

# COVENTRY PUBLIC LIBRARY

## Newsletter

JULY  
2025

1672 Flat River Rd. Coventry, RI 02816 | [www.coventrylibrary.org](http://www.coventrylibrary.org) | (401) 822-9100

### Service Spotlight:

#### Nathanael Greene Homestead

Discover local history when you visit the national historic landmark that Major General Nathaniel Greene built in 1770 - for free!

Our Nathanael Greene Homestead pass admits up to 2 adults and 2 children aged 17 and under for free. Valid May - October and includes admission to special events.

And, stay tuned... On the next episode of *Overdueing It: The RI Library Podcast*, Director Lauren Walker discusses Nathanael Greene, RI's role in the American Revolution, and what Rhode Islanders can expect as the state ramps up to celebrate America's 250th birthday!



### Greene Farmers Market!

#### Tuesdays, 4 - 6 p.m.

Greene's popular Farmer's Market returns for the summer - every Tuesday from Memorial Day to Columbus Day at the Greene Library, 179 Hopkins Hill Road, Greene, RI! Featuring wonderful vendors like West Meadowbrook Farm, The Lavender Ewe, Nancy's Fancies, Tamarack Farm, Denise Vaz Jewelry, Sheff's Sweets, Lavoie Birdhouses, and more.



### Book Clubs:

#### Studies in Crime \*FULL\*

Wednesday, July 16th @ 5:30 p.m.

In *Light of All Things* by Kim Cross



"In *Light of All Darkness* embeds readers in one of the most famous true-crime stories of our generation--the kidnapping of Polly Klaas--a case as pivotal in the history of the FBI as the Unabomber or Oklahoma City bombing. On October 1, 1993, a 12-year-old girl was kidnapped from her bedroom during a sleepover with two friends, while her mother slept soundly in the room next door. This rarest of all kidnappings--a stranger abduction from the home--triggered one of the largest manhunts in FBI history. Riddled with red herrings, grave mistakes, dead ends, and false leads, from fake ransom calls to junior high pranks to dramatic SWAT raids, the 65-day search for "America's Child" became every FBI agent's--and every parent's--worst nightmare."

The *Studies in Crime Book Group* is currently full. Please contact Kylie at [KStaigers@coventrylibrary.org](mailto:KStaigers@coventrylibrary.org) or 822-9105 for further information.

### Daytime Book Group

Monday, July 28th @ 1 p.m.  
*The Lost Summers of Newport*



"2019: Andie Figuero just landed her dream job on *Makeover Mansion*, featuring the once-glorious Sprague Hall in Newport - famous for the the Vanderbilts and Belmonts. 1899: Ellen Daniels has been hired to give singing lessons to Miss Maybelle Sprague, a young heiress whose stepbrother is determined to see her married off to a fortune-hunting Italian prince. Ellen is supposed to polish up the girl for her launch into society - but demure Ellen has her own scandalous past catching up to her... 1957: In the years since Lucky Sprague and her grandmother fled Mussolini's Italy, Lucky's lost her Italian accent and married Stuyvesant Sprague, the alcoholic scion of her Sprague stepfamily. But an encounter in the mansion's old boathouse will uncover a devastating truth...and change everything she thought she knew about her past."

For more info, contact Jessica at 822-9104 or [jcoppa@coventrylibrary.org](mailto:jcoppa@coventrylibrary.org).

### Evening Book Group

Monday, July 28th @ 6:30 p.m.  
*Little Fires Everywhere*, by Celeste Ng



"In Shaker Heights, everything is planned - from the layout of the winding roads to the successful lives its residents will go on to lead. And no one embodies this spirit more than Elena Richardson, whose guiding principle is playing by the rules. Enter Mia Warren - an enigmatic artist and single mother - who arrives in this idyllic bubble with her teenaged daughter Pearl, and rents a house from the Richardsons. Soon Mia and Pearl become more than tenants: all four Richardson children are drawn to the mother-daughter pair. But Mia carries with her a mysterious past and a disregard for the status quo that threatens to upend this carefully ordered community."

For more information, please contact Reference at 822-9105 or email [JSturgeon@coventrylibrary.org](mailto:JSturgeon@coventrylibrary.org).

“Google can bring you back 100,000 answers, a librarian can bring you back the right one.”  
– Neil Gaiman, author

### Library Hours

Mon - Thu: 9am - 8pm  
Fridays: 9am - 5pm  
Saturdays: 9am - 1pm  
Sundays: Closed

### Holiday Closures:

Friday, July 4<sup>th</sup>  
for Independence Day



## Staff Picks

### Brenda's Picks

#### Technical Services Librarian



#### *Isola: a Novel* by Allegra Goodman

"Once heiress to a large estate, Marguerite, a young orphan in 16<sup>th</sup> century France, is left destitute by her guardian, Roberval. He forces her to travel with him to New France, but when she falls in love with his secretary, the two are abandoned on an uninhabited island in the Gulf of Saint Lawrence."



#### *Broken Country: a Novel* by Clare Leslie Hall

"In 1960's England, married couple Beth and Frank keep busy on their small farm as a way to deal with the grief of having lost their son in an accident. When Beth's former boyfriend Gabriel returns to the area with his young son in tow, Beth cannot resist spending time with them. But over time, her attraction to Gabriel leads to disastrous results."



#### *Many Lives of Mama Love* by Lara Love Hardin

"Lara had three healthy sons, a beautiful home in the suburbs, and a successful business when she was arrested for identity theft, fraud, and drug possession. She learns how to survive in prison where her college degree earns her a degree of respect. Once released, she devotes all of her energy to kicking her drug addiction and regaining custody of her youngest son."

# Children

## Children's Summer Reading Challenge

Children ages 3 through entering 5<sup>th</sup> grade can register for the children's summer reading challenge. This summer, the theme of the Coventry Public Library's summer reading program is "Level Up at Your Library." Registration for the children's summer reading challenge is required and takes place in Youth Services. From July 21<sup>st</sup> through July 26<sup>th</sup>, children who are working towards their reading goal can check in with their reading log for a pick from the prize box.

*The statewide Rhode Island Summer Reading Program is supported by the RI Office of Library and Information Services, with funds from the Institute of Museum and Library Services. Special thanks to the Town of Coventry for their support of this program.*

## Bwana Iguana Reptile Adventure Wednesday, July 9<sup>th</sup> at 11 am

A fun and informative reptile program for children ages 4 through entering 5th grade. Online registration is required at [coventrylibrary.org/kids](https://coventrylibrary.org/kids).

## Crafternoon with Mr. Theo Thursday, July 17<sup>th</sup> @ 2 p.m.

For children entering grades K-2. Registration is required. Online registration opens July 7<sup>th</sup>.

## Music at the Blissful Wednesday, July 23<sup>rd</sup> @ 3 p.m.

For children ages 3 through entering 5th grade. Registration is required. Online registration opens July 10<sup>th</sup>.

## Crafternoon with Mr. Theo Thursday, July 31<sup>st</sup> @ 2 p.m.

For children entering grades 3-5. Registration is required. Online registration opens July 21<sup>st</sup>.

## Children's Reading Group: Kids Reading Across RI Book Group Wednesday, August 6<sup>th</sup> @ 2 p.m.

For children in grades 3-6. Registration takes place in Youth Services beginning on July 21<sup>st</sup>. Children who register will receive a free copy of The Oldest Student: How Mary Walker Learned to Read by Rita Hubbard & Oge Mora.

## MobileQuest: STEM Passport Program Thursday, August 7<sup>th</sup> @ 1 p.m.

For children entering grades K-5. Registration is required. Online registration opens July 24<sup>th</sup>.

# Teens

## One Up Games: VR Event Friday, July 18<sup>th</sup> @ 1 p.m.

Join us on Friday, July 18 at 1:00PM, for our video game free play event, hosted by Massachusetts eSport and gaming venue, One Up Games! Explore virtual worlds with the Oculus Quest, or play the latest titles on Xbox Series S, PlayStation 5, and Nintendo Switch! Teens entering grades 6-12 can register to participate in this event from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m.

This is only for those entering grades 6-12 and registration is required to attend. Registration is open!

## Teen Movie Double Feature! Friday, July 25<sup>th</sup> @ 2 p.m. & 6 p.m.

Join us on Friday, July 25 for a Teen Afternoon Movie event. At 2 p.m. Ready Player One will be playing, and at 6 p.m. Dungeons and Dragons: Honor Among Thieves will be playing. Both are rated PG-13. Refreshments will be provided. Come to one or both!

Teens entering grades 6-12 can register to come to one or both of these events. This is only for those entering grades 6-12 and registration is required to attend.

REGISTRATION OPENS ONLINE JULY 7<sup>th</sup> FOR BOTH!

## Glow Paint Party Friday, August 1<sup>st</sup> @ 6 p.m.

Join us on Friday, August 1st at 6 p.m., for a Glow Paint Party! Teens will get a canvas to paint on with special paint while black lights are on to create a cool paint effect. Teens entering grades 6-12 can register to come to this event from 6pm to 8pm. Registration is required to attend. REGISTRATION OPENS ONLINE JULY 14<sup>TH</sup>!

## Midsummer Games Friday, August 8<sup>th</sup> @ 2 - 4 p.m.

Join us on Friday, August 8th for Dungeons & Dragons sessions with Midsummer Games, Brandon Morgan!

The first session is at 2 p.m. and the second session is at 4 p.m. Teens entering grades 6-12 can register to participate in these events. This is for all levels of players and supplies are provided!

This is only for those entering grades 6-12 and registration is required to attend. PLEASE ONLY SIGN UP FOR THE 2PM SESSION OR THE 4PM SESSION, NOT BOTH.

REGISTRATION OPENS JULY 21ST!

# Adults

## Adult Summer Reading Challenge!

Reading and/or listening to books this summer?! Sign up for our Summer Reading Program to earn raffle tickets for the books you read - and you'll be entered to win one of these great prizes:

- Grand prize: Inflatable kayak
- 2<sup>nd</sup> prize: \$100 gift certificate to Dave's Marketplace
- 3<sup>rd</sup> prize: \$50 gift certificate to the Bean Barn Coffee Shop

3 book minimum to receive (3) raffle tickets, with one additional raffle ticket for each book read/listened to after that. To be entered in the raffle, complete your paper /online Summer Reading Log by Saturday, August 23<sup>rd</sup> at 1 PM.

Adults can complete a paper reading log, available from the Reference Desk, or go to: <https://coventrylibrary.beanstack.com/>

- Select "Register an individual or family"
- Follow the registration instructions!

Or download the Beanstack app on your device from the App Store or Google Play! Use the QR code here:



## Decoupage Scallop Shells Craft Thursday, July 17<sup>th</sup> @ 5:30 - 7 p.m.

Learn how to decoupage scallop shells using botanical and seaside themed paper napkins. Use the decoupage shells for holding jewelry, keys, or as a gorgeous piece of art! All materials provided for this free, adult craft class.

Registration is required - call 822-9104 or email [JCoppa@coventrylibrary.org](mailto:JCoppa@coventrylibrary.org) to register.

## Welcome to our new head of Reference!

Jen Sturgeon joins the Coventry Public Library as our new Head of Adult Services at the Reference Desk! Jen will be managing the Reference Desk, as well as coordinating library programming for adults, and leading the Evening Book Club on the 4<sup>th</sup> Monday of each month.

Jen earned her Masters in Library Science from the University of Alabama, and brings a wealth of reference and programming experience! Please join us in welcoming Jen by stopping by Reference and saying hello!

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IN YOUR INBOX EVERY  
MONTH - SCAN THE QR  
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