and poetry classes at the Library in recent years and we are all going to miss him.



His final poetry seminar will explore the work of various poets and their writing techniques in a 5-part series on **Thursday mornings from 10:30 am to noon**. Please register in advance for sessions on April [3rd](#), [10th](#), [17th](#), [24th](#), and [May 1st](#). Poetry packets will be available at the front desk prior to the first session.



### **Delay Your Gray: How to Keep Your Pre-Teen or Teenager Safe and Yourself Sane**

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On **Wednesday, April 2nd, from 11:30 am to 1:30 pm**, parents of teens and pre-teens have a special treat in store for them. Experienced psychotherapist, Liz Driscoll Jorgensen, will discuss the steps to take to keep kids safe and parents sane - methods she has learned both professionally and in her personal life as a mother of four. She'll cover topics such as how to help children cope with anxiety and reduce family stress, how to understand and accept adolescent developmental norms and milestones, and how to relax and enjoy your child.

This may be the most rewarding couple of hours you spend all spring, so be sure to [register in advance](#). Her workshops for parents consistently receive rave reviews for their practicality and sense of humor. Parents will have ample time for questions, discussion, support and laughter. This program is co-sponsored by Wilton Parent Connection, Wilton PTA, and Wilton Library.

Star Wars Celebration: Thursday, April 3rd through Sunday, April 6th

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The Children's Library has a fun-filled weekend planned to celebrate the 30th anniversary of the original Star Wars movie. Be sure to stop by for crafts, movies, popcorn, lemonade and fabulous prizes! The weekend is made possible by the generous underwriting of the Coyle Family Fund.



### Thursday, April 3rd

- **5:30 to 7:30 pm** ~~ watch *The Phantom Menace* (a Star Wars graphic novel will be raffled off at the end of the movie)

### Friday, April 4th

- **10 am to 2 pm** ~~ drop in to make a Star Wars creation with materials supplied at no charge by the Library.
- **3:30 to 6 pm** ~~ watch *Attack of the Clones* (a Star Wars graphic novel will be raffled off to a lucky winner).
- **6:30 to 9 pm** ~~ watch *Revenge of the Sith* (R2D2 interactive robot will be given away at the end of the movie). [Advance registration](#) for the movie is required.

### Saturday, April 5th

- **10:15 am to 12:15 pm** ~~ watch *A New Hope* (a Star Wars graphic novel will be raffled off).
- **10:30-11:15 am**, and again from **1:15 to 2 pm** ~~ see Light Saber Exhibitions with demonstrations of the Thai stick fighting upon which light saber battles are based. A Jedi knight will take on an evil Jedi (or is it a Sith?). The exhibitions will be followed by games of Wampa Bingo.
- **12:30 to 2 pm** ~~ watch *The Empire Strikes Back* (a Star Wars graphic novel will be raffled off).
- **2:30 to 3:30 pm** ~~ see (and photograph) a visit from the Storm Trooper Clones. George Lucas, the creator of Star Wars, was the Grand Marshal of the Rose Bowl Parade last year and rode in the Parade accompanied by Storm Trooper Clones. Now you can meet five of them, ask questions, and even have your picture taken with one (be sure to bring a camera!)
- **4 to 4:30 pm** ~~ take a whack at a Jar Jar Binks piñata! This activity is for kids ages 6 and up and [advance registration](#) is required for piñata-whacking.

### Sunday, April 6th

- **1:30 to 4 pm** ~~ see *Return of the Jedi* (a Star Wars graphic novel will be raffled off to a lucky winner).

- **4 to 4:30 pm** ~~ take aim at the Death Star piñata! It will be a fitting finish to Wilton Library's Star Wars Weekend.

### Lights Out at the Library



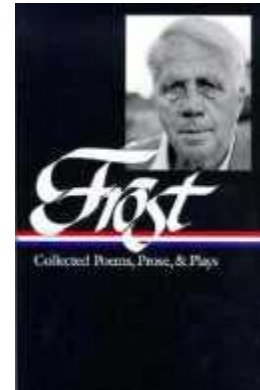
~~~~~  
From 7 pm on Saturday, April 5th, to 9 am Sunday, April 6th, boys in grades 2-4 will be able to stay overnight at the Library during this wonderful annual event. Games, activities, and refreshments will make the evening one to remember! What better fun could there be than to bed down among the bookstacks?

We can accommodate only 40 boys, so please get your registration in to Laura Schwemm and Lesley Keogh in the Children's Library (762-3950 ext. 217). Payment of \$50 per child is necessary to book reservations. The waiting list closed on Friday, March 28th, and no one will be moved off the waiting list after Tuesday, April 1st. Please note that every family participating must supply a volunteer to help with one activity.

Dr. Joanna Ecke Celebrates National Poetry Month

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 Please join us to mark the start of our country's month-long celebration of the role of poetry and poets in our lives. On **Sunday, April 6th, from 2 to 3:30 pm**, Dr. Joanna Ecke will lead a discussion about the poetry of Robert Frost and latter-day Frostians influenced by Frost's view of nature and its relationship to man.

Dr. Ecke, a respected former member of the Wilton High School teaching staff and currently a columnist for the Wilton Bulletin, is a graduate of Smith College. She is truly an expert on Frost, having selected the poet as the subject of her Ph.D dissertation at Duke University. Please [register in advance](#) for this illuminating and inspiring program.



### Breakfast with Bill Brennan



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 On **Thursday, April 17th, from 8 to 9:15 am**, the Wilton Chamber of Commerce, Wilton Library, and the Village Market will sponsor an opportunity to speak with Wilton's First Selectman, Bill Brennan. Come have breakfast and informal chat with Bill and hear his updates on topics that include up-to-date information on the proposed 2008-2009 budget; Route 7 construction project; and the Town's current goals and objectives. All are welcome and Bill will be glad to answer any questions you may have about the state of our Town. No registration is necessary.

Improved Access Thanks to The Sheldon T. Shoff Trust

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If you've been to the Library recently, you've noticed work going on around our front doors. All of the work planned, in progress, and completed has been possible because of a wonderful bequest by former Wilton resident, Sheldon T. Shoff (through trustees Tom Adams and Richard Mason) with the objective of making our Library more easily available to everyone, including most especially those with limited mobility.



Thus far, we have been able to:

~~purchase and deploy a **motorized scooter** that is kept near the front door for use by anyone who has difficulty getting around the building. A phone near the entrance alerts the Circulation staff that the key to the scooter is required, and they will come immediately with not only the key, but also a quick set of easy instructions. It really is fun to drive and includes a handy basket for books that you may select along the way around the building. Check it out!

~~ **cover the front entrance** to protect our customers a bit from the elements. Those approaching the entrance or waiting either for our opening or to be picked up will find that rain, sleet, and snow are no longer as much of an issue.

More changes are on the way:

~~ we have a **new ramp** on the way that will replace the steps currently at the entrance to provide much more direct access for those with limited mobility. Included as part of the proposed project is a relocation of our parking spaces for those with handicaps (awaiting P&Z approval at the time of this writing).

~~ we are planning on a **larger and more ergonomic bookdrop box** for the parking lot that will make returns for those walking or driving by more user-friendly. This box is heavily used, as is the drive-up window on Godfrey Place (open during Library hours).

We thank everyone for their patience while alterations are under way. There will be short periods of time when we must close the front entrance for safety reasons and ask folks to enter via the door off our back parking lot that leads through the Children's Library. We promise to keep that sort of disruption to a minimum and look forward with all our customers to the completion of improvements.

## Candlelight Concert at Wilton Congregational Church

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Consider filling your Sunday with culture! After Joanna Ecke's talk about Frost on **Sunday, April 6th**, the Windscape Wind Ensemble will perform at **4 pm** at the Congregational Church to benefit the Wilton Library. Windscape was created in 1994 by five of New York's most eminent solo wind artists. In programs that combine dazzling technique with fresh spoken commentary, the members of this woodwind quintet, ensemble-in-residence at

the Manhattan School of Music, have charmed audiences across the world.

Wilton Congregational Church is located at 70 Ridgefield Road. For further information and directions, call 203-762-3401 or 203-762-5019. A portion of the proceeds from this concert will benefit Wilton Library's classical music collection.

Authors Talk about *Swedish Interiors*

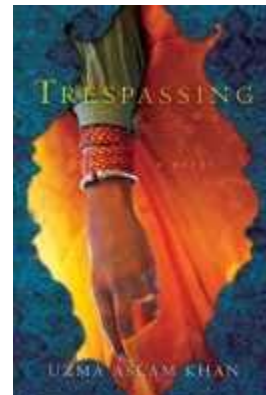
~~~~~  
*Swedish Interiors* is the first book of its kind to combine the history, progression, and key elements of Swedish style with how to employ it in many different sorts of homes. The authors, Rhona Eleish and Edie Van Breems, operate Eleish Van Breems Antiques, a celebrated Swedish antiques and decorating resource in Woodbury, CT. The pair will discuss the book and Swedish style with a colorful slide presentation from **11 am to 12:30 pm on Tuesday, April 8th**. They have been featured on the Martha Stewart Living television show, and in several publications such as *Country Living*, *House Beautiful*, and *Traditional Home*. Books will be available for purchase and signing.



Please [register in advance](#) - and sign up a friend. You can work up an appetite for Swedish design and then go to lunch together following the program!

### **Book Discussions in April**

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On **Thursday, April 3rd, from 7 to 8:30 pm**, our International Book Group will host guest speaker **Farheen Khan** from Pakistan. The book she'll discuss is *Trespassing: A Novel*, by Uzma Aslam Khan. Reviewer Luan Gaines describes, "Khan's novel takes place briefly in America, but more directly in Pakistan in the mid-eighties to the early nineties, through the civil unrest that plagues Pakistan and the public reaction to the Gulf War. A bloody past still plagues the citizens, history spooling in reverse; the characters sharing a linked history that, in the end, is self-explanatory and tragic." Please join the group to learn about the author, the book, and the country. Refreshments, including international desserts, will be served. We ask that you [register in advance](#) for this fascinating look at another region of the world through the eyes of one of its countrymen.



On **Wednesday, April 9th, from noon to 1:30 pm**, professional book discussion leader **Susan Boyar** will talk about *All Aunt Hagar's Children*, by Edward P. Jones. The publisher of this book of short stories says, "In fourteen sweeping and sublime stories, five of which have been published in *The New Yorker*, the bestselling and Pulitzer Prize-winning author of *The Known World* shows that his grasp of the human condition is firmer than ever." Booklist notes, "Jones' stories are rich in detail and emotions as he

plumbs the intricacies of people's relationships with one another and with spiritual forces at work in urban as well as natural environments. Readers who enjoyed *The Known World* will relish these varied gems of Jones' talent for storytelling." Come hear what Susan and other discussion group members have to say and register your own feelings about Jones' work. You may want to bring lunch - we will provide beverages. Please [register in advance](#) to let us know you are coming. All are welcome.

On **Tuesday, April 22nd, at 11 am** and as part of the Senior Center Book Discussion series, **Ben Van Vechten** will talk about *The Dubliners*, by James Joyce. The *Los Angeles Times* said of the book of stories, "In his newly minted stream-of-consciousness style, Joyce portrayed human nature with tales of pettiness and epiphany, sexual awakening, desire and death. This was his first published work, which he called a series of chapters in the oral history of his community." 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.

Hot Topic: Wilton Speaks Up on Alternative Energy



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We all know that conservation of energy is a "good thing," or is it? In the quest to lower consumption of non-renewable sources, are we spending too much for limited benefits? What ARE the best bets for energy alternatives and how effective and efficient are they? What role should wind, solar, geothermal, hydro, biomass, and nuclear energy play in our future?

The Wilton League of Women Voters and the Library will co-sponsor a panel discussion on energy, *Wilton Speaks Up on Alternative Energy*, from **7:30 to 9:30 pm on Thursday, April 10th**. Mike Lindberg, the chairman of Wilton's Energy Commission, Ron French, solar energy expert and president of Solarworks Inc., along with some of Wilton's youngest energy experts from Wilton High School and Cider Mill School will share ideas about ways that Wilton can practice the three R's of energy savings - Reduce, Reuse, and Recycle - and how energy conservation benefits all of us. Refreshments will be served and there will be ample time for questions and answers following the panel discussion. We ask that you [register in advance](#) to let us know you're coming.

**Focus '08: Juried Photography Exhibit and Reception**

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We have such talented photographers in our midst and the proof of all that talent is in the annual Wilton Arts Council Juried Photography Exhibit. Please come to the Library during the month of April to see outstanding submissions by photographers of all ages. The Arts Council and the Library will hold a reception for the exhibition on **Friday, April 11th, from 6 to 7:30 pm**, and all are welcome to join us in celebrating the



photographers and their photographs. This show will hang through Saturday, April 26th.

A Georgetown Story, Documentary Film Premiere on April 13th



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Put on your 544 T-shirt and come see local history come to life in *A Georgetown Story*, The Georgetown History Project's 30-minute documentary film in a premiere showing. It educates as it entertains and will preserve the highlights of Georgetown's past for future generations. More than two years in the making, it is directed by

Redding's filmmaker John Maher of JEM Films. It is suitable for all ages, and refreshments will be served. GHP's 544 T-shirts will be on sale and DVDs of the movie will be available to order.

Please join us in the Brubeck Room to see the premiere showing on **Sunday, April 13th, from 4 to 5:30 pm**. Please [register in advance](#) to reserve a seat.

### **Reel Thursday for Kids**

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On **Thursday, April 17th**, we'll have free movies at the Library twice during the day:

~~ **10:30 am** *Thomas and the Treasure* (for little kids)

~~ **2 pm** *The Bee Movie* (for older kids)

Popcorn and lemonade will be served and there is no charge for the films or refreshments. Note that children under 8 must be accompanied by a caregiver and those between 8 and 12 must have a caregiver in the Library during the show. No registration is necessary - just stop by and have fun!



Earth Day Celebrations Galore!



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On **Friday, April 18th, from 10 am to 6 pm**, the Children's Library will give us an appetizer for Earth Day with drop-in Earth Day crafts for children of all ages. No reservations are needed, and there is no charge for materials.

On **Sunday, April 20th, from 1 to 4:30 pm**, the Library will serve up its main course - an Earth Day bonanza that the entire family can enjoy. Stop by to see all we have in store to celebrate our planet, including:

- The Earth Balloon! This 17-foot diameter balloon is an interactive learning experience for all ages that takes participants on a captivating journey around and inside the Earth, with a program especially geared toward Earth

Day. Experience the Earth Balloon in the Brubeck Room all afternoon on Sunday, with no reservations required.

- For the kids - make a sunflower from recycled materials to hint at the flower to come from planting a sunflower seed in a pot to take home to water and watch grow.
- Bring your cell phones, ink-jet cartridges, and eyeglasses for recycling.
- Bring your plastic grocery bags to exchange for a really nice (green!) re-usable bag, thanks to a collaborative effort of Millstone Farm, the Village Market and Wilton Library.
- Stock up on energy efficient light bulbs.
- Register for Connecticut Clean Energy.
- Check out our environmental information displays. And try a tasty turkey dog with all the trimmings - we'll fire up the grill for free healthy treats!

It will be an afternoon to remember! I hope to see you all there.

Visiting Author: Amy Bloom

Please join us on **Tuesday, April 22nd, from 7 to 9 pm**, as we welcome Amy Bloom to the Brubeck Room stage. Author of two novels, two collections of short stories, and a nominee for the National Book Award and the National Book Critics Circle Award, Amy has also written for many other publications.



Amy will read from and discuss her new book, *Away*, the epic and intimate story of young Lillian Leyb, a dangerous innocent, an accidental heroine. When her family is destroyed in a Russian pogrom, Lillian comes to America alone, determined to make her way in a new land. When word comes that her daughter, Sophie, might still be alive, Lillian embarks on an odyssey back to Siberia to find her.

All of the qualities readers love in Amy Bloom's work - her humor and wit, her elegant and irreverent language, her unflinching understanding of passion and the human heart - come together in the embrace of this brilliant novel, which is at once heartbreaking, romantic, and completely unforgettable. We'll have time for audience questions following the talk and books will be available for purchase and signing that evening.

This Visiting Author program is sponsored by [R.J. Julia Booksellers](#) (Madison, CT) and Wilton Library. Please [register in advance](#) to hear this exceptional writer speak about her newest work. Note that you should arrive by 6:50 pm to be guaranteed a seat. After that time, and as space is available, we will seat waitlists and walk-ins.

More Great Kids' Programs in April



There is never a shortage of great things for kids to do at the Library!

On **Wednesday, April 23rd, from 4 to 5 pm**, we'll teach kids about Japanese poetry and how to use their haiku eyes to see the world in a different way. Japan's most famous haiku poet, Matsuo Basho (1644-1694) described haiku as a way of seeing the world with the eyes and heart of a child. Library friend Miwako Ogasawara will share her knowledge of haiku and inspire children to use their "haiku eyes" in this special poetry program intended for children in Grades 1 through 5. Please [register in advance](#) for this special "poetry month" program.

And on **Wednesday, April 30th, from 5:30 to 6:30 pm** our Kids' Book Club will hold its fourth meeting. Children in grades 2 through 6 are welcome to be part of the action,

which will definitely be more than just talking. April's theme is Mysteries and children who would like to come to the April club should read a mystery novel of their choice, then come to the Library for a book talk and a very special mystery dinner! This program is sponsored by Findorak & Sons and we are most grateful for their support. Please [register in advance online](#), in person, or by phone (762-3950).

Finally, during the month of April, kids (ages 4-10) can check out a book of poetry from Wilton Library's children's collection. Once they've read the poems, they can come back to the Children's Library to tell the staff about their favorite. As a special treat and in exchange, they'll receive a coupon for a FREE slice of pizza at Wilton Pizza or ToozyPatz!

Playaways a Hit!

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We are so excited to be introducing Playaways, the newest and easiest way to listen to an audiobook. All you have to do is plug in earphones or an adapter for your car stereo to enjoy a book. Great for travel, gardening, or walking, these audiobooks are the latest in "easy listening!"

Playaways are pre-loaded with one book and have easy navigation buttons to play, fast forward and rewind. It even remembers your place in the book when you turn it off. We have new fiction and nonfiction titles, as well as Pimsleur Language titles. Look for the Playaways near the Books on Tape in the library and try the new audiobook that fits in the palm of your hand!



### Contact Information

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