

ASHAWAY FREE LIBRARY NEWSLETTER

FALL 2016

Ashaway Free Library, 15 Knight St, 401 377 2770
Hours: Mon& Fri 10-5, Tues & Thurs 4-8, Wed 10-8, Sat 9-1
www.ashawaylibrary.org, director@ashawaylibrary.org

Sunday October 2, 3 pm Info Session *2017 European River Cruise to Benefit AFL*

You are cordially invited to attend an informational meeting about the upcoming 9-day Seine River Cruise to Paris and the heart of Normandy being sponsored by the Ashaway Free Library in October 2017. Come and learn everything you need to know about this exciting journey at this no-obligation get together. Light refreshments will be served. Anyone who books the journey at the meeting will receive a \$100 discount. Plus, if you book and pay in full by October 11, 2016, you can save an additional 10%.



If you would like to attend this informational meeting, please call the Library at 377-2770 to RSVP. If you are unable to attend but would like more information, stop by the Library to pick up a brochure or call Judie Freeman at 322-9067.

Story Hour Starts Wednesday, October 5, 10:15 am

Children 3 1/2 to 5 will enjoy this story session and craft project led by Miss Nancy. It runs about 45 minutes and includes a couple of stories and a craft project.

Adult Card Making/Rubber Stamping Program

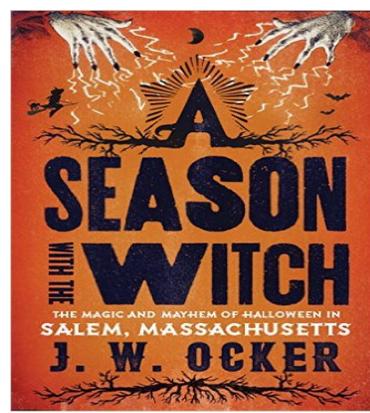
Mark your calendars for the fall card making program: Wednesday, October 26, 6 p.m., \$7 for 5 projects; Holiday card program: Saturday, November 26, 1 p.m., or Monday, November 28, 5 p.m., \$25 for 12 projects; both dates will offer the same projects. Registration for these programs is not yet open. Please check your e-mail inbox in the upcoming weeks.

A Season with the Witch

Saturday, November 5, 2 pm

Mark your calendars now! Edgar-award-winning author J.W. Ocker makes a return to the Ashaway Free Library to talk about his newest book, *A Season with the Witch*. The book, due out on October 4, is already getting rave reviews.

Here's a little bit more about *A Season with the Witch* (description from Amazon): "*Salem, Massachusetts, may be the strangest city on the planet. A single event in its 400 years of history, the Salem Witch Trials of 1692, transformed it into the Capital of Creepy in America. But Salem is a seasonal town, and its season happens to be Halloween. Every October, this small city of 40,000 swells to more than a quarter million as witches, goblins, ghouls, and ghosts (and their admirers) descend on Essex Street. For the fall of 2015, occult enthusiast and Edgar Award-winning writer J.W. Ocker moved his family of four to downtown Salem to experience firsthand a season with the witch, visiting all of its historical sites and macabre attractions. In between, he interviews its leaders and citizens, its entrepreneurs and visitors, its street performers and Wiccans, its psychics and critics, creating a picture of this unique place and the people who revel in, or merely weather, its witchiness.*"



Whether you're a history buff, travel enthusiast, or someone who wants your Halloween season to stretch just a little bit longer, you won't want to miss this visit with J.W. Ocker. This program is free and open to the public.

Are you a member of the Charter Oak Credit Union?

If so, you can double your donation to the Ashaway Free Library! A maximum of \$100 in donations made by members will be matched by the COCU. They have set a \$100,000 limit to their matching funds so the sooner your donation is made before the 11/23 deadline, the more likely they will make the match. Details at CharterOak.org/content/matching-gifts.

Ashaway in the Nineteenth Century



Kris Van Den Bossche is a long time Ashaway resident who is very knowledgeable about local history. He recently donated several historic photographs of the village as it was in the 1800's. The next time you visit the AFL, be sure to look at the three framed photos that compare the view out the windows to the view from the 1870's.

Memorial Bench to Honor AFL Patron

We are grateful to the family of Ginette Crowther who donated funds for a memorial bench that will be set up near the gazebo this Fall. The family's generosity was matched by Gary Williams' donation of materials and labor to build a gravel, sand, and paving stone base for the proper placement of the bench. Library visitors will enjoy this outside seating for years to come.

Thanks to Gary Williams of Gary's Masonry (fireplaces, patios, walks, repairs, thin stone 401-741-

Fall Landscaping Project

You may have noticed some new planting beds around the AFL. As the summer heat abates, Library Trustees will be planting a selection of low-maintenance trees, shrubs and perennials to enhance the Library grounds. These plantings are made possible by a patron donation, the Thrivent Financial Foundation and the donation of mulch from Thompson Native Lumber. Thank you!

Annual Fall Volunteer Dinner a Success Despite Storm

Wouldn't you know that in a season of drought there's a downpour just as the tables are being set up outside for the Volunteer Dinner! Trustees and staff threw plastic sheets over tables and huddled in the gazebo (see photo) until the storm passed and almost 70 volunteers and families arrived to enjoy a cookout and potluck supper. The community benefits in so many ways from Library volunteers who tutor in technology, sort donated books, lead craft sessions, conduct and assist with programs, shelve books, and help with the spring book and plant sale. If you have a few hours you would like to spend helping your community and your Library, call Heather Field at 377 2770 to see how you can contribute. Thanks volunteers. Your Library loves you!

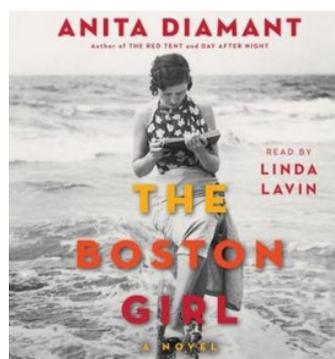


Ashaway Holiday Stroll, Saturday, December 10

Halloween hasn't arrived yet but the Stroll committee is busy making plans for the annual Ashaway village holiday celebration. The AFL will participate with a Holiday Book Sale and Gift Basket raffle from 9 am to 2 pm, Letters to Santa from 10 am to 12 pm and Holiday Movies (Rudolph and Frosty) starting at 2. A new multi-church cantata is being organized for 4 pm by Pastor Dave Stall and the full day will end as usual with spectacular fireworks. Stay tuned for details.

Book Review: The Boston Girl by Anita Diamant

Audio narrated by Linda Lavin. This 2015 best-seller is an instant classic in its terrific audio version. Narrator Linda Lavin transported me to Boston starting in the early 1900's as the voice of 85-year-old Addie Baum. Alternately humorous, wry, sorrowful and joyous, Addie's is the only voice we hear. Although Addie narrates her life in the context of an interview by her 22-year-old granddaughter, for most of the story I left like she was sitting across from me with a cup of coffee. I could see her winking, shaking her head, sitting up straight, wiping away a tear. Born in Boston to immigrant Jewish parents, Addie strains against the cultural boundaries her parents try to enforce. She is encouraged by new friends and a supportive older sister to make a series of bold life choices, without knowing exactly where she is heading but always with confidence. I loved that we learn not only about growing up Jewish, but also bits about the Italian and Irish immigrant experience through Addie's friends, nicely contrasted by her brush with high society. Addie is lucky. Or perhaps her chutzpah and optimism put her in the situations where luck can find her. And yet, Addie fails at first love and despairs of finding a soul mate. We're carried along to witness who among her family survives the great Boston flu epidemic and who does not. In the most poignant scene in the story, I bore witness with her at her mother's deathbed where she waited to finally hear evidence of her mother's love. The story ends in the present day, Addie still the force to be admired, and an example her granddaughter is poised to follow.



Review by

Linda Sardone

LIBRARY TEAM

Head Librarian Heather Field. Staff: Josh Fowler, Brenda Laing, Nancy Martel, Cheryl Baker, Amy Forbes. Substitutes: Peggy Roever, Emily LeMay

Board of Trustees: Donna Bailey, Dave Bettger, Lorna Caulfield, Sara Clark, Fran Cohen, Dezmarie Doyle, Judie Freeman, Ray Mitchell, Linda Sardone, Bob Ward

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aspires to be.....
THE CENTER OF THE
ASHAWAY UNIVERSE!

- Board of Trustees