



Harcourt Wood Memorial  
Established 1902

February 23 @ 6:30 pm

The Character & Personality  
of Teddy Roosevelt  
presented by  
Gordon Williams



Theodore Roosevelt

*Library Trivia:* ♦ In the first month that the Library was open, February, 1902, 965 cards were issued and 3,662 books were taken out.



## LOCAL HISTORY

Mary A. Bisaccia

Derby has been known for the manufacturing of many items over the years, but its most famous machine-manufactured product was the common straight pin. It all started with a man named John I. Howe. John I. Howe was born at Ridgefield, Conn., July 20, 1793. At the age of nineteen he began the study of medicine and surgery. He graduated from the Medical University of New York; married Cornelia Ann, daughter of George Ireland of New York, and for many years was a successful and skillful physician in that city. He was one of the resident physicians of the New York almshouse. Impaired by a severe illness, he moved with his family in 1829 to North Salem, NY. Before abandoning his chosen profession he made a series of experiments on India rubber with a view to its use it with other substances and for various purposes.

As early as 1828, he obtained a patent on rubber compounds. He next gave his attention to pin machines. During some of his visits to the New York almshouse among the English inmates he was impressed with the manner of making pins by hand and he was moved with the idea that this staple article could be manufactured by machinery. In the winter of 1830 and 31 he spent his time in constructing a pin machine; made a rude mold performing various movements and combinations essential to such a machine. In 1832 he was successful in making a machine which made pins though in an imperfect way. For this he was awarded by the American Institute a large silver medal for "inventing a machine that would make pins by one operation."

The Howe Manufacturing Company was organized in New York, December, 1835, to manufacture pins by means of Doctor John I. Howe's machines. In the winter of 1836, a shop was set up and the company in New York began making their own machinery, and after a year and a half five machines had been constructed and put into operation for making what was then called the "spun-head pin." Previous to this, however, one machine had been changed to make a solid-headed pin.

These machines were all changed to make "solid header" pins, and for this patent, in 1842, the American Institute awarded John Howe a gold medal for "the best solid headed pin made by machinery." The company moved their factory from New York in 1838 to Birmingham, (at the corner of Main and Third Streets) where the business carried on most successfully. Doctor Howe was named in the "History of American Manufacturers" by I.L. Bishop among "the most useful inventors of the country."

Howe continued to improve upon his inventions, and he built a rotary pin machine that today sits in the Smithsonian Institution in Washington, DC. Doctor Howe was a self-made man, universally esteemed by the people of Derby. He died suddenly of an aneurism September 10, 1876, at age 84.

Howe's son-in-law William Downes graduated from Yale with honors in 1845. Downes showed interest in the Ousatonic Water Company, and was very efficient in carrying forward the magnificent project of building the Ousatonic Dam. Downes assumed responsibility of Howe's factory after Howe died.

## From the Desk of the Director:

Cathy Williams

*Every man should be born again on the first day of January. Start with a fresh page. Take up one hole more in buckle if necessary, or let down one, according to circumstances; but on the first day of January let every man gird himself once more, with his face to the front, and take no interest in the things that were and are past.*

--- Henry Ward Beecher

As the New Year begins, it seems appropriate to once again tell you about some "new" things at the Derby Public Library! We recently welcomed two new staff members to the Library. Gabby Novak is our new Library Assistant and Antonino Mogavera is our new evening/Saturday custodian. Gabby has been busy helping our young patrons in the Children's Room, while Antonino has been helping to maintain our beautiful building.

We are excited to kick-off a new project in this new year. Over the years, dozens of visitors have shared wonderful memories with me of their time spent here at the Library as children. Many of them no longer live in Derby but make it a point to stop in when they are in the area to revisit the place that played such an important role during their youth. Often times they bring their children and even grandchildren with them. It has been an honor to listen to their stories and see their faces as they share their memories. Recently, it was suggested to me that these stories should be recorded and shared. So that is exactly what we will do! Please help us get the word out. If you have a memory you would like to share, either fill out a form (available at the circulation desk), or send an e-mail to [cwilliams@biblio.org](mailto:cwilliams@biblio.org). If you would rather convey your story verbally, I would be happy to listen and scribe for you. These stories will be shared on our Facebook page. We will also put together a booklet that will be distributed at a Celebration of Memories, where stories can be shared in person. While the Derby Public Library has changed in many ways over the years, much has remained the same, including the beauty of the building and the stories made here. So whether your memories are from a few years ago or decades ago, we look forward to hearing from you!

While the following programs are not new, they are newly formatted. Instead of designated monthly topics, our *Tech Time* sessions will now be open for all tech-related questions and concerns. Whether you are having trouble downloading e-books, searching databases, completing on-line job applications, scanning/sending documents, etc., join us in the Third Wednesday of the month at 6:30 PM and the third Thursday of each month at 10:00 AM to have all your problems addressed.

Our newly formatted *Local History* sessions will now include a highlighted monthly topic, along with offering research assistance. These sessions are held every Tuesday at 6:00 PM and every Wednesday at 10:00 AM.

After listening to suggestions from this past year's participants, our *Just for Women* series will now include the reading and discussion of quotes reflecting life situations relevant to women. As always, women of all ages are invited to take some time for themselves and connect with other women. And while a winter reading club for adults is not new at the Library, this year's theme is – *Slide Into a Warm Read*. The club will begin on January 5 and culminate on March 6 with a Spring Thaw celebration, catered by Stacey Ference of Savour Catering. Ages 18 and over are encouraged to participate. For more information on these programs and more go to [www.derbypubliclibrary.org](http://www.derbypubliclibrary.org) or visit the Library in person!

And last but not least, we have tried to make this newsletter easier to read by changing the format a bit. Let me know what you think.

## Slide Into A Warm Winter Read!



Some of last year's members gathered for our Spring Fever Celebration.

## Winter Reading Club for Adults

(ages 18+)

January 5th -  
March 6th



# January 2015

## Reoccurring Programs in January

Registration is requested for all programs. *Local History Info Sessions and Tech Time are on a drop-in basis.*)

<b>MONDAYS:</b>		
1/5	6:30 pm	<b>Just for Women (18+).</b> Reflective quotes will be shared and discussed as they relate to life situations relevant to women. Facilitated by Joan Joyce.
1/5, 1/12, 1/26	6:30 pm - 7:30 pm	<b>Teen Chess Club (ages 12-17).</b> All levels invited to learn & improve strategy with Mr. Julio Maldonado.
<b>TUESDAYS:</b>		
1/6, 1/13, 1/20, 1/27	6:00 pm - 7:30 pm	<b>Local History Info Session (18+).</b> January's topic: <i>Notable Winter Weather &amp; Blizzards of the Valley.</i> Research assistance also available.
<b>WEDNESDAYS:</b>		
1/14, 1/21, 1/28	10:00 am	<b>Baby and Me (ages 0-12 mos.).</b> Introduces youngest patrons to our library through interaction & songs.
1/7, 1/14, 1/21, 1/28	10:00 am - Noon	<b>Local History Info Session (18+).</b> January's topic: <i>Notable Winter Weather &amp; Blizzards of the Valley.</i> Research assistance also available.
	1:00 pm	<b>Wednesday Movie Matinees (18+).</b> Newly released DVDs will be shown and light snacks provided.
	6:00 pm - 7:30 pm	<b>YA Wednesdays (ages 12-17).</b> Nintendo Wii, board games, and Lego.
1/21	6:30 pm	<b>Tech Time: <i>Bring Your Tech-Related Questions!</i></b>
1/28	12:30 pm	<b>Lunchtime Book Discussion, <i>Me Before You</i></b> by JoJo Moyes. Multiple copies of the book are available. Bring a bag lunch. Dessert and beverage provided.
<b>THURSDAYS:</b>		
1/15, 1/22, 1/29	10:00 am	<b>Toddler Time (ages 1-2 yrs.).</b> Weekly story time for baby and parent(s). Caregivers welcome.
1/15	10:00 am	<b>Tech Time: <i>Bring Your Tech-Related Questions!</i></b>
<b>FRIDAYS:</b>		
1/16, 1/23, 1/30	10:00 am	<b>Preschool Story Time (ages 3-5).</b> Weekly story time with activities.
1/16	10:00 am - Noon 1:00 pm - 3:00 pm	<b>CT Works Career Coach</b> presents <i>Job Search Assistance.</i> Learn where to look for jobs, how to get the job you want and how to search for jobs on the internet.

January 19th - Closed in Observance of Martin Luther King, Jr. Day

## Special Events

(Registration is requested for all Special Events.)

<b>8-THURSDAY:</b>	10:00 am	<b>Turn it Up!,</b> Music & Movement Program (ages 3-6) with Sandi Schuchmann.
<b>10-SATURDAY:</b>	10:00 am 12:30 pm	<b>Let it Snow</b> (ages 3-6) story time. Listen to winter themed stories, sing songs, create winter craft. <b>Lego Time</b> (ages 4-11). All level of building skills invited. Materials supplied.
<b>12-MONDAY:</b>	6:30 pm	<b>Cooking Demo: <i>Easy One Pot Winter Meals</i></b> (ages 18+) with Stacey Ferece of Savour Catering.
<b>13-TUESDAY:</b>	3:45 pm	<b>Crafty Kids</b> (grs. K - 4). Winter themed craft. All materials will be provided. No fee to attend.
<b>22-THURSDAY:</b>	3:30 pm	<b>Lego Time</b> (ages 4-11). All level of building skills invited. Materials supplied.
<b>26-MONDAY:</b>	6:30 pm	<b>Recycle, Repurpose, Reuse Craft Class</b> (18+) presented by Jeanie Roslonowski. Bring your old calendars. Will also provide information on conservation and animal issues.
<b>27-TUESDAY:</b>	6:30 pm	<b>Yoga for Kids</b> (ages 8-11) presented by Kathy Trusdell. Basic yoga and movement.

## A typical Monday evening at the Derby Public Library!



A weekly study group finds a comfortable spot at the Library



Learning new strategies at our Teen Chess Club

# February 2015



## Reoccurring Programs in February

Registration is requested for all programs. **Local History Info Sessions and Tech Time** are on a drop-in basis.)

### MONDAYS:

2/2 6:30 pm **Just for Women** (18+). Reflective quotes will be shared and discussed as they relate to life situations relevant to women. Facilitated by Joan Joyce.

2/2, 2/9, 2/23 6:30 pm - 7:30 pm **Teen Chess Club** (ages 12-17). All levels invited to learn & improve strategy with Mr. Julio Maldonado.

### TUESDAYS:

2/3, 2/10, 2/17, 2/24 6:00 pm - 7:30 pm **Local History Info Session** (18+). February's topic: *Presidents' Visits to Derby*. Research assistance also available.

### WEDNESDAYS:

2/4, 2/11, 2/18, 2/25 10:00 am **Baby and Me** (ages 0-12 mos.). Introduces youngest patrons to our library through interaction & songs.

2/4, 2/11, 2/18, 2/25 10:00 am - Noon **Local History Info Session** (18+). February's topic: *Presidents' Visits to Derby*. Research assistance also available.

1:00 pm **Wednesday Movie Matinees** (18+). Newly released DVDs will be shown and light snacks provided.

6:00 pm - 7:30 pm **YA Wednesdays** (ages 12-17). Nintendo Wii, board games and Lego.

2/18 6:30 pm **Tech Time: Bring Your Tech-Related Questions!**

2/25 12:30 pm **Lunchtime Book Discussion**, *The Rosie Project* by Graeme Simsion. Bring a bag lunch. Dessert and beverage provided.

### THURSDAYS:

2/5, 2/12, 2/19, 2/26 10:00 am **Toddler Time** (ages 1-2 yrs.). Weekly story time for baby and parent(s). Caregivers welcome.

2/19 10:00 am **Tech Time: Bring Your Tech-Related Questions!**

### FRIDAYS:

2/6, 2/13, 2/20, 2/27 10:00 am **Preschool Story Time** (ages 3-5). Weekly story time with activities.

2/20 10:00 am - Noon **CT Works Career Coach** presents *Using Social Networking in Your Job Search*. Learn about useful tools that job seekers need today and how to use social networking to land your next "big" job.  
1:00 pm - 3:00 pm

**February 16th - Closed in Observance of President's Day**

## Special Events

(Registration is requested for all Special Events except **Hot Stove Roundup** / walk-in basis.)

**5-THURSDAY:** 10:00 am **Hot Stove Roundup Session of Sports Talk Series** with Rich Marazzi. Trades, signings & rumors of the MBL off season will be discussed.

**7-SATURDAY:** **Take Your Child to the Library Day at Derby Public Library**

10:00 am **Winter Tales (ages 2-5). Story/craft.**

11:00 am **Turn it Up!** (ages 3-9) Interactive music and movement program with Sandi Schuchmann.

12:30 pm **Lego Time** (ages 4-11). All level of building skills invited. Materials supplied.

**9-MONDAY:** 6:30 pm **Hands-On Cupcake Decorating Session** (ages 18+) with Maria Bruscano Sanchez, owner of Sweet Maria's Bakery, Waterbury.

**10-TUESDAY:** 3:45 pm **Valentine's Day Program** (grs. K - 4). Make a card, create a craft and enjoy some sweet treats!

**17-TUESDAY:** 6:30 pm **Tween Tuesday** (ages 10-12). Create a Chinese lantern along with other hands-on activities.

**19-THURSDAY:** 6:30 pm **Lego Time** (ages 4-11). All level of building skills invited. Materials supplied.

**23-MONDAY:** 6:30 pm **The Character & Personality of Teddy Roosevelt** presented by Gordon Williams.



Rich Marazzi shares his memories of the Yale Bowl



Our Just for Women group is a great way to connect with other women

## Message from Miss Sue

Sue Sherman



When we think back to our childhood, most of us remember playing "pretend", whether it was as a superhero, or a mom with your baby doll in a stroller, or perhaps just a bike adventure with neighborhood friends. Some of my fondest childhood memories are of my sisters and I, orchestrating musical performances for our parents each summer using our garage as our stage, complete with a curtain, costumes and props, even creating tickets for our audience to purchase. In all these scenarios we were doing what kids do best - play!

Research gives us a multitude of reasons why play is so important in a child's development, with a few of the most obvious being, it expends energy, helps with problem solving skills, provides relaxation and enjoyment, while also enhancing social, emotional, creative and physical development. All of these benefits of play are important factors in contributing to a child's school readiness and success in the areas of language and literacy. Pretend or make-believe play is most influential in fostering language development.

Many communities now offer full day kindergarten, with academic based curriculum being the focus, thus pushing aside the play-based school day of years gone by. Most children have a limited amount of time in their daily routine to incorporate play due to organized activities and academic enrichment. A parent should strive to create a healthy balance for their child, allowing even a sliver of downtime for play to reap its rewards.

I have lost count over the years to the number of caregivers attending story times with a preschooler who have commented "this is so relaxing and fun," when referring to the playful aspect of story time with literacy-based games, activities and craft. Story times for all ages here at the Library include the element of play, with activities that include using the parachute or marching to a song. Remember to take some time for play this year for both you and your child and experience the relaxation and benefits it holds.

Since we are on the subject of play and having fun, families are invited to join us on Saturday, February 7 as we celebrate the 4<sup>th</sup> Annual *Take Your Child to the Library Day*. For anyone who is unfamiliar with this now nationwide day of recognizing libraries, it began as a collaborative effort by Children's Librarians in CT to encourage families to stop by and discover all the resources and opportunities their local library offers. Think of it as a sampling of what today's libraries are all about. Families with children ages 2-5 are invited to *Winter Tales*, a story/ craft time at 10:00 AM followed by *Turn it Up!* a highly interactive music and movement program with the popular movie *Frozen* theme at 11:00 AM. *Our Read to Payson* program will also take place for kids 5-11 at 11:30 AM. *Lego Time* will take place at 12:30 PM for children ages 4-11. The day also includes a raffle, refreshments and other activities. We hope to see everyone!

I just want to give a special thanks to the Irving School Student Council and teaching staff advisors for volunteering to decorate our Christmas tree and multi-purpose room. We appreciate the time and energy that went into making the children's area so festive for all our families to enjoy.

Be sure to check the newsletter calendar for upcoming children's programs, including the start of our winter session of story times.

Payson enjoys a story from a young reader.



## TEEN ZONE

Tony DeLos

One of the most consistently attended teen programs last year was our weekly YA *Wednesdays* and we look forward to that trend continuing in the new year. The buzz around town of friendly competition has drawn in new participants weekly. So whether it is for the Wii challenge, board games, or Legos, stop by *Wednesdays* at 6:00 PM to join the fun (snacks included). Bring a friend or come and make new ones!

Our *Teen Chess Club* has seen some new talent also with meetings on Mondays at 6:30 PM. See you 'round the Teen Zone!



Game On!

## TECH CORNER

Marc Weissman



### Tech Security

With the holiday season now behind us, and all of those new tech gadgets clamoring for our attention, one thing to keep in mind is online security. Whether it be for a home-based or mobile device, it's important that your machines are protected from unwanted intrusion as well as from intruding on others. Here are some ways to ensure that:

**Virus protection:** Even non-techies know of such anti-virus protectors like Norton or McAfee and that they should be mainstays on desktops or laptops. But for new iPhone, iPad and Droid users out there, it's just as critical - if not more so - to make sure you install an anti-virus app ASAP to protect your mobile device as well as others'.

**Passwords:** With so many passwords to remember/change/update, it can be a monumental task to keep track of them all, for sure. But it's time well spent because a device, email or account that is not properly secured can give unwanted access to all sorts of personal data. So please pay heed to those repeated warnings and refrain from using birthdays, family names, or phone, house or social security numbers as part of your passwords. There are plenty of other "random" choices that are easy to recall yet not easily deciphered. In addition, most mobile phones have a built in option where you can increase your screen passcode from 4 digits to a longer code that includes numbers, letters and symbols normally used for online passwords. This is also a prudent thing to do.

**While Out and About:** Two things you may want to opt out of when using your mobile device is the "location tracking" option as well as an "unsecured" Wi-Fi connection. Other than when using your device as a GPS or perhaps when "Yelping" the location of a restaurant, be sure to turn off the location tracking feature on your device. Otherwise, your phone essentially tells your apps - and thus, online companies and social networks - exactly where you shop, work, visit, socialize, etc. In other words, probably not things you want to disclose on a 24/7 basis. As for using Wi-Fi, it's typically okay to read the news, update your social network status or instant message a friend via unsecured Wi-Fi. But if you are going to shop online or bank online, for example, you are much better served to use a \*secured\* Wi-Fi (one that requires a password) or better still, your own phone's 4 or 5G data network. Those tend to be more secure.

Enjoy surfing and Happy New Year! ☺



## Staff Picks

Cathy Williams	<i>The Cinderella Murder</i> by Mary Higgins Clark & Alafair Burke
Sue Sherman	<i>When Winter Comes</i> by Nancy Van Laan (Children's Room)
Kathy Wilson	<i>Me Before You</i> by JoJo Moyes
Ann Mirisola	<i>Until We Touch</i> by Susan Mallery
Mary Householder	<i>State Fair</i> by Earlene Fowler
Mary Bisaccia	<i>All the Light We Cannot See</i> by Anthony Doerr
Lorraine Piazza	<i>Flight 232</i> by Lawrence Gonzales
Gabriella Novak	<i>Fireside Stories: Tales for a Winter's Eve</i> by Caitlin Matthews (Children's Room)
Tony Delos	<i>The Dinners</i> by Libba Bray (Young Adult)
Brian Karkut	<i>The Snow Globe Family</i> by Jane O'Connor (Children's Room)
Marc Weissman	<i>American Bandstand</i> by John Jackson
Andrew Bisaccia	<i>The World of Ice and Fire</i> by George R.R. Martin