

Pawlet Public Library Announces 2018 Season of Programs

A Precautionary Tale: How One Small Town Banned Pesticides, Preserved Its Food Heritage, and Inspired a Movement headlines the Pawlet Public Library's season of public programs, running from April through December. Pawlet author, farmer and college professor Philip Ackerman-Leist speaks about his book and the accompanying pop-up show of 20 large-format artworks by Douglas Gayeton that tell the story of Mals, Italy, long known as the breadbasket of the Tyrol. The free program is scheduled for Sunday, April 22, 3 p.m.-5 p.m., and the exhibit runs through May 9, both at the library.

On Sunday, May 20, 3 p.m.-5 p.m., the library hosts Vermont Humanities Council Speaker Rebecca Rupp with her engaging talk, *Wolf Peaches, Poisoned Peas, and Madame Pompadour's Underwear: The Surprising History of Common Garden Vegetables*. Rupp, an author and blogger on food science and history for National Geographic, tells the long and fascinating histories of common garden vegetables, including Vermont's dynamic duo of kale and Gilfeather turnip.

Adults and children are encouraged to attend Modern Times Theater's old fashioned puppet show and music concert on Sunday, June 17, 3 p.m.-5 p.m. Vermont Vaudeville co-founders Rose Friedman and Justin Lander perform *That's What I Call Sweet Music: The Troubles and Travails of Puppetry's Favorite Loudmouth, Mr. Punch*. Their entertainment features a mini concert with cornet, ukulele, upright bass, five string banjo, and bicycle pump. The program is free, thanks to the sponsorship of the Vermont Department of Libraries.

The venerable Pawlet Public Library Annual Book Sale, now in its 51st year, is slated for July 28-29, at the Mettawee Community School auditorium. This all-volunteer-run event is the primary fundraiser for the library, drawing shoppers from all over Vermont and nearby states. The library accepts book donations for the sale up to the second week in July.

Back by popular demand, the Washington County Band performs on Saturday, August 4, 7 p.m.-9 p.m., on the library lawn. Active for well over 30 years, the band has grown steadily, both in size and musicianship. Currently, the 40-some volunteer members hail from Vermont and New York counties of Washington, Warren and Rensselaer. Co-sponsored by Pawlet businesses, the concert is free.

William Hosley, collector, photographer and preservationist, presents *New England Impressions: Art and the Making of Regional Identity, 1885-1950*, on Sunday, September 16, 3 p.m.-5 p.m. The aspiring New England artists, who are the subjects of his talk, share a reverence for place, past, seasonality and ideas associated with New England's epic heritage. The library pulls together its collection of New England art in a special exhibit for the occasion. Hosley is a Vermont Humanities Council Speaker, and the program is free.

On Thursday, October 11, 6 p.m.-9 p.m., the library's Board of Trustees hosts a fundraising dinner and silent auction at The Barn in Pawlet. The proceeds from the event help fund the continuation of free library programs and the purchase of new books for adults and children. Advanced registration is required for this fall foliage dinner and opportunity to support the library.

In November, a motor coach tour to King Arthur Flour in Norwich, Vt., kicks off a series of public programs in collaboration with the Vermont Humanities Council's Vermont Reads 2018, featuring the book *Bread and Roses, Too* by Vermont author Katherine Paterson. Her book about the 1912 "Bread and Roses" strike in the Lawrence, Mass., textile mills is seen through the eyes of a young Italian-American girl and a runaway boy, who are sent temporarily to a foster family in Barre, Vt. Advanced registration and \$55 payment is required for the King Arthur Flour tour and demo, scheduled for Saturday, November 3, departing the library at 9 a.m. and returning at 5:00 p.m. Copies of the book will be available to read on the motor coach.

On Tuesday, November 13, 1 p.m.-2 p.m., the library's Tea Read Book Club invites the public to a book discussion about *Bread and Roses, Too*. The final session in the library's Vermont Reads 2018 programs will be held at the Slate Valley Museum on Saturday, November 17, 1 p.m.-2 p.m. to view exhibits that interpret the immigration experience of many families who moved to the local area to work in the slate industry. The book discussion is free and the museum visit is \$5.

The 2018 season of public programs at the library concludes with a Holiday Tea on Sunday, December 16, 2 p.m.-4 p.m., courtesy of the staff and Board and Trustees. Tablecloths and teapots will grace the tables in the program room and the children's room. Guests are encouraged to add their favorite cookies and recipes to the cookie share.

For program updates, details and suggested program reading lists from the library's collection, visit www.pawletpubliclibrary.wordpress.com or call 802-325-3123. The library is housed in a renovated and accessible historic grammar school building, located at 141 School Street in Pawlet.



One of 20 large-format artworks by Douglas Gayeton on exhibit at the Pawlet Public Library, in conjunction with Philp Ackerman-Leist's program about his book, *A Precautionary Tale: How One Small Town Banned Pesticides, Preserved Its Food Heritage, and Inspired a Movement*, on April 22.