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## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

### Wilton Library's summer reading program explores the U.S.

Wilton, CT – Wilton Library takes kids on a virtual coast-to-coast tour this summer for its *Travel the 50 States* reading program, with registration week set for Monday, June 16 through Friday, June 20. Throughout the summer, kids ages 2 - 12 will explore different parts of the U.S., from New England to Appalachia, from the Mississippi River valley to New Orleans, from the plains and prairies to California, culminating with a look at the New Frontier. Drop-in crafts, drop-in story times, live animal events, musical programs and movies will reflect a different theme each week through the program's end on Aug. 15. The *Travel the 50 States* summer reading program is sponsored in part by the Betsy and Jesse Fink Family Foundation, Building Blocks Art Supplies & Gallery, the Fannie M. Lienhard Fund, the Sherman Family Fund, and Stop & Shop. The summer activities are as follows:

- **Summer Reading:** Children can come to the library during registration week to decorate their automobile-shaped posters and start their reading logs. As they complete their readings during the summer, they will be rewarded with prizes. After a child's first 20 books are read, a coupon from Building Blocks Art Supplies & Gallery (Ridgefield) will be awarded.
- **Drop-In Crafts:** Mondays, June 23 through Aug 11. Kids can stop by all day to make crafts based on the weekly theme. No charge. No registration.
- **Sleepytime Story Times:** Mondays, June 23, July 7, 21, and Aug. 4, 6 – 6:30 p.m. for ages 2 – 6. Kids can come in their jammies and bring their cuddlies to hear stories before heading back to bedtime in their snuggly beds. No charge. No registration.
- **American Tales:** Mondays, June 30, July 14, 28 and Aug. 11, 6 – 6:30 p.m. for ages 5 and older. Tall tales and folktales from and about America.
- **Drop-In Story Times:** Tuesdays, June 24 through Aug. 12 for ages 1 – 8. Ones and Twos with caregivers, 10:15 – 10:45; Twos and Threes with caregivers, 11 – 11:30; Threes and Fours, 11:45 – 12:15; Fives through Eights, 2 – 2:45. No charge. No registration.
- **Kids' Book Club:** Tuesdays, June 24 (Appalachia), July 15 (Mississippi River), July 29 (New Orleans), and Aug. 12 New Frontier, 5:30 – 6:30 p.m. for kids entering grades 3 – 6. Each session, kids will select books from a book list, discuss them at the meeting and enjoy activities and a light supper. Registration required. Sponsored by Stop & Shop.

(More)

- **Wednesday Wonders:** Children will enjoy live animal events, music and much more:
  - **Wild Goose Nation**, June 25, 3 – 4 p.m. Wild Goose Nation is a string band specializing in an astonishing range of traditional American music. Ages 4 – 12. No charge. No registration. First 150 people (children and caregivers) will be admitted. Children must be accompanied by adults. Registration begins one-half hour before program. Sponsored by the Fannie M. Lienhard Fund.
  - **Country Fair**, July 9, 2 – 4 p.m. Kids can experience a country fair right in the library. Games, fortune telling, food, agricultural exhibits are all part of the fun. All ages. No charge. No registration. Sponsored by the Sherman Family Fund.
  - **Rocky Brook Frogs**, July 16, 3 – 4 p.m. Roaring Brook Nature Center brings a slide presentation of frogs, along with live frogs and a very large toad. For ages 4 – 12. No charge. See above for registration. Sponsored by the Betsy and Jesse Fink Family Foundation for Wilton Library’s Environmental Initiative.
  - **Visiting Illustrator Wendell Minor**, July 23, 3 – 4 p.m. Award-winning artist Wendell Minor inspires children to go out into the fields and woods and develop a positive perspective about the beauty of the natural world. Ages 4-12. No charge. Space limited to 130 people (children and adult). See above for registration. Books will be available for sale. Sponsored by the Betsy and Jesse Fink Family Foundation for Wilton Library’s Environmental Initiative.
  - **Peter Madcat Ruth**, July 30, 3 – 4 p.m. Peter Madcat Ruth is a harmonica virtuoso. He also plays guitar, penny-whistle, jaw-harp, ukulele, and other folk instruments from around the world. No charge. See above for registration. Sponsored by the Fannie M. Lienhard Fund.
  - **Hannah Montana**, Aug. 6, 3 – 4 p.m. Performances by “students” from Hannah’s school. For kids ages 4 and up. No charge. No registration required. Sponsored by Stop & Shop.
  - **Light Saber Battles**, Aug. 13, 2 – 5 p.m. Demonstration of thai stick fighting (half-hour demos at 2, 3 and 4 p.m. All ages welcome. No charge. No registration.
- **Reel Fridays:** July 11, 15, Aug. 8 and 15. Free movies for little kids in the morning at 10:30 and bigger kids at 2 in the afternoon. Children 8 and under must be accompanied by adults; ages 9 – 12 caregivers must remain in the building. Call the library for details.
- **Craft Workshops with Mrs. Keogh:** Fridays, June 27, July 18, and Aug. 1, 3 – 5 p.m. for kids entering grades 2 and up. Lesley Keogh, Children’s Library assistant, provides an outlet for kids’ creativity with various themed craft workshops. No charge. No registration.

To register for programs, visit [www.wiltonlibrary.org/events](http://www.wiltonlibrary.org/events) or call 762-3950. Wilton Library is located at 137 Old Ridgefield Road in the heart of Wilton Center.

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