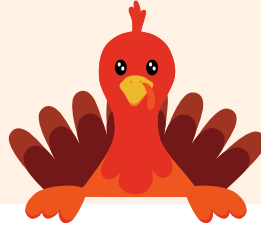




**MERIDEN
PUBLIC
LIBRARY**

November 2024

Official Newsletter of Meriden Public Library



REGULAR HOURS:

Monday: 9:30am to 5:00pm

Tuesday: 9:30am to 8:30pm

Wednesday: 9:30am to 8:30pm

Thursday: 9:30am to 8:30pm

Friday: 9:30am to 5:00pm

Saturday: 9:30am to 5:00pm

LIBRARY CLOSED:

Monday, Nov 11th & Thursday, Nov 28th

Closing at 5pm Wednesday, Nov 27th

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

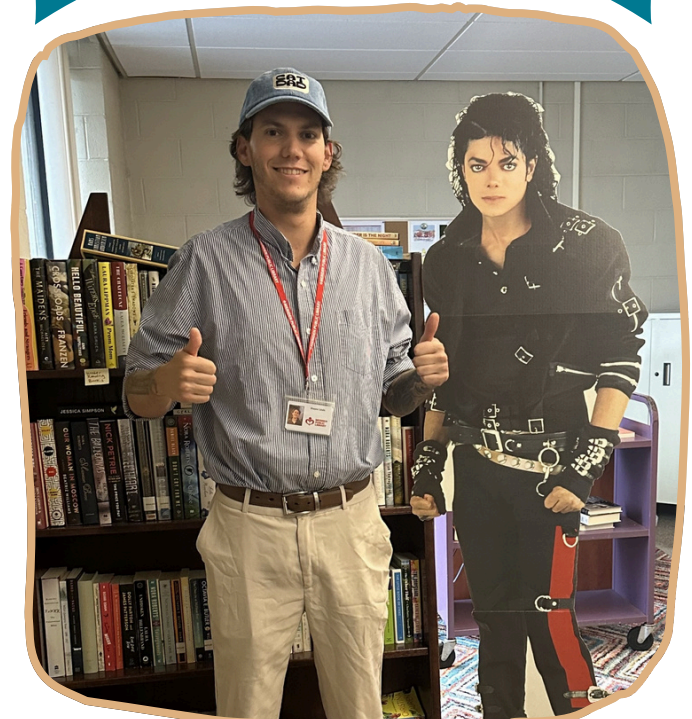
News from the Friends: **Page 2-3**

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Children's Library: **Pages 8-11**

Teens: **Page 12-13**

Featured News: **Page 14-15**



Please see page 7 to get to know Shayne Catala, one of our Community Service librarians!



@meridenlibrary

Follow us!

www.meridenlibrary.org

105 Miller Street, Meriden, CT 06450 | (203) 630-4730

The Friends of the Library NEWS

Making Possibilities Happen

Volunteers Needed!



We have volunteer opportunities available Wednesday evenings from 4-7pm and Saturday from 10am to 2pm. If you wish to join our expanding staff of fabulous volunteers, please contact Alexis Burgess at rrburgess16@gmail.com We also have space available for people who wish to become an occasional substitute.

How to Donate:



Now that the renovation/expansion is complete we are refocusing to raise funds for Library programming. It is still possible to be listed on the "Donor Plaque" for a donation of \$1,000 and we still have several rooms that can be named. Please contact Frank Ridley at Fridley@cox.net if you are interested in this opportunity. In addition, donations in any amount can be made to the Library through the Friends by either visiting our website or by sending your donation (payable to the Friends) to the Library. As you make your estate planning please consider remembering us. We are able to answer any questions you may have.

Events



"COUNTDOWN TO THE HOLIDAYS CRATE"

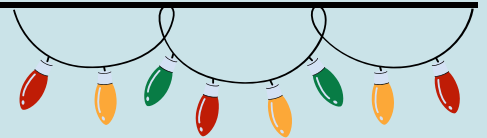
A specially created box filled with Children's Books This is a special raffle of \$1.00 per ticket— Drawing will take place November 30. A great holiday gift for the Child in your life!



Bookstore Hours:

Monday: 10am to 4pm
Tuesday: 10am to 4pm
Wednesday: 10am to 7pm
Thursday: 10am to 4pm
Friday: 10am to 4pm
Saturday: 10am to 2pm

BOOK STORE NEWS



November special

All Holiday items (Christmas, Hanukkah, Kwanza)

Books, DVDs CDs and puzzles

Buy One Get One Free

(of equal or lesser value)



holiday
CHEER

The Friends of the Library NEWS

Making Possibilities Happen

The Meriden Public Library's programs and services are generously funded by the following organizations:



The Meriden Foundation



Meriden Health
Department



Thank you!



November Event Spotlight



Reflections of my Past by Kyle O'Neil - Art Reception

Join us for a reception on the opening of the art exhibit "Reflections of my Past" by Wangunk Indigenous contemporary artist, Kyle O'Neil. Kyle is a woman of color with Down syndrome who honors and shares her family's history of the Wangunk tribe through her artwork. Kyle has been creating art since she was 14 years old. She has used a variety of media that is incorporated into her work. Fortunately, in the past 20 years, Kyle has been invited to have exhibits in many places. In 2005, she was a visiting artist in Argentina. Then, in 2012, Kyle was part of the "First World Down Syndrome Exhibit" sponsored by "Alexander's Angels" held in a gallery near the United Nations in New York City.



Tuesday, November 12th at 5pm
Location: Meeting Rooms 1+2+3



ADULTS | November Programs

Classics Clique Discussion

In this meeting, we will be discussing the October book, *Wuthering Heights*, by Emily Brontë as well as its 1939 movie adaptation.

Monday, November 4th at 3pm
Location: Meeting Room 5



Knit & Crochet Club

Join us at the Meriden Public Library for the Knit & Crochet Club! Bring your project (supplies not provided by the Meriden Public Library) and join with others who also love to knit and crochet and craft together!

Wednesdays
November 6th & 20th at 10am
Location: Adult Reading Area



Practice English Conversation

Join us to practice speaking English in a fun and comfortable environment! Some knowledge of English is recommended.

¡Únete a nosotros para practicar inglés en un ambiente divertido y cómodo! Se recomienda algún conocimiento de inglés.

Thursdays
November 7th & 21st at 3pm
Location: Meeting Room 5



Spirits of New England

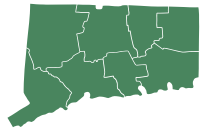
Being a New England native has allowed Dustin Pari to investigate some very interesting places rich with local history and folklore. This lecture chronicles some of his favorite New England investigations that he has been a part of. A great bit of local history colored with some chilling tales of the supernatural!



Thursday, November 7th at 6pm
Location: Meeting Rooms 1+2+3

Talk on Wangunk Indians

Join us to learn about the Wangunk with local tribal historian and Wangunk elder Gary O'Neil. The Wangunk tribe has been in Connecticut for thousands of years. Their tribal lands included present day Middletown, Portland, Haddam and East Hampton. By the end of the 18th century, the Wangunk were forced to leave Middletown and their surrounding lands due to colonization.



Tuesday, November 12th at 6pm
Location: Meeting Rooms 1+2+3

Monthly Adult Craft Night - Autumnal Butterfly Wreath

Join us to create a fall-themed butterfly wreath to add to your autumnal decor! All supplies will be provided.

Tuesday, November 12th at 6:30pm
Location: Meeting Room 6

ADULTS | November Programs

What's Next? Book Club

The Five People You Meet in Heaven by Mitch Albom - One by one, from childhood to soldier to old age, Eddie's five people revisit their connections to him on earth, illuminating the mysteries of his "meaningless" life, and revealing the haunting secret behind the eternal question: "Why was I here?"

Wednesday, November 13th at 6:30pm
Location: Meeting Room 5

Art of the Book



Boring books be banished! Calligrapher Debby Reelitz will take us on a journey exploring creative art books, and then we will be making two book structures of our own. Let's break the rules about what books should look like!

Saturday, November 16th at 10:30am
Location: Meeting Room 6

Tech Topics: Getting the Most Out of Your Phone



In this session, you will understand the main differences between websites and apps, how to navigate and customize phone security settings, as well as tips to save memory and battery life on your phone.

Monday, November 18th at 3pm
Location: Meeting Room 5

Booktok Bookclub

Join us for BookTok Book Club where we discuss books that have trended on social media platforms including TikTok and Instagram. **November Book: *Anxious People* by Fredrik Backman**

Wednesday, November 20th at 6:30pm
Location: Meeting Room 5



Cinema Classics

Dinner at Eight: 1933 · Comedy/Romance · 1h 51m The Kaufman-Ferber Broadway hit makes for a trenchant character study of a cross-section of elegant New York society types invited to a swank dinner party where the menu includes scandal, suicide, adultery, business chicanery and romance.

Thursday, November 21st at 5:30pm
Location: Meeting Rooms 1+2+3

Author and Medium Sydney Sherman presents "Understanding Your Senses"

This popular presentation focuses on the many ways participants can learn to use their senses, i.e. smell, hearing, sight, and touch, to connect with their loved ones. Sydney will give everyone step-by-step instructions and demonstrations for each sense. This program will include time for Q&A.

Saturday, November 23rd at 1pm
Location: Meeting Room 6



ADULTS | November Programs

Classics Clique Movie



In this meeting, we will be watching the movie **To Have and Have Not** (1944) based on November's book pick *To Have and Have Not* by Ernest Hemingway.

Tuesday, November 26th at 5:30pm
Location: Meeting Rooms 1+2+3

Tapping Into the Past: Tavern Life in Early Connecticut

Taverns in early Connecticut were more than just a place to drink. Travelers and locals alike saw taverns as a place to be entertained, spread news and gossip, have a good meal, and get a night's lodging. Learn about how taverns were an essential part of every Connecticut town.

Tuesday, November 26th at 6pm
Location: Meeting Room 6



BOOK FAIR

READ LOCAL!



MERIDEN
PUBLIC
LIBRARY

local author

BOOK FAIR



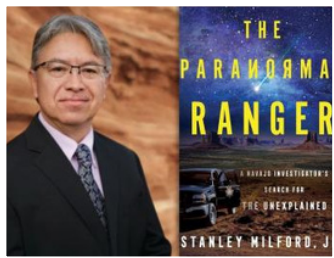
Join Us!

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 30
1PM TO 4PM

Connect with local authors, learn about new titles, and purchase signed copies of books.

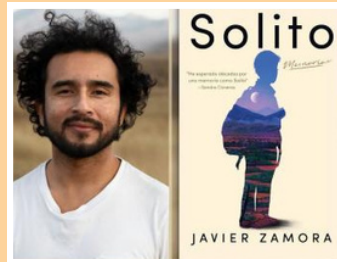
ADULTS | Virtual Author Talks & Meet the Staff

November Authors



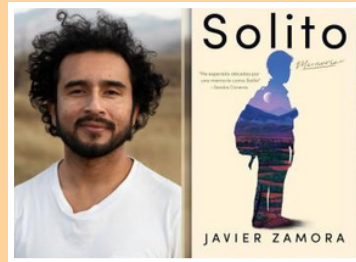
A Navajo Investigator's Search for the Unexplained: In Conversation w/ Stanley Milford, Jr.

Thurs, Nov 7th
7pm



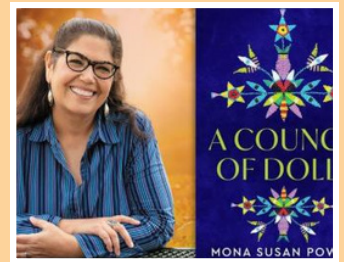
Sobre la migración infantil desde Centroamérica-- En conversación con Javier Zamora

Sat, Nov 9th
2pm



On Childhood Migration from Central America--In Conversation with Javier Zamora

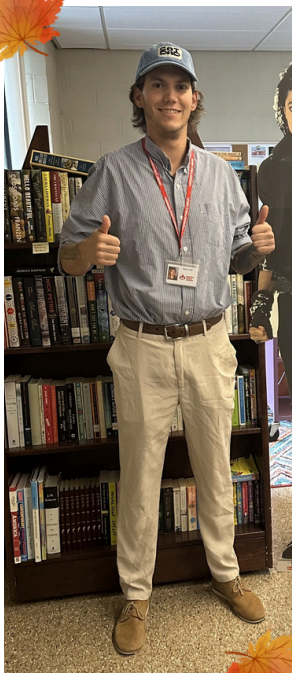
Thurs, Nov 14th
4pm



Native Rights and Culture in Fiction--A Conversation with Mona Susan Power

Weds, Nov. 20th
7pm

Meet the Staff



Shayne Catala is a **Community Service Librarian** and has worked at Meriden Public Library for 2 years.

If he couldn't be a librarian he would be a National Park Ranger.

His favorite TV shows are *Twin Peaks*, *Cowboy Bebop*, *Archer*, and *the Sopranos*.

The two movies he could watch over and over are *There Will Be Blood* and *Star Wars*.

A fun fact about him is that he ran the Paris marathon.

His favorite authors are Cormac McCarthy, Ernest Hemmingway, Kim Stanley Robinson, and George R. R. Martin.

Famous birthday twin: Amerigo Vespucci (March 9th)

CHILDREN | November Programs

NOTE: Registration for all programs open 4 weeks before the program date.

Dino-vember Hunt November 1st through November 30th All Ages | Drop-In



Dinosaurs are on the loose in our children's department. Can you help us spot them all and save the library before it's too late? When you spot the dinosaurs do not capture them. Let the children's staff know once you have spotted all eight for a special prize. Stop by the Children's Information Desk to pick up your dino identification sheet this month.

Location: Tomie dePaola Children's Library

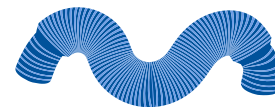
Bebés Activos Bilingual Playgroup Fridays 10am-12pm for Ages 0-5 November 1st, 8th, 15th, & 22nd Registration Required

Join us for a weekly bilingual playgroup! Children ages 0-5 years, their parents, grandparents, and caregivers get together to participate in activities designed to teach early literacy skills and enhance school readiness and success. Please bring a snack and juice or water for your child and attend to your child at all times. *This program is generously funded by Liberty Bank.*

Location: Children's Storytime Room



Sensory Playtime



1st and 3rd Tuesday of every month
November 5th & 19th from 5pm to 6:30pm
Ages 0-11 | Registration Required

Join us for a sensory-friendly playtime where children and caregivers can interact with several stations of fun activities while socializing. Registration closes one week before an event. *Proudly partnered with Social Sabby.*

Location: Children's Room & Community Room

STEAM Stories

1st Thursday of every month
November 7th at 6pm
Ages 6-11 | Registration Required

Join us monthly for science and art based stories and a fun STEAM related activity. Older siblings are welcome to join in.

Location: Children's Storytime Room

STEAM Twirligig Paper Spinners

Saturday, November 9th 10am-12pm
All Ages | Registration Requested

Stop by the children's department to make a beautiful twirligig paper spinner. Children will use a wooden stick, paper strips, and glue to create a unique craft that uses centripetal forces to spin. All families are welcome though some younger patrons may require parental assistance to make this craft.

Location: Children's Project Room

CHILDREN | November Programs

Messy Makers: Magnet Painting

Once a month on Tuesday at 10:30am

November 12th

Ages 2-5 | Registration Required

Come get messy with us! Each month we will try a new art technique! We'll provide aprons but please come in clothes you don't mind getting messy!

Location: Children's Project Room



Flying Turkey

Wednesday, November 20th at 6pm

Ages 8-11 | Registration Required

Help your turkey escape the farm before they become Thanksgiving dinner! Using LEGO and rubber bands to build a catapult to help your turkey fly over the farmyard fence.

Location: Children's Storytime Room

Family Craft Night: Dinosaurs

Once a month on Tuesday at 6pm

November 21st

All Ages | Registration Required

Join us for a monthly family craft night that is sure to be a grand time. Each month is a different theme. Several craft stations will be available as well as fun themed music. All families are welcome though some crafts may need parental assistance.

Location: Meeting Room 6

Nutmeg Newts:

Tumble by Celia Pérez

4th Tuesday of every month at 6pm

November 26th

All Ages | Registration Required

Join us for our monthly book club the Nutmeg Newts! This book club is for children with a 4th through 6th grade reading level. Read the book on your own and then join us at the library for a fun discussion and related activity. Stop by the children's department to borrow a copy of this month's pick.

Location: Children's Storytime Room

STEAM Rubber Band Rocket Racer

Friday, November 29th 12pm-3pm

Ages 5-11 | Registration Requested

3...2...1...Blast off into outer space with your very own rubber band rocket racer! Stop by to build your rocket and test it by letting it fly! Registration is requested. The activity is best suited to children 5-years-old and up.

Location: Meeting Room 6

Drop-In DIY Snow Globe

Saturday, November 30th 10am-12pm

Ages 5-11 | Registration Requested

Let's get festive! Stop in to make your very own dry snow globe to celebrate the upcoming wintery season. Children will have the chance to fill a plastic snow globe with fake snow and glue small decorations inside, while supplies last. This program is best suited for children 5-years-old and older with siblings welcome.

Location: Meeting Room 6



CHILDREN | November Programs



OUR READING CLUB FOR KIDS AGES 3-11 IS BACK AND IT'S BETTER THAN EVER!

Read, read, read! Every visit, your child will be eligible for a prize token for our Reading Gumball Machine when they read a certain number of books. This school year, we added golden tickets into the prizes. If they receive a prize capsule with a golden ticket, they get to pick a prize out of our treasure chest. *The program concludes at the end of the school year.*

Choose the Program that best fits your child's reading level.

Read to Me: Ages 3 and up. Your child does not read on their own yet or may know some words. Still requires a grownup to understand a story. Read 10 picture books, with a grownup, to earn a prize token.

Early Readers: Your child is reading sentences, paragraphs, or short chapters with some help from a grownup. Read 4 books on your own, or with some help from a grownup, to earn a prize token.

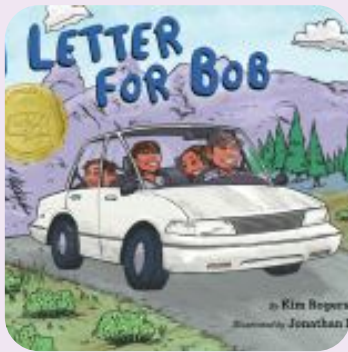
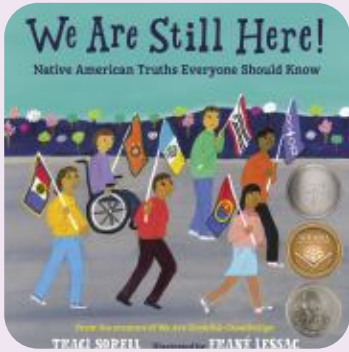
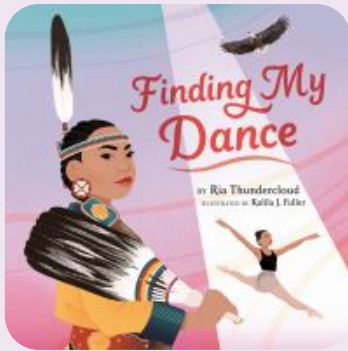
Independent Reader: Your child can read for long periods of time with little or no help from a grownup. They can finish a chapter book and understand the story. Read 1 chapter book to earn a prize token.

Track your progress online by registering your child on meridenlibrary.beanstack.com and choosing the program that is the best fit for your child or ask one of our children's staff for a paper tracker.

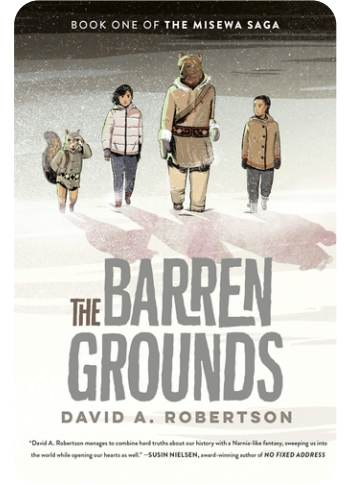


CHILDREN | November Programs

Indigenous Picture Books



Indigenous Chapter Books



TEENS | November Programs

Volunteer Opportunities

Do you still need 20 hours of community service required for high school graduation?

The Meriden Public Library Teen Room provides volunteer opportunities to seniors looking to complete this graduation requirement. Tasks include shelving books, program preparation, joining the teen advisory board and ensuring books are in alphabetical order.

Please reach out to our Teen Librarian, Paige, at pgardner@meridenc.t.gov to schedule volunteer hours.

Teen Advisory Board

Tuesday, November 5th at 5pm

Join the monthly Teen Advisory Board meeting to make sure your voice is heard! Share your ideas and opinions on how to improve your section of the library. Attendees will receive one hour of community service.

Location: Teen Room

Rainbow Roundtable

Tuesday, November 5th at 6pm



The Rainbow Roundtable is a LGBTQIA+ oriented club where we talk about all things LGBTQIA+ related. Hang out in a welcoming environment with like-minded folks.

Location: Teen Room

Teen Art Club: Color Matching

Thursday, November 7th at 3pm
Registration Required



Join librarian Paige to learn how to apply color in your art. This session challenges you match the colors of a random magazine page.

Location: Meeting Room 6

YA Yabbies

Friday, November 8th at 3:30pm

Join our discussion of fantasy mystery 'Elatsoe' by Darcie Little Badger. In an America shaped by magic, monsters and knowledge, Elatsoe pries into her cousin's murder.

Location: Teen Room

TEENS | November Programs

Mario Kart 8 Tourney

Saturday, November 9th at 2pm

Y'all claim to be the best at Mario Kart. Prove it to earn bragging rights and claim a prize.

Location: Teen Room

Money 101: Student Loans

Tuesday, November 12th at 6pm

Learn important information about student loans. Like how to apply for them, how interest and deferment works, and different repayment options.

Location: Teen Room

Queer Quetzals

Thursday, November 14th at 3:30pm

Join our discussion of mythology retelling, 'A Snake Falls to Earth' by Darcie Little Badger. After a catastrophic event and strange sickness, Nina and Oli, kids from different worlds, are driven together.

Location: Teen Room

Teen Movie Matinee

Saturdays, November 16th & 30th from 1pm

Enjoy some popcorn while watching *The World is Not Enough* and *Die Another Day*.

Location: Teen Room

Graphic Godzilla

Tuesday, November 19th at 6pm

Join our discussion of **Watership Down** by James Sturm. This adaptation stays true to the classic tale of survival, courage and friendship that has been told for more than 50 years.

Location: Teen Room

Repurpose: Eraser Printmaking

Wednesday, November 21st at 3:30pm

Using printmaking techniques, teens will carve simple designs into pink erasers.

Location: Teen Room

Teen Vent Session

Friday, November 22nd at 3:30pm



Let your frustrations out over snacks and soda so you can start your weekend fresh!

Location: Teen Room

Manga Club

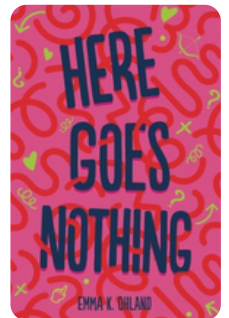
Tuesday, November 26th at 6pm



Do you love manga? Join the manga club to talk about your favorites, watch anime, meet fellow enthusiasts and work on fun projects!

Location: Teen Room

NOVEMBER RELEASES



FEATURED NEWS



We wish to thank those who have made a donation to Library programming, our Literary Libations event or the Holocaust fund since our last update:

American Clock and Watch Museum

Ann & Stephen Adamczyk Jr.

Ann E. Boylan

Barbara & Lawrence Kendzior

Bruce & Sue Burchsted

Ceneviva Law Firm, LLC

Daniel L. Metz

East Side Veterinary Clinic, LLC

Gary M. Dewey

Gerard & Joan Dion

Hilda E. Santiago

Jack & Barbara Brooks

James Lamoureux

Marian Amodeo

Mark D. Benigni

Mark Twain House and Museum

Martin & Alisa Piech

Mount Hebron Baptist Church

Mule Security & Electric, Inc.

Patsy & Joan Papandrea

Prentis Printing Solutions. LLC

Rebecca Williams

Richard Towne

Sally Kamerbeek

Sari & Dale Molesky

Sherwin & Ruth Borsuk

Sheryl Clay

Sue Hanson & Eric Gawlak

Teddy's Stores

The Carousel Museum

The Zoo in Forest Park

Thomas E. Bruenn

FEATURED NEWS



**Happy 40th Anniversary
to the Friends of the
Meriden Public Library**





SAVE THE DATE

The Friends of The Meriden Public Library Presents
LITERARY LIBATIONS
Sipping for a Cause
Friday, February 28th, 2025
6pm to 9pm
at the Meriden Public Library

Tickets will be on sale December 2nd, 2024,
in the Friends Bookstore at the Meriden Public Library.

Wine, craft beer, and spirits tasting.
Refreshments, music, and raffles.





Friends of the Meriden Public Library

Membership / Renewal Application

NAME (please print): _____

Additional Names (list others in household covered by this membership):

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ ZIP code: _____

Home Phone: _____ Work Phone: _____

E-mail: _____ Cell Phone: _____

\$100.00 (or more) - CORPORATE

\$100.00 (or more) - BENEFACTOR

\$40.00 - PATRON

\$10.00 - BASIC

I WISH TO DONATE TO THE WORLD WAR II HOLOCAUST FUND:

AMOUNT: _____

I WISH TO DONATE TO LIBRARY PROGRAMMING:

AMOUNT: _____

I WISH TO MAKE AN ADDITIONAL DONATION:

AMOUNT: _____

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Indicate areas of interest - Check as many areas as you desire

_____ Library Advocacy

_____ Book Sorting

_____ Internet Sales

_____ Newsletter

_____ Membership

_____ Bookstore

_____ Any Area Where Needed

Please make checks payable to: Friends of the Library (FOTL)

Return to: Friends of the Meriden Public Library, 105 Miller Street, Meriden, CT 06450

In order to maximize the effect of your membership funds, we will not be providing membership cards; your cancelled check will be your proof of membership.

Thank you!