



Beyond the Bookends



April 2018



Website Reliability:

How to Figure out Fake News

Part of our year-long town-wide initiative for Digital Literacy

We've all been hearing a lot about "fake news" lately, and here at the library, we feel that it's part of our job to give you the tools you need to find accurate information.

The Internet has allowed us to access more information than we could at any other point in human history, but it also has allowed anyone with web access to post information, regardless of whether it is true (intentionally or not). And the ease of spreading information has compounded the problem.

Luckily, there are some things you can do and look for to determine whether information you are getting is, in fact, true.

The most important thing you can do is actively think about what you are reading. And remember The 5 Ws: Who, What, When, Where and Why.

These words should guide you when you read piece of information, whether it's on a news website, Facebook/Twitter, or a paper newspaper.

1. Who is the author of this article? Do they have any credentials?
2. What are they saying? Does it actually make sense in the context of what you already know?
3. When was it written? If you can't tell, it might be old or inaccurate.
4. Where did you get this information? Do you trust the source? Is it known for bias? Bias is everywhere, whether on the part of the writer, or you the reader. Do you want to believe what is written? Does the author have a reason for wanting you to believe it? Bias is a huge topic in news literacy. We'll talk more about it later.
5. Why is this piece being written or passed along? Web content is created for different reasons: to entertain, to inform or to persuade. What is its purpose?

If any of the 5Ws make you pause, do a little more digging. Is this information repeated somewhere else? Are the links in the website active and where do they lead? Can you follow the trail of information back to the source?

Here are some good websites that can help you check your information:

Factcheck.org

A nonpartisan, nonprofit "consumer advocate" for voters that aims to reduce the level of deception and confusion in U.S. politics.

Snopes.com

This independent, nonpartisan website researches urban legends and other rumors. It is often the first to set the facts straight on wild fake news claims.

Allsides.com

AllSides curates stories from right, center and left-leaning media so that readers can easily compare how bias influences reporting on each topic.

Book Group Potluck Supper

Tuesday, Apr. 10, 6 - 8 PM

Come to the annual potluck supper to help choose new books for the year!

Reel to Real

Monday, April 2, 1 - 4 PM

Using compassion as a criterion for film discussion.

Library Film Discussion

Thurs., Apr. 12, 5-7:30PM

Presenting the Coen Brothers' *A Serious Man* about a physics professor, played by Michael Stuhlbarg, whose life suddenly starts to fall apart around him.

Reading in the Kitchen Cookbook Club

Thurs, Apr. 5, 6:30 PM

We will be sharing recipes and discussing *Real Irish Food: 150 Classic Recipes from the Old Country*.

Meet & Greet Our Local Immigrants:

Sonia Barazarte

Saturday, Apr. 21, 2 PM

Leaving it all for Freedom Sonia will show us amazing photos of her beloved country, Venezuela, and talk about the changes which caused her to emigrate.

The Softer Side of Celtic Songs, Stories and History Presented by Jeff Snow

Thurs., April 26, 6:30 PM

Music, Stories and History from Scotland, Ireland and England that will keep you on the edge of your seat.



Friends of the Library Book Sale

Saturday, Apr. 14, 9 - 4 and Sunday Apr. 15, 9 - 3

Buchanan Auditorium

Support the library and get a bargain—doesn't get any better than that!



Children's Storytimes and Play Groups

All programs begin at 10:30 AM.

All activities are free and open to the public. No registration required.

Wonderful Wednesdays, 10:30 - 11:30

Stories and activities for Preschool children. Apr. 4, 11, 18*, 25

No Toddler Time in April, we will resume in May.

Family Storytime

Our weekly all-ages story time takes place on Saturdays 10:30 - 11:30.

Apr. 7, 21, 28

(No storytime on April 14 due to Friends Book Sale)

Elephant & Piggie Party

Wednesday April 18, 10:30 AM-Noon

Everyone loves Elephant and Piggie! Join us for fun stories, crafts and activities celebrating these beloved characters. We might celebrate the Pigeon too- he doesn't like to be left out!

Science and Nature Fun

Thursday April 19, 1:30-3:00 PM

Drop in for some fun with easy science experiments and activities. Try some marshmallow engineering, experiments with raisins and m&ms, watch some "walking water," plus make an easy bird feeder for your feathered friends. We'll also have various blocks and manipulative toys available.



Perfect Pollinators

Friday April 20, 2:00-3:30 PM

Just in time for spring and Earth Day, members of UConn's Alpha Sigma present a lively and informative program about the pollinators all around us. Through multiple activities kids will learn about a variety of pollinators and why they are so important. Activities include making your own hummingbird feeder, a butterfly craft, and a cross-pollination activity involving cheeto puffs! Alpha Sigma is a professional agricultural sorority that promotes scholarship, leadership, service and fellowship.



Board Game Night at the Library Express!

Tuesday, Apr. 11, 6 - 9 PM

Enjoy board games? Bring your own game or play one of ours. For teens accompanied by an adult) and adults.

Recycling 101

at the Library Express

Wednesday, Apr. 25, 5:30PM

From time to time, everybody wonders, "Is this recyclable?" Gain a better understanding of what is recyclable, what is compostable, & what is trash.



Meditation & Yoga

Wednesdays 10 - 11:30 AM

Apr. 4, 11, 18, 25

Buchanan Auditorium

Passport to Connecticut Libraries

April 2-30, 2018

Your library card opens the world to you through books, audio books, music CDs and DVDs. Now let your library card open the doors of CT libraries by participating in the Passport to Connecticut Libraries Program!

To participate, visit the Library to pick up your Passport. We will stamp it and give you a token gift to get you started. Then, take your Passport along as you visit other participating libraries. At each visit, you must show your library card, and then the library will stamp your passport and give you another small gift.

If you visit at least five participating libraries and return your passport to a participating library by May 7th, then you will be entered into one state-wide drawing for a chance to win a \$150 Visa gift card for adults (18 and up) and a \$100 Visa gift card for children (under 18). This is a state-wide contest where four winners will be selected: one adult and one child from a random drawing from all who visited at least five libraries, and one adult and one child from a random drawing from all who visited the most libraries.

For more details and a full list of participating libraries, ask your local librarian. Mansfield's contact is Peggy at McCarthyml@mansfieldct.org.

Mansfield Public Library

54 Warrenville Rd., Mansfield, CT 06250

Monday: 10-5 Tuesday: 10-8 Wednesday: 10-5



860-423-2501

Thursday: 10-8 Friday: 9-5

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Saturday: 9-5 Sunday: Closed