



St. Albans Raid

Where was the most northerly military engagement during the Civil War? Most people would likely respond with Gettysburg. No, it was on October 19, 1864, in St. Albans, VT., located in the far northwestern corner of that state. Reverend Ralph Lord Roy will be at Meriden Public Library's Griffin Room on Saturday, October 15 at 2:00 p.m. to speak on the St. Albans Raid.

Twenty-two Confederate soldiers, who had escaped from a prisoner-of-war camp into Canada, coalesced in Montreal, furtively infiltrated the small Vermont city, then robbed its banks and tried to burn it down. This surprise attack had several goals and consequences, including a controversy with the British authorities in Canada over the return of the raiders for trial in the United States.

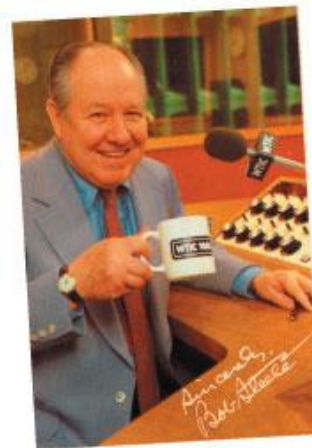
The speaker, Reverend Ralph Lord Roy of Southington, is a native of St. Albans and a retired United Methodist minister, who served as pastor in several Connecticut communities, including Meriden (1979-1994) where he was also the police chaplain for ten years. The Rev. Roy is the author of three books, writes a regular column in the *Record-Journal*, and gives "minute messages" on WJMJ, the radio station of the Archdiocese of Hartford. He was jailed twice during the civil rights initiative of the 1960s and attributes his interest in that issue in part to the involvement of Union Army.

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

- 2 What's so great about 'Citizen Kane?'; Guitarist Peter Biedermann; Preserving Family Papers and Treasures; Kickboxing Demonstration
- 3 Tuesday Night Book Club; Meriden Page Turners; Computer Classes; Writer's Network; Chess Club; Scrabble; Do you have a Kindle?
- 4 Get Your Game On; Anime Club; Lego Club; Bookmobile; Movies at the Library

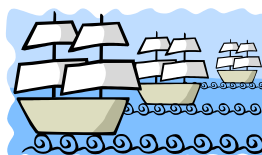
Bob Steele's Century

Radio Hall of Fame broadcaster Bob Steele was well known to millions in Southern New England as the morning voice of WTIC for half a century. Join Bob's son, Phil Steele, on Saturday, October 1 at 2:00 p.m. in the Griffin Room as he uses slides and commentary to present highlights from his father's archives.



Phil Steele has recently published the library edition of *Bob Steele's Century: 1911 – 2010*, a collection of Bob's own archive, a kind of autobiography from his own files of photos, articles about him, scripts he authored for his radio programs, jokes he wrote and jokes he stole, hundreds of letters from listeners that he held onto (and, when not flattering to him, shared with his radio audience), the wonderful cartoons he loved to draw, his diaries recording details of his personal life and the epic century into which he broadcast his unique sense of humor and disarming personality.

Information about the collection can be found at <http://bobsteele.net>. The collection will be available after the program for audience members to borrow individual volumes.



The Library will be
Closed
Monday, October 10
to celebrate
Columbus Day.

What's So Great About 'Citizen Kane?'

Film critic Richard Alleva will be presenting the second of three lectures at the Library on Monday, October 17 at 1:30 p.m. in the Griffin Room. His program, *What's so great about 'Citizen Kane?'* is cosponsored by the Castle Craig Adult Learning Center.

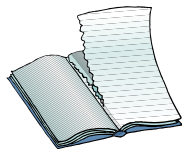


More than any other American movie, *Citizen Kane* keeps showing up in polls and critics' lists as one of the ten greatest films of all time, and often it's at the top of the list. Why? What is it that's so special about its look, story and acting that sets it apart from other good movies? We'll look at some of its most important scenes and discuss the peculiar genius of Welles and his collaborators.

Mr. Alleva's third lecture is *Stealing from Mr. Dickens* and will be held on Thursday, November 3 at 1:30 p.m. in the Griffin Room.

Richard Alleva has been the film critic for *Commonweal* magazine over the last 20 years. He has lectured widely, and his articles have been anthologized, notably by Peter Bogdanovich in *The Best American Movie Writing, 1999*. This program is free and all are welcome. Seating is limited.

Preserving Your Family Papers and Treasures



Christine McCarthy, Chief Conservator at the Yale University Library, will be presenting the program *Preserving Your Family Papers and Treasures* on Tuesday, October 11 at 6:30 p.m. in the Meriden Public Library Griffin Room. This program is cosponsored by the Meriden Historical Society.

Ms. McCarthy will discuss the basics of good preservation for personal collections of papers, books, photographs and other objects of sentimental value. We will look at the best places to store important artifacts in one's home, how to find and work with a conservator, and the best practices for individuals looking to organize, display, and protect their collections. There will be examples of file boxes, folders and plastic sleeves as well as handouts to take home for future reference and finding more information.

Guitarist and Composer Peter Biedermann

Guitarist and composer Peter Biedermann will be performing at Meriden Public Library on Saturday, October 22 at 2:00 p.m. in the Griffin Room.



Peter Biedermann, based in Morris County New Jersey, has been performing in a variety of musical formats for over 35 years. The music you will hear on that afternoon will consist of entirely original acoustic instrumental music performed on various 6, 8 (Baritone) and 12 string guitars in unique tunings accompanied by the subtle use of ambient electronics.

While acoustic guitar pioneers such as Michael Hedges, Bert Jansch, Leo Kottke and Ralph Towner are considered to be major influences on his music, many other lesser known visionaries of finger style acoustic guitar are acknowledged and referenced during his live performances. Interactive dialogue with the audience is encouraged as Peter will try his best to demystify the mystery of his unique music.

CD's will be available for sale after the performance. This program is free and all are welcome.

Kickboxing



Have you ever wondered what kickboxing was like? Come to the Meriden Public Library Griffin Room on Monday, October 3 at 5:15 p.m. to see Pam Fuschino from the City of Meriden Fire Marshal's office demonstrate a kickboxing class.

Pam started taking kickboxing classes at Valentin Karate when she quit smoking and wanted to lose weight. She found that the classes burned a lot of calories and she enjoyed the workout. Pam has been kickboxing ever since and started teaching classes at Valentin and then moved to Maximum Fitness in Wallingford.

Pam currently teaches at Best Martial Arts, 491 West Main St in Meriden. Her classes are a blend of athletic drills with martial arts to create an intense cardiovascular workout. You can burn as many as 500 calories in a one-hour class and achieve a total body workout. Beginners are encouraged to take it at their own pace and are usually surprised at how quickly they pick up the kickboxing moves. Fall is the perfect time to get in shape before the holidays are here. Come and check it out!

Tuesday Night Book Club

Meriden Public Library will continue its Tuesday Night Book Club on October 4 at 6:30 p.m. in Griffin Room A. Join facilitator Marsha Bansavage in the discussion of prominent memoirs. Marsha will discuss important elements to the story and ask thought provoking questions to deepen our reading experience. We will exchange ideas and share our thoughts and reactions to the memoirs. All readers and any level of participation are welcome.

The books in this series are:

October 4 – *Just Kids* by Patti Smith

November 8 – *Unbroken* by Laura Hillenbrand

December 6 – *Dress Your Family in Corduroy and Denim* by David Sedaris

Contact the Information Desk at (203) 238-2346 or the Community Services Department at (203) 630-6349 if you would like to register.



Meriden Page Turners

The Meriden Page Turners will be meeting this month on Thursday, October 13 at 11:00 a.m. in the Seminar Room. October's selection is *The Lace Reader* by Brunonia Barry. November's selection is *Mudbound* by Hillary Jordan. Contact Laura at the Information Desk (203) 238-2346 for more information.

Writer's Network

The Writer's Network will meet at 7:00 pm on Wednesday, October 5 and Tuesday, October 18 in Griffin Room A. 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.

Chess Club

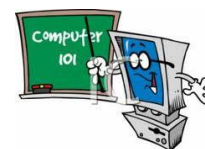
The Chess Club welcomes new players. The Chess Club meets the first Wednesday of the month. The next date is Wednesday, October 5 at 6:30 pm in the Seminar Room. Bring your chess boards. All ages and playing levels are welcome.



The library programs are free and all are welcome. Contact the Community Services Department at (203) 630-6349 or email comsvc@hotmail.com if you have questions. Visit the library's webpage at www.meridenlibrary.org to reserve a seat for a program through the library's calendar.

Computer Classes

Sign up for one of the free computer classes at the Library. The class schedule is as follows:



Resumes on Word – Saturday, October 1 at 9:30 a.m. and Monday, October 24 at 6:30 p.m. Please bring job history and education information to complete resume.

Basic Computers – Monday, October 3 at 6:30 p.m. and Saturday, October 22 at 9:30 a.m.

Job Searching on the Internet – Saturday, October 15 at 9:30 a.m. and Saturday, October 29 at 9:30 a.m.

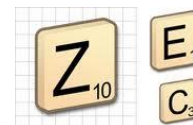
Email – Monday, October 17 at 6:30 p.m.

Computer classes in Spanish are held on Tuesday, October 4, 11, 18, and 25 at 5:30 and 6:30 p.m. Classes are also held on Saturday, October 1, 8, 15, 22, and 29 at 10:00 and 11:00 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.

Scrabble

Meriden Public Library hosts sessions for people who enjoy playing Scrabble. The sessions will be on Tuesday, October 11 and Monday, October 24 at 2:00 pm in Griffin Room A. All skill levels are welcome. Scrabble boards will be provided, but people are welcome to bring their own boards.



Do You Have a Kindle?

If so, you can now download ebooks from our library catalog. Go to our webpage, click on the MyHelp link and follow the simple instructions. Now when you browse the ebook collection, you will be able to check out books to your Kindle also. Contact the Information Desk at (203) 238-2346 if you have questions.



Get Your Game On



Get your game on at the Meriden Public Library on Thursday, October 6 from 3:00 to 4:30 in the 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.

Anime Club



The Teen Anime Club will meet on Friday, October 14 at 2:30 pm in the Griffin Room. Join us for our Halloween cosplay party. Come dressed up as your favorite anime or video game character. Afterwards we will be watching an anime about sixth grader Hiraku Shindo. One day, he finds an old bloodstained Go board in his grandfather's attic. Trapped inside the Go board is Fujiwara-no-Sai, the ghost of an ancient Go master who taught the strategically complex board game to the Emperor of Japan many centuries ago. Snacks and drinks will be provided. This program is for teens age 13-18. Sign up is not required. If you would like more information contact Melissa at mmurphy@ci.meriden.ct.us or call (203) 238-2347.

Lego Club



The next Lego Club event will be held on Thursday, October 20 from 3:00 to 4:30 in the Griffin Room. Children ages 6 through 12 are invited to bring their imagination and build on this month's theme – "Spooky Creations". Completed projects will be put on display in the library. The library will provide Legos for all children who attend. Sign up is not required for this program and late arrivals are always welcome.

Movies at the Library



Judy Moody & the Not Bummer Summer

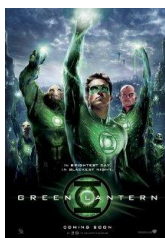


Saturday, Oct. 22
10:30 a.m.
Griffin Room

Green Lantern



Tuesday, Oct. 25
6:00 p.m.
Griffin Room



Bookmobile



The Meriden Public Library Bookmobile will be visiting the following sites in October:

- Mon., Oct. 3 – Center Congregational Nursery School 9:30 a.m. to 10:00 a.m.; Women and Families Center 10:15 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.; Village at Kensington Place 1:30 p.m. to 2:15 p.m.
- Tue., Oct. 4 – Catholic Charities 9:00 a.m. to 10:15 a.m.; Kinder Garden Learning Center 10:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.
- Wed., Oct. 5 – Easter Seals 9:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m.; Bradley Home 10:30 a.m. to 11:15 a.m.
- Thu., Oct. 6 – Kindercare 9:30 a.m. to 10:30 a.m.; The Right Place 10:45 a.m. to 11:15 a.m.; Connecticut Baptist Home 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.
- Tue., Oct. 11 – Lil Rascals 9:30 a.m. to 10:15 a.m.; Sunshine Day Care 10:30 a.m. to 10:45 a.m.
- Wed., Oct. 12 – St. John's Nursery School 10:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.
- Thu., Oct. 13 – St. John' Nursery School 10:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. and 1:00 p.m. to 1:30 p.m.
- Fri., Oct. 14 – Meriden Center 10:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.
- Tue., Oct. 18 – Meriden Y Child Care Center (Crown St.) 9:15 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.
- Wed., Oct. 19 – First Congregational Nursery School 9:30 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. and 1:00 p.m. to 1:30 p.m.
- Thu., Oct. 20 – First Congregational Nursery School 9:30 a.m. to 10:30 a.m.; Carriage House Day Care Center 10:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.
- Mon., Oct. 24 – Midstate Christian Academy 10:30 a.m. to 11:45 a.m.
- Wed., Oct. 26 – Headstart (Liberty St.) 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

Contact Us

Meriden Public Library
105 Miller Street
Meriden, CT 06450
www.meridenlibrary.org



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

If you haven't been in the library lately, come check it out! You may be surprised at all we have available for you to use for free!