

Tattler

Summer 2019



SUMMER IN REDDING:

“IT IS A LUXURIOUSLY LAZY AND DELIGHTFUL DAY HERE; & THE SUN, & THE SHADE, & THE FAR-SPREADING GREEN & SUMPTUOUS DENSE FOLIAGE, & THE SOFT BLUE DISTANCES, AND THE GOSSIPING BIRDS MAKE ME STAY OUTDOORS. I AM DOING VERY, VERY, VERY LITTLE WORK. I SEEM TO GREATLY PREFER CARDS & BILLIARDS, & READING, & LYING AROUND IN THE SHADE. I WORKED FOR 60 YEARS, & IF I’M EVER GOING TO TAKE A HOLIDAY IT IS TIME I WAS AT IT.”

Mark Twain, in a letter to his daughter Jean from his home here in Redding.
July 28, 1908



LABOR OF LOVE

59th Annual Book Fair: August 30 - September 2

Labor Day in America = The annual tribute to the contribution workers have made to the strength, prosperity and well-being of our country.
Labor Day in Redding = The 59th annual Mark Twain Library Book Fair, a backbreaking labor of love which invaluable contributes to the prosperity and well-being of our library.

It takes 52 weeks a year to prepare for. It requires the dedication of a tireless team who categorize, clean, price, box and move 65,000+ volumes. It needs another few hundred volunteers to execute it over Labor Day weekend. (No wonder the powers-that-be 59 years ago decided that Labor Day Weekend was a fitting time of year to host the library’s uber-fundraiser!) And with the gargantuan labor effort at its core, the **Mark Twain Library’s Book Fair** continues to bear the mantle as the oldest and one of the largest book fairs in New England.

To ensure the success of the **Book Fair**, volunteers are urgently needed. A short shift promises camaraderie, satisfaction and **fun**. As Mark Twain said (and he wasn’t describing pitching in at his library’s **Book Fair**, but he may as well have been):

“a good and wholesome thing is a little harmless **fun** in this world; it tones a body up and keeps him human and prevents him from souring.”

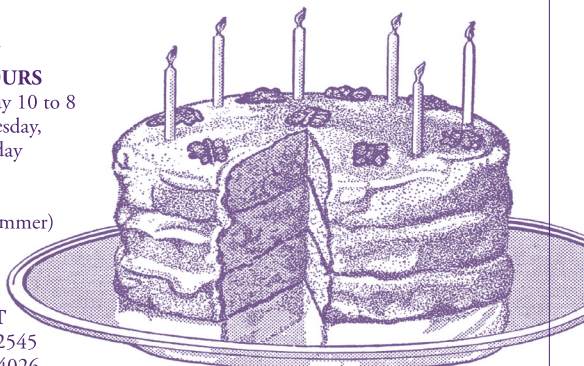
BLOWING OUT THE CANDLES... FOR THE MTL!

Last spring, a group of soon-to-be 7-year olds planned to celebrate their birthdays together and instead of collecting presents, unanimously agreed to ask for donations to the library. According to one of their moms, “The girls wanted to show their love for the library which has been a staple in their lives – through countless story times and wonderful special programming with Miss Lisa – from the very beginning.”

In June, we received a collective donation from the girls, earmarked for Children’s Programming. We are very proud of these young ladies for their early philanthropic yearnings and we know Mark Twain would be, too.

To Aubrey, Katherine, Anya, Hadley and Jennie...

Thank you.
 We hope your cake was delicious, and that your birthday wishes all come true!



LIBRARY SUMMER HOURS
 Monday & Thursday 10 to 8
 Tuesday, Wednesday,
 Friday, Saturday
 10 to 5
 Sunday
 (closed during summer)

CONTACT
 Tel (203) 938-2545
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 sandi@marktwainlibrary.org

WWW.MARKTWAINLIBRARY.ORG

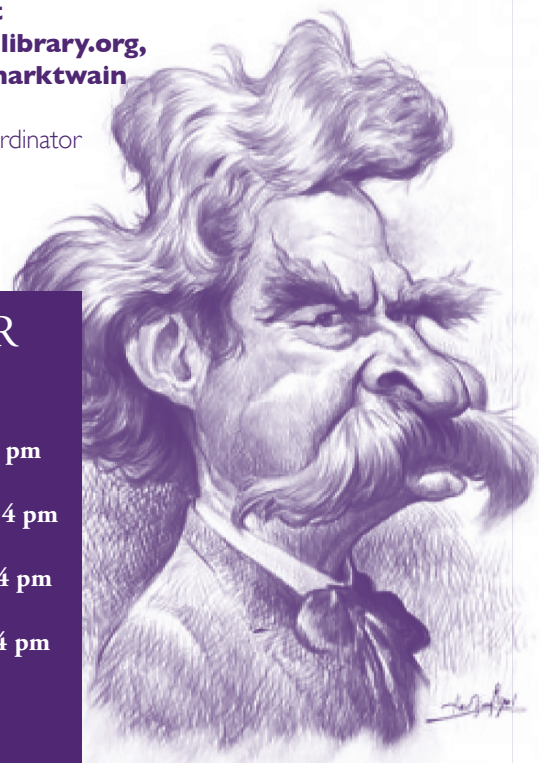
THIS YEAR’S HIGHLIGHTS

- More than 75 different categories!
- Special sections from the personal libraries of Martha Stewart, George Plimpton & politico Dick Morris
- Extensive aviation history collection
- Interesting assortment on train travel
- Wide assortment of Native American titles
- Large collection of Southeast Asian Art
- Large collection of Irish history and Irish biographies
- Chez Lenard, Ridgefield’s famous hot dog man, will be on site Fri & Sat
- Joel Barlow swim team will be selling refreshments on Sun & Mon
- The Redding Food Pantry will be collecting donations

Please sign up at
www.marktwainlibrary.org,
 email **bookfair@marktwainlibrary.org**,
 or call Volunteer Coordinator
 Catherine Riordan
 at **203-983-7404**.
 See You At The Fair!

BOOK FAIR HOURS

FRI 8/30: 9 am to 6 pm
Prices as marked
SAT 8/31: 10 am to 4 pm
Prices as marked
SUN 9/1: 10 am to 4 pm
Half price day
MON 9/2: 9 am to 4 pm
\$10 for each box full of books, or half-price if less than a box full!



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MARK TWAIN
Library
Books Are Just the Beginning...

P.O. Box 1009
Redding, CT 06875

POSTAL PATRON



THE 6th PUDD'NHEAD FESTIVAL

Saturday, September 21st
THE PUDD'NHEAD PARADE!

10:30 am – 12:30 pm
Funny, free fun for the young!

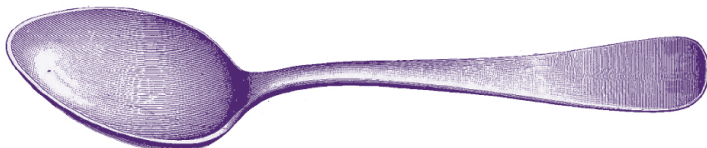
Saturday Evening, September 21st
The HOOT'NANNY!

7:00 pm – 10:00 pm
Tickets: \$75, will go on sale August 12

Saturday Evening, September 28th
THE PUDD'NHEAD GALA
HONORING JON HAMM!

5:00 pm – 10:00 pm
\$300 General Admission
Tickets will go on sale August 12
Sponsorship Seats available now

All announcements and invitations are sent via email.
To be sure you are on the library's list, please contact
Sandi@marktwainlibrary.org.
For all info, please contact **puddnhead@marktwainlibrary.org**



*Jester hats off to Lead Sponsor
Bahr & Co. for their refreshing
support of Pudd'nhead - and
for raising the bar on urban
lifestyle and apparel in our neck
of the woods! #bahrandco*



PUDD'NHEAD: SPOONING UP FUNDS AND FUN

6 years ago, a mindful nudge and a notion from the incomparable actor/comedian/best-selling author **Michael Ian Black** inspired a new and necessary fundraiser for the library. Drawing inspiration from Twain's classic *The Tragedy of Pudd'nhead Wilson*, it was coined **The Pudd'nhead Festival** and its been growing like a weed ever since.

What began in 2014 as a single event honoring National Book Award Finalist and cartoonist Roz Chast has flourished to span 2 weekends and includes the lively **Pudd'nhead Parade** for kids and **The Hoot'nanny**, featuring stand-up comedians imported from Manhattan. All events are hilariously hosted by Michael Ian Black.

The centerpiece is the **Pudd'nhead Prize for Outstanding Humor** – appropriately bestowed in the form of a gigantic spoon -- awarded to one who channels Twain's legendary wit. The event is held at InSitu, the exquisite private sculpture garden in Redding.

Prize winners to date: **Roz Chast, Ben Stiller, Jim Gaffigan, Seth Meyers, and Paul Rudd.** On September 28, the coveted spoon will be awarded to leading man/funny man **Jon Hamm.**

The Pudd'nhead Festival is essential to the library's bottom line. It is also a fitting nod to our illustrious founder. Mark Twain banked on his funnybone and now - via **Pudd'nhead** - so do we. We are enormously grateful to **Michael Ian Black**, the man behind it all, for dishing up the revelry year after year.



YES, I WANT TO BE A FRIEND OF THE MARK TWAIN LIBRARY

I WILL LEND A HAND

With a contribution of:

- \$75 \$100 \$150 \$250 \$500
 \$1,000 \$2,500 \$_____ (Other)

The Mark Twain Library is a 501(c)(3) non-profit which qualifies for corporate matching funds. All contributions are tax deductible as permitted by law.

HONOR SOMEONE WITH A TRIBUTE GIFT

- In Honor of
 In Memory of

Tribute Name: _____

CHECK: please make check payable to Mark Twain Library
Amount enclosed: \$ _____

CREDIT CARD: Visa Mastercard Amex

Account No: _____

Expiration Date: _____

Signature (required): _____

Name: _____

Address: _____

Town: _____ State: _____ ZIP: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

ONLINE DONATION HAPPILY ACCEPTED:

www.MarkTwainLibrary.org

THANKS...

for **spoonin' up some sunshine**
this summer on behalf of
Mr. Twain, his library and
our beloved town.

