



## Held on the Homefront: German POWs in the U.S. 1943-1946

BUS-eum coming May 2, 2011  
See page 4 for more details



## “Find More Money in 2011” Workshop

Meriden Public Library will be hosting a free financial workshop called “Find More Money in 2011” by I&C, LLC, an Employee Financial Education Company, on Tuesday, April 19 at 6:30 p.m. in the Griffin Room.

This special workshop will help you: stretch your dollars, eliminate holiday debt, avoid financial traps and pitfalls, find more money to save this year, and ease family conflicts over spending. All are welcome.

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## A Connecticut Cottage Garden

Master Gardener Amy Ziffer will be presenting the program “A Connecticut Cottage Garden: Adapting a Classic Garden Style to New England” on Saturday, April 2 at 2:00 p.m. in the Meriden Public Library Griffin Room.

This program is based on a unique cottage garden Ms. Ziffer designed and installed beginning in 2000. Located near the center of Sherman, CT and functioning as a public garden, this colorful, vibrant space has been recognized for its excellence and highlighted on many occasions in local newspapers. In this richly illustrated PowerPoint presentation, Ms. Ziffer focuses on what makes a cottage garden and how to adapt a style we associate with the English gardening tradition to our more challenging climate and environment.



Amy Ziffer, dba A Shady Lady Garden Design, has been designing, installing and maintaining gardens for clients in western Connecticut since 1998. She is a former editor at *Fine Gardening* magazine and a Master Gardener. Her freelance work as a garden writer and photographer can be seen in Reader’s Digest books, *Yankee* magazine, *Fine Gardening* magazine and other publications.

This program is free and all are welcome. Contact the Community Services Department at (203) 630-6349, email [comsvc@hotmail.com](mailto:comsvc@hotmail.com) or visit the library’s webpage at [www.meridenlibrary.org](http://www.meridenlibrary.org) to view the adult calendar and reserve a seat.

## Volunteer Income Tax Assistance Finishes April 16

The Volunteer Income Tax Assistance Program at the Meriden Public Library will finish April 16. V.I.T.A., which is sponsored by the Internal Revenue Service, provides free help to taxpayers who cannot afford professional assistance or who have tax questions. Assistance in preparing Connecticut state tax forms will also be available.

The sessions will take place in Meriden Public Library's Griffin Room. For easy access to the Griffin Room, parking is available in the Catlin Street lot. The schedule is as follows:

**WEDNESDAY** April 6 and 13 from 5:30 to 8:00 PM Call 203-630-6331 for an appointment between 5:30 and 7:30 pm.

**SATURDAY** April 2, April 9 (This session is in the Literacy Volunteer Office), and April 16 from 10:00 AM to 1:00 PM Call 203-630-6331 for an appointment between 10:30 AM and 12:30 PM.

V.I.T.A. volunteers alert taxpayers to special credits and deductions for which they may be eligible. People interested in attending the V.I.T.A. program can stop in the library and pick up a list of the necessary documents you will need to bring. Contact the Community Services Department at (203) 630-6349 if you have questions about the tax assistance program.

## Natural Solutions to Digestive Problems



Dr. David DeRosa, a licensed chiropractor serving the Wallingford community, will present the program on "Natural Solutions to Digestive Problems" at Meriden Public Library on Monday, April 25 at 6:30 pm in the Griffin Room.

The purpose of the workshop is to provide you with facts concerning digestive-related conditions and the natural treatment options available to help you make an informed decision regarding the steps you can take to restore healthy digestive function. Conditions to be discussed are: acid reflux, hiatal hernia, irritable bowel syndrome, ulcers, colitis, Crohns disease and many others. This program is free and all are welcome.

*Meriden Public Library will be **closed** Friday, April 22 to observe Good Friday. The library will be open on Saturday, April 23 from 9:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.*



## Free Computer Classes In April



Sign up for one of the free computer classes at Meriden Public Library and learn how to use a computer, Word, email, and search the internet. The class schedule is as follows:

Introduction to Word – Saturday, April 1 at 9:30 a.m.; Monday, April 4 at 6:30 p.m.

Email – Saturday, April 16 at 9:30 a.m.; Monday, April 25 at 6:30 p.m.

Basic Computers – Saturday, April 9 at 9:30 a.m.; Monday, April 18 at 6:30 p.m.

Internet Searching – Monday, April 11 at 6:30 p.m.; Saturday, April 23 at 9:30 a.m.

Class size is limited. Contact the Community Services Department at (203) 630-6349 or the Information Desk at (203) 238-2346 to reserve a seat.

## Chess Club

The Meriden Public Library Chess Club is looking for more players. The Chess Club meets the first Wednesday of the month. The next date is Wednesday, April 6 at 6:30 pm in the Friends Room. Bring your chess boards. All ages and playing levels are welcome.



## Writer's Network

The Writer's Network will meet on Tuesday, April 12 at 7:00 pm in the Griffin Room and on Wednesday, April 27 at 7:00 pm in the Friends Room.

Anyone who is serious about writing fiction or nonfiction, wants to learn the process of getting published, or needs support for writing a book proposal or query letter is welcome to attend.

If you are interested in joining the Writer's Network, contact the Community Services Department at (203) 630-6349 or email us [comsvc@hotmail.com](mailto:comsvc@hotmail.com).



## Lunchtime Book Club

The Meriden Public Library's lunchtime book club meets on Thursdays at noon in the Friends Room. Bring your lunch and enjoy the discussion.

April 21 – *Saving CeeCee Honeycut* by Beth Hoffman  
May 19 – *Swamplandia* by Karen Russell

All are welcome. The books are available in a display across from the Information Desk. Contact Laura at (203) 238-2346 to sign up.

## Book Discussion Series Concludes At Meriden Public Library

The Meriden Public Library will conclude the book discussion series organized by the Connecticut Humanities Council. The final discussion will be held on Tuesday, April 19, 2011 on the book *Bee Season* by Myla Goldberg. Marsha Bansavage is the facilitator. Books are available at the library.

## Anime Club

The Teen Anime Club at the Meriden Public Library will meet on Friday, April 8th at 2:30 pm in the Griffin Room. We will be playing anime style Name That Tune.



Afterward, we will be watching *Ghost in the Shell: Stand Alone Complex* which follows the members of Public Security Section 9, a special-operations task-force made up of former military officers and police detectives.

Snacks and drinks will be provided. This program is for teens age 13-18. Sign up is not required but if you would like to be put on our mailing list or would like more information contact Melissa at the Information Desk at (203) 238-2347 or email [mmurphy@ci.meriden.ct.us](mailto:mmurphy@ci.meriden.ct.us).

### April Movie

Saturday, April 23  
10:30 a.m.  
Griffin Room



*Tangled*

## Scrabble

Meriden Public Library hosts sessions for people who enjoy playing Scrabble. The sessions will be on Monday, April 11 and April 25 at 2:00 p.m. in the Friends Room.

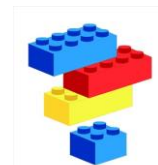
All skill levels are welcome. Scrabble boards will be provided, but people are welcome to bring their own boards. Contact the Community Services Department at (203) 630-6349 if you have any questions about the library programs



## Scrapbooking on a Shoestring

Want to scrapbook but think you can't afford to? Come to our scrapbooking session on Monday, April 11 at 5:00 p.m. in the Friends Room of Meriden Public Library. Bring your pictures, pages, and adhesive and join Kitt Dunk to learn how to shape up your scrapbook using our decorative scissors, stencils, punches, and sticker maker machine.

There will be free handouts and free demonstrations along with hands-on one-to-one help. Come join us at this monthly program where you can learn how to quickly and easily turn boxes of photos and your memories into a keepsake photo album. Please contact the Community Services Department at (203) 630-6349, email [comsvc@hotmail.com](mailto:comsvc@hotmail.com) or log onto the library's website at [www.meridenlibrary.org](http://www.meridenlibrary.org) to view the adult events calendar to reserve a table.



## Lego Club

Thursday, April 21  
3:30 – 4:30 pm  
Griffin Room

This month's theme - Boats



## Get Your Game On

Thursday, April 14  
3:00 – 4:30 p.m.  
Griffin Room

The Wii will be set up with Wii Sports and Mario Kart for friends and family to challenge each other. Board games such as Scrabble, Candyland, Apples to Apples and many others will also be available for use. All ages are welcome to attend including parents and guardians. Registration is not required.

## Held On The Homefront: German POWs In The U.S., 1943-1946

### Traveling Exhibit Tells Unknown Story of German POWs Held in Camps All Over the U.S. During WWII



*German  
POWs in  
Kansas, circa  
1944-45*

By the end of World War II some 425,000 German, Italian and Japanese prisoners of war (POWs) found themselves imprisoned in over 660 base and branch POW camps in almost all of the then-48 United States and the territory of Alaska. Millions more Axis and Allied POWs were held in other camps in Europe, the Soviet Union, Canada, Australia and Africa. While Axis and Soviet POWs were both the perpetrators as well as victims of dictatorial governments and state-sponsored violence, POW experiences on all sides embody ageless and timely themes of war and peace, justice under arms and issues regarding human rights, international reconciliation and future conflict avoidance.

The roughly 372,000 German POWs held in U.S. Army-operated camps across the United States were sent out to harvest or process crops, build roads and waterways, fell trees, roof barns, erect silos, work in light non-military industry, lay city sewers and construct tract housing, wash U.S. Army laundry and do other practical wartime tasks. With the high rate of 19th-century German immigration to America, many of those who worked with POWs spoke to them in their native tongue; some even had relatives or former neighbors among them. In the process, they formed significant, often decades-long friendships with “the enemy” and underwent considerable changes as individuals and as a group – thus fundamentally influencing postwar German values and institutions, as well as American-German relations. A number of POWs even chose to immigrate to the United States after the war.

#### Meriden Public Library Hours:

Monday - Wednesday: 9:30 a.m. to 8:30 p.m.  
Thursday – Saturday: 9:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.  
Closed Sunday

Using ten narrative panels and films about this story, TRACES’ mobile museum—a retrofitted school bus called the BUS-eum 3—will tour the Eastern Seaboard from August 2010 until April 2011, reaching schools, libraries, museums and historical societies. TRACES’ BUS driver, Irving Kellman, will tour with the exhibit.

TRACES Center for History and Culture is a Midwest/WWII history museum located in Saint Paul, MN. Each of its more than two dozen exhibits about Midwesterners’ encounters with Germans or Austrians between 1933 and 1948 forms part of a larger mosaic, a fuller image of a war that is often misunderstood or seen in clichés. At TRACES, WWII is a case study to learn from for today and future generations.

The Bus-eum will be open in front of the library

**May 2, 2011**

**10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.**

And

**4:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.**

This exhibit is FREE and all are welcome.

Contact the Community Services Department  
at (203) 630-6349 for more information.



Meriden Public Library  
105 Miller Street  
Meriden, CT 06450

Information Desk (203) 238-2346  
Circulation Desk (203) 238-2344  
Children’s Library (203) 630-6347  
Community Services/Bookmobile (203) 630-6349



Visit the Bookmobile at the Daffodil Festival  
Saturday, April 30  
10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.  
Sunday, May 1  
12:00 to 4:30 p.m.

