

# Biblioevents

Ridgefield Library's Adult Programs Newsletter

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Enriching Minds.  
Enhancing Community.

August 2013

## SUMMER READING CONTINUES! *Groundbreaking Reads!*

This year's Adult Summer Reading theme is ***Groundbreaking Reads!*** The program once again coincides with the long-running Children's and Teen summer reading programs that begin on June 24 and run through August 10. During this period, just read a book or listen to an audiobook and submit an entry to be entered into a drawing for themed prizes. This year participants are encouraged to do their entries online (see the Summer Reading link at [www.ridgefieldlibrary.org](http://www.ridgefieldlibrary.org)). Forms can also be dropped off at the Information Desk.

In addition the Library will host a series of programs and events for adults over the summer. The Library will be a meetup location for a ten-week MOOC (Massive Open

Online Course) called ***The Fiction of Relationship***. Check below for meetup dates and the suggested reading list. Other programs include author talks, photography workshops, a workshop on digital archiving, online language learning, travel resources and more. The Library's many book groups (except Poetry Discussion Group) also continue to meet over the summer.

The Library's Summer Reading Program is made possible thanks to the Friends of the Library.



For more information visit [www.ridgefieldlibrary.org](http://www.ridgefieldlibrary.org) or call 203-438-2282.

## A TEN-PART MASSIVE OPEN ONLINE COURSE (MOOC) ***THE FICTION OF RELATIONSHIP***

Video Lectures with Dr. Arnold Weinstein

The ten-part MOOC (Massive Open Online Course) meetup that began on June 19 here at the **Ridgefield Library** will continue every Wednesday evening through August 21. Video lectures presented by **Coursera** start at 6:30 PM at the Library and will be followed by a moderated discussion. ***The Fiction of Relationship*** online lectures are given by **Dr. Arnold Weinstein** of Brown University. To catch up on lectures you have missed go to [www.coursera.org](http://www.coursera.org).



### Suggested Reading and Meetup Dates:

**June 19** - *Manon Lescaut* by **Abbé Prevost**

**June 26** - *Jane Eyre* by **Charlotte Bronte**

**July 3** - *Bartleby the Scrivener* and *Benito*

*Cereno* by **Herman Melville**

**July 10** - *The Metamorphosis*, *In the Penal Colony*,

and *The Country Doctor* by **Franz Kafka**

**July 17** - *To the Lighthouse* by **Virginia Woolf**

**July 24** - *Light in August* by **William Faulkner**

**July 31** - *Ficciones* by **Jorge Luis Borges**

**August 7** - *The Ice Palace* by **Tarjei Vesaas**

**August 14** - *Beloved* by **Toni Morrison**

**August 21** - *Disgrace* by **J. M. Coetzee**

### What will be the focus of the course?

Here is how Dr. Weinstein describes the course: "What is our relationship to others and to the world? How can Literature help us see these relationships more clearly? This course seeks to explore such questions through adventurous readings of ten great works of narrative fiction from the 18th through the 20th century."

**You will need to register both at the Coursera website and at the Library website.** For more information contact Dorothy Pawlowski @ 203-438-2282 Ext. 1003 or [dlpawl@ridgefieldlibrary.org](mailto:dlpawl@ridgefieldlibrary.org).

**Choose the level of participation that works best for you.** We will have multiple copies of the readings above beginning the last week of May, and many are free as e-books. Audiobooks will also be available for most titles. Select what you wish to read and how many of the video lectures and discussions you can attend. Watch the lecture through the Coursera website from home (or away) if you can't make it to the Library.

## AUTHOR TALKS

### *Poetry and Prose*

with Gil Fagiani and Chris Belden



**Gil Fagiani** is a translator, essayist, short story writer, and poet who grew up in Stamford, Connecticut. His poetry books include: *Serfs of Psychiatry*, *Chianti in Connecticut* and *A Blanquito in*

*El Barrio*. Gil is the Associate Editor of *Feile-Festa* and co-curates the Italian American Writers' Association readings at the Cornelia Street Café in NYC.



**Chris Belden** is the author of the novel *Carry-on*. His short fiction has appeared in numerous literary journals, including *American Fiction*, *SN Review* and *Skidrow Penthouse*. A graduate of the Fairfield University MFA Program, Chris is the founder of the Ridgefield Writers Workshop, and co-organizer of the upcoming Ridgefield Writers Conference. He recently received the Fairfield Book Prize for his collection *The Floating Lady of Lake Tawaba*.

**Thursday, August 8, 7 PM**

Register at [www.ridgefieldlibrary.org](http://www.ridgefieldlibrary.org)

### *Brewster*

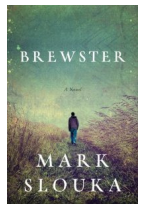
with Mark Slouka



"Reading *Brewster* is like entering the very heart of a Bruce Springsteen song—all grace, all depth, all sinew. Slouka—one of the great unsung writers of our time—has written a magnificent

novel that woke my tired heart." - **Colum McCann**, National Book Award-winning author of *Let the Great World Spin*.

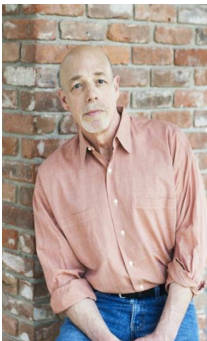
**Mark Slouka** is the author of four other works of fiction including *Lost Lake*, a *New York Times* Notable Book, and *The Visible World*, a finalist for the British Book Award. A contributing editor at *Harper's*, Slouka's work has also appeared in *Best American Short Stories*, *Best American Essays*, and the *PEN/O. Henry Prize Stories*. He lives in Brewster, New York. Thanks to **Books on the Common** copies of *Brewster* will be available for sale and signing at the program.



**Monday, August 12, 7 PM**

Register at [www.ridgefieldlibrary.org](http://www.ridgefieldlibrary.org)

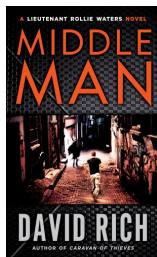
### *Middle Man* with David Rich



"Rich's screenwriting talents make [the plot] plausible as we follow a labyrinth of violence, deceit, and villainy in which the good guy wins, but the bad guy may reappear later. Lots of fun." —*Library Journal*

**David Rich** exploded onto the literary scene with his debut novel *Caravan of Thieves*, receiving comparisons to writing greats like Elmore Leonard, Robert Ludlum and John le Carré.

Rich's background in screenwriting has lent itself to fast-paced scenes and complex plots that could be an episode of *Homeland*, as well as a main character that rivals Jason Bourne and Jack Reacher. His new book *Middle Man* [Dutton; August 29, 2013] is an edge-of-your-seat, gripping crime thriller set in the military world both domestic and foreign, featuring Marine Corps Lieutenant Rollie Waters.



Thanks to **Books on the Common** copies of *Middle Man* will be available for sale and signing at the program.

**Thursday, August 29, 7:30 PM**

Register at [www.ridgefieldlibrary.org](http://www.ridgefieldlibrary.org)

## COLLEGE ADMISSIONS

### *College Admissions Seminars* with Stephanie Goldberg-Mauro

**Admissions and Financial Aid - Thursday, August 1, 7 PM**

**NOTE:** This program is now full. An additional session has been scheduled for **Monday, August 26 at 6:30 PM** that will offer a combination of both the *Admissions* and the *Financial Aid* and the *Creating Your Path to College* seminars.

**Creating Your Path to College - Saturday, August 10, 1 PM**

High school years are critical in the college planning process. This class will give students the time line for high school years that will get them ready to apply for colleges. Students will also learn how to keep track of important events and successes in high school and create a résumé they can continue to work with as they progress through school. In addition, they will learn about the differences in the ACT & SAT tests and gain an understanding as to which test they would do their best on. **High schoolers and parents are welcome to attend!**

**Thursday, August 1, 7 PM (Full)**

**Saturday, August 10, 1 PM - Register**  
**Monday, August 26, 6:30 PM - Register**

# LIBRARY BOOK GROUPS - NEW READERS WELCOME!

## NONFICTIONEERS

Tuesday, August 6  
7:15 PM

*The Elephant  
Whisperer: My Life with  
the Herd in the African  
Wild*

by Lawrence Anthony and  
Graham Spence

### Next Month's Selection

Tuesday, September 3  
7:15 PM

*American Gospel: God,  
the Founding Fathers  
and the Making of a  
Nation*

by Jon Meacham

The American Gospel—literally, the good news about America—is that religion shapes our public life without controlling it. In this vivid book, *The New York Times* bestselling author Jon Meacham tells the human story of how the Founding Fathers viewed faith, and how they ultimately created a nation in which belief in God is a matter of choice.

## MURDER BY THE BOOK

Thursday, August 1  
11:15 AM

*Gorky Park*  
by Martin Cruz Smith

Chief Homicide Investigator Arkady Renko must contend with the bitter cold of the Russian winter and the long arm of the KGB as he seeks to do his job, in the first installment in the series that popularized the genre of "Moscow noir."

## BOOKS & BREAKFAST

Next Meeting  
Monday, August 12  
11:15 AM



This month's program  
will take place at the  
later start time  
@ the Library

## CRITICS' CIRCLE BOOK GROUP

Tuesday, August 20  
7:15 PM

*The Art Forger*  
by B. A. Shapiro.

This compelling literary thriller based on the unsolved mystery surrounding the 1990s art heist at Boston's Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum combines facts with fiction. Artist Claire Roth's life is at a low ebb when a powerful gallery owner offers her a proposition: copy a Degas purported to be one of the works stolen from the Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum in return for a show featuring her own paintings.



## POETRY DISCUSSION GROUP

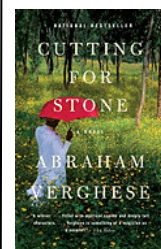
No meetings in July or August. Look for the new schedule coming soon.

The poetry discussion group is made possible thanks to the Friends of the Library,

## A.M. BOOK GROUP

Wednesday, August 28  
11:15 AM

*Cutting for Stone* by  
Abraham Verghese



A sweeping novel that explores love, family, politics and medicine as it charts the coming of age of twin brothers in Ethiopia who grow up to be doctors and to struggle over the woman they both love.

## MEDITATION CLASSES

### Introduction to Mahasati Meditation with Master Achan Niphen



The Ridgefield Library and Redding Center for Meditation will present a two-part introduction to Mahasati Meditation.

Leading the meditation program will be master Achan Niphen, a Theravada monk in the Thai Forest tradition. He is abbot of the Janlan Forest monastery in Northeastern Thailand and has been practicing meditation for over 25 years.

Thursday, August 15 and 22, 7 PM  
Please register at [ridgefieldlibrary.org](http://ridgefieldlibrary.org)

## TECH FRIDAYS

### Downloading Library E-Books and AudioBooks with Dorothy Pawlowski

At this month's *Tech Fridays* come and learn how to download eBooks and audio-books from the Library's OverDrive platform with Adult Services Librarian Dorothy Pawlowski.

*Tech Fridays* - Each month, we'll pick a topic related to technology, and one of our staff will be available to answer your questions and demonstrate how to become an empowered user of online resources and electronic devices. We want your input. Email us your suggestions for topics to cover in the future or contact Adult Services Librarian, Dorothy Pawlowski at 203-438-2282 x1003.

Friday, August 23, 1 - 3 PM  
No registration - Drop in!

# EVENTS CALENDAR - AUGUST 2013

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
28	29	30	31	1 <b>Murder by the Book:</b> <i>Gorky Park</i> by Martin Cruz Smith 11:15 AM  <b>Seminar:</b> <i>Admissions and Financial Aid</i> with Stephanie Goldberg-Mauro 7 PM	2	3 <b>Meeting:</b> <i>Memoir Writing Group</i> 1 PM
4 <b>Closed:</b> <i>Summer Sundays</i>	5	6 <b>The Nonfictioners:</b> <i>The Elephant Whisperer</i> by Lawrence Anthony and Graham Spence 7:15 PM	7 <b>Meetup:</b> <i>The Fiction of Relationship Online Course</i> 6:30 PM	8 <b>Author Talk:</b> <i>Poetry and Prose</i> with Gil Fagiani and Chris Belden 7 PM	9	10 <b>Shutterbugs:</b> <i>Monthly Meeting</i> 9 AM  <b>Seminar:</b> <i>Creating Your Path to College</i> with Stephanie Goldberg-Mauro 1 PM
11 <b>Closed:</b> <i>Summer Sundays</i>	12 <b>Discussion:</b> <i>Books &amp; Breakfast</i> 11:15 AM  <b>Author Talk:</b> <i>Brewster</i> with Mark Slouka 7 PM	13	14 <b>Meetup:</b> <i>The Fiction of Relationship Online Course</i> 6:30 PM	15 <b>Class:</b> <i>Introduction to Mahasati Meditation</i> with Achan Niphen 7 PM  <b>Meeting:</b> <i>The Writers Guild of Ridgefield: A Networking Group for Writers</i> 7 PM	16	17
18 <b>Closed:</b> <i>Summer Sundays</i>	19	20 <b>Critics' Circle Book Group:</b> <i>The Art Forger</i> by B. A. Shapiro 7:15 PM	21 <b>Meetup:</b> <i>The Fiction of Relationship Online Course</i> 6:30 PM	22 <b>Class:</b> <i>Introduction to Mahasati Meditation</i> with Achan Niphen 7 PM	23 <b>Tech Fridays:</b> <i>Downloading Library E-books and Audiobooks</i> with Dorothy Pawlowski 1 PM	24
25 <b>Closed:</b> <i>Summer Sundays</i>	26 <b>Meeting:</b> <i>Library Board</i> 7:30 PM	27	28 <b>A.M. Book Group:</b> <i>Cutting for Stone</i> by Abraham Vergese 11:15 AM	29 <b>Book Launch and Author Talk:</b> <i>Middle Man</i> with David Rich 7:30 PM	30	31