

February &
March 2026

footnotes

& Calendar of Events

Yeti...
Set...
Read
@ Your Library



WINTER
READING
PROGRAM

Winter Reading: Yeti...Set...READ!

Adult: Wednesday, February 4 – Friday, March 13

The Adult Winter Reading Program kicks off on Wednesday, February 4. Register at the library, online, or call us and we will do it for you. Read and submit your tickets for the weekly drawings. All tickets collected during the 5-week program will be entered into the Finale Drawing that will be held on Friday, March 13 at noon. [F]

Teen: Monday, February 2 – Friday, March 6

Ready to read? Join the Teen Winter Reading Program! Beginning on Monday, February 2, registration will be available online. To get started, pick up a bingo card at the Adult Information Desk or download one from the library's website. Once you complete a bingo, return your card to the Adult Information Desk to claim your prize! [F]

Children's: Monday, February 2 – Friday, March 6

Join the Children's Winter Reading Program! Beginning on Monday, February 2, registration will be available online. A Winter Reading Log will be posted on the library's website. Once registered, you may print the log from home or come in to pick up a copy. When the log is completed, please visit the Children's Department to claim your reward. This reading program is for all children up to grade 5. [F]

Yeti...Set...READ-A-Thon!

Friday, March 6, 5:30 – 7:00 p.m.

Bring your blankets, pillows, and friends while you read for the chance to win fun prizes! We will have a cocoa & cookies room, a movement room, and an activity room for those that need breaks. Check the website for more details. Kids and teens, ages 0-18, can register beginning February 20. Kids under 12 must be accompanied by a caregiver. [F]



New England Women in Aviation

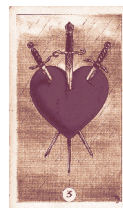
Wednesday, February 11, noon

Victoria Morley, Ph.D., retired C.C.S.U professor and a docent at the New England Air Museum in Windsor Locks, will be coming to Newington to discuss the rapid growth of aviation from 1903 to the present day with an emphasis on stories of women who dared to dream and overcome the cultural norms of the era (see inside for details). [F]

Read Your Heart Out: Tarot with Linda

Friday, February 13, 6:00 p.m.

Bring your Tarot cards and journals and get ready to have some fun!! Linda Poland will be back for an entertaining evening. Wear your comfy clothes and enjoy some snacks while we journal and talk about our cards. [F]



Take Your Child to the Library Day – Drop in Grab & Go
Saturday, February 7 (See inside.)

Coffee-Making Social

Saturday, February 21

10:00 a.m. – noon

Tired of your everyday coffee? Try something new – join Columbian baristas for this multi-cultural event. We will talk about (and drink!) delicious coffee. You can also meet new friends and practice speaking English. Sponsored by the Hartford Foundation for Public Giving's Newington Greater Together Grant. [F]

Oscars Prediction Party

Thursday, March 12, 6:00 p.m.

Join us for Lucy's celebration of the Oscars. Enjoy hors d'oeuvres and light refreshments as we watch trailers for films that have been nominated for major awards and discuss their chances of winning. Whoever has the most correct predictions will receive a prize the following week! [F]

The National Parks:

America's Best Idea?

Thursday, March 19, 6:30 p.m.

Richard Benfield will give a lecture on the history of the National Park Service over the past 100-plus years. Today, the 420 parks are loved by 292 million visitors – some would say loved to death – and face a crowded and uncertain future. [F]

The Anita Wilson Memorial Family Concert Series Presents: BenAnna Band Concert

Friday, March 20, 6:30 p.m.

Go bananas for this high-energy musical duo, the BenAnna Band! This family-friendly concert will have kids and adults singing and dancing along! Bring your dancing feet along as this musical performance will be one to remember. The BenAnna Band focuses on inclusion and music for kids of all abilities and identities. Doors will open at 6:15 p.m. Registration will begin March 6. Sponsored by The Anita Wilson Memorial Family Concert Series. [F]

Save The Dates...

Friends of the Library Spring Book Sale - April 24 - 26
Library Road Race
 Sunday, May 17

Program Reminders

Information on how to join a program can be found on our website. Register online for programs and events. Virtual programs are held on Zoom. The Zoom link will be emailed prior to the event. Other programs that are recorded and do not require registration can be found on our YouTube channel on our website. Please contact the library for the most updated information.



F Programs offered by Friends of the Library are identified by this symbol.

All programs now require registration. They will be identified by this symbol.

VIRTUAL Author Talks

Enjoy a range of talks from bestselling authors and thought-provoking leaders with this exciting virtual event series! Brought to you in partnership with the Library Speakers Consortium and the Friends of the Library.

Swashbuckling Heroines and High Seas Adventures

Thursday, February 5, 7:00 p.m.
 Chat with author Vanessa Riley about her newest book, *Fire, Sword and Sea*, based on the folk story of the female pirate, Jacquotte Delahaye.

Mojos, Mermaids, Medicine, and 400 Years of Black Women's Magic

Thursday, February 12, 2:00 p.m.
 Feminist philosopher Dr. Lindsey Stewart tells the stories of Negro Mammies of slavery, the Voodoo Queens and Blues Women of Reconstruction, & the Granny Midwives and textile weavers of the Jim Crow era.

Smithson's Gamble: The Incredible History Behind the World's Largest Museum
 Tuesday, February 24, 2:00 p.m.
 with Smithsonian Curator Emeritus Tom Crouch.

ADULT EVENTS

Culinary Delights

- February: *Blueberry Cobbler Bread*
- March: *Chocolate Chip Scones*

Chef Rob Scott will share a video and recipe each month. The recipe, ingredients list, and video link will be on the library's website.

FEBRUARY

Adult Winter Reading Kickoff & Registration: Yeti...Set...READ!

Wednesday, February 4
 10:00 a.m. - 7:00 p.m.
 (See front cover for details.)



Valentine's Day Cards - Adults

Thursday, February 5, 10:15 a.m.
 Join us at the library and create a handmade card for someone you love! Cardstock, stickers, glitter glue, ribbon, and other supplies will be provided. Feel free to bring any other materials you would like to use to make your cards!



Page Turners Book Discussions

Thursdays, February 5 & March 5
 Join us for lively book discussions facilitated by Karen and Jennifer, the first Thursday of the month @ 6:30 p.m.

- February - *Ayesha at Last* by Uzma Jalaluddin
- March - *To The Lighthouse* by Virginia Woolf



Grab & Go Puzzle Packets

Every second and fourth Tuesday

- February 10 & 24
- March 10 & 24

We put together packets of fun just for you. Each packet will include puzzles, word games, and more! Stop by to pick up your packet on or after the dates listed above.

New England Women in Aviation

Wednesday, February 11, noon
 Victoria Morley, Ph.D. will be coming to Newington to discuss the rapid growth of aviation from 1903 to the present day with an emphasis on stories of women who dared to dream and overcome the cultural norms of the era.



Read Your Heart Out: Tarot with Linda

Friday, February 13, 6:00 p.m.
 Bring your Tarot cards and journals and get ready to have some fun!! Linda Poland will be back for an entertaining evening. Wear your comfy clothes and enjoy some snacks while we journal and talk about our cards.



Hartford Foundation
 FOR PUBLIC GIVING

NEW SOCIALS

Some library programs offer inclusive adult programming designed to meet the diverse educational, recreational, and social needs of senior citizens and multi-language learners. Meet new friends and enhance your English! All Socials sponsored by the Hartford Foundation for Public Giving's Newington Greater Together Community Fund.

Let's Talk Nature Social: Art with Leslie

Saturday, February 7, 10:00 a.m. - noon
 Join natural art teacher Leslie Mathew to talk about nature and create art! Leslie is a creative encourager, who enjoys helping others find joy.

Fun Social

Tuesdays, February 17, March 3 & 17
 10:15 a.m. - noon

Join library staff to color, do jigsaw puzzles, play games, and more!!!

Coffee-Making Social

Saturday, February 21, 10:00 a.m. - noon
 Enjoy coffee, conversation, and cultural exchange with Columbian baristas. A welcoming social event for adults to talk about (and drink!) delicious coffee.

Card-Making Social - All Ages

Saturday, March 21, 10:00 a.m. - noon
 Join Newington artist Candace Nystrom for this all-ages card-making event. We will make cards and eat snacks!

Candle-Making Social with Lola Sophia

Saturday, March 28, 10:00 a.m. - noon
 Come join in the fun and learn the art of candle-making from local candle makers at Lola Sophia.

Brown Bag It with a Book Discussion
@ the Library: Before We Were Yours
 by Lisa Wingate

Thursday, February 19, noon
 Join us for this lively discussion while enjoying your bagged lunch brought from home. 🍽️📖



DMV Community Outreach Event

Thursday, February 26
 10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.

The outreach team from the Connecticut Department of Motor Vehicles (CT DMV) will be onsite at the Lucy Robbins Welles Library to perform limited paid services on a walk-in basis. Services include license renewal, non-driver IDs, accessibility permits, and more. Call the library for complete list of services.



style-inspired keychain and add some bling to your essentials. 🍽️📖

Brown Bag It with a Book Discussion
@ the Library: Rules of Civility
 by Amor Towles

Thursday, March 12, noon
 Join us for this lively discussion while enjoying your bagged lunch brought from home. 🍽️📖



Oscars Prediction Party

Thursday, March 12, 6:00 p.m.
 Join us for Lucy's celebration of the Oscars. Enjoy hors d'oeuvres and light refreshments as we watch trailers for films that have been nominated for major awards and discuss their chances of winning. Whoever has the most correct predictions will receive a prize the following week! 🍽️📖



The National Parks: America's Best Idea?

Thursday, March 19, 6:30 p.m.
 Richard Benfield will give a lecture on the history of the National Park Service over the past 100-plus years. 🍽️📖

Back to the 90s Trivia Night – Virtual

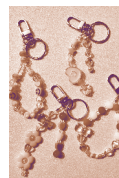
Friday, March 27, 7:00 p.m.
 Calling all millennials! Let's throw it back to the 90s for a night of nostalgia-packed trivia fun. All ages are welcome and small treats will be awarded. 🍽️📖



MARCH

90's Style Keychains

– Calling all Millennials!
 Tuesday, March 3, 6:00 p.m.
 We're going back to the 90s! Join us for retro vibes and good times. Create a 90s-



End of Adult Winter Reading Yeti...Set...READ!

Friday, March 13
 All tickets collected for the program's weekly drawings will be entered into the grand prize drawing to be held at noon. Winners will be notified. 📖



TEEN EVENTS

Please check the Teen Events webpage for program info and access. All programs are for teens in grades 6 – 12 unless otherwise stated.

FEBRUARY

Teen Winter Reading 2026: Yeti...Set...READ!

February 2 – March 6
 (See cover) 📖



Teen Sewing Workshop: Yeti Plush

Thursday, February 12, 6:00 – 7:30 p.m.
 Join us for a beginner-friendly sewing workshop where you'll create your own yeti plush! No sewing experience needed, and all materials will be provided. 🍽️📖



Teen Pop-Up: Friendship Bracelets

Tuesday, February 17, 2:45 – 3:45 p.m.
 Hang out with friends in the library and make fun and colorful DIY friendship bracelets to keep or trade while enjoying meaningful conversation. 📖



Teen Movie Night

Thursday, February 26, 6:00 – 7:45 p.m.
 Come hang with your friends, eat snacks, and watch a movie. Movie to be determined by a vote. Participants can include movie suggestions with your program registration. Feel free to bring bean bag chairs, pillows, or blankets. All movies are rated PG to PG-13. 🍽️📖



MARCH

Yeti...Set...READ-A-Thon! (See cover)

Friday, March 6, 5:30 – 7:00 p.m.
 Check the website for more details! Kids and teens, ages 0-18, can register beginning February 20. Kids under 12 must be accompanied by a caregiver. 🍽️📖



Teen Anime & Manga Club

Wednesday, March 11, 6:00 – 7:30 p.m.
 If you enjoy watching anime and reading manga, then join us. We'll have an exciting mix of anime screenings, discussions, and fun activities, including crafts. We will watch classic, retro, and current anime with fellow fans, all while enjoying fun Japanese-themed snacks. 🍽️📖



The Any Book Book Club

Tuesday, March 17, 2:45 – 3:45 p.m.
 Let's talk about books! In this book club there is no assigned book to read; we gather to discuss which books we are currently loving (or not loving). While we talk, we'll create a fun book-themed craft. 🍽️📖



Winter Reading: Yeti...Set...READ!

CHILDREN'S

Weekly Programs

Please note that registration is required for all programs. You may register up to two weeks in advance for programs. Call 860-665-8720 or visit the Children's Events webpage to register.

Storytime for Ones 📖

Mondays, February 2, 9, 23 and March 16, 23, 30, 10:15 a.m. Stories and songs for children 9–24 months, siblings, and their caregivers.

Play For All 📖

Tuesdays, February 3, 10, 17, 24 and March 17, 24, 31, 10:15 – 11:00 a.m.

Join us for this program geared for families with young children who have special needs. All are welcome!

Storytime for Twos 📖

Wednesdays, February 4, 11, 18, 25 and March 18, 25, 10:15 a.m.

Stories, songs, and crafts for children 24 months and older, siblings, and their caregivers.

Storytime for 3 to 5-year-olds 📖

Thursdays, February 5, 12, 19, 26 and March 19, 26, 10:15 a.m. Stories, songs, and crafts for children ages 3–5, without caregivers.

Family Storytime 📖

Thursdays, February 5, 12, 19, 26 and March 19, 26, 6:30 p.m.

Stories and songs for the whole family.



Monthly Programs

Tales to Tails

Sundays, February 15 & March 15 1:00 – 3:00 p.m. with Maple Bacon/ Amanda Collin.

Saturdays, February 21 & March 21 1:00 – 3:00 p.m. Donated by Cold Noses, Warm Hearts.

Children who love dogs or need to boost their reading skills may sign up for a 15-minute session reading to a certified therapy dog. Call to register two weeks before each date. 📖



Baby Soft Play

Friday, February 20 & Wednesday, March 11, 10:15 – 11:00 a.m.

For babies 6 to 24 months, with a caregiver. A program where babies can play and self-explore in a soft play environment. Call to register two weeks before each date. 📖



FEBRUARY

Special Programs

Children's Winter Reading 2026: Yeti...Set...READ! @ the Library

Monday, February 2 – Friday, March 6
This reading program is for all children up to grade 5. (See cover) 📖



Valentine's Crafternoon

Tuesday, February 3, 2:30 – 3:15 p.m.

Children in grades 1–5 are invited to join us for activities designed to let you explore and create! Registration begins January 20. 📖



Take Your Child to the Library Day!

Saturday, February 7

In honor of this day, kids can get a special Yeti... Set...READ! grab & go goody bag. Drop in to pick one up beginning February 7, while supplies last. 📖



Explore New Years Across Asian Culture

Saturday, February 7, 1:30 p.m.

Asia is a large continent! Many Asian countries celebrate new years at different times of the year. Kids in grades 1–5 will learn about all the diverse traditions and make a craft with the Layavinyasa Company. Registration begins January 24. *Support for this program is provided by CT Humanities as part of its America 250 | CT program.* 📖

STEM Stories

Tuesday, February 10, 6:15 p.m.

Students from Newington High School's Women in STEM Club will share a story and do an experiment. Kids in grades 1–3 may register beginning January 27.

Sponsored by Newington High School's Women in STEM Club. 📖



Cookbook Club

Wednesday, February 11, 6:15 p.m.

We will be making sweet rice pancakes to welcome Lunar New Year! Registration for kids in grades 3–5 may register beginning January 28. 📖

Kids Paint Class

Thursday, February 12, 2:30 p.m.

Create an amazing original painting with Ms. Joanne! All materials will be provided. Kids in grades 3–5 can register beginning January 29. 📖

Storytime Yoga

Wednesday, February 18, 6:30 p.m.

For ages 5–9. Join us for literacy integration yoga with Heather from Nourished Mind Wellness. Registration begins February 4. 📖



PJ Music

Monday, February 23, 6:15 p.m.

Children ages 2–4 and a caregiver are invited to experience music together. We will wind down with a bedtime story. Come join the fun! Registration begins February 9. 📖

Homeschool Meetup

Tuesday, February 24, 1:30 p.m.

Homeschooling families are invited to a casual meetup featuring a selection of self-directed games and activities. Learn, play, and connect with other families! Call to register beginning February 10. 📖





CHILDREN'S

Monthly Programs

Junior Cookbook Club

Wednesday, February 25, 6:15 p.m.

We will be making sweet rice pancakes to welcome the Lunar New Year!

Registration for kids in kindergarten through grade 2 may register beginning February 11.  



Ramadan Storytime

Saturday, February 28, 1:00 p.m.

Let's celebrate Ramadan with a special guest reader! Families can enjoy a story and a craft as we learn together. Registration will begin February 14.



MARCH



Special Programs

Celebrate Holi

Wednesday, March 4, 6:30 p.m.

Learn about the Festival of Colors!

The Layavinyasa Company is back to share legends of Holi and how it is celebrated across India. Registration begins February 18.

Support for this program is provided by CT Humanities as part of its America 250 | CT program.  





Storytime in Sign

Thursday, March 5, 6:30 p.m.

Join us for a storytime and craft with an American Sign Language – English interpreter. All are welcome! Families can register beginning February 19.



Donated by Language First Early Language Center. 



Yeti...Set...READ-A-Thon! (See cover)
Friday, March 6, 5:30 – 7:00 p.m.
Bring your blankets, pillows, and friends while you read for the chance to win fun prizes! Check the website for more details. Kids and teens, ages 0 – 18, can register beginning February 20. **Kids under 12 must be accompanied by a caregiver.**  

Intellidance for Tykes

Saturday, March 7, 2:30 p.m.



For ages 12 – 23 months. Motion Quest's Intellidance is a joyful, engaging, research-based early childhood program that blends music, movement, and purposeful play to support whole-child development and early literacy. Perfect for active little movers! Registration begins February 21.  



Little Architects

Monday, March 9, 10:15 a.m.

Build, stack, and create! Little learners can explore a variety of blocks and let their imaginations soar.



Kids ages 3 – 5 along with a caregiver can register beginning February 23.  



Li'l Chefs

Wednesday, March 11, 6:15 p.m.



Love cooking with your kids? This is a program for preschoolers ages 3 & 4 with a caregiver.

We will be making Lucky Charms Treats! Registration begins February 25.  





Art Exploration

Thursday, March 12, 10:30 a.m.

Kids ages 2 – 5 and their caregiver will bond, play, and engage in stimulating art activities. So much fun and a little messy! Registration begins February 26.  

LEGO Builders

Thursday, March 12, 6:30 p.m.

Design, build, and play! Work on your own creation or do a LEGO challenge. Kids in grades K – 5 can register beginning February 26. Due to safety concerns, infants and toddlers will not be allowed in the room.  



Teddy Bear Clinic



Saturday, March 14, 11:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

Volunteer teddy bear doctors are running a pop-up repair clinic here at the library for teddy bears and all gently loved stuffed toys. Drop in and enjoy crafts and reading materials

while you wait for your wounded one to be repaired. Sponsored by the Friends of the Library and the Newington/Wethersfield GFWC.

Little Yogi

Wednesday, March 18, 6:30 p.m.



For ages 2 – 5, with a caregiver. Have you ever wanted to move along with the characters in a book? Join us for literacy integration yoga with Heather from Nourished Mind Wellness. Registration begins March 4.  



The Anita Wilson Memorial Family Concert Series Presents BenAnna Band Concert

Friday, March 20, 6:30 p.m.



Go bananas for this high-energy musical duo, the BenAnna Band! Doors will open at 6:15 p.m. Registration will begin March 6.

Sponsored by The Anita Wilson Memorial Family Concert Series.  



Cookbook Club



Wednesday, March 25, 6:15 p.m.

Come make Pineapple Fluff! Please note this recipe contains marshmallow. Registration for kids in grades 3 – 5 begins March 11.  



Stuffy Sleepover Storytime



Saturday, March 28, 1:30 – 2:15 p.m.

Bring your favorite stuffed animal for a storytime & craft. After, the stuffies will spend the night having fun at the library! All stuffed animals can be picked up Sunday, March 29, 1:00 – 3:30 p.m. Space is limited. Registration begins March 14.  

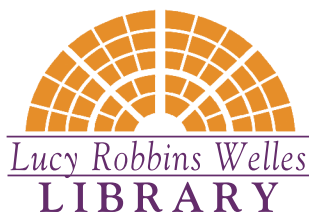


Pokémon Kids

Tuesday, March 31, 6:00 p.m.

For kids in grades 2 – 5. Play games, meet fellow fans of Pokémon, and trade cards! It doesn't matter if you're a Pokémon master or beginner! Registration begins March 17.  





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From the Library Director – Lisa Masten

Join the fun this winter by participating in *Yeti...Set...READ!*, the library's Winter Reading Programs for kids, teens, and adults. Beginning in early February and ending in early March, read and be eligible for the many opportunities to win special prizes. These programs are sponsored by the Friends of the Library. Winter is also a great time to check out a new online service at the library called Hiveclass—your go-to e-learning platform for sports, fitness, and wellness, and designed for all ages. With hundreds of fun, expert-led videos in English and Spanish, there's something for everyone to get moving and feel great!

Please look inside this newsletter to find a variety of programs for all ages and be sure to explore the library's great print and digital collection of books, audiobooks, and streaming services that are free, fun, and entertaining. Because the library is now open seven days a week, there are more opportunities for you to come see all that we have to offer. You can also visit our website www.newingtonct.gov/library for the latest information. We look forward to seeing you and are always happy to help you in person, on the phone, or online.

Thank You to our Dining Partners!

Alvarium Coffee Roasters
Angelo's Breakfast and Lunch
Arby's
Bird Code
Boiling Soho
Carvel
Chili's
Cisco's
DiBella's Subs
Doogie's
El Pollo Guapo
Elm Hill Pizza
Fancy Sushi and Grill
GoldBurgers
iKura Sushi Bar and Grill

Joey B's
Kitchen Bar & Market
Mama's Pizzeria
Ming Palace
Montana Nights Axe Throwing
Mooyah Burger, Fries & Shakes
Naija Restaurant
Newington Pizza & Grinders
Not A Phase Café
Outback Steak House
Phoenix Pizza
Playa Bowls
Plaza Azteca
Prime Burger
Ruth's Chris Steak House
Sadie's Sunrise Café
Shake Shack

Square Peg Pizzeria
Steve's Place
Taro Taro Boba Shop
The Community Room
The Flying Monkey Grill & Bar
The Kakery
The Rockin Chicken
The Sloppy Waffle
TJ's on Cedar
Tokyo Café
Town Line Pizza and Restaurant
T-Swirl and Crepe
Tropical Smoothie Cafe
Turnpike Pizzeria
Veggie World
Venus Nutrition

Art Exhibits

February: Newington High School
– *Mixed Media*

March: Candace Nystrom
– *Mixed Media*

Library Meetings:

– Library Board

Monday, February 9, 7:00 p.m.

Monday, March 9, 7:00 p.m.

– Friends of the Library

Wednesday, February 11, 6:00 p.m.

Wednesday, March 11, 6:00 p.m.

Library Hours (subject to change)

Monday – Thursday

10:00 a.m. – 8:00 p.m.

Friday 10:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

Saturday 10:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

Sunday 1:00 – 4:00 p.m.

Lucy-to-Go Curbside Pickup

is still available during regular library hours, Monday – Saturday.

Library Closings

Monday, February 16

– *Presidents' Day*

To Reach the Library

General Information & Reference:

(860) 665-8700

Children's Department:

(860) 665-8720

Administration: (860) 665-8730

Fax: (860) 666-0034

www.newingtonct.gov/library



Follow us on Facebook, Twitter
Instagram and Pinterest