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HEADLINE ELEMENTS:

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- 1 Free launch of community book read of 'The Problem
- 2 With Plastic' at Putney Library

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TEXT BODY:

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- 5 Putney Public Library, 55 Main St., and the local Beyond
- 6 Plastics affiliate group Third Act of Windham and Windsor
- 7 counties (Win/Win) is hosting the launch of a community read of
- 8 *The Problem With Plastic: How We Can Save Ourselves & Our*
- 9 *Planet Before It's Too Late* Tuesday, Feb. 3, at 6:30 pm at the
- 10 library, with speakers Christina Dubin, Beyond Plastics; and
- 11 Eileen Ryan, Beyond Plastics Greater Boston.

12 The library has multiple copies of the book available for
13 checkout to Putney Library cardholders. All are invited to a
14 facilitated community discussion of the book on Tuesday, March
15 24, at 6:30 pm. These events are free and open to the public.

16 Dubin joined the Beyond Plastics team to support and
17 grow the grassroots groups network. She currently supports
18 fundraising and major gift efforts for the organization. Dubin lives
19 in the Seacoast region of New Hampshire, where she led the first
20 reusable takeout container pilot in the state.

21 Ryan is a climate and social justice activist, the leader of
22 Beyond Plastics Greater Boston and a trained public speaker on
23 plastic pollution, educating people about the perils of plastics.
24 She lives in Watertown, Massachusetts, and is on the steering
25 committee of Plastic Free Mass.

26 Plastic is everywhere — wrapped around our food,
27 stitched into our clothes, even coursing through our veins. What
28 began as a marvel of modern science has become a toxic
29 industry that is harming our health, polluting our planet, and
30 driving climate change.

31 Plastic production has increased exponentially since
32 single-use plastic's start, from 2 million tons per year in 1950 to
33 450 million tons per year today. And production is expected to
34 triple by 2060. Given that less than 6% of plastic is actually
35 recycled in the United States, all that plastic will continue to
36 harm us, our communities, and our environment, wrote
37 organizers in a news release. "The good news is there's still time
38 to turn off the tap and live in a world without pointless plastic."

39 That's the hopeful message at the heart of the new book,
40 *The Problem with Plastic*, by Judith Enck and Beyond Plastics
41 with Adam Mahoney.

42 "The plastic pollution crisis is massive, systemic, and
43 urgent," wrote organizers. But *The Problem with Plastic* offers
44 hope: "we, collectively, have the power and influence to
45 effectively slow the production of plastic."

46 Plastic pollution is not inevitable; it's the result of choices
47 made by businesses, governments, and, to a lesser extent,
48 everyday people. By equipping people with knowledge, hope,
49 and an arsenal of solutions, "we can put people and the planet
50 before plastic, and save ourselves while there's still time," said
51 organizers.

52 In the event of cancellation due to weather, the
53 community book read launch will take place Tuesday, Feb. 10, at
54 6:30 p.m. at the Putney Public Library. After the community read,
55 the library can loan multiple copies of the book to other libraries
56 who would like to do a community read. Contact Emily Zervas at
57 Putney Public Library at 802-387-4407 for more information.

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Bio/COATTAIL:

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