

THE Wadhams Free Library

Spring 2024



Wednesday Night Talks at 7 p.m.

Jacqueline van Gorkom TOTALITY: The Next Eclipse March 13

On April 8 a total solar eclipse will be visible from Essex County. Astronomer Jacqueline van Gorkom will describe fun and safe ways to watch the eclipse and explore some interesting things to look at if it turns out to be cloudy that day! She will review what a solar eclipse is, why total solar eclipses are rare phenomena, and their role in some myths. Jacqueline van Gorkom watched her first total eclipse in 2017. She studies galaxy evolution with radio telescopes. She has been teaching at Columbia University for over 30 years.

Colin Powers The Boquet River: Resilience and Restoration News for 2024

A brief illustrated look at the resilience history of the Boquet River and where it stands in 2024; and a snapshot of the Boquet River Association's (BRASS) projects for the coming year. Colin Powers is a Board Member of the Boquet River Association and a graduate of UVM's Community Resilience & Planning program.

Jim Kinley and Mary Bell Spain, Portugal, Morocco... and more about the Moors

Jim Kinley and Mary Bell will present photos, videos and tales of their travels this past November to the Iberian Peninsula and Northwestern Africa, and will give their impressions of the art in the Prado museum, flamenco dancing in Sevilla, fado music in Portugal, and the sights, sounds and scenes in the medinas of Fes and Marrakesh.

May 8 Michale Glennon Wool and Water: Stitching Water's Story with Fiber Art

Michale Glennon is a wildlife ecologist, fiber artist, and the director of Wool and Water, a collaborative data art project of the Paul Smith's College Adirondack Watershed Institute that blends fiber art with scientific information to create visual representations of changing water quality conditions in the Adirondacks and Lake Champlain Basin.

The Book of Ruth: On the Fine Art of Storytelling

Jo Ann will take us on a literary reading of this most popular biblical story of love, duty and passion in the town of Bethlehem, set within the framework of the law as it was practiced (or not practiced). Jo Ann Gardner is the author of several books on gardening and herbs and the Bible.



The Big E

Monday April 8th 2024

Along with the rest of the country, the Library is planning for the upcoming Eclipse with anticipation, excitement, and fun. We are fortunate that we lie in the path of totality as the eclipse travels in a diagonal from southwest to northeast across the U.S. Stop by the Library to see a working model of the movement of the Earth and Moon relative to the Sun that shows how eclipses happen. Or try out our d-i-y model featuring a globe, a tennis ball on a stick, and a flashlight. You can be the Sun!

Jacqueline van Gorkom is Professor Emerita of Astronomy at Columbia University, where she has taught for over 30 years. She usually spends her time studying the formation of galaxies with radio telescopes. For her lecture at the Library on Wednesday March 13th, she has agreed to turn her attention to phenomena closer to Earth to help us understand and appreciate the approaching Total Solar Eclipse.

On Sunday April 7th, the day before the Eclipse, we're hosting our Spring Brunch fundraiser. It's a Waffle Frittata Extravaganza! Come and fortify yourselves for the Big Event from 10 to 2 at Dogwood Bread Company.

We have eclipse glasses. They will be available at the Lecture on Wednesday March 13th, at the Brunch at Dogwood on Sunday April 7th , and at the Library. We received the glasses to share with you from the SEAL Program (Solar Eclipse Activities for Libraries) of STARnet. Check out their websites for information and activities. You can find the Wadhams Free Library and other libraries in our area on the STARnet map.

The Internet is bursting with eclipse information. Here is a sampling to help you prepare for the Experience. timeanddate.com/eclipse - a map to pinpoint your location and times, as well as a wealth of other information science.nasa.gov/eclipses - information about safe viewing, the science behind eclipses, and what to expect fraknoi.com - "Explore the Universe" with Andrew Fraknoi, and find links to articles that relate astronomy to other fields, including music, movies, art, and literature www.space science.org - Space Science Institute www.eclipse2024.org

Check out smartereveryday.com/eclipse - a super interesting and fun site that will introduce you to some of the complex things that occur during a total eclipse and what to watch for - C1, C2, C3, C4, shadow bands, the diamond ring, Bailey's beads (caused by mountains and valleys on the moon), the 360° sunrise. Learn about eclipse photography and a very useful "Solar Eclipse Timer" app. If you know what to expect you will get the most out of the experience - some of these effects last only a few seconds.

Eclipse times for Plattsburgh, which is right on the center line of the eclipse path. It should be about the same for us here. *from timeanddate.com* Eclipse duration: 2 hours, 23 minutes, 3 seconds

Partial begins 2:14:03 pm
Full begins 3:25:44 pm
Maximum 3:27:31 pm
Full ends 3:29:18 pm
Partial ends 4:37:06 pm

The Westport-Wadhams Community Alliance is planning several eclipse activities, including viewing stations at the school, Ballard Park, and the golf course. Visit their website at gowestportny.com for updates.

Physics professor and astronomer Aileen O'Donaghue "watches the skies" for North Country Public Radio. She described in an interview the last total eclipse she saw: "The shadow of the moon is 100, 120 miles wide, so when you're in it, 50 miles away in every direction, it's daytime because even when 99% of the sun is covered, it's daytime. It takes that last percent. The light is weird, but it takes that last bit to be covered before it's totality - and it is so different. 360° around you see sunset - it's the reds - and you can see the shadow approaching out of the west, kind of like when you watch the shadow of a cloud approaching, but this is dark. This is not just dim. This is dark... It sweeps towards you. It's cooler. It's dark. The wind kicks up. The animals all react. The bugs start doing their night time thing and the birds roost. Dogs will bark. The roosters will crow. All of the animals are like, "This is weird! It's nighttime!" Then, three minutes later, it's daytime again."

Visit the Clinton Essex Franklin Library System's website at www.cefls.org to find a wealth of resources.

Wadhams Free Library 763 NY Route 22 Wadhams, NY 12993

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OPEN HOURS

Tuesday 12 to 7

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Saturday 9 to 3

We are a member of the Clinton Essex Franklin Library System



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