



# Silas Bronson Library

## BOOKS AND HAPPENINGS

The Newsletter of Waterbury's Public Library

SPRING 2025

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### VITA FREE TAX PREP

The VITA Tax Prep program is being held at the library on Saturdays by appointment only. IRS-trained volunteers are available to prepare tax returns for individuals who made \$68,000 or less, persons with disabilities, and limited English speaking taxpayers who need assistance in preparing their tax returns. To schedule an appointment, call 211, listen to the message, then press 3, and then 6.



### NATIONAL LIBRARY WEEK

Stop by the library during the week of April 6-12 to help us celebrate National Library Week! We'll have some fun activities, including a library scavenger hunt and raffle prizes. This year's theme is "Drawn to the Library."



### HOME DELIVERY SERVICE

If you are a Waterbury resident who is homebound or otherwise unable to visit the library in person, we can bring the library to your home. We now have a home delivery service! You must be a Waterbury resident and have a current, active library card to apply. Applications are available online or can be mailed to you. Contact us at 203-574-8225 or email us at [bronsonlibrary@waterburyct.org](mailto:bronsonlibrary@waterburyct.org) to request an application.



### EXHIBITS

Each month we will feature different local artists in our first floor exhibit spaces. We will also have a rotating exhibit of children's artwork on the second floor in the KidZone. Exhibits are open whenever the library is open.

**March:** The NVCC Art Department will exhibit work by their students.

**April:** Sue Healy is a painter and illustrator who has won local and national art awards.

**May:** Empress Arce is a visual and audible artist in the mediums of spoken word, painting, and filmmaking.



Sue Healy



Empress Arce



[bronsonlibrary@waterburyct.org](mailto:bronsonlibrary@waterburyct.org)

203-574-8200

[bronsonlibrary.org](http://bronsonlibrary.org)

# NEWS FROM THE FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY



## Join the Friends

The Friends of the Silas Bronson Library is a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization dedicated to supporting the mission and programs of the Silas Bronson Library. Founded in 1974, the Friends is run by a small board of volunteers who organize fundraising events to support the library's programs and services.

New members are welcome to join at any time! If you are interested, please come to one of our meetings or contact us at [silasbronsonfriends@gmail.com](mailto:silasbronsonfriends@gmail.com)

## Monthly Meeting of the Friends

Second Tuesday of the month, 6 p.m.

March 11, April 8, May 13

*Hybrid: Zoom & Auditorium, Silas Bronson Library*

Open to all members of the Friends. Come in person, or join via Zoom. Register for Zoom participation at [bronsonlibrary.org/programs](http://bronsonlibrary.org/programs)

## Book Donations

If you would like a receipt for your donation of gently used books, please bring them to the library during our monthly meeting.

## Membership Fees

Members of the Friends receive this newsletter in the mail. Membership rates start at \$15/year for students and seniors; \$25/year for individuals; \$50/year for patrons; and \$100/year for corporate memberships. To join, please send a check payable to the Friends of the Silas Bronson Library, P.O. Box 2853, Waterbury, CT 06723 and indicate that it is for a new membership.

## Readers Garden Book Store

The Friends of the Library book store is located on the first floor of the library. Purchases can be made using cash, credit card, or check at the library's front desk.

### Book Store Pricing

Hardcover: \$1.00	CD: 50¢
Paperback: 50¢	VHS: 25¢
Audiobooks: \$3.00	Children's books:
DVD: \$1.00	25¢ (paperback)
	50¢ (hardcover)



# ONLINE RESOURCES

Visit our online resources at [bronsonlibrary.org/digital](http://bronsonlibrary.org/digital)

## ACORN APP

Access your library account, use the app instead of your library card, and search our catalog, all on your phone. Download the Acorn Catalog, then log in with your library barcode number and password.



## AMERICA'S HISTORICAL NEWSPAPERS

Search or browse the *Waterbury American* from 1844 to 1865, one of more than 100 historical newspapers in this database.



## ANCESTRY LIBRARY EDITION

Gain free access to billions of historical documents, including census records and immigration records, to help you find out more about your family history.



## AUTO REPAIR SOURCE

Accurate, authoritative, and up-to-date service and repair information for thousands of domestic and imported vehicles.



## BLACK LIFE IN AMERICA

Search or browse the *Waterbury American* from 1866 to 1877, one of thousands of newspapers in this database.



## LIBBY

The Libby app connects you to our OverDrive collection of ebooks, audiobooks, and magazines on your smartphone or tablet.



## MANGO

Learn a new language with Mango, which has dozens of languages to choose from.



## MUSEUM PASS PROGRAM

Our museum passes give you free or reduced price admission to more than a dozen museums, zoos, and science centers.



## NEWSBANK

Use NewsBank to search for news articles from more than 10,000 sources, or browse more than 30 popular magazines.



## NORTHSTAR DIGITAL LITERACY

Build your computer skills and confidence in using new technology for work or daily life.



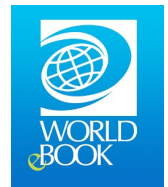
## REPUBLICAN-AMERICAN

Search for articles published in the *Republican-American* from 2004 to the present.



## WORLD BOOK

The World Book is more than just an encyclopedia! Discover activities, ebooks, theater, science, social studies, and more.



## UNIVERSAL CLASS

Brush up your skills with hundreds of free online courses to help you learn new skills or prepare for tests.



Learn Something NEW

Access Universal Class through the Libby app or on a browser using the link on our website.

# PROGRAMS FOR ADULTS

## AFTERNOON COMPUTER CLASSES

Tuesdays, 1:30 p.m.

*Computer Classroom*

Our librarians will teach you what you need to know about using computers and smartphones.



March 11: Mouse & Keyboard Skills

March 18: Working in Windows

March 25: Internet Basics

April 1: Opening, Closing, Saving, Printing, Downloading

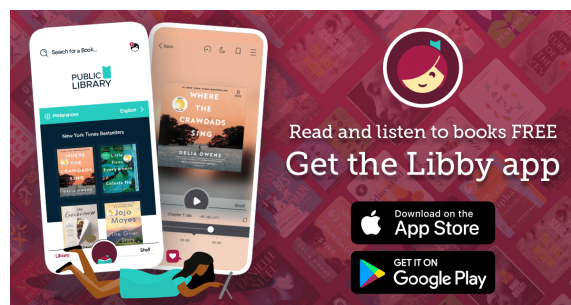
April 8: MS Word

April 22: File Explorer

May 6: Internet Searching

May 13: Editing Pictures

May 20: Email Basics



Use your library card number with the Libby app for free ebooks and audiobooks.

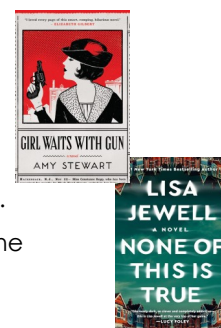
## MYSTERY BOOK CLUB

Tuesdays, March 4, May 13, 1 p.m.

*Bunker Hill Branch Library*

Join us for a discussion every other month at the Bunker Hill Branch Library.

Copies of the books are available at the main library and the branch library.



March 4: *Girl Waits with Gun* by Amy Stewart

May 13: *None of This is True* by Lisa Jewell

## EVENING COMPUTER CLASSES

Wednesdays, 6:30 p.m.

*Computer Classroom*

Brush up on the computer skills you need for work.



March 19: Word

April 2: PowerPoint

April 23: Publisher

May 7: Excel

May 21: Keyboard Shortcuts, Tips, Tricks,  
and Q&A Session

## BRASS BOOK CLUB

Thursdays, March 27, April 24, May 22, 12:30 p.m.

*Zoom*

Seniors 60+ are invited to join us for a monthly book discussion. Books are available to borrow from the library.

March 27: *The Last Animal* by Ramona Ausubel

April 24: *Delta Wedding* by Eudora Welty

May 22: *Wish You Were Here* by Jodi Picoult

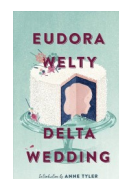
## COMPUTER ONE-ON-ONE

*By appointment*

Can't attend our Computer Classes? Need help with a different computer problem? Call us at 203-574-8225 to schedule a one-on-one computer lesson at a time that works for you!

*Advance registration required. Sign up at*

*bronsonlibrary.org/programs or call us at 203-574-8225.*





# PROGRAMS FOR ADULTS

## BUNKER BOOKIES

Thursdays, March 13, April 10, May 8, 1:30 p.m.

Bunker Hill Branch Library

Come join our in person book club at the Bunker Hill Branch! Copies of the books are available to borrow from the main library and the branch library.

March 13: *The Dutch House* by Ann Patchett

April 10: *The Paris Library* by Janet Skeslien Charles

May 8: *The Thirteenth Tale* by Dianne Setterfield



## SISTERS TO SISTERS BOOK CLUB

Thursdays, March 6, April 3, May 1, 6 p.m.

Auditorium

New members welcome. Copies of the books are available to borrow from the library.



March 6: *Baby Brother's Blues* by Pearl Cleage

April 3: *The Sweetness of Water* by Nathan Harris

May 1: *People of the Book* by Geraldine Brooks



## PHILIP V. BENEVENTO CULTURAL PROGRAM FOR ADULTS



### HISTORICAL FENCING & SWORDFIGHTS

Saturday, March 8, 1 p.m.

Main Reading Room

Swords and daggers and poleaxes, oh my! Watch as our friends from Laurel City Historical Fencing explain how the past can be fun in the present. Step into the world of knights and armor to get a glimpse of how weapons were used, learn weapon techniques, and watch how to properly put armor on a knight. Just when you think that this stuff is relegated to the past and that you can't be a knight in shining armor today, we'll discuss how to practice HEMA, or Historical European Martial Arts.

The Philip V. Benevento Fund for Cultural Programs for Adults at the Silas Bronson Library was established in 2016 in honor of Waterbury's City Historian and former Silas Bronson Library Board member Philip V. Benevento. The fund continues to grow through individual donations made to the Friends of the Silas Bronson Library.

# PROGRAMS FOR ADULTS

## COLORING & CONVERSATIONS CLUB

Fridays, March 28, April 25, May 30, 2:30 p.m.

*Auditorium*

Meet and chat during our Coloring and Conversation Club. Whether you are looking to relax and de-stress, practice your English conversation skills, or meet new people, you are welcome to join us! Coloring pages and supplies will be provided.



## YOGA IN THE LIBRARY

Saturdays, March 15 & 29,  
April 12 & 26, May 10, 10 a.m.

*Auditorium*

Experience the benefits of movement, breath, and connection in our free, all-levels yoga classes. Led by Yoga in Our City certified instructors, our sessions provide a welcoming space for relaxation, resilience, and community care. Open to all—no experience needed!



## PRESSED FLOWER LANTERNS

Friday, March 21, 3 p.m.

*Auditorium*

Make your own pressed flower lantern, which can be used as a table decoration or birthday gift. All materials will be provided.



## MINDFULNESS & MEDITATION

Saturday, April 5, 1:30 p.m.

*Main Reading Room*

Have you ever wondered what mindfulness is? Did you know it can decrease stress, increase joy, and enhance overall well-being? Join us for this introductory session designed for both newcomers and those looking to deepen their understanding of mindfulness.



## LIBRARY TOUR

Monday, April 7, 12 p.m.

Friday, April 11, 3:30 p.m.

*Meet in Front Lobby*

Celebrate National Library Week with Director Raechel Guest who will take you on a special tour of the library. Learn about our collections, services, and history.



## WOVEN COASTER CRAFT

Thursday, April 24, 3 p.m.

*Auditorium*

Make your own woven coaster. No weaving skills needed. All supplies provided.



## NATIVE PLANT WORKSHOP

Saturday, May 3, 1:30 p.m.

*Auditorium*

Get your hands dirty and make a mini garden in a pot with Bent of the River Audubon, then take your mini garden home with you. Learn about the value of native plants and why you should plant them. All supplies will be provided.



## BEADED JEWELRY WORKSHOP

Friday, May 9, 3 p.m.

*Auditorium*

Come join our informal beading group. Make something new to wear this summer or give as a gift, or bring an item to repair and wear. All supplies will be provided.



# PROGRAMS FOR ADULTS

## DOWNTOWN WALKING TOUR

Saturday, May 10, 11 a.m.

Wednesday, May 28, 6:30 p.m.

Meet in Front Lobby

Library Director and historian Raechel

Guest will take you on a one-hour tour of downtown Waterbury's historic architecture.

Tour will be held rain or shine.

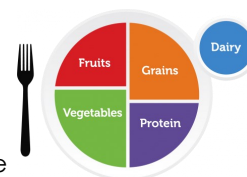


## HUSKY NUTRITION

Thursday, May 29, 7 p.m.

Zoom

Learn how you can make delicious and nutritious food for a reasonable cost at home. A dietitian from UConn Health will teach you how to use MyPlate as a guide for eating more balanced meals and will demonstrate a healthy recipe.



## HAND-PAINTED TOTE BAG CRAFT

Friday, May 16, 3 p.m.

Auditorium

Paint and design your own tote bag. All supplies provided.



Advance registration required. Sign up at [bronsonlibrary.org/programs](https://bronsonlibrary.org/programs) or call us at 203-574-8225.

## NATIONAL LIBRARY WEEK TRIVIA QUIZ

National Library Week is being celebrated this year on April 6 through April 12. Join in the fun with this special Silas Bronson Library Trivia Quiz and be sure to stop by the library for more fun activities during National Library Week.

1. A statue of which Founding Father of the United States is displayed in front of the library?

- A. Thomas Jefferson
- B. George Washington
- C. Benjamin Franklin
- D. Alexander Hamilton

2. Books about real facts and events can be found in which section of the library?

- A. DVDs
- B. Nonfiction
- C. Romance
- D. Fantasy

3. The library has magazines that you can check out.

- A. True
- B. False

4. Which musical instrument is in the Main Reading Room?

- A. Drums
- B. Xylophone
- C. Flute
- D. Piano

5. What app can you use to borrow ebooks and audiobooks?

- A. Acorn
- B. Libby
- C. Mango
- D. Instagram

6. How many newspaper titles are available on microfilm at the library?

- A. 6
- B. 9
- C. 3
- D. 1

7. What year did the Silas Bronson Library open?

- A. 1900
- B. 1857
- C. 1870
- D. 1932

8. A sculpture of which book character is in the Children's Room?

- A. Winnie the Pooh
- B. Clifford
- C. Pinocchio
- D. Pete the Cat

9. What year did the Bunker Hill Branch open?

- A. 1973
- B. 1956
- C. 1945
- D. 1987

10. The library offers programs and activities for everyone.

- A. True
- B. False

Answers: 1 C, 2 B, 3 A, 4 D, 5 B, 6 A, 7 C, 8 C, 9 B, 10 A.

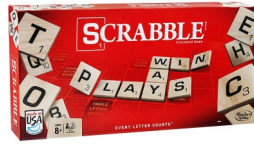
# GEEKDOM PROGRAMS

## SCRABBLE MEETUP

Mondays, March 10, April 14,  
May 12, 2:30 p.m.

Main Reading Room

Come play Scrabble at the library! Bring a friend, or meet new friends. We'll have all the supplies you need.



## CHESS MEETUP

Tuesdays, March 4 & 18,  
April 1, 15, & 29,  
May 13 & 27, 6 p.m.

Auditorium

For all skill levels. Play against our chess master, learn new techniques or just come to have fun.



## ANIME CLUB

Wednesdays, March 5 & 19,  
April 2 & 16, May 14 & 28, 4:30 p.m.

Auditorium

Join us for anime, trivia, and snacks.



## DND 101

Wednesdays, March 12 & 26,  
April 9 & 23, May 7 & 21, 6 p.m.

Auditorium

Learn the basics of DND 5th Edition through a tutorial campaign.



## CHESS ON ZOOM

Thursdays, March 6 & 20, April 3 & 17,  
May 1, 15, & 29, 4:30 p.m.

Zoom

Learn to play chess with our instructor, play in groups or paired up, discuss strategy and tactics. Advance registration is required.

Sign up at [bronsonlibrary.org/geekdom](https://bronsonlibrary.org/geekdom)



## NOT YOUR PARENTS' BOARD GAMES

Saturdays, March 15, April 12, 2:30 p.m.

Auditorium

Discover a whole new world of board games beyond traditional choices and see what all the fun is about!



# TEEN/YOUNG ADULT PROGRAMS



## 50TH ANNUAL POETRY CONTEST

Submissions Due March 30, 2025

Our annual Poetry Contest is open to all Waterbury students from Kindergarten through Grade 12.

All poems must be original pieces.  
One per student.

Complete rules and entry forms are online at [bronsonlibrary.org/teenprograms](https://bronsonlibrary.org/teenprograms) and at the library.

## TEEN GAME NIGHT

Tuesdays, March 11 & 25, April 8 & 22,  
May 6 & 20, 6 p.m.

Teen Room

Relax at the library with our game night for teens. Bring a friend or make new friends!



## BE MONEY SMART

Tuesday, April 15, 6 p.m.

Teen Room

Webster Bank's community banker, Sally Geigel, will teach teens about banking, saving, and investing for their future.





# CHILDREN'S PROGRAMS

## WEEKLY PROGRAMS

### BABIES AND BOOKS

Tuesdays, 10 a.m.

*Picture Book Room*

Enjoy stories, lullabies, nursery rhymes, and finger plays. Works best with one child per caregiver. For ages 24 months and younger.



### WONDERFUL WEDNESDAY STORIES

Wednesdays, 10 a.m.

*Children's Room*

Come listen to wonderful stories that will transport you to far away places. For ages 2-5.

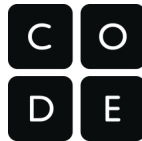


### CODING CLUB

Wednesdays, 3:30 p.m.

*Children's Room*

Have fun learning how to code with one of our librarians. For ages 6-11. Younger children may need adult assistance.



### LITTLE MOVERS STORYTIME

Thursdays, 10 a.m.

*Picture Book Room*

Join us for interactive stories, rhymes, fables and songs. For ages 2-4.



### PAJAMA STORY TIME WITH MISS JULIE

Thursdays, 5 p.m.

*Children's Room*

Wear your PJs and your dancing shoes if you so choose. We'll have stories, music, and jamming for kids age 3-5.



### WHERE IN THE LIBRARY IS SILAS THE CAT?

Wednesdays, March 19, April 16, May 14, all day  
*KidZone*

Use clues provided by our librarians to find where Silas the Cat, our stuffed animal, is hiding. When you find him, take a photo to show the librarian and win a prize! For ages 2+



### SATURDAY MORNING MOVIE

Saturdays, March 1, April 5, May 3, 11:30 a.m.

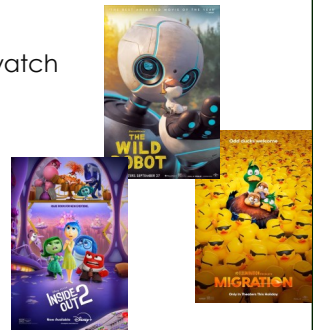
*Children's Room*

Bring the kids to the library to watch a fun children's movie.

March 1: *The Wild Robot*

April 5: *Migration*

May 3: *Inside Out 2*



### ST. PATRICK'S DAY CRAFT

Monday, March 17, 10 a.m. - 4 p.m.

*Children's Room*

Celebrate the legend of St. Patrick with a DIY craft, glamorize your lucky clover leaf and more. For ages 3-10.



### BEADIE CRITTER CRAFT NIGHT

Tuesday, March 25, 5 p.m.

*Children's Room*

Make beadie critters using beads, yarn, and other supplies. For ages 6-11.



# CHILDREN'S PROGRAMS

## PAGES WITH POPS

Saturday, March 29, 10 a.m. - 12 p.m.

Children's Room

If you're a father or a father-figure, bring the kids to the library for interactive stories, fun literacy games, and free book giveaways.

Pages with Pops is a community-driven literacy event designed to engage fathers in supporting their children's reading journeys. Pages with Pops aims to foster stronger relationships between fathers and their children through the power of books. Sponsored by United Way of Greater Waterbury.

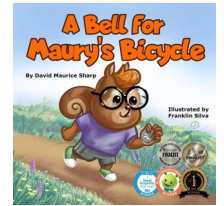


## A BELL FOR MAURY'S BICYCLE

Wednesday, April 16, 3:30 p.m.

Children's Room

Celebrate Money Smart Week with author David Sharp and illustrator Franklin Silva, creators of *A Bell for Maury's Bicycle*, an award-winning book on financial literacy for children. For ages 3-8.



## BE MONEY SMART

Thursday, April 17, 6 p.m.

Children's Room

We'll use games and fun activities to learn about banking, saving money, and investing for the future. Presented by Webster Bank. For ages 4-12.



## QUANTUM CODE CRUNCHERS

Monday, April 14, 3:30 p.m.

Children's Room

Celebrate World Quantum Day with a fun activity using NASA's encrypted code puzzles based on quantum physics. For ages 8-12.



## EARTH DAY CRAFTS

Tuesday, April 22, 5 p.m.

Children's Room

Celebrate Earth Day with special craft activities and coloring pages. For ages 5+



## 50<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL POETRY CONTEST

Submissions Open: February 1, 2025

Submissions Close: March 30, 2025

Awards Ceremony: Wednesday, April 30, 6 p.m.

Connecticut State Poet Laureate Antoinette Brim-Bell will help us celebrate this year's Poetry Contest winners. As a special treat to commemorate 50 years of poetry at the library, we invite the winners of past years to join us for this year's ceremony. Please contact us at 203-574-8213 or [bronsonkids@waterburyct.org](mailto:bronsonkids@waterburyct.org) to RSVP.

Our annual Poetry Contest is open to all Waterbury students in Kindergarten through Twelfth Grade. One entry per student. Complete rules and entry forms are online at [bronsonlibrary.org/kids](http://bronsonlibrary.org/kids) and at the library.



# KIDZONE RESOURCES

## PUBLIC COMPUTERS FOR PARENTS & KIDS

The KidZone features six computers for use by children and their caregivers. The computers have filtered access to the internet and include Microsoft Office. Adults, feel free to use these computers when you bring your children to the library.



## EARLY LEARNING STATIONS

The AWE Early Learning Stations are designed for younger children to use. Loaded with educational games and activities, the Early Learning Stations are not connected to the internet.

## MUSEUM PASS PROGRAM

Save money when you take the kids to a museum or zoo. Our museum pass program features free or reduced price admission to a dozen museums and zoos. Find out more at [bronsonlibrary.org/museums](http://bronsonlibrary.org/museums) or ask us about it when you're at the library.

## SCHOOL VISITS

Educators are encouraged to bring their students for class visits to the library as part of their learning program. Visits will enrich students' reading and build confidence as library users. Our librarians are available to visit schools and daycare centers, sharing information about the library and participating in special story time events. Contact us at 203-574-8213 or [bronsonkids@waterburyct.org](mailto:bronsonkids@waterburyct.org) for more information.



## WORLD BOOK ONLINE

The World Book is more than just an encyclopedia. Their online resource includes biographies, science projects, research guides, tools for teachers, puzzles, games, and craft ideas. The World Book is available in English and in Spanish.

## EBOOKS FOR KIDS

The Libby app connects you to our ebooks and audiobooks on your smartphone or tablet. The app includes special filters to help you find books for kids.



## PARENT & TEACHER COLLECTION

Whether you're a parent looking for how-to books, or a teacher in need of extra resources, we have a special collection of books just for you. Materials include but aren't limited to general books on parenting, child development, child psychology, childcare and health, and education.

## GRADE-LEVEL READING LISTS

Wondering what books are best for your child's reading level? We have recommended reading lists organized by grade level which you can download from our website or pick up in the KidZone. We also keep special displays in the KidZone with a selection of books organized by grade level.

SILAS BRONSON LIBRARY  
267 GRAND STREET  
WATERBURY, CT 06702  
**ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED**



**SILAS BRONSON LIBRARY**

*Something for Everyone*

## LIBRARY HOURS

### Main Library

Monday 9 a.m. - 4:45 p.m.  
Tues.- Thurs. 9 a.m. - 8 p.m.  
Friday 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.  
Saturday 9 a.m. - 4:45 p.m.

### Bunker Hill Branch

Tuesday 12 p.m. - 8 p.m.  
Thursday 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.  
Friday 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.

### SPECIAL NOTES:

For weather closings, please check  
our social media or website.

Monday evening hours return in June.

## LOCATIONS

### Main Library

267 Grand Street  
Waterbury, CT 06702

### Bunker Hill Branch

192 Bunker Hill Avenue  
Waterbury, CT 06708

## CONTACT INFORMATION

Main Number: 203-574-8200  
Bunker Hill Branch: 203-574-8240  
Circulation Desk: 203-574-8206  
Children's Division: 203-574-8213  
Director's Office: 203-574-8222  
Reference Desk: 203-574-8225  
TTY/TDD: 203-574-8226

## LIBRARY CLOSINGS

Good Friday, April 18  
Memorial Day, May 26  
Closed Saturdays from May 24  
through August 30

## PARKING INFORMATION

### Main Library

Kiosk parking is available on Grand  
Street and in the parking lot between  
the Library and City Hall.

Handicapped spaces are available  
in the parking lot. Parking rates apply.

*Parking rates: \$1 per hour; free after  
6:30 p.m.*

### Bunker Hill Branch

Free parking is available in our lot on  
Aurora Street.



[bronsonlibrary@waterburyct.org](mailto:bronsonlibrary@waterburyct.org)

203-574-8200

[bronsonlibrary.org](http://bronsonlibrary.org)