# The Norfolk Library Owl

Vol 26 Issue 2

NEWSLETTER OF THE NORFOLK LIBRARY

**July 2017** 

# "Somewhere in France"

On August 31, 1918 Isabella Eldridge, founder of the Norfolk Library, received a letter from her cousin Lyman Cook Hedge from "Somewhere in France." Serving with the 5<sup>th</sup> Engineer Regiment of the Army Expeditionary Forces, Private Hedge had arrived in France earlier that summer but had yet to see action on the front. He was 40 years old and a newspaper editor, but like many unmarried men, he enlisted in the army after the United States joined the war.

His letter is among several World War I documents that have been preserved in the Library's archives. With the exhibition *Norfolk in the Great War* on display at the Norfolk Historical Museum, let's take a moment to look at the Library archives in this centennial year.

Lyman wrote to Isabella:

Dear Cousin Bella.

We have been here over two weeks now and are quartered in a convent in a pretty little village about the size of Norfolk but without the conveniences. There are some elderly women and a few children still living in our convent, who are refugees from the western front. There is a little plaza here where the regimental band plays in the evening. We are allowed to go to town after supper. The people are very friendly and seem glad that the Americans are here. Our letters are all censored and we are not allowed to say anything about military affairs. So far there has not been much for us to tell about the war even if we could.

That would soon change. On October 9<sup>th</sup>, the Regiment traveled to the front where the soldiers were greeted with a barrage of German artillery fire. After establishing a line of resistance, the Regiment set to work stringing barbed wire, digging trenches, and creating shelters. However, before the start of a planned winter offensive, the Armistice was signed.

Lyman wrote his next letter on Dec. 15 from Bouillonville. With the war over, his letter was not censored, and he was allowed to describe military action:

Dear Cousin Bella,

I was mighty pleased to get your good letter but was sorry to learn that your eyes had gone bad on you. We have been in this little village on the western front for six weeks. Our company was working nearby on November 11th, the morning the armistice was signed and it was a big moment when 11 o'clock came and the allied artillery which had been roaring behind us all morning suddenly ceased. The silence after weeks of heavy firing seemed unnatural and it took us several days to get used to it. The Germans only fired two shells in our direction that day and they exploded harmlessly a few hundred yards from us. Altogether we were under shellfire for 36 days and subject to gas attacks the same length of time. Our company was immensely lucky as we did not have single casualty. We may not get home for a long time as our division may be made part of the army of recuperation.

In Bouillonville the 5<sup>th</sup> Regiment began the work of salvaging equipment, building bridges, and clearing mines. The soldiers detonated over 1,000 mines. It would be another two months before Lyman Hedge returned home, boarding the U.S.S. George Washington in Brest, France, on February 11, 1919 for the return trip to the United States.

While letters like those of Lyman Hedge provided friends and relatives with a first hand account of the war, albeit censored, folks here were busy contributing to the war effort on the home front.

Among the Library's holdings are scrapbooks with

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# FROM | THE | DIRECTOR

It was almost a year ago that a 19th century gas generator was discovered buried behind our building. Little did we know then that this discovery would lead to an extensive remediation and would significantly delay the completion of phase 2 of our building restoration. Happily, the project is now back on track.

There are many moving parts to this second phase of the building restoration. Most critical is repair of the exterior brownstone and correction of the problem that led to its deterioration. In fact, the project had its beginnings four years ago when a conditions report by John G. Waite Associates, one of the country's top architectural preservation firms, determined that the deterioration was due to water infiltration in the walls. The level of the ground surrounding the Library had been raised significantly following multiple re-pavings of Route 44. As a result, water was draining toward the Library rather than away, and rising damp had penetrated the brownstone.

The Waite report recommended significant re-grading and drainage work in front of the building. This entails removal of the current ADA ramp, which has functioned as a dam, trapping water and allowing it to find its way into the brownstone.

Removal of the ramp and subsequent re-grading cannot happen until the new ADA entrance is completed. That is now underway. The concrete ramp has been sided with brick, and we await delivery of granite custom cut for the walking surface, which will be heated in the winter months.

Cast iron rails are being manufactured for both sides of the ramp. The ramp encloses the courtyard, which will be surfaced with brick and planted with beds to restore the garden setting. We hope to do the planting preliminary this September.

In the meantime, the parking lot pavers



will be installed this summer. Once the grading in front of the building is complete, granite walks can be laid, replacing the existing bluestone entry path and the cement and brick sidewalk, now badly deteriorated. Ground mounted lights will also be installed in front of the building, lighting the building for safety, highlighting its unique architectural character, and providing a nighttime image of the building without the glare of the current spotlights.

The Board of Trustees, the staff, and I would like to thank everyone for their patience and understanding during this extended process. With the generous support of many donors, the completed restoration will be well worth the wait and will of course ensure that our magnificent Library remain an architectural gem for years to come.

#### NORFOLK LIBRARY ASSOCIATES

The Associates is a group of dedicated volunteers who contribute their time and talents to support the Library. They organize monthly art exhibitions and raise funds for the cultural programs offered by the Library. The group welcomes new members. Meetings are held the first Tuesday of the month at noon in the Great Hall.

> Galene Kessin, President Tom Hlas, Vice-President David Davis, Secretary Nancy Kriegel, Treasurer

#### NORFOLK LIBRARY **BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

Barbara Spiegel, President Elisabeth C. Gill, Vice-President Sarah Estock, Secretary John Garrels, Treasurer John Fernandez Stephen Getz Kate Briggs Johnson Eliza Little Ruth Melville

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newspaper clippings describing activities in Norfolk such as Liberty Bond parades on Greenwoods Road, benefit concerts in the Music Shed and Village Hall, and other fundraising events. The Canning Association of Norfolk (CAN) was formed in the spring of 1917 to teach women modern methods of canning and preserving food. The effort to conserve fresh fruits and vegetables resulted in Norfolk's first Farmer's Market in front of Town Hall. Women knit warm clothing, socks, and scarves to send overseas, and children made torches of newspaper boiled in paraffin, to warm soldiers' hands and to boil their coffee. 500 repaired and new garments were shipped to French and Belgian children in 1918.

The Library was the venue for several special events even before this country's entry into the war. In 1916 representatives of the King and Queen of Belgium came to the United States to raise funds for Belgian relief. They spoke at the Library, and Isabella had little blue, white and red bows made for each person present to wear, representing the colors of Belgium and the United States. Norfolk resident Frederic Walcott played a pivotal role in Belgian war relief, so it not surprising that the Belgians would have visited Norfolk.

Perhaps the most visible war-related relic in the Library's collection hangs from the barrel-vaulted ceiling in the far alcove of the Great Hall (see photo below). It is a large plaster medallion called The War of Democracy and was made as a decoration for the Fifth Avenue parade to welcome the French and British War Commissions to New York City on May 9, 1917. As was reported in The New York Times, "New York decked herself as if in celebration of the triumphant end of war rather than its grim beginning. Flags, buntings, and illumination appeared from one end of the city to the other. The French tricolor and the British Union Jack flew side by side with the Stars and Stripes all along Fifth Avenue, Broadway, and almost every other street in town. Throngs crowded the sidewalks and streets to honor the visitors as they passed from City Hall to the Frick mansion at Seventieth Street and Fifth Avenue where they were to dwell during their stay in New York. On Fifth Avenue between 40th and 42nd Streets, a Court of Honor had been formed with dark blue bands stretched from white column to white column on which were medallions of American, French, and British colors."

Parades were used to rouse patriotic support for the war, and Fifth Avenue soon became known as the Avenue of the Allies. They grew in size and popularity as the war continued.

The Library's medallion bears the flags of the Allies, including the tricolors of France and Italy, the Japanese Rising Sun, and the Union Jack. An American eagle spreads its wings above a shield with the stars and stripes. Around the edge are the words of the French military motto Honneur et Patrie (honour and fatherland).

We do not know where the Library medallion hung in New York. After the war, it was given to the Library by Peachy Jones Flagg, a summer resident of Norfolk.





Parade in front of the New York Public Library, May 9, 1917. Note the large medallion in the lower right corner.

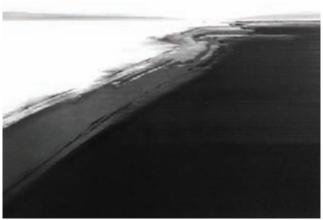
## **EXHIBITION**

#### **Frances Ashforth:** *Land and Water*

JULY EXHIBITION

Opening reception: Sunday, July 9, 4:00 - 6:00 pm

Frances Ashforth's work has been informed by her study of land and water and the edges, intersections, and boundaries of both wetland and arid habitats. She is as fascinated by geologic strata and landforms, as she is about the shapes and marks water leaves behind. In "Land and Water," an exhibit of monotypes, paintings and drawings, Frances captures the stark beauty found within our land and water. It is her hope that these images will help the viewer have greater appreciation for an environment that is worthy of protection.



Ashforth, Water Study 38

## **John Lees:** Oils and Watercolors **AUGUST EXHIBITION**

Opening reception: Sunday, August 6, 4:00 - 6:00 pm

A native of England and graduate of the Yale University School of Art and Architecture, John Lees spent his career as a highly successful design consultant, working on five continents for institutional, government, and corporate clients. He has been the recipient of numerous awards, including four Presidential Design Awards. In 1989, John began to devote more time to his art. He paints primarily in the Berkshires and other favored spots in New England, Mexico, England, and the Caribbean. Identifying with a long tradition of landscape painting in the United States and



John Lees in his Salisbury, CT studio

Europe, John explores time, light, and the cycle of seasons in his work which is now in over 100 private and corporate collections in Europe and the United States.

## **Savage Frieze:** Watershed Moment SEPTEMBER EXHIBITION

Opening reception: Sunday, September 10, 4:00 - 6:00 pm

A resident of Norfolk and pastor of the North Canaan Congregational Church, Savage Frieze is a passionate photographer with a very deep love for the northwest corner of Connecticut. Sav calls himself an accidental photographer, having carried a camera since his 1964 Kodak New York Word's Fair model. The flora and fauna of the



Savage Frieze photograph

## **EXHIBITION**

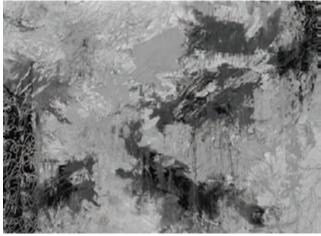
area is his favorite subject, but he also loves taking photos of sacred spaces, sports, special events, and children. Sav's exhibit Watershed Moment will be dedicated to Christopher Little and Louise Davis "whose encouragement proved to be a watershed moment for me. And to Sue and Bruce Frisch and all those Norfolkians who have been so encouraging."

#### Joan Jardine

#### OCTOBER EXHIBITION

Opening reception: Sunday, October 8, 4:00 - 6:00 pm

Trained at the Woodstock and Cape Cod Schools of Art, Joan Jardine began as a plein air painter but has recently moved to abstract painting. Experimenting with varied surfaces such as cradled boards of birch or maple, Joan continues to be inspired by the natural landscape in her abstractions. She writes: "The love, hope, and terror that I find in painting abstracts is unsurpassed. It is always a new moment, a new challenge."



Jardine, Homage Diverted

#### **Nanci Worthington**

#### **NOVEMBER EXHIBITION**

Opening reception: Sunday, November 5, 4:00 - 6:00 pm

Nanci Worthington describes her work as a naturalist's meditation on process, from journal to photo to drawing and painting. Her journals, both written and visual, are a way to translate the visceral experience of her observations in the



Worthington, Ju Pong's favorite

wilderness. What does it feel like to be a trout lily? What stories do the sounds of the forests make? Can you smell a change in the terrain? If so, how does it change how you see it? Using all of her senses to "see" the natural world around her, she hopes to codify through her art the experience of open perception.

# Jean Grasmere: Wild New England in Oils, Pastels and Watercolors

#### **DECEMBER EXHIBITION**

Opening reception: Sunday, December 3, 4:00 - 6:00 pm

Jean Grasmere returns to the Norfolk Library with an exhibit of new work in different medias. Among many subjects in nature, it is birds that she particularly enjoys painting.



Grasmere, Owl and Forsythia

# LIBRARY | PROGRAMS

#### **Summer Reading and Spanish!**

The Norfolk Library's Summer Reading Program is underway, and all children are invited to participate. With the theme Build a Better World, a series of fun and educational programs is scheduled for Monday evenings at 6:30 including mime, engineering, art play, and animal visits. Children can complete activities on our Summer Reading Bingo Card to win a prize. In addition, a special series of Fun Spanish Projects will be held on four Wednesdays (July 5, 12, 19, 26) from 10:15 to 11:15 am. This hands-on playful approach to learning Spanish will be led by Alejandra Brokaw and is appropriate for children ages 7 and up. Children may sign up for one or more of the sessions (limited to 8 each). Please call the Library for more information and to register.

- Monday, July 10: Robert Rivest Mime – Build a Kinder World
- Monday, July 17: **Mad Science** – Engineering Activities. Limited to 30 kids
- Monday, July 24 Karen Rossi Art Play - One Rock at a Time, Build a Better World
- Monday, July 31 **Animal Embassy** – Creating Kindness Through Creatures

## **Sandglass Theater Puppet Show** Punschi

Friday, August 4, 5:00 pm

Sandglass Theater is an internationally known theater company specializing in combining puppets with music, actors, and visual imagery. Since 1982, the company's productions have toured 24 countries, performing in theaters, festivals and cultural institutions and winning numerous international prizes. Punschi is a collection of delightful and compelling



short puppet pieces featuring hand puppets, a miniature circus, music, and lots of laughs!

"Punschi" is pure joy! This performance combines the exuberance and flair of European street theater with the sanctity of a family tradition passed down through generations. Live music, multiple styles of puppetry, clowning, and physical theater support hilarious lines delivered in German, English, Gibberish, and Kazoo. Audiences of all ages will leave laughing and cheering for Kasper, Fritzi, Tschokolino and the amazing sisters who bring their stories to life!

> - Roxie Myhrum, Artistic Director, Puppet Showplace Theater

## Slide Talk: Alfredo Taylor in Norfolk

**ANN HAVEMEYER** 

Saturday, August 5, 3:00 pm

A century ago, motorists driving to the village of Norfolk along Litchfield Road would have enjoyed a winding country lane dotted with a collection of impressive stone and timber houses. Proudly lining the road or dramatically perched on the hills above, many of these houses bear the signature of Alfredo Taylor, the Beaux-Arts architect whose work has come to define the look and style of this small town. Taylor came to Norfolk in the first years of the last century, and his distinctive hand is to be seen everywhere, as he and his clients put their imaginative mark on the landscape.

#### The Cabins

Sunday, August 13, 2:00 pm

Local novelist Courtney Maum's collaborative retreat "The Cabins" returns to Norfolk this year with a vibrant group of writers, filmmakers, artists, and musicians who will be working together by Tobey Pond for four days in August. Join us at the Library as they present excerpts of their individual work. A filmmaker who worked on "Beasts of the Southern Wild" and an opera singer are among the talented participants, so it should be quite a show and tell!

# LIBRARY PROGRAMS

## Slide Talk and Book Signing: Finding Brass Valley, a Place in Time That Has Almost Vanished

**EMERY ROTH II** 

Sunday, September 24, 4:00 pm

They called the steep valley of Connecticut's Naugatuck River "Brass Valley," because from the time the world began running on steam and bearings, trolleys and soot, the Naugatuck Valley came to be where most of the world's brass manufacturing happened. As large-scale brass manufacturing grew, mill towns along the river, such as Torrington and Waterbury, developed into thriving cultural centers. In 2014 the last plant closed, and the tradition of soot-covered workers charging generations-old furnaces came to an end. Emery Roth is the author of Brass Valley: The Fall of an American Industry (Schiffer Books, 2015), a book of pictures and stories about how it all happened. In his slide talk, he will show vivid photographs of the historic buildings and working foundries, the vestiges of a dying infrastructure and American way of life.



American Brass factory, Waterbury

## **Author Talk: Simon Winchester** and The Professor and the Madman

Saturday, November 18, time tbd

Braveheart transformed into a Victorian gentleman? Mel Gibson plays Professor James Murray in the soon-to-bereleased film adaptation of Simon Winchester's novel The Professor and the Madman. We are excited that the author will visit the Library later this fall and tell us more about his

best-selling first novel. Masterfully researched and eloquently written, it is an extraordinary tale of madness, genius, and the incredible obsessions of two remarkable men that led to the making of the Oxford English Dictionary. After a long career in journalism, Winchester wrote The Professor and the



Madman in 1998. His publishers had little initial hope for the book, ordering a very modest print run of some 10,000 copies. The book went on to sell millions of copies and remains in print today almost 20 years after publication. Winchester was awarded an Order of the British Empire (OBE) in 2006 for his services to journalism and literature. His recent titles include Atlantic, The Men Who United the States, and Pacific.

## Third Thursday Films at the Library

Are you suffering from Modern Movie Car Chase & Explosion Fatigue (MMCCEF)? Mark your calendar for our new social movie night on the Third Thursday of every month from September to April. Explore Hollywood's extensive pre-digital canon of fantastic films, forgotten classics, and silent movies. Though clearly made in another era, these films still carry a modern significance and appeal to life in the 20teens. Come at 6:30 pm for refreshments. Movies will screen at 7:00 pm sharp. Check our website at the beginning of each month to see which film will be shown. Reservations are helpful but not required.

All programs at the Norfolk Library are free. Please visit our website www.norfolklibrary.org and sign up for our bi-weekly Night Owl e-newsletter for up-to-date information on our programs.

#### PERFORMANCE

Please call the Library at 860-542-5075 or register online to reserve a seat.

#### Songs of World War I

Sunday, July 23, 5:00 pm

In conjunction with Norfolk Historical Society's exhibition Norfolk in the Great War, singer and guitarist Doug Schmolze will present a variety of songs from the 19teens, both patriotic and otherwise, in a centennial retrospective. With anecdotes and historical



notes, the program provides insight into the mood of the era that ushered in the "War to End all Wars." Audiences will recognize (and sing along to) patriotic songs such as "Over There" and "You're a Grand Old Flag" by George M. Cohan that remain popular, especially on civic occasions. But composers of the era also produced ragtime, waltzes, and romantic songs such as "The Land Where the Good Songs Go" by Jerome Kern and, on the lighter side, "When I Had a Uniform On" by Cole Porter. Visuals and lyrics to sing-a-longs are provided by an accompanying power-point presentation.

## Patrick Ball, A Pilgrimage to Yeats **Country**

Sunday, October 15, 5:00 pm

Patrick Ball is one of the premier Celtic harp players in the world and a captivating spoken word artist. He has recorded nine instrumental and three spoken word albums, which have sold well over one-half million copies internationally and won national awards in both the music and spoken word categories. Patrick has written and will perform "Come Dance with Me in Ireland: A Pilgrimage to Yeats Country," a musical and dramatic performance based on the life and works of William Butler Yeats. In playing the ancient, legendary brass-strung harp of Ireland with its crystalline, bell-like voice and performing marvelous tales of wit and enchantment, Patrick not only brings new life to two



cherished traditions, but blends them in concert to create "a richly theatrical and hauntingly beautiful performance."

#### Moors and McCumber

Sunday, October 29, 5:00 pm

Moors and McCumber create that rare chemistry that happens when two gifted singer-songwriters and multi-instrumentalists perfectly complement each other's strengths, a modern day version of Crosby, Stills, Nash and Young. James Moors and Kort McCumber grew up in different places and listening to different kinds of music—classical, rock, bluegrass, you name it. But when they met ten years ago they knew they'd found something golden. Since then, they've been cultivating their wide-ranging musical influences in songs that delve into love and life through haunting lyrics, soaring harmonies, and dazzling instrumental proficiency. As Grammy awardwinning producer Lloyd Maines puts it, "These guys should be playing every major festival in the country. They bring it all to the stage and deliver it in a big way."



# NEWS | AND | NOTES



## SAVE THE DATE! Saturday, August 26, 2017

The Norfolk Library Associates invite you to

# **An Evening of Limited Editions**

Hemingway in Key West Cocktail Party 5:00 – 7:00 pm: limited to 50 guests

An Evening with Mapp and Lucia 7:00 pm: limited to 12 guests

Dining Unlike the Raj 7:00 pm: limited to 20 guests

The Great Gatsby on Doolittle 7:00 pm: limited to 18 guests

Stay tuned for more information, or call the Library at 860-542-5075.



Where you find the coolest books!

# The Norfolk Library BOOK SALE

The 41st Annual Book Sale will take place the weekend of August 26-27, on Saturday and Sunday from 10:00 am to 4:00 pm. You won't want to miss the opportunity to browse through over 10,000 amazing books donated from Norfolk's private libraries, 75% of them hardcover. Proceeds benefit the Norfolk Library Associates and support the Library's many free special events, documentary films, concerts, book discussions, and children's programs. Many thanks to Bridget and Hatsy Taylor, who devote countless hours to sorting books, and to the many volunteers who make the book sale such a success.

#### **Bartlett Tree Care**

We are fortunate to have some beautiful trees on the Library grounds, including a magnificent beech on the west side of the parking lot. Through the efforts of a Library Associate, we received a significant contribution of tree care services from the F.A. Bartlett Tree Expert Company. Crews from Bartlett, a 110-year old family company headquartered in Stamford, first removed a

diseased ash, which loomed near the children's wing. Their arborists also provided treatments to the beech to prevent Phytopthera Canker and pruned and "lifted" three other trees to enhance their appearance. Once work on the parking lot has been completed, they will return to perform a root invigoration on the beech to restore the soil and root system, which may have been compacted and stressed by the construction process and heavy equipment. We are grateful to Bartlett for their generous contribution in caring for our trees.

#### **Pop Up Story Times**

Look for "POP UP" story times this summer. Miss Eileen will be bringing books and blanket to Tobey Pond and who knows where else ..... Watch our white board or call the Library for her whereabouts.

#### Kindles and Ukuleles!

If you haven't tried a kindle, why not check one out from the Library. We have several, and they are preloaded with a great assortment of e-books. Some of the advantages of using a kindle: they are very light, and you can increase the type size to suit your vision. And remember, we have three ukuleles available to be checked out for three weeks each, along with a ukulele teaching DVD and songbook. These wonderful instruments were made by the Magic Fluke Company of Sheffield, MA.

# CHECK IT OUT

#### Staff Picks

With two grown sons, with new sons at their knees, I was enchanted by this poetic picture book. Round by the Newbury Honor author and poet Joyce Sidman invites us on a whimsical journey as a father and child explore all things round and wonderful. The child carries a basket of plump berries, peeks at round turtle eggs, marvels at raindrops, and hails to the Hunters Moon. The gorgeous language bubbles up and comes alive with the mixed media artwork of The New York Times Best Illustrated Book Award recipient Taeeun Yoo, who joyfully inspires us with simplicity and color to appreciate and delight in the world all around.

- Eileen Fitzgibbons

Bryan Stevenson's masterfully-written Just Mercy: A Story of Justice and Redemption is a non-fiction page-turner that left me gasping with every chapter. Bryan's extraordinary work in Alabama against the death penalty and his Equal Justice Initiative have changed the lives of countless prisoners, including children, who could not afford legal representation and were wrongly sentenced either to be executed or to lifein-prison. Bryan brings individual cases to life, threading them through the book in such a way that you cannot put it down. I heard Bryan speak in Hartford about his experience as an African American lawyer in the Deep South. He is smart, brave, humble, and unbelievably hopeful, finding "power in proximity" to the resilience of the human spirit. He has been called America's Mandela, and his fighting for the vulnerable is inspirational.

- Ann Havemeyer

Looking for new ways to cook seasonal vegetables? You'll find them in The Vegetable Butcher: How to Select, Prep, Slice, Dice, and Masterfully Cook Vegetables from Artichokes to Zucchini. And you'll find lots of helpful hints on how to preserve them in Canning for a New Generation. One of the most engaging cookbooks new to our collection is Deep Run Roots: Stories and Recipes from My Corner of the South. Vivian Howard celebrates the flavors of the North Carolina coastal plain using ingredients such as watermelon, figs, and corn in myriad creative ways. Every recipe comes with an enticing story and mouth-watering photograph.

— Chaya Berlstein

My ongoing feasting on the books of Haruki Murakami continues unabated with his recent collection of short stories, Men Without Women. Familiar Murakami elements are present-mysterious women, smoky bars, whiskey, disappearing cats, and characters obsessed with music. As Murakami grows older, his characters, many of whom are also writers, grow older with him. The message seems to be that life is hard and getting harder. While the collection is relentlessly sad, all seven of the stories are infused with Murakami's wry sense of humor.

— Chris Keyes

A new series on DVD is The Durrells in Corfu, based on naturalist Gerald Durrell's trilogy of novels. It depicts the lives of this interesting family adjusting to a new and rather humble lifestyle when widowed mother Louisa and her four children, ages 11 to 21, move from England to Corfu to better manage their meager income. The setting is lovely, and the story becomes more rewarding to watch as the characters and episodes develop. Both Gerald and Lawrence Durrell wrote about their time in Corfu. This is Series 1 so there is a promise of more of this family's zany adventures to enjoy.

- MaryAnn Anderson

In The Hello Girls: America's First Women Soldiers, Elizabeth Cobbs tells the story of the female members of the US Army Signal Corps who volunteered to serve in the vital role of telephone switchboard operators in France during World War I. For the first time in war, the telephone became the main communication tool to keep the front lines in contact with supply depots and military command. The Army recruited more than 200 women who were bilingual in English and French. Cobbs weaves the story of the Hello Girls with that of the suffrage movement to show the connection between military service and woman suffrage. I particularly enjoyed reading about the Hello Girls service with "Black Jack" Pershing in France. Excerpts from the women's letters and diaries describe the front lines of war from a unique perspective.

- Leslie Battis

# SNAP | SHOTS



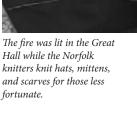
Mark Scarbrough's popular book group had a conversation with author Paula Whyman via Skype.



Mary Ford-Bey, Hope Childs, and Holy Gill have been diligently working on the Library scrapbooks, keeping the collection up to date with newspaper clippings relevant to Norfolk.



A llama visited the library for Corner Club, a first!



Leslie Watkins brought her diapered rooster Pavarooti to the Children's Room where he flew to the top of the bookshelf to roost.

fortunate.



Miss Eileen's Story Hour ended the year with a costume party and ice cream at the Berkshire Country Store.



Among several outstanding concerts this winter, Berkshire's Bossa Triba brought the audience to the dance floor with the rhythms of Brazilian samba.

#### THE OWL

The Norfolk Library 9 Greenwoods Road East Post Office Box 605 Norfolk, Connecticut 06058

www.norfolklibrary.org ph. 860 542-5075

Monday	10:00 am	_	7:00 pm
Tuesday	10:00 am	-	5:00 pm
Wednesday	10:00 am	-	5:00 pm
Thursday	10:00 am	-	7:00 pm
Friday	10:00 am	_	5:00 pm
Saturday	10:00 am	-	2:00 pm
Sunday	1:00 pm	-	4:00 pm

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## Local

## Postal Customer



Norfolk Library founder Isabella Eldridge's portrait used to hang in the Great Hall. It was painted by Ellen Emmet Rand, best known for her portraits of important politicians, artists, writers, and socialites. She painted three portraits of President Franklin D. Roosevelt during the early 1930s, one of which became the official White House portrait.