



Silas Bronson Library BOOKS AND HAPPENINGS

The Newsletter of Waterbury's Public Library

SPRING 2026

Table of Contents

Library News	1
Friends of the Library	2
Online Resources	3
Adult Programs	4-7
Geekdom Programs	8
Teen/YA Programs	9
Children's Programs	10-11
Hours & Locations	12

VITA FREE TAX PREP

The VITA Tax Prep program is being held at the library on Saturdays through April 11 by appointment only. IRS-trained volunteers are available to prepare tax returns for individuals who made \$69,000 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 19 - 25 to help us celebrate National Library Week. This year's theme is "Find Your Joy!" and the artwork is from the new book, *I'm So Happy You're Here*, by Mychal Threets and Lorraine Nam.



We'll have a special library scavenger hunt. Complete the hunt and win a prize!

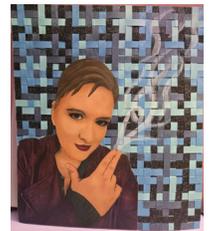
EXHIBITS

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: Edgar Scott is a classically trained artist that has spent most of their artistic career turning those rules on their head. They work in almost every medium you can think of and enjoy mixing different media together in the same piece. Eddie's art has been published in magazines, appeared in juried art shows, and has been displayed in museums in multiple states across the country.

April: Shani Hines will have drawings and paintings on the gallery wall and in the display cases. Themes for this body of work draw inspiration from daily life and the fantasy genre, including live models, portraits, animals, human anatomy, and anime.

May: Dr. Pamela D. Jones is a Master Quilter and has facilitated workshops and exhibited her collection nationwide and abroad. Her work reflects her faith journey: she received a Doctorate in Ministry degree in 2016 and has developed a theology called Sistahology, the study of God from the perspective of Black Women trying to make it in the world today.



Edgar Scott



Shani Hines



Dr. Pamela Jones



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

Monthly Meeting of the Friends

Fourth Tuesday of the month, 6 p.m.

March 24, April 28, May 26

Hybrid: Zoom & Mezzanine, 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

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

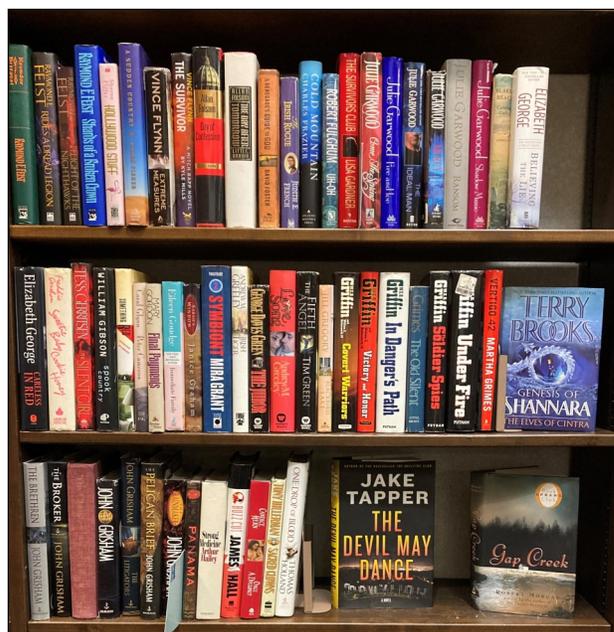
Members of the Friends receive this newsletter in the mail. Membership rates start at \$15/year for students and seniors; \$25/year for individuals; \$50/year for patrons; and \$100/year for corporate memberships. To join, please send a check payable to the Friends of the Silas Bronson Library, P.O.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

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

Get the skills you need for computers and smartphones.



March 10: Computer Basics

March 17: Internet Safety

March 24: Android Basics

March 31: Internet Basics: Search Engines,
Navigating Websites

April 7: MS Word

April 14: Google Docs

April 21: iPhone Basics

April 28: Computer Applications Overview

May 5: Computer Basics

May 12: File Explorer: Your Computer's Organizational
and Navigational Tool

May 19: Excel

May 26: PowerPoint

EVENING COMPUTER CLASSES

Wednesdays, 6:30 p.m.

Computer Classroom

Brush up on the computer skills you need for work.



March 11: Computer Basics

March 25: MS Word

April 8: PowerPoint

April 22: Excel

May 13: Publisher

May 27: File Explorer: Your Computer's Organizational
and Navigational Tool

MYSTERY BOOK CLUB

Tuesdays, March 10, May 12, 1:00 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 10: *Zero Days* by Ruth Ware

May 12: *The Plot* by Jean Hanff Korelitz



SISTERS TO SISTERS BOOK CLUB

Thursdays, March 5, April 2, May 7, 6:00 p.m.

Auditorium

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

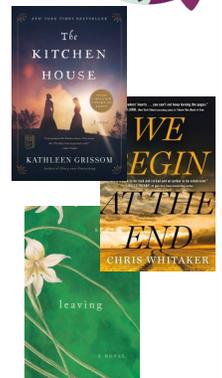
March 5: *The Kitchen House*

by Kathleen Grissom

April 2: *We Begin at the End*

by Chris Whittaker

May 7: *Leaving* by Roxana Robinson



BUNKER BOOKIES

Thursdays, March 12, April 9, May 14, 1:00 p.m.

Bunker Hill Branch Library

Join us for a monthly book club at the Bunker Hill Branch Library. Copies of the books are available to borrow from the library.

March 12: *Truly Madly Guilty*

by Liane Moriarty

April 9: *Worn: People's History of Clothing*

by Sofi Thanhauser

May 14: *Nothing to See Here*

by Kevin Wilson



PROGRAMS FOR ADULTS

BRASS BOOK CLUB

Thursdays, March 26, April 23, May 28, 12:30 p.m.

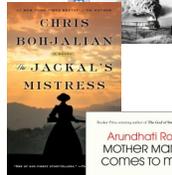
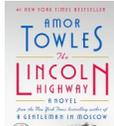
Zoom

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

March 26: *The Lincoln Highway*
by Amor Towles

April 23: *The Jackal's Mistress*
by Chris Bohjalian

May 28: *Mother Mary Comes to Me*
by Arundhati Roy



Advance registration is required. Sign up at bronsonlibrary.org/programs or call us at 203-574-8225.

BILINGUAL DOMINO

Wednesdays, March 4, April 15, May 13, 3:00 p.m.

Auditorium

Play domino in English and Spanish. Meet new friends and have fun! We will provide dominoes and snacks.



WRITERS CAFÉ

Thursdays, March 12, April 9, May 14, 5:30 –7:30 p.m.

Auditorium

Come write with us! We'll have coffee, pastries, and a quiet spot to work next to other writers.



WATERBURY WRITERS

Thursdays, March 26, April 23, May 28, 6:00 p.m.

Auditorium

Writers of all experience levels are invited to share their WIPs, brainstorm ideas, or simply connect with other writers.



EXERCISE YOUR MIND

Thursdays, March 12, April 16,

May 14, 2:30 p.m.

Auditorium

Stimulate your brain with games, puzzles, and conversation! Bring a friend or meet new friends!



COLORING & CONVERSATIONS CLUB

Thursdays, March 26, April 30, May 28, 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.

FUN FRIDAYS

Fridays, 3:00 pm.

Auditorium

Join us twice a month for a fun craft activity.



March 13: Paper Beads, Part 1: Making the Beads

March 27: Paper Beads, Part 2: Making Jewelry
with the Beads

April 10: Rock Painting

April 24: Book Page Owls

May 8: Painting Terracotta Pots

May 22: Patriotic Garlands



PROGRAMS FOR ADULTS

CROCHET HOUR

Saturdays, April 4 & 18,
May 2 & 16, 1:00 p.m.

Auditorium

Interested in finding other lovers of crocheting or looking to try something new for the first time? Instructor Linhchi Kompare will help guide interested participants in pre-selected projects, or feel free to bring projects you are already working on from home if you need help with them.



HIGH BLOOD PRESSURE

Tuesday, March 17, 3:00 p.m.

Auditorium

High blood pressure affects millions- and many don't even know they have it. Estevan Miranda, Onsite Health Coach for the City of Waterbury, will explain high blood pressure, its risks to cardiovascular health, and practical ways to manage it through lifestyle changes.



GED PREP RESOURCES @ YOUR LIBRARY

Wednesday, March 18, 6:30 p.m.

Computer Classroom

Learn about resources at the library and in our community to help you prepare for the GED exam.

INSPIRATIONAL ART

Thursday, March 19, 2:30 p.m.

Auditorium

Celebrate Women's History Month by creating your own inspirational artwork using empowering quotes from women. Supplies will be provided.



THEATRE ARTIVISM

Saturday, March 21, 1:00 p.m.

Main Reading Room

Local artist Steve Parlato presents works from his *They Are Not Disposable* series, powerful collage portraits that inspired *Not Disposable: The Play*. Experience live spoken word performance excerpts by producer Maya Rose Spoken Word, along with original poetry by Parlato and other cast members, bringing the artwork and its themes to life through a multimedia performance.



This immersive event explores racial injustice, police brutality, and moral responsibility through performance, spoken word, video, and visual art. The event concludes with a panel discussion, moderated by Jessica Gaddis, Program Manager for Arts and Education at Shakespeare, and community dialogue examining art as activism and how creative expression can inspire understanding, conversation, and collective action for social change.

FAIR RENT COMMISSION

Thursday, March 26, 6:00 p.m.

Hybrid: Main Reading Room & Zoom

Learn about the FRC's mission and how they can mandate repairs, block or phase-in an unfair rent increase, and even force your landlord to accept a lower, fair-market rate. Learn how to transform your questions into a plan for action. They'll break down the complaint process step-by-step so you can confidently use the FRC to protect your financial stability and your home's safety. Join in person or on Zoom.

Advance registration is required to join via Zoom.

Sign up at bronsonlibrary.org/programs

PROGRAMS FOR ADULTS

TAKE A HIKE

Thursday, April 8, 3:00 p.m.

Auditorium

Ready to hit the trail? Discover free hiking resources, learn how to navigate Connecticut's trails, get tips for planning the perfect day or overnight adventure. Sample gear available to view.



FROM LIBERTY TO LEGACY

Saturday, April 11, 1:00 p.m.

Main Reading Room

Michael Langlois presents the story of our nation's founding as seen through two iconic American musicals, "1776" and "Hamilton." Learn how each musical offers a distinct and contrasting vision of an American society at a crossroads, reflecting the values and tensions of their respective eras.



QUILTING, CONVERSATION, & COMMUNITY

Saturday, May 16, 10:00 a.m.

Auditorium

Join us for a free quilting workshop with Dr. Pamela D. Jones, an African American Master Quilter, whose quilts will be on exhibit in May. Learn about the tradition of quilting within African American communities—a practice rooted in storytelling, memory, and care. No prior quilting experience needed. Presented by Surge Arts Initiative. For ages 18+



Limited to 25 participants. Please register in advance at bronsonlibrary.org/programs or by calling 203-574-8225.

SLEEP: THE UNSUNG HERO

Tuesday, April 21, 3:00 p.m.

Auditorium

Estevan Miranda, Onsite Health Coach for the City of Waterbury, will teach you about sleep management strategies to help you achieve better, high-quality sleep, including practical tips, supplements, and advice for shift workers.



STRENGTH TRAINING

Tuesday, May 19, 3:00 p.m.

Auditorium

Estevan Miranda, Onsite Health Coach for the City of Waterbury, will introduce you to strength training and its benefits beyond appearance. Research shows that increased strength improves quality of life, reduces pain, and lowers the risk of chronic disease. Learn how to incorporate this life-changing exercise into your daily life.

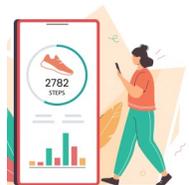


APPS FOR HEALTH AND FITNESS

Wednesday, April 29, 3:00 p.m.

Computer Classroom

Spring is the ideal time to refocus on your health and wellbeing. Come learn about a range of apps that can help you track physical activity and nutritional intake, keep you motivated, and implement daily self-care practices. Bring your personal device to download the apps you like.



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!

GEEKDOM PROGRAMS

CHESSE MEETUP

Tuesdays, March 3, 17 & 31,
April 14, & 28,
May 12 & 26, 6:00 p.m.

Auditorium

Meet up with fellow chess enthusiasts and get hands-on guidance from an experienced instructor. Each session includes lessons, strategy tips, and open play time to practice what you've learned. All ages and skill levels welcome.



CHECKMATE CHALLENGE

Thursdays, March 5 & 19, April 2, 16 & 30,
May 14, & 20, 4:30 p.m.

Zoom

Join us on Zoom for Checkmate Challenge, a virtual chess session focused on solving fun and challenging chess puzzles together.



Each meetup, we'll work through tactical scenarios, discuss strategies, and improve our chess skills as a group. Great for beginners looking to learn tactics or seasoned players wanting to stay sharp.

Advance registration is required. Sign up at bronsonlibrary.org/geekdom

SATURDAY CHESSE MEETUP

Saturdays, March 14 & 28,
April 11 & 25, May 9, 1:00 p.m.

Auditorium

Can't make it to chess on Tuesday? We'll also have chess meetups on Saturdays! All ages and skill levels welcome.



WARHAMMER 40K GAME NIGHT

Wednesdays, March 4, April 1, May 13, 6:00 p.m.

Auditorium

Learn how to play tabletop

Warhammer 40,000 and Killteam with hands-on experience. Use our models or bring your own.



DND 101

Wednesdays, March 11 & 25,
April 8 & 22, May 6 & 20, 6:00 p.m.

Auditorium

Answer the call to adventure at the Library! Join our learn-as-you-play campaign where you'll build a hero, team up with others, and level up. We'll guide you through the rules as the story unfolds, so you can focus on the fun: daring choices, clever puzzles, and legendary teamwork. All experience levels welcome.



NOT YOUR PARENTS' BOARD GAMES

Saturdays, March 7, April 4, May 2, 2:30 p.m.

Auditorium

Bring a favorite game or try one from our collection, learn something new, and discover a whole new world of board games beyond the traditional choices.



ANIME CLUB

Saturdays, March 21, April 18,
May 16, 2:30 p.m.

Auditorium

Join fellow fans at the Library Anime Club! Each month we'll watch the first episode of a new anime series, then wrap up with themed trivia. All experience levels are welcome, from longtime otaku to first-time viewers, so come enjoy the action, laughs, and epic stories.



TEEN/YOUNG ADULT PROGRAMS

PFLAG MEETUP

Tuesdays, March 10, April 14, May 12, 6:00 p.m.

TeenZone

Queer youth, their friends, and family are invited to join us for a social evening with activities like board games, crafts, and more! Bring your ideas for what you'd like to see at the library. Hosted by PFLAG Waterbury Chapter.

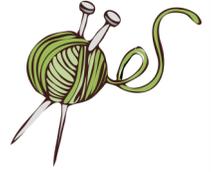


DARN THAT HOOK CLUB

Fridays, March 20, April 17,
May 1 & 15, 3:30 p.m.

TeenZone

Bring your crochet or knitting projects, or start a new one using library supplies.



TEEN LIBRARY LEADERS

Tuesdays, March 24, April 21,
May 19, 6:00 p.m.

TeenZone

Build your leadership skills by developing and participating in library programs and events, as well as becoming library advisors and advocates.



WRITE TO ME POETICALLY

Saturdays, March 14 - April 4, 2:00 p.m.

TeenZone

Join Joe the Poet every Saturday for a fun, creative poetry experience! Learn haiku, blackout poetry, and concrete poetry, then take the mic during an open mic finale. A lively, engaging program for young adults who love creativity, connection, and self-expression.

TEENZONE STUDY AREA

The library's TeenZone is a great place for teens to study or meet up to work on projects. Use of the room and computers is restricted to teens only.



51ST ANNUAL POETRY CONTEST

Submissions Open: February 1, 2026

Submissions Close: March 19, 2026

Awards Ceremony: Thursday, April 30,
6:00 p.m.

Our annual Poetry Contest is open to all Waterbury students in

Kindergarten through Twelfth Grade. One entry per student.

This year's themes:

1. Your Favorite Animal
2. Use the opening, "If I had three wishes"
3. Write a limerick

Complete rules and entry forms are online at bronsonlibrary.org/teenprograms and at the library.



CHILDREN'S PROGRAMS

WEEKLY PROGRAMS

TWO FOR TUESDAY STORY TIME

Tuesdays, 10:30 a.m.

Children's Room

Run, hop, skip, or jump to the KidZone every Tuesday to move and shake your muscles and bones. For ages 6 and under.



KIDZONE CODING CLUB

Tuesdays, 4:30 p.m.

Computer Classroom

Come learn HTML, SQL, Code Block and more with Fiero Code. A librarian will help guide and encourage future coding wizards. For ages 6-15.



WONDERFUL WEDNESDAY STORIES

Wednesdays, 10:30 a.m.

Children's Room

Join us every Wednesday to immerse yourself in a land of stories. For ages 6 and under.



THURSDAY TALES AND TUNES

Thursdays, 10:30 a.m.

Picture Book Room

Join us every Thursday for a different story, with music and a craft activity. For ages 6 and under.



JAMMIN' WITH MISS JENNY

Thursdays, 5:00 p.m.

Children's Room

Join us every Wednesday for a Pajama Party! Wear your PJs and your dancing shoes if you so choose. Stories, music and jamming. For ages 1-8.



MONTHLY PROGRAMS

WHERE IS SILAS THE CAT?

Wednesdays, March 18, April 22,

May 20, 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 7, April 4, May 2, 11:00 a.m.

Children's Room

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

March 7: Minecraft

April 4: Moana 2

May 2: Zootopia 2



KIDS' YARN CRAFTS

Fridays, March 13, April 10, May 22, 3:30 p.m.

Children's Media Room

Use our looms and yarn to make coasters, potholders, or bookmarks to take home.



P-A-N (PHONICS, ALPHABET, NUMBERS)

Saturdays, March 28, April 25, May 9, 11:00 a.m.

Children's Room

Join us for a story time, where we learn about letters, numbers, and the sounds they make. We'll also have a craft sponsored by the letter of the day. For ages 2-7.



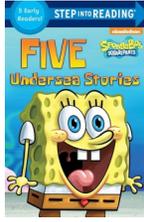
CHILDREN'S PROGRAMS

SPONGEBOB COMMUNITY READ

Saturday, March 7, 9:30-10:30 a.m.

Children's Room

We'll head to Bikini Bottom with the City Youth Theater/ City Stage Company for a special SpongeBob story time and a preview of the theater's production of The SpongeBob Musical in April.



LUCKY LOST GOLD HUNT

Tuesday, March 17, all day

Children's Room

Lucky the Leprechaun has a BIG problem, his pot of gold has gone missing! Somehow, his shiny gold coins scattered all around the room, and he needs brave treasure hunters to help track them down. Find five coins and bring them to the librarian to claim a prize and celebrate your good luck!



REACH FOR THE STARS

Saturday, March 21, 1:00 p.m.

Children's Room

Tracey Jones will share *Reach For the Stars*, a children's book he wrote with his daughter. Reaching for the stars isn't always easy, but persistence, kindness, and courage make every dream possible.



BIKE RODEO

Wednesday, March 25, 5:00 p.m.

Rain Date: Wednesday, April 15, 5:00 p.m.

Library Park

Bring your bicycle and helmet to Library Park for a Bike Rodeo! We'll have obstacle courses, safety checks, slow races, and more. Learn how to stay safe while riding your bicycle. For ages 5-18.

Sponsored by the Connecticut Department of Transportation and Safe Routes to School and the Naugatuck Valley Council of Governments.



EARTH DAY MAGIC

Wednesday, April 22, 5:00 p.m.

Children's Room

Come help Cyril the Sorcerer, the Earth Day hero, save the Earth. Bring the entire family to experience this wonderful magical fairytale. For all ages.



THE UNFORGETTABLE LOGAN FOSTER

Saturday, May 16, 1:00 p.m.

Children's Room

Join us for an unforgettable day with Shawn Peters, author of *The Unforgettable Logan Foster*. Sponsored by the Connecticut Association of School Librarians and the State Department of Education.



51ST ANNUAL POETRY CONTEST



Our annual Poetry Contest is open to all Waterbury students in Kindergarten through Twelfth Grade. One entry per student. All entries must be received by Thursday, March 19.

Complete rules and entry forms are online at bronsonlibrary.org/kids and at the library.

This year's themes:

1. Your Favorite Animal
2. Use the opening, "If I had three wishes"
3. Write a limerick

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 3
Memorial Day, May 25
Closed Saturdays from May 23
through September 5

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

203-574-8200

bronsonlibrary.org