**Children’s Activities**

by Betsey Martel

**Children’s Room**

April is a busy month in the library! Not only is it National Poetry Month, but also in April is National Library Week! Stop in the Children’s Room during the week of April 13-19 for games, treats and celebration!

April vacation week begins on April 26 and it’s a huge mystery to us! Call to register for a Drama Kids program, Monday April 28 at 10:00—11:00 a.m., ages 3-5; and 11:00 a.m.—12 p.m., ages 6-10. Register to enjoy magic and mystery with Nashua Magician Glen Walant, Wednesday April 30 at 10 a.m. Friday May 2 at 10 a.m. ages 3-12 join us for more mystery, fun and mayhem! Make sure to register for the mysterious fun of April! Come to the library every day for clues, games, crafts and lots of mystery. There will be no regularly scheduled Story Times during April vacation week. During vacation, try out a mystery.

**Mystery Book List**

**The ABC Mystery.** Doug Cushman  
**The A-Z mysteries.** Ron Roy  
**Hardy Boys.** Franklin Dixon  
**Nancy Drew mysteries.** Carolyn Keene  
**Roman mysteries.** Caroline Lawrence  
**Awful Apple Orchard.** M.D. Spenser  
**Baffling Whodunit Puzzles.** Jim Sukach  
**Trixie Belden mysteries.** Carolyn Keene  
**The Black Tower.** Betsy Byars  
**Bunnicula.** James Howe  
**Cam Jansen mysteries.** David Adler  
**Chet Gecko mysteries.** Bruce Hale  
**Flatfoot Fox.** Eth Clifford  
**Scooby-Do.** James Skofield  
**Jonathan Mouse, Detective.** Ingrid Osthoeeren  
**Octavus Bloom and the House of Doom.** Erik Brooks  
**Piggins.** Jane Yolen  
**Aunt Eater mysteries.** Doug Cushman  
**Binky Brothers, Detectives.** James Lawrence  
**Detective Dinosaur.** James Skofield

Having trouble explaining all those political ads to your kids? Come check out a new series in the children’s room. Topics include local, state and federal government, the Presidency, elections, Congress and the Supreme Court.

**Earth Day** is April 22 this year. The children’s room has some new nonfiction on what we can do to protect our environment. One new series includes **Alternative Cars**, **Nature Power**, **Everyday Conservation**, **Nuclear Power**, **Fossil Fuels** and **Renewable Fuels**.

Space is limited for all programs. Unless noted, registration is required. Call or stop in the children’s room to register. Registered programs are open to all Hills Memorial Library cardholders.

**Lullaby Lapsit:** ages birth-23 months: Fridays 11:00 a.m.  
Songs, finger plays, movement, sign language and stories for babies and caregivers!

**Toddler Time:** age 2: Fridays 9:30 a.m.  
Toddler size stories and activities.

**Story Time:** ages 3-5: Mondays OR Thursdays 10:00 a.m.  
Stories, games, crafts, FUN!

**Book Bunch:** grades K-3: Thursdays 3:30 p.m.  
Stories, crafts, and activities.

**Don’t Judge a Book by its Cover Gang:** grades 4 and 5: Tuesdays 3:30 p.m.  
Explore classic and new books and genres. Find new favorite authors and stories!

**Homeschool Story Times:** 2nd and 4th Wednesdays 10:00 a.m.  
Small Adventures: ages 3-6: Stories, games, crafts.  
Story Explorers: ages 7-12: Learn library Skills through games, activities and crafts; along with stories.

**Family Fun Night:** ages 3-2nd grade: Third Thursday every month 6:30 p.m.

Don’t forget **Crazy Craft Days** each Saturday with one of Miss Meghan’s wonderful crafts! No registration is required for **Crazy Craft Days** and is available while supplies last.

*For all registered programs: If someone misses two weeks in a row without calling to keep their place, we must call the next person on the waiting list. Those waiting have first opportunity to register for the new session. All participants must re-register for each new session.*

*Check out our Children’s website page: https://www.hillsml.lib.nh.us/*

---

**Free Computer Workshops**

Pre-register in person or call 886-6030, extension 21. (Ψ indicates that mouse and keyboarding skills are needed for this workshop.)

**April 22, Tuesday Ψ**  
Free E-Mail Accounts 10:30 a.m.

**April 24, Thursday Ψ**  
Genealogy Online 10:30 a.m.

**Our $25K Challenge**

Please tell your friends, family and acquaintances about the wonderful services offered by your library and help us win the $25K challenge offered by the Robert & Karin Finlay Foundation to the New Hampshire library that has the highest increase in membership. The challenge runs through October 31, 2008. We could certainly make good use of the award towards furnishings for our new library.

---

**Director’s Desk**

by Toni Weller

**“Cruellest Month”?**

According to poet T.S. Eliot, April may be “the cruellest month”, but it is also National Poetry Month. Hills Memorial library is holding its 3rd annual poetry contest for children and teens in honor of National Young People’s Poetry Week. The winners will be recognized at a special awards ceremony held at the Recreation Center. Last year 158 young people participated in the contest. We hope the public will join us April 14, 3:30 p.m. at the Recreation Center to hear the young poets read their winning poems.

Besides this tribute to poetry month, be sure to check our in-house displays for poetic offering which include the current U.S. Poet Laureate who lives in Strafford, New Hampshire: http://www.loc.gov/poetry/laureate_current.html. Also, don’t forget to watch the PBS TV show America Experience biography of Walt Whitman on April 14 also.

April is also National Library Week, April 13-19. First sponsored in 1958, National Library Week is a national observance sponsored by the American Library Association and libraries across the country to celebrate the contributions of our nation’s libraries and librarians. All types of libraries - school, public, academic and special – participate.

**Rodgers Memorial Library**

Check our website for latest updates. https://www.hillsml.lib.nh.us
**National Poetry Week**
April is as lovely as a tree, and as the spring birds take flight, so do we by celebrating National Poetry Month. This is a celebration sponsored and developed by the Academy of American Poets to bring together booksellers, publishers, libraries, schools, poets and other literary organizations to celebrate poetry and its importance on American culture. Here are some of our recent additions.

*100 Essential Modern Poems*  
(829.91 ONE)

*The Best of Ogden Nash: 548 Favorite Poems etc.* (811.52 Nash)

*The Collected Prose of Robert Frost* (818.5209 Frost)

*American Women Poets in the 21st Century where Lyric Meets Language* (811.608 American)

*Americana: And Other Poems by John Updike* (811.6 Updike)

*Bartlett’s Poems for All Occasions* (808.81 Bartlett)

*The Best Poems of the English Language: From Chaucer through Frost* (821.008 Best)

*Collected Poems, 1947-1997 - Allen Ginsberg* (811.54 Ginsberg)

**Poetry Aloud Here! Sharing Poetry with Children in the Library** (372.64 Vardell)

*The Best Loved Poems of Jacqueline Kennedy Onassis* (808.08 Best)

**Reference Highlight Of The Month**
There are many resources in the library for those wanting to research career opportunities. To help in this endeavor, the library has recently added the *Encyclopedia of Careers and Vocational Guidance 2008* to the Reference area. According to its publisher, the goal of this set is to bring together the greatest possible amount of accurate information about occupations. Now in five volumes, it’s revised and expanded coverage includes 38 new articles (for a total of 700), 120 new photographs, and updated career information throughout this 14th edition. This classic, a great starting place for conducting career research, is an essential resource for college, high school and junior high school students. Receiving prominent treatment in this edition are the top fastest-growing careers and the top 10 careers that experts predict will add the greatest number of positions through the year 2014. Some aspects of the set include: Choosing and starting a career; making career transitions; job training and education; job fairs and networking; salaries and fringe benefits; resumes and cover letters; personnel management; employment laws; career resources for individuals with disabilities. You’ll find this career source in the reference aisle. REF 331.702 ENCYC.

**HOT NEW BOOKS**

*Strangers in Death*  
J.D. Robb

*Lady Killer*  
Lisa Scottoline

*Honor Thyself*  
Danielle Steel

**HOT NEW FILMS**

*August Rush*  
Beowulf

*In the Shadow of the Moon*  
Into the Wild

**ADULT & YOUTH SERVICES**

*National Library Week Raffle April 14-19*
Each time you stop by Annex II during National Library Week, April 14-19, you will get a raffle ticket for a chance to win a set of books or audiobooks by popular authors.

**Poetry Contest For Children and Teens**
To celebrate Young People’s Poetry Week April 13-19, we are holding a poetry contest for Hudson students in pre-school through grade 12. Each student may enter one poem in any format. There will be prizes awarded in four age categories, grade 2 and younger, grades 3-5, grades 6-8 and grades 9-12. First, second and third place winners in each category will receive gift certificates from a local bookstore. All entrants will be invited to share their poems at a poetry reading on April 14 at 3:30 p.m. at the Hudson Recreation Center, where prizes will be awarded to the winning poets. Everyone is invited to come hear these young poets read their poems.

Deadline for the contest is April 4. Public school students can give their entries to their school librarian. Others can drop their entries off at the library or mail them to Hills Memorial Library, 18 Library Street. Please put your name, grade and telephone number on the back of the poem.

**Student Poetry Reading**
Monday, April 14, students entering our poetry contest will be reading their poems at a Poetry Party celebrating Young People’s Poetry Week and National Library Week. This event will be held at the Hudson Recreation Center at 3:30 on Monday, April 14. Prizes will be awarded to winning poets and refreshments will be served.

All are welcome to come hear our young poets.

**PlayReading Circle: Lady Windermere’s Fan**
On April 9 at 6:30 p.m. the Playreading Circle will read aloud Oscar Wilde’s classic comedy of manners *Lady Windermere’s Fan*. You may also come and listen to the play reading by others. The playreading circle meets most months on the second Wednesday at 6:30 p.m. Call to confirm the date or check our website www.hillsml.lib.nh.us. Call Amy Friedman at 886-6030 extension 26 for more information.

**Afternoon And Evening Book Discussions: Into The Wild**
On Tuesday April 15 at 1:30 p.m. and on Tuesday April 22 at 7:00 p.m., the library’s book discussion groups will be discussing *Into the Wild*. This true story, told by best selling author Jonathan Krakauer, tells the story of a young man who turned his back on civilization. Sean Penn turned this book into an award winning film in 2007.

On May 20, the afternoon book group will be reading Pat O’Brien’s moving novel of the men who fought in Vietnam, *The Things They Carried*. On May 27 the evening book group will be reading *Five Quarters of the Orange* by Joanne Harris, author of *Chocolat*. This is the story of a widow returning to the French town of her youth and unlocking long-held family secrets.

Call 886-6030, extension 26 for more information or to add your name to our book group mailing list.

**FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY**

**Second Hand Prose Sunday, April 13**

The Friends of the Hills Memorial Library’s monthly book sale is the second Sunday of the month, April 13, 12-3 p.m. at 49 Ferry Street/Rte 111 (The second house past the library on the right). Books for adults and children, videos, cds and more will be available. Most hardbacks are $1 and paperbacks 50 cents.

On Saturday, April 5, from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m., there will be an indoor yard sale at Kiwanis Hall (14 Melendy Road). Books and T-shirts will be available for purchase.

The Leonard H. Smith scholarship application is due May 2. Applications are available via the Hills Memorial Library Website.