



librarEmail

December 2009

In This Issue

[Book Sale/Giving Tree](#)

[Wilton Holiday Walk](#)

[Friends Holiday Party](#)

[Teen Workshops](#)

[The Grapes of Wrath](#)

[Holiday Fun for Kids](#)

[Wishlist](#)

[AARP Driver Safety](#)

[Books/Authors for Kids](#)

[Did You Know?...](#)

[December Story Times](#)

[Art Receptions](#)

[Flu Season](#)

[Helping Seniors](#)

[Great Author Talks](#)

[Belgian Beer Tasting](#)

[Songwriters' Circle](#)

Dear Readers,

As I write this newsletter, we are in the midst of our traditional Thanksgiving celebration. High on the long list of things for which our Library is grateful is your generosity. The high quality of our staff, technology, programs, collections and services is the result both of your support as taxpayers (if you are Wilton residents) and of your private donations **that fund almost one quarter of our annual budget**. Without your continued assistance and encouragement, the Wilton Library would be a very different place - a place unable to deliver the classes, seminars, news resources and online access that our community has come to rely upon.

Thank you for your steadfast support in the past...and in advance for responding as charitably as possible to our **2009 Annual Appeal**, for frequenting the **Holiday Book Sale**, and for considering a gift from our **Library Giving Tree**. YOU are what makes the Library Wilton's outstanding center for discovery, education, and culture!

Sincerely and with gratitude,
Kathy Leeds, Executive Director
Wilton Library Association, Inc.

[December Family Fun](#)

[Dave Brubeck Honored](#)

Wilton Library Association

Our Mission:

*Informed and inspired minds;
enriched and connected lives.*

Our Vision:

*A lifetime of discovery at the
heart of our community.*

Wilton Library's Holiday Book Sale & Giving Tree

December 1st - December 23rd

The Library's **Holiday Book Sale** in the gallery is a seasonal delight. Bargains can be found as many of the books are in like-new condition, making a terrific opportunity for holiday gift-giving. As books are sold, new ones appear daily, thanks to the hard-working book sale volunteers, who always seem to have an unending supply of tantalizing offerings. All sales support the Library. Our book sale will operate during regular Library hours through December 23rd.



In addition, please stop by our **Giving Tree** - it's decorated with close to 100 lovely gift tags that represent books, DVDs, CDs, and other items to choose from. Take the tag of your choice to the Circulation Desk and our staff will accept your payment and take down the information needed to dedicate your gift to the Library's collection in the name of someone special you would like to honor or memorialize. We will also give you a card to present or send as notification of your gift. It's such a lovely way to give to those who "have everything." This year, we have a special opportunity - you'll be able to help us purchase fish for the fabulous new aquarium in our Children's Library. Dedicated to the memory of T.J. Pramer, our aquarium is already a favorite of parents and children alike.

Wilton Holiday Walk

Friday, December 4th, 5:30 to 7:30 pm



Wilton Library takes part each year in the annual Wilton Holiday Walk, sponsored by the Wilton Chamber of Commerce.

This year, as always, we'll provide refreshments, a warm, inviting fire in the fireplace, and shelter from a cold, winter night. Stop by as you shop for holiday gifts and visit with friends. All are welcome!

Wilton Library's Friends Holiday Party Sunday, December 6th , 5:30 to 7:30 pm

Wilton Library Association trustees will host this year's holiday get-together and invite you to join them. Cocktails and hors d'oeuvres will be offered by our Board members to all who support the Library through their donations and taxes.



We thank the community annually for helping us to provide such a wonderful resource for those who work or live in Wilton. Please let us know you are coming by **registering in advance**.

Terrific Teen Workshops

December brings more creative and fun workshops designed just for teens:

Wreath-making for Teens

Wednesday, December 2nd, 5 to 6:30 pm



Teens in grades 7 through 12 will learn to make beautiful wreaths while listening to holiday tunes. Participants should bring a bag of greens (evergreen, boxwood, laurel, etc.), work gloves, and clippers. The Library will supply the frames, ribbons, and berries needed to make a spectacular creation. **Registration**

is required and limited to 12 wreath-makers (***unfortunately, at this time you may only sign up to be on a wait list for this popular program***). Our workshop is offered at no charge to teens, thanks to the John and Patricia Curran Teen Fund.

Gingerbread House Decorating for Teens

Wednesday, December 9th, 5 to 6 pm



Teens in grades 7 through 12 will use candy and icing to decorate beautiful gingerbread houses for the holidays. All materials will be provided, but **advance registration is required** due to limited space

unfortunately, at this time you may only sign up to be on a wait list for this popular program). This workshop is sponsored by the John and Patricia Curran Teen Fund, as well.

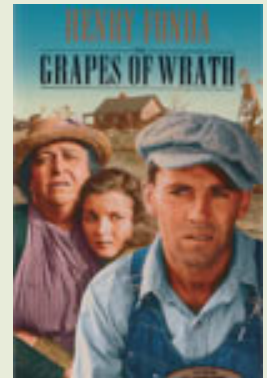
The Grapes of Wrath with Bill Ziegler

**Thursday, December 3rd, 10:30 am to noon
(book discussion)**

**Thursday, December 10th, 10:30 am to 1 pm
(film & discussion)**

Please join us as noted discussion leader Bill Ziegler presents a two-part seminar on John Steinbeck's classic, *The Grapes of Wrath*.

This Pulitzer Prize-winning novel recreates the socio-economic impact of the Great Depression and a mid-30s drought upon one representative family - the Joads. The film made from the novel was arguably John Ford's most famous epic drama. The book discussion will take place on December 3rd, with the film screening and a question and answer session to follow on December 10th. Please register for these two dates below:



Book discussion ~ ~ December 3rd, 10:30 to noon

Film screening ~ ~ December 10th, 10:30 to 1 pm

Holiday Fun for Kids

Kids and holidays are a natural combination and we've got lots of creative fun in store this month:

A Visit with Santa and Mrs. Claus

Thursdays, December 3rd & 10th, 6:30 to 7:30 pm



Children of all ages are invited to stop by the Children's Library to see Santa and Mrs. Claus this holiday season on two occasions. Photo opportunities will abound as Mrs. Claus shares holiday stories with the children. No registration is necessary - simply come and join in the holiday fun!

Happy Hanukkah at Wilton Library

Tuesday, December 8th, 4 to 4:45 pm



Children ages 5 through 11 are invited to the Library to have some Hanukkah fun. Hanukkah stories will be shared and kids will have the opportunity to sing holiday songs and make a Hanukkah craft. **Advance registration is required.** Our Hanukkah celebration is sponsored by the Steve and Alison Sherman Family Fund.

Spring Valley Puppet Theater

Sunday, December 13th, 2 to 2:45 pm



Join us for a special presentation of "A Holiday Fantasy" and "The Three Wishes," presented by the Spring Valley Puppet Theater. Children ages 5 and up will be entertained by these two puppet performances filled with dancing and music. At the end of the program, children will have the unique opportunity to see the puppets up close and learn how a puppet theater works. Our special puppet theater production is sponsored by the Coyle Family Young Readers Fund. **Please register in advance.**

Snow Globe Workshop

Saturday, December 19th, 2 to 2:45 pm



Join Mrs. Keogh in a fun, hands-on art program. Children ages 9 and up are invited to come to the Children's Library to make snow globes for the holiday season. **Advance registration is required** and space and materials are limited. This Snow Globe Workshop is sponsored by the Coyle Family Young Readers Fund.

Drop-in Holiday Crafts

Sunday, December 20th, 1 to 5 pm



Children of all ages are invited to stop by the craft room to create holiday masterpieces out of various materials the Children's Library will have on hand. No registration is required and we are grateful to the Coyle Family Young Readers Fund for sponsoring this afternoon of creativity. Just in case, a snow date has been scheduled for Monday, December 21st, from 10 am until 8 pm.

Day-After Christmas Movies

Saturday, December 26th



Children are invited to attend either or both of our "day-after" movies on Saturday, December 26th at no charge - and we'll provide free popcorn and lemonade as a treat. Both movies are rated PG and no registration is necessary. Please note that children under 8 years of age must be accompanied by a caregiver and children under 12 years old must have a caregiver remain in the building during the show. Our day-after Christmas movies are sponsored by the Coyle Family Young Readers Fund.

10:30 am ~ ~ *Ice Age: Dawn of the Dinosaurs*

2 pm ~ ~ *Night at the Museum: Battle of the Smithsonian*

Wishlist: *The Commercial Record*

Published since 1882 and known as "Connecticut's Weekly Business Newspaper," The Commercial Record provides readers with the most comprehensive information on real estate sales and credit issues. The data is organized alphabetically by town for each of the eight Connecticut counties.

Included also are in-depth articles about lending and banking that can help managers make better business decisions. The illustrative charts, graphs, and tables published each week help state residents to interpret and analyze these vital facets of our economy.

The Commercial Record



In this time when the economy is front-page news every day, we'd like to continue to provide authoritative information by renewing our annual subscription. Please let me know if you or your business would like to sponsor this community resource - just call (203-762-3950 x215) or email (kcleeds@wiltonlibrary.org) to contribute the \$278 that will keep the paper coming for another year!

AARP Driver Safety - I & II

Saturdays, December 5th & 12th, 1 to 5 pm



The AARP Driver Safety Program is the nation's first and largest classroom driver safety course designed especially for drivers age 50 and older. The two-part, eight hour course covers the normal changes in vision, hearing and reaction time associated with ageing and provides practical techniques on how to adjust to these changes, along with learning to operate vehicles more safely in today's increasingly challenging driving environment. There are no written or driving tests - classroom only.

Advance registration is required as is a program cost of \$12 for AARP members or \$14 for non-members, payable at the time of first class (please make out your check to AARP or pay in cash only). By registering for the first session on December 5th, you are automatically registered for the second session on December 12th, from 1 to 5 pm, in addition. ***All 8 hours of instruction are required to complete the course.***

Books 'N Authors for Kids

WINRs Circle Welcomes Author Grace Lin Saturday, December 5th , 2 to 2:45 pm

Adults and children are invited to a presentation from Nutmeg-nominated author Grace Lin. Ms. Lin will talk about her experience as a multicultural author and the various techniques she uses to write her picture books. In addition, Ms. Lin will be available for a book signing after the presentation. She is the author and illustrator of more than a dozen picture books, including *The Ugly Vegetables* and *Dim Sum For Everyone!*



Grace's most recent novel for middle schoolers, *Where The Mountain Meets The Moon*, was released with glowing praise, garnering 3 starred reviews, and was the 2009 Parents' Choice Gold Winner. While most of Grace's books are about the Asian-American experience, she believes that, "books erase bias, they make the uncommon everyday and the mundane exotic." She has said, "A book makes all cultures universal." Please **register in advance** for this wonderful author talk that is sponsored by HSBC Bank as part of our WINRs Circle series.

WINRs Circle Book Discussion

Saturday, December 5th, 3 to 3:45 pm

All 4th through 6th graders are invited to come to the WINRs (Wilton Intermediate Nutmeg Readers) Circle, a book group that discusses the 2010 Nutmeg nominees. Connecticut's Nutmeg Award encourages children to read literature selected by a panel of librarians from all over the state. Children choose their favorite book out of ten titles nominated. Our WINRs Circle meets for fun, pizza, and discussion. This month, kids will talk about *The*



Year of the Dog, by Grace Lin. Bring a friend and win a prize!

Advance registration for our book discussion is required.

This terrific program is also made possible by HSBC Bank.

Have Your Cake and Read It Too!

Thursday, December 17th, 6:30 to 7:30 pm

Wilton Library's Kids' Book Club is a special opportunity for children in grades 3 and up to read and discuss books with their parents or caregivers in a fun and lively setting. Dessert will be served as all join in the discussion this month of ***The Hundred Dresses***, by Eleanor Estes. Our Have Your Cake Club is made possible by the Coyle Family Young Readers'



Fund. ***Please register in advance to attend.***



Did You Know? Time Savers at the Library



Did you know that you can save time now when you need it most? Try these tips to streamline your Library experience - but remember that we love to have you come spend time with us as well! When you are bustling around this holiday season:

Call **203-762-3950** to renew and reserve (ask for the Reference Desk) or renew your materials **online** at **www.wiltonlibrary.org** (click on "Your Account" in the upper right-hand corner of the homepage and have your library card handy).

Use our **Drive-Thru Window** to return materials and pick up those you have reserved by phone or online - there's no need to get out of your car in bad weather or when you have small children in tow.

Try the **Self-Check Stations** in our Gallery and Children's Library! They are a quick and easy alternative to waiting when lines are long. Staff members can assist you if you need help, but you'll fast become a self-check convert once you try it out.

December Drop-In Story Times Tuesdays, December 8th & 15th

For 1s & 2s with Caregivers 10:15 to 10:45 am

These story times are a sharing experience for toddlers and their caregivers. The finger plays, songs, books and activities are selected to introduce children to the Library and to story times. No registration is necessary - just come and take part!



For 3s and 4s with Caregivers 11 to 11:30 am

Join us for hand clapping-toe tapping songs, finger plays and stories that encourage emerging language skills. No registration is needed...just stop in!

For 4s through 6s

2 to 2:45 pm

These story times are intended for independent listeners. They'll provide children with experiences that enrich early literacy. No registration is necessary - just join us!

Upcoming Art Receptions

Opening Reception for "5 of the Best"

Sunday, December 6th, 11:30 am to 1 pm



All are invited to meet the artists at our reception on December 6th for the 5 OF THE BEST exhibit, which features works by C.J. Guerin of New Canaan, Ruth Newquist of Newtown, Marisa Taddei of Hamden, Laura Wilk of Weston and Beverly Ward of Wilton. The exhibit will be on display from December 1st

through December 29th and most of the art is offered for sale, with a portion of the proceeds to benefit the Library. You won't want to miss seeing this exciting show - and the opportunity to shop for presents for others or a gift for yourself! Simply inquire at the Circulation Desk if you would like to purchase any of the works on display.

Weir Farm Artist-in-Residence: Jennifer Odem

Thursday, December 17th, 6 to 7:30 pm



December brings Jennifer Odem to the Weir Farm artist-in-residency program. According to the artist, her work "*explores the interrelationship between human agency and the natural world. By integrating earthy and industrial materials into self-sufficient structures, I strive to present connections*

between a forgotten reverence for the land and its present day usage." Jennifer has a wide range of experience that includes residencies in England, Ireland, Utah, Poland and Austria, working in both urban and rural arenas. With a BFA and MFA, she has had many solo exhibitions, received fellowships and awards, and has participated in invitational and juried group exhibitions throughout the United States. This exhibition and reception is co-sponsored by the Weir Farm Art Center and the Weir Farm National Historic Site and presented by the Wilton Library.

Flu Season Is Upon Us

Please take care!

Sniffles and sneezes can be indicators of allergies, simple colds, or more serious ailments. As everyone must be aware by now, regular and H1N1 varieties of flu are beginning to impact our community, and we all should take precautions to protect ourselves and others. Health officials' advice is to follow common-sense precautions: Wash your hands, stay home if you're sick and listen to your local health authorities.

"Very frequent hand-washing is something that we talk about time and time again and that is an effective way to reduce transmission of disease," said Dr. Richard Besser, acting director of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. **Here at the Library we have installed hand sanitizer pumps in both main restrooms, in the front vestibule, outside the Children's Library, and in the adult computer area.**

"If you're sick, it's very important that people stay at home. If your children are sick, have a fever and flu-like illness, they shouldn't go to school **[or the Library]**. And if you're ill, you shouldn't get on an airplane or another public transport to travel. Those things are part of personal responsibility in trying to reduce the impact. "

Helping Seniors Remain at Home

Tuesday, December 8th, 11 am to noon

Lea Mintz, Wilton's community liaison with the Family and Children's Agency in Norwalk, will return to Wilton Library with an encore discussion about helping seniors maintain their independence by remaining in their own homes. Independence is so very important to many seniors, and equally important to their children or caregivers. The talk will provide tips and strategies for keeping seniors safe and independent at home.

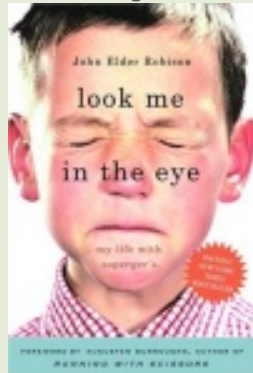


A LifeLine coupon for free installation and 2 months free service will be available for each attendee. **Advance registration is suggested.**

Outstanding Author Talks

Author Talk: John Elder Robison

Look Me in the Eye: My Life with Asperger's
Tuesday, December 8th, 11-12:30 pm



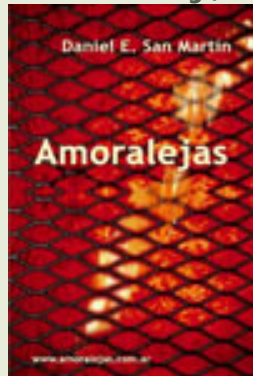
John Robison was diagnosed with Asperger's Syndrome, a high-performing form of autism, at the age of 40. He comes to the Library to recount his story about how the syndrome opened up a whole new world for him, allowing him to help others struggling to grow up or live with Asperger's. Robison writes a moving memoir in ***Look Me in the Eye: My Life with Asperger's***, recounting his journey from his world into ours and his new life as a husband,

father, and successful small business owner. *The Chicago Tribune* calls the book, "*Lean, powerful in its descriptive accuracy and engaging in its understated humor...Emotionally gripping.*" The audience will be able to ask questions following John's talk and his books will be available for purchase and signing. Refreshments will be served. This important program is co-sponsored by SPED*NET Wilton, Wilton PTA Council, and Wilton Library. **Please register in advance**, as space is limited.

Author Daniel E. San Martin

Readings from ***Amoralejas***

Wednesday, December 16th, 7-8:30 pm



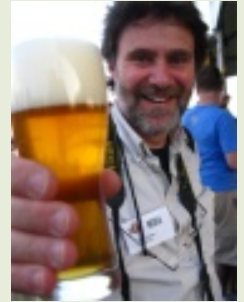
Argentine author Daniel E. San Martin will read from his newly published book of short stories, ***Amoralejas***, and discuss them with the audience. Please note: the book is written in Spanish, and the discussion will be conducted primarily in Spanish. In addition to the book discussion, audience members will enjoy a sampling of Argentine empanadas, graciously provided by San Martin's sister, Marcela San Martin-Foley. **Registration is encouraged.**

Books will be available for purchase and signing following the reading and discussion.

Belgian Beer Tasting

Thursday, December 10th, 7 to 8:30 pm

Last October, we celebrated Oktoberfest with a tasting of beers led by Gregg Glaser, local beer writer, editor, and guru. This year Gregg will return to the Library to lead a tasting of the distinct beers of Belgium. Think Belgian beer and some of the following styles might come to mind: Trappist Ales, Sour Red Ales, Wild-Yeast-Fermented Lambic Ales, and Saison Ales. Join Gregg to learn about the many varieties of Belgian beers, their characteristics and where they are found, followed by tastings of all his selections.



Registration is limited and highly recommended.

A donation of \$10 is suggested and participants must be 21 years or older.

Songwriters' Circle

Tuesday, December 15th, 11 to 12:30 pm



Join this growing group of songwriters for a session "in the round." Share your work or work-in-progress, come to listen, meet writing partners, and find your voice.

Please register in advance.

December Family Fun

A Visit to Ambler Farm

Wednesday, December 16th, 1:30 to 2:30 pm

Four- and five-year-olds are invited to join Wilton Library on a visit to Ambler Farm.

Caregivers and children will meet at Ambler Farm to enjoy theme-based stories as well as a nature walk. Children may check books out at the Farm, so parents should bring their Wilton Library cards.

During this month's session, we'll be learning about fruits.

Children must be accompanied by a caregiver and **registration is required.**



Family Game Time

Saturday, December 19th, 3 to 4 pm

Families are invited to the Library to play favorite board and card games in a fun, informal atmosphere. Board and card games



will be available and include Clue, Monopoly Jr., Scrabble, Old Maid, Uno, and more. Light snacks will also be provided. This is a great way to spend time with the family (it's open to children of all ages and their adults - note that children must be accompanied by a caregiver), sponsored by the Coyle Family Young Readers' Fund. No registration is necessary.



Dave Brubeck Honored at Kennedy Center: Reception & Broadcast Tuesday, December 29th, 8:30 to 11 pm



Dave Brubeck, cherished Wilton resident, is to be honored at a gala performance at the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts on December 6th, 2009 (which coincidentally is Dave's 89th birthday)! This well-deserved honor will be broadcast as a two-hour special on Tuesday, December 29th, at 9 pm.

Please join us for a reception starting at 8:30 pm and a community viewing of this exciting gala on the large screen in the Brubeck Room at 9 pm. Recipients to be honored at the 32nd annual national celebration of the arts are: Mel Brooks, Dave Brubeck, Grace Bumbry, Robert DeNiro, and Bruce Springsteen.

Refreshments will be served and **registration is strongly suggested**. You won't want to miss this opportunity to gather with friends and neighbors to pay tribute to this outstanding musician and generous member of our community.

Wilton Library Association
137 Old Ridgefield Road ~ Wilton, CT 06897
phone 203.762.3950
email kcleeds@wiltonlibrary.org
web www.wiltonlibrary.org

[Forward email](#)

SafeUnsubscribe®

This email was sent to mamfranco@wiltonlibrary.org by kathy_leeds@wiltonlibrary.org.
[Update Profile/Email Address](#) | Instant removal with [SafeUnsubscribe™](#) | [Privacy Policy](#).

Email Marketing by



Wilton Library Association | 137 Old Ridgefield Road | Wilton | CT | 06897