

Meredith Library News

November 2009

Historic Plaque Dedication Speech

Library Hours:

Tues-Thurs 9-8
Fridays 9-5
Saturdays 9-2
Sundays and Mon-
days Closed

**Ask us
about Home
Delivery
Service**



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Hello – My name is Paul Eldridge and I am the Chairman of the Meredith Public Library's Board of Trustees. On behalf of the trustees and our dedicated staff let me welcome you.

Thank you all for attending the dedication of the plaque which designates the Meredith Public Library's acceptance on the National Register of Historic Places. Also thank you to The Friends of the Meredith Public Library for hosting this event, to the citizens of Meredith for helping to make the library a special place in town and to our invited guests, former library director Lydia Torr who retired after 37 years of service and her husband Nate.

The following information is taken from

Rudy VanVeghten's *Filling the Void: History of the Meredith Public Library*.

In the late 1880's the citizens of Meredith began to demand a public library. Books were very costly and only the wealthy could afford to purchase them. The town wanted a literary outlet and George F. Sanborn, publisher of The Meredith News, wrote of the need for a public library. He worked with former resident, John Smith, Jr. for the town to purchase his collection of 800 books and the Meredith Public Library opened its doors for the first time in the spring of 1882. (Which coincidentally was the Spring that my Grandmother, Mary Alice Lincoln, was

born in the house three doors down the street.) The library was located in a room on the second floor of the Sanborn house annex and shared its space with The Meredith News. George F. Sanborn was the first librarian. At the end of the first year there were 125 library patrons, 1200 volumes, and a weekly circulation of about 150 books.

Over the next twenty years the library would bounce to several locations with several librarians before finding its current home. On November 1, 1899 Benjamin M. Smith of Beverly, MA wrote a letter to the Meredith selectman. He fondly recounted his days living in Meredith and offered to build a public library as a memorial to his parents, (continued on page 7)



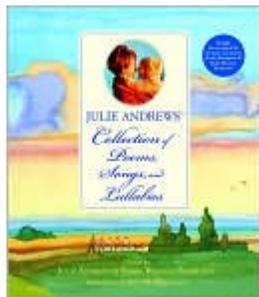
"From The Clock Tower"

MPL Children's Room



New

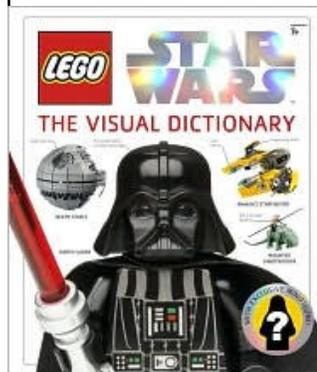
Highlighted Books!



Julie Andrews' collection of poems, songs and lullabies

By: Julie Andrews and Emma Walton Hamilton

The mother and daughter team share with us their most beloved family memories through this heartfelt book. The songs and stories are brought to life through gentle watercolors and the iconic voice of Julie Andrews on the accompanying CD. Share this gem with your little one today.



LEGO Star Wars: the Visual Dictionary

Everything you want to know about Legos and Star wars all rolled into one fabulous book. Learn about the history, manufacture and construction of the plethora of Star Wars themed Legos. Parent warning, your child will want to buy everything they see in the book.

Children's Programs

Preschool Story Time for ages 3-5 on Weds at 10:30am and Thurs at 1:00pm

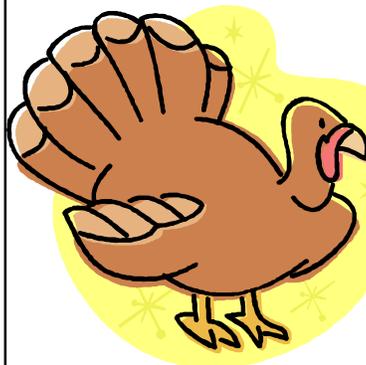


Tot Time Fridays 9:30 for ages 1-3

Curiosity Club Join the club that loves to explore! This month we will explore building. The explorers will work with legos and other building material and take home their own structure. The club is for ages 4-9 and will meet every 2nd Wednesday of the month but this month we are meeting on Thursday! (11/12, 12/9, 1/13, etc.)

Bedtime stories on the first Tuesday of every month at 6:30pm. Come in your pajamas and listen to good night stories, do a project and have a bedtime snack (11/3, 12/1, 1/5)

Library Lesson on Thursday, 11/5 for ages 5 and up. Come to this introductory class to help you and your children navigate the library. We will discuss the types of materials in the library, the catalog computer and how the shelves are organized. Sign-up required



Read-a-thon/Eat-a-thon on Friday Nov. 20th from 5-7pm. Eat pizza and read the night away. For readers ages 6-9 for kids program and 10 and up for young adult program.



Mystery Book Group- Thursday, November 12 from 10:30-12:00PM-***Dance Hall of the Dead*** by Tony Hillerman is a detective story that takes place on Native American land. In order to find the murderer of a young Zuni boy, Navajo detective Joe Leaphorn will need to call upon his knowledge of Navajo and Zuni tradition and upon his incredible skills as a tracker. The

Book Groups

investigation takes Lieutenant Leaphorn from the Navajo hogan of the dead boy's missing friend, George Bowlegs, to a nearby hippie commune, to an archaeological dig site and finally to a sacred lake that in Zuni tradition is called the Dance Hall of the Dead.

Thursday Evening Book Group-This book group is on hiatus until January. We will meet on Thursday, January 28 at 7:00PM. We will be reading ***The Pillars of the Earth*** by Ken Follett. Copies will be available at the library after Thanksgiving.

We Deliver!

The Meredith Public Library in conjunction with the Altrusa Club provides home delivery service to our patrons. If you're sick this flu season or can't get out of the house for some reason, please give us a call at 279-4303 and ask to set up Homebound Service. A member of the Altrusa Club will drop off whatever items you've requested from the library and return items you still have at home, free of charge! Please don't hesitate to call. We are happy to provide this service.

Friends of the Library Update

Friends of the Library Update: The library garden is ready for winter thanks to our garden committee: Jan Norlin, Carol Moritz, Cathy Turgeon, Pam Coburn, Barbara Brann, Marian Tucker and Rebecca Alosa. Their tireless efforts have ensured the garden is ready for spring planting.

If you are interested in joining this garden group or any of the other library volunteer opportunities (costume room upkeep; children's room activity prep work; Forestview book exchange; managing the art wall and case, decorating the library for Christmas or library

plant maintenance) contact Danielle Scott for details at 472-2616 or dmscott@metrocast.net. The season of giving has arrived please consider donating some of your time or talents to give back to the library that gives so much to us!

The Friends are combining our November and December meetings. On Saturday, December 5, 2009 we are hosting our annual Holiday Open House. Coffee and holiday treats will be served in the library from 10:00 to 12:00; followed by our monthly meeting from 12:00 to 1:00. Everyone is welcome to join us!

Upcoming events:

Friends of the Meredith Library Holiday Open House, December 5, 2009 from 10:00 to 12:00; monthly meeting following from 12:00 to 1:00.

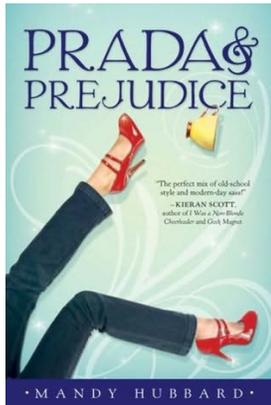


Teens and 'Tweens Page

Ages 10-17



A GOOD READ FOR NOVEMBER



Prada & Prejudice by Mandy Hubbard

Callie is tired of being a clumsy geek-girl. So during a school trip to London she buys her ticket to popularity: a pair of real Prada pumps. But then she wobbles on the cobblestones, trips in her too-high heels, and conks her head. When she comes to, it's

the year 1815!

Luckily she meets kindhearted Emily, who mistakes Callie for a long-lost friend. Sparks soon ignite-of the nice and not-so-nice variety-between Callie and Alex, the handsome but totally arrogant Duke of Harksbury. Too bad Alex seems to have something sinister up his ruffled sleeve...

Can Callie save Emily from a dire engagement, win a kiss from Alex, and prove to herself that she's more than just a loud-mouth klutz before her time in the past is up?

Exciting New Books

Syren by Angie Sage

Access Denied: (And Other Eight Grade Error Messages) by Denise Vega

The Boyfriend Trick by Stephanie Davis

Savvy by Ingrid Law

Reckless by Cecily Von Ziegesar

Spells & Sleeping Bags by Sarah Mlynowski

Forest Born by Shannon Hale

Touching Spirit Bear by Ben Mikaelson

Revenge of the Wannabes: A Clique Novel by Lisi Harrison

The Wild Things by Dave Eggers

Last Dance by Linda Joy Singleton

Suite Dreams by Rachel Hawthorne

Derailed by Jon Ripslinger

Nick of time by Ted Bell

The Twilight Companion: The Unauthorized Guide to the Series by Lois H. Gresh

New Non-Fiction for Young Adults

The Secret to Teen Power by Paul Harrington

That Quail, Robert by Margaret A. Stanger

My Thirteenth Winter: A Memoir by Samantha Abeel

Witch-hunt: Mysteries Of The Salem Witch Trials by Marc Aronson

Generation T: 108 Ways to Transform a T-Shirt by Megan Nicolay

DON'T FORGET READ-A-THON/EAT-A-THON

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 20
from 5 to 7

MUST SIGN UP IF YOU
WANT PIZZA





November 2009

Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p>3 Bedtime Stories 6:30-7:15</p>	<p>4 Story Time 10:30-11:30AM</p>	<p>5 Scrapbooking 10:00 Knitters 10:30 Story Time 1:00 Naturopathic Kit 6:30PM</p>	<p>6 Tot Time 9:30-10:15AM Genealogy Club 4:00-6:00PM</p>	<p>7</p>
<p>10 Library Trustees 6:00-7:30PM</p>	<p>11 Veteran's Day  Library Closed</p>	<p>12 Book Group 10:30 Knitters 10:30 Story Time 1:00 Curiosity Club 3:30PM</p>	<p>13 Tot Time 9:30-10:15AM</p>	<p>14</p>
<p>17</p>	<p>18 Story Time 10:30-11:30AM</p>	<p>19 Knitters 10:30 Story Time 1:00-2:00PM</p>	<p>20 Tot Time 9:30-10:15AM Teen/Child Read-Eat-a-thon 5-7:00PM</p>	<p>21</p>
<p>24</p>	<p>25 Story Time 10:30-11:30AM Library closing at 2:00PM</p>	<p>26 Library Closed  Thanksgiving</p>	<p>27 Library Closed </p>	<p>28 Library will be open!!!</p>

New Adult Items

(ask for the full list at the desk)

Fiction

Ackroyd-*Casebook of Victor Frankenstein*

Akpan-*Say You're One of Them*

Baldacci-*True Blue*

Barr-*13 1/2*

Bradford-*Breaking the Rules*

Brown-*Lost Symbol*

Connelly-*Nine Dragons*

Cornwell-*Scarpetta Factor*

Dekker-*Green*

Evans-*Christmas List*

Harris-*Grave Secret*

Jordan-*Gathering Storm*

Irving-*Last Night in Twisted River*

Maguire-*Matchless*

Mayor-*Price of Malice*

McCall-*Lost Art of Gratitude*

Muller-*Locked In*

Parker-*Professional*

Rice-*Angel Time*

Roberts-*Bed of Roses*

Roth-*Humbling*

Sandford-*Rough Country*

Vonnegut-*Look at the Birdie*

Non-Fiction

Albom-*Have a Little Faith*

Brizendine-*Female Brain*

Duncan-*National Parks*

Ehrenreich-*Bright-sided*

Herzlinger-*Who Killed Health Care?*

Johnston-*Perfectly Legal*

Levitt-
SuperFreakonomics

Miller-*A Praying Life*

Morgan-*Official Guide to Ancestry.com*

Patterson-*Murder of King Tut*

Simpson-*Stealth Down*

Tannen-*You Were Always Mom's Favorite*

Books on CD

Albom-*Have a Little Faith*

Patterson-*Murder of King Tut*

Akpan-*Say You're One of Them*

Cornwell-*Scarpetta Factor*

Evans-*Christmas List*

Flynn-*Pursuit of Honor*

Kellerman-*Evidence*

Parker-*The Professional*

Picoult-*Picture Perfect*

DVDs

- *The National Parks*
- *Elizabeth, the Golden Age*
- *Liberty Heights*
- *The Pursuit of Happiness*
- *Transformers*
- *We Own the Night*

Large Print

Akpan-*Say You're One of Them*

Gregory-*White Queen*

Shaffer-*Guernsey Literary and Potato Peel Pie Society*

Thebo-*Corner Booth Chronicles*

Books on Playaway

Bradbury-*The Martian Chronicles*

King-*Cell*



Historic Plaque Continued from page 1

both of whom died in Meredith. If the town agreed to purchase the land adjacent to the Baptist Church, he would pay to have a library built on that spot for not less than \$10,000.00. After much debate and discussion, the town agreed to Smith's wishes and purchased the land.

In 1900, George Swan of Beverly, MA was the final architect chosen to design the new structure and village residents watched as the handsome Classical brick structure grew. As the town meeting of 1901 approached, the library trustees wrote, "The year 1900 has been a notable one in Meredith's history, for it has marked the erection of a beautiful new Library, on a spot once disfigured by unsightly buildings. This new structure, with its graceful proportions and pleasing, harmonious interior, will ever be a fitting memorial to the good taste and generosity of the donor, Mr. Benjamin M. Smith of Beverly, MA., who has devoted his time and energies unceasingly to perfecting every detail of the building which bears his name."

Letters set in relief over the doorway read 'Benjamin M. Smith Memorial Library A.D. 1900.' A bronze plaque inside the entrance contains the message, 'Presented to the town of Meredith by Benjamin M. Smith in memory of his parents, John and Mary Smith.'

Sidewalks of red brick matching the library walls led to the front and rear entrances of the new building. Inside trim was in dark brown ash. A description of the layout from *The News* noted that "the building contains a reading room, conversation hall, delivery room, trustees' room and apartments for books. The cases, when all have been placed in position will have a capacity of 24,000 books. A handsome town clock adorns the front of the building. The building also contains a splendidly fitted toilet room, is supplied with electric lights and heated by

hot air. A fire-proof vault has been placed in the building and the town records will be kept therein hereafter.

The new building was dedicated on June 17, 1901. Near perfect weather and festive decorations along Main Street greeted the hundred or so dignitaries. Accounts of the ceremony appeared in newspapers even as far south as Boston.

In 1985, the library was placed on the National Register of Historic Places for its architectural design. As a point of information - *The National Register of Historic Places is the official list of the Nation's historic places worthy of preservation. Authorized by the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, the National Park Service's National Register of Historic Places is part of a national program to coordinate and support public and private efforts to identify, evaluate, and protect America's historic and archeological resources.* David Ruell of the Lakes Region Planning Board in the application for acceptance to the National Register described the library as follows, "The Benjamin M. Smith Memorial Library is not only Meredith's finest public building, but also one of the Lakes Region's most attractive libraries." I may be biased, but I whole-heartedly agree!

Shortly thereafter the library underwent a major renovation. An addition designed by Christopher Williams, gave the library an additional 4000 square feet and was completed in December 1988. An audiovisual room, reading room and staff work stations occupied the once cramped first floor of the old part of the library. On the balcony, older children and young adult materials were housed and the attic was converted into a beautiful children's room. In the new wing, a chairlift was added to give the library handicap access. On the first floor were placed adult fiction and large print books, the second floor had non-fiction and reference and in the
(continued on page 8)

MEREDITH PUBLIC LIBRARY

PO BOX 808
91 MAIN STREET
MEREDITH, NH 03253

Phone: 603-279-4303
Fax: 603-279-5352
E-mail: erin@meredithlibrary.org

Library Hours

Sunday and Monday-*Closed*
Tuesday-Thursday-*9:00am-8:00pm*
Friday-*9:00am-5:00pm*
Saturday-*9:00am-2:00pm*

We're on the Web!

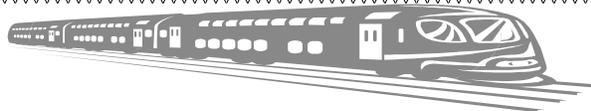
www.meredithlibrary.org

Library Mission Statement

Meredith Public Library is the informational, educational, and cultural heart of the Meredith community. The library is a dependable source of reliable information and of challenging ideas that enlighten and enrich, and of materials in many formats that enhance leisure time and expand knowledge of current events. The library encourages the love of reading and the joy of learning, and offers the assistance people need to find, evaluate, and use electronic and print information resources that help them live successful and rewarding lives.

Are You Talented?

Do you have a special skill such as knitting, scrapbooking or model train building you'd be willing to share with others at the library? Are you an artist looking for a place to display your work? If so please contact the library. If displaying artwork please ask for Karen Henchey. If you would like to do a program at the library please contact Erin Apostolos.



Historic Plaque Continued from page 7

basement a large community room, complete with kitchen and furnished through a generous donation by the Meredith Rotary Club.

The Benjamin M. Smith Memorial Library, or as it is more commonly known, The Meredith Public Library, has enjoyed over one hundred years of serving the people of Meredith. Though the trustees and staff have changed over the years, one thing remains the same. We remain dedicated to providing "the literary outlet" demanded by

Meredith citizens 127 years ago.

Again, thank you all for attending this historic event.

As read by Paul Eldridge, October 20, 2009.



Naturopathic Workshop

Join Dr. Kathryn Cranford, on Thursday, November 5 from 6:30-8:00PM as she discusses ways to prevent as well as treat the winter wheezes, coughs, drips and sneezes that we all know all too well. Her discussion will focus on overall health and strengthening immunity via healthy food choices, life practices, and where needed, helpful nutrients, herbs and homeopathic remedies.

