



The Athenaeum Voice

DIRECTOR'S WORDS

The Athenaeum continues to work with the Town of Becket on upgrading our septic system. We are working well together and hope to have a plan in place for improvements to our existing system by the end of 2018. We hope to have the actual work done by the end of June, 2019.

The Town of Becket is now publishing an electronic monthly newsletter called the Becket Bulletin. If you are not a subscriber and would like to be, please go online to: <http://eepurl.com/dJg15X> where you will be directed to a page to enter your name, email address and birthdate. Alternatively, you can access the town bulletin subscription page on the town website: <http://townofbecket.org/subscriber> which requires your name and email address.

The new Becket Bulletin is a great way to stay informed about significant events in our community. Please sign up today and pass the word along to your neighbors.

We will also be making some significant staffing changes at the Athenaeum by the end of 2018. Be sure to stay tuned for more details next month!

Cathy DeFoe

Pre-School STEAM with Wendy Provencher Returns! Science, Technology, Engineering, Art and Math

Did you ever think that some things are too hard to do at home with your kids? We will give you fun, easy, and not too messy ways to practice STEAM at home with your child/children. Join us for an hour of great fun! This is an opportunity to inspire your kids to engineer, create, design, explore, and build!

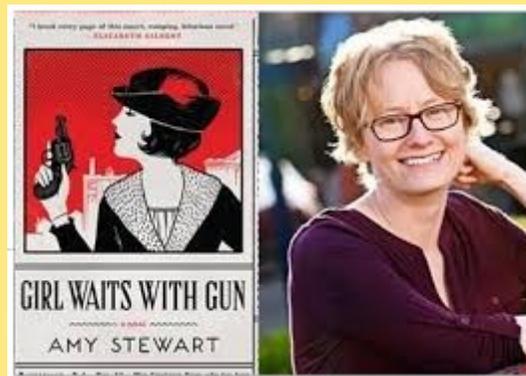
Tuesdays
November 6, 20, 27

December 11, 18
1-2pm at the Becket Athenaeum

FREE!

The Central Berkshire Coordinated Family and Community Engagement Grant is funded by the Massachusetts Department of Early Education and Care.

Athenaeum Book Club



All are welcome to join us at the Athenaeum on Tuesday, November 13th at 1:30pm, when we will discuss *Girl Waits With Gun* by Amy Stewart.

(Note: Election Day changed our meeting date from the first to the second Tuesday.

Apologies to those who can't attend due to this date change.)

We meet at 1:30pm on the first Tuesday of the month to discuss the book over tea/coffee and make our next selection. Even if you haven't read that month's book, consider attending to give input when selecting the next book.

Regular attendance is anywhere between 6 and 16 people. We generally wrap up by 2:45 or 3pm. We read fiction and non-fiction.

Here are a few that we've read over the years:

Americanah by Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie

Mudbound by Hillary Jordan

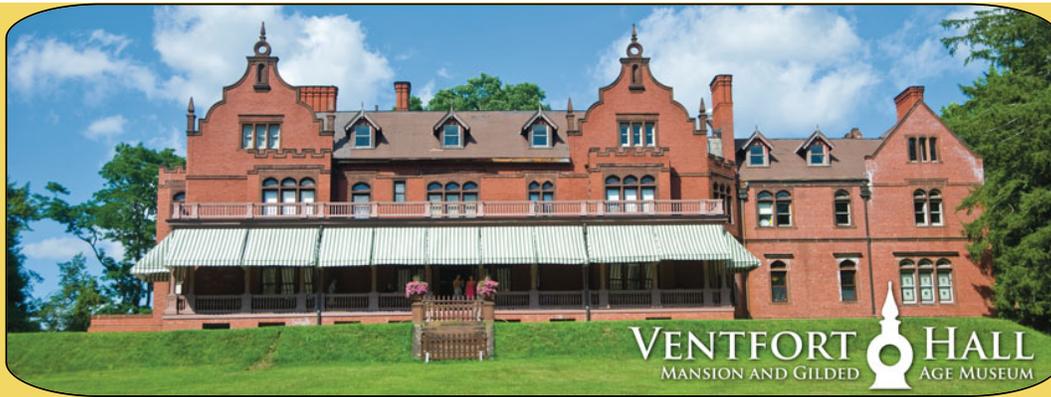
A Gentleman in Moscow by Amor Towles

Out Stealing Horses by Per Petterson

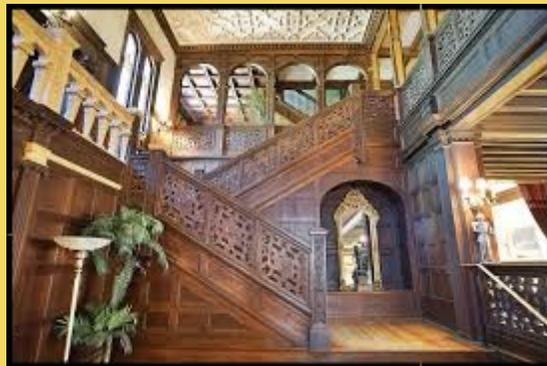
The Book Thief by Markus Zusak

The most recent 24 selections are available in our Book Club section.

All others are shelved in their appropriate section and have "Book Club" in green on their spine label.



Ventfort Hall is an imposing Jacobean Revival–style mansion built in 1893 for Sarah Morgan, the sister of J. P. Morgan. Designed by the architects Rotch & Tilden, it is located in Lenox, Massachusetts. Listed on the National Register of Historic Places, and declared an official project of “Save America’s Treasures,” a Millennium program of Hillary Rodham Clinton and the National Trust for Historic Preservation, Ventfort Hall is the home of The Museum of the Gilded Age.



Ventfort Hall was one of the approximately seventy–five so–called “Cottages” built in Lenox in the late 19th century when the village became a popular Gilded Age resort. Located on spacious grounds in the heart of the village, Ventfort Hall is continuing its restoration, with the first floor completely open to the public along with many of the rooms on the second floor. Through lectures, exhibits, theatrical performances and other events, The Museum of the Gilded Age interprets the great changes that occurred in American life, industry, and society during the Nineteenth Century, a fascinating period of American history.

Open Daily Year–Round

Winter Hours: November 1 until Memorial Day Weekend

Monday through Friday, 11 am – 4 pm

Saturday 10 am – 4 pm

Sunday 10 am – 3 pm

Closed on Easter, Thanksgiving, Christmas and New Year’s Day

Tours

Guided tours scheduled every hour on the hour

11 am – 3 pm, Monday through Friday;

Saturday, 10 am – 3 pm;

Sunday, 10 am – 2 pm

Last tour Monday through Saturday at 3 pm; Sunday at 2 pm

Pass admits 2 people for free guided tour

Regular admission adult \$18; senior/student (18–23 with student ID) \$17;
child (5–17) \$7; children 4 & under are free

EBT cards accepted for 2 adults and all children in their party

For more info visit www.mass.gov/cardtoculture

Holiday Hours:
The Athenaeum will be closed
Wednesday, November 21 and
Thursday, November 22,
in observance of Thanksgiving.



Winter Entertaining: Appetizers Made Easy with Sally Soluri and Jodi Shafiroff

Wednesday, November 7, 6–8pm

Hosting a gathering for family and friends, but feeling the stress of planning and making the food?

Join Sally and Jodi as they lead us through recipes for easy, delicious, and mostly make-ahead appetizers.

Please register by noon, Monday, November 5th for this FREE workshop:
email: jodi@bwlibrary.org or call 623–5483.

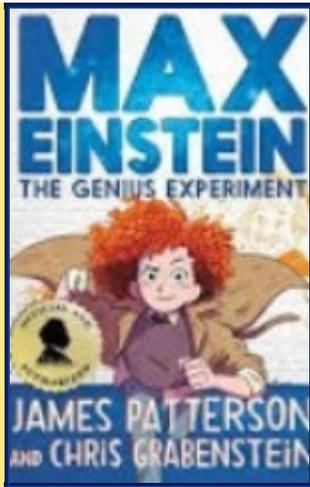
We will serve wine, cheese, and crackers and sample our creations.

Winter Evening Workshops are funded by a grant from the Central Berkshire Fund of the Berkshire Taconic Community Foundation.

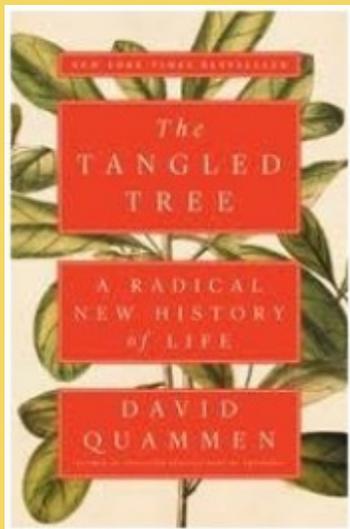
In the Children's New Book Section:

The world's #1 bestselling author has teamed up with the world's most famous genius to entertain, educate and inspire a generation of kids—with the first and only kids' book series officially approved by the Albert Einstein Archives.

Twelve-year-old orphan Max Einstein (like Albert Einstein himself) is not your typical genius. Max hacks the computer system at NYU in order to attend college courses (even though she hates tests), builds homemade inventions to help the homeless, and plays speed chess in the park. Her not-so-normal life is crazy but predictable until.....Max is recruited by a



mysterious organization! Their mission: solve some of the world's toughest problems using science. Max Einstein is a heroine for the modern age and will be looked up to by readers for generations to come.



In the Adult New Book Section:

Longlisted for the
National Book Award for Nonfiction

Nonpareil science writer David Quammen explains how recent discoveries in molecular biology can change our understanding of evolution and life's history, with powerful implications for human health and even our own human nature.

In the mid-1970s, scientists began using DNA sequences to reexamine the history of all life. Perhaps the most startling discovery to come out of this new field—the study of life's diversity and relatedness at the molecular level—is horizontal gene transfer (HGT), or the movement of genes across species lines. It turns out that HGT has been widespread and important. For instance, we now know that roughly eight percent of the human genome arrived not through traditional inheritance from directly ancestral forms, but sideways by viral infection—a type of HGT.

Visit our Book Sale shelves near the Circulation Desk where you will find a wide variety of books, DVDs, and greeting cards for you to choose from. All sales are by donation!

And at the Becket Arts Center:

BAC's Annual Wreath Making Workshops are scheduled and taking registrations now!

Call or email to save your space as these classes fill up quickly!

Details:

Saturday, December 1

10-12pm: Wreath

1:30-3:30pm: Wreath

Sunday, December 2

10-12pm: Kissing Ball

1:30-3:30pm: Wreath

Email office@becketartscenter.org or call 413-623-6635 for more details, or to register.



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