
1855 Frederick W. Gunn elected president of said association.

1881 Frederick Gunn dies.

1887 Evolved into the Washington Reading Room & Circulating Library Association.

1891 Reading Room opens to the public.

1899 Library becomes free to town residents.

1899 The Judea Historical Room is opened by the local D.A.R.

1902 E.H. Van Ingen donates land and money toward building a permanent public library.

1907 D.A.R. votes to turn over its historical collection to library, to be housed in the basement of the new library building.

1908 Gunn Memorial Library is opened and dedicated.

1965 June S. Willis bequeaths her house (built in 1781) to the library; museum collections eventually move next door.

1967 Dorothy Richards sees to it that a Junior Library is opened in the vacated basement space of the library.

1990 Overcrowding becomes critical; Capital Campaign starts, geared to raise $2.5 million to greatly expand the library, renovate the museum and increase the endowment.

1994 New 7,500 square foot addition to the library & renovated museum re-open.

2001 Library receives the CT Excellence in Public Library Service Award.

2010 Restoration of Stained Glass Window.

“Feast richly
on the noble and beautiful things contained in books.”
- Frederick W. Gunn
Library Cards:

To obtain a library card, patron must show a valid form of identification, as well as a piece of mail to verify their Washington address.

- Borrowing privileges at Connecticut libraries throughout the state.

We Circulate:

- Books (including large print books)
- Audio books
- DVDs
- Music CDs
- Magazines
- Downloadable audio and e-books

Borrowing Period:

- 21 days for most items
- 7 days for hot new titles and most DVDs
- 14 days for new fiction & non-fiction books and magazines
- Most items may be renewed in person, by phone, on our website, or through your online account

Overdue Fines:

- $1.00 per day for DVDs
- $.10 for other items; $.05 for children’s

Our services:

- Discussions, lectures, workshops and cultural programs
- Interlibrary loan services
- Newspapers - print & digital
- Delivery to homebound
- After hours book drop
- Photocopy, fax, printing and scanning
- Bi-weekly email newsletter
- Access to public computers
- Reference Help/ Technology Support

Computer Resources:

- Internet access and WiFi
- Microsoft Word, Excel, and PowerPoint

Meeting Rooms

- **The Connecticut Room** is a climate controlled room that contains local histories, genealogical information, historic photo albums, and books highlighting our historical past.
- **The Washington Room** contains a large conference table and chairs for meetings and collaborative work.
- **The Field Community Room** can accommodate large groups of people.
- Please call the library for more info & booking.

Children’s Library

- Storytimes– For 2 year olds and 3 & 4 year olds
- After school story and craft programs K-1st grade & 2-3 grade
- Saturday programs seasonally
- Summer Reading programs
- Regalia, including puzzles, games, and “international travel” suitcases
- Parent/ teacher resources
- AWE– Early Literacy computers
- Access from to Bookflox online literacy resources and Scholastic GO databases.
- Free play toys and activities
- Tech bar equipped with multiple charging outlets

Teen Department

- Programming
- Homework help
- Volunteer & Community Service opportunities
- Resume assistance

The Stairwell Gallery displays varied media work by local artists; exhibits changing every six weeks. Contact: gunnstaff@biblio.org

Our Book Shop is open during business hours and contains gently used books, music CDs, audio books, & DVDs.