

AN OCCASIONAL
PUBLICATION OF THE
WHITEHALL TOWNSHIP
PUBLIC LIBRARY
3700 MECHANICSVILLE ROAD
WHITEHALL, PA 18052
PHONE: 610/432-4339
WEB: WWW.WHITEHALLPL.ORG

WHITEHALL TOWNSHIP PUBLIC LIBRARY



From the director's desk

Board of Trustees Fiscal year 2017-2018

Joe Ebner, treasurer
Michael T. Gerould,
vice president
Helga Grundmann
Tom Linderman
Judith Ott, president
Denise Shaffer, secretary
Colleen Webster

Patty Vahey, Director

In this issue:

Zinio	2
What happens ... when it snows?	2
Family movie night	2
Tell me a story	3
Adult winter reading	3
Building programs	3
Bits & Pieces	3
Notes	3
Looking ahead	3
Help us help the animals	4
AudioBookCloud	4
Check this out!	4
Open Mic/jam night	4

Bits & Pieces ...

January 21-27 is Healthy Weight Week. How's that diet coming along? You're more likely to reach a healthy weight if you pick realistic goals. "Lose 25 pounds" is discouraging, while "lose two pounds a month" is a far more positive and achievable goal. ... Clean Out Your Inbox Week is January 23-27. If you have more than 1,000 messages in your inbox, take heed: you may well expire before your mail does! February is Library Lovers Month, a time to appreciate the various libraries — and library workers — in our lives. (WTPL's staff loves you, too!)

Welcome to 2018!

The Whitehall Township Public Library will be making some new and exciting changes this year! We will be transitioning to a new catalog and circulation system in April. The new system, called SPARK, is part of the Pennsylvania Integrated Library System (PaILS). SPARK is also the name of a growing consortium of Pennsylvania libraries using Evergreen open source library software for circulation and library operations, and we are part of it.

The new **Lehigh Carbon Library Consortium (LCLC)** comprises the public libraries of Catasauqua, Coplay, Jim Thorpe, Emmaus, Lehigh, Lower Macungie, Palmerton, Parkland, Slatington, Southern Lehigh, and Whitehall. (Please look at these two Pennsylvania library sites for an example of our new system: <http://altoona.sparkpa.org/eg/opac/home> and <https://lackawanna.sparkpa.org/eg/opac/home>.) We will have more information on the transition in our March-April 2018 newsletter.

We are getting ready for our adult winter reading program, which will run from Monday, January 15, to Thursday, March 15, and is open to patrons 18 years old or older. Registration begins on January 15 and the wrap-up parties will be at 1 p.m. and 6 p.m. on Tuesday, March 27. The theme this year is **"Book Your Winter Getaway!"** To participate, register for our reading program online or at our front desk.

The library now accepts donations via PayPal. Use your credit card or **PayPal** balance to donate to us. See the link on our website (www.whitehallpl.org).

Do you have a hobby or a display you'd like to share with our patrons? We have three glass display cases, and each month we ask folks to take one or two of them and place something in them for display. We have had toys, Boy Scout items, jewelry, painted dishes, and other objects of interest and we are always looking for engaging displays! We ask that you leave your items in our securely locked cases for one month. If you have an idea for a display, please call me at the library (610/432-4339) or email me at vahey.p@whitehallpl.org and we can get you on the schedule. Book your display today!

The holidays are over, but the **Whitehall Food Pantry** still needs your help. WTPL will continue to collect nonperishable canned and boxed food products (e.g., soup, coffee, tea, jelly, peanut butter, Hamburger Helper, cereal) and paper products (e.g., paper towels, toilet paper, tissues). Items may be dropped off here during regular library hours, and everything we receive will be donated to the food pantry. Thank you all for helping.

The library has an ongoing **wish list**. Our current list includes (but is not limited to) gift cards (for any store, especially Walmart and A.C. Moore), art supplies (especially tacky glue, glitter glue, and empty shoeboxes with lids), colored printer paper, and antibacterial wipes to use on keyboards.

The **Fourth Tuesday Adult Coloring Club** meets at 11 a.m. on the fourth Tuesday of each month. Anyone 18 years old or older is welcome to join us. The library has some supplies but invites you to bring your own as well.

The **"What Are You Reading Now?" Club** meets at 1 p.m. on the fourth Tuesday of every month. Participants are invited to talk about whatever books they are reading at the moment — the ones they love, the ones they hate, and everything in-between. Come in and talk about books with us!

SNACK PACK PALS: WTPL is helping to collect items again this year for the Whitehall-Coplay School District students who need them. Foods are packed into **"Snack Pack Pals"** and given to the kids who are most in need of nutritious foods: those who suffer from the severe hunger that sets in during long weekends, when free breakfasts and lunches are not available at school. If you would like to make a food donation,

"Director's desk" continued on page 2



Zinio

Do you like to read popular magazines? Many people have subscriptions but wince at the price. Others buy magazines at any number of stores that carry them, but they recognize that they are probably paying more per issue than if they had a subscription.

Want to save some money? We can help you with one suggestion: borrow

at least some of your magazines from us, through **Zinio**.

Public libraries in this area have formed consortiums to acquire magazines in digital form. Access to the collection is via the Zinio box on our website. (You will also need a current WTPL card and a PIN.) Not only will you be able to choose from a variety of titles, but multiple people can borrow

and read the same issue at the same time you do — and none of you has to return your copy to a library!

Currently available titles include World Soccer, Comic Heroes, Teen Vogue, Billboard, Brides, Family Tree, Hot Rod, Diabetic Living, Mental Floss, Trains, Astronomy, Us, Cobblestone, Digital Photography, Dwell, Guitar Player, and 246 others!

WHAT HAPPENS AT THE LIBRARY WHEN IT SNOWS?

Sometimes — absolutely nothing!

Changes to the library's regular schedule (due to weather conditions or another compelling reason) will be announced on the library's telephone greeting (open or closed), reached by phoning us at **610/432-4339**. Changes can also be heard on these local radio stations: **WAEB** (790), **WLEV** (100.7), **B104** (104.1), and **WZZO** (95.1).

You can also check **WFMZ-TV** (Channel 69) at the bottom of the TV screen, or go to **WFMZ.com**, select "WFMZ Stormcenter," and then click on "School and Business Closings" to check our delays and closings (if any). There is also a direct link to the Stormcenter page from the policies page on our website.

In the event of an emergency closure, the following policy will be in effect:

- * Materials due on dates we are closed will be due the next day we are open.
- * Materials due prior to the closure date will be considered overdue upon return.
- * Materials due on the date we are closed and returned after the library has reopened one day will be overdue. Fines will be applied as if we had been open.
- * Our book and media drops are available to accept your returns 24 hours a day.



The library phone message will say : we are open or we are closed. We do change the Face Book page but we can not always do the regular website. Call before coming to the library on snowy - nasty days! We are concerned about our staff and patrons.

Family Movie Night

Please join us at the library at 6:15 p.m. on Tuesday, January 16, and/or Tuesday, February 20, for our **Family Movie Nights**. In January, we'll be enjoying the PG-rated movie "**Hidden Figures**," which is based on the true story of three mathematically inclined black women. Dorothy Vaughan, Mary Jackson, and Katherine Johnson defied the societal norms of the 1960's, providing solutions to many of the complex problems that NASA confronted in planning for the launch into space and return to Earth of astronaut John Glenn.



In February, we'll be watching "**Spider-Man: Homecoming**," which has a PG rating. Pity poor Peter Parker, a high school student navigating his teen years while simultaneously managing his life as superhero Spider-Man! In this movie, Parker/Spider-Man must deal with a threat menacing New York City. (And you think you have problems!)

The library reserves the right to substitute one movie for another of the same or lesser rating, if doing so becomes necessary for any reason.

"Director's desk," continued from page 1

please check the following list and drop your donations off at the library during our regular hours. Items needed include shelf-stable boxes of milk, macaroni and cheese (boxes and individual packets), Chef Boyardee (cans and bowls), small boxes of cold cereal, fruit cups, applesauce cups, juice boxes and pouches, fruit snacks, packs of cheese and peanut butter crackers, graham crackers, and granola bars.



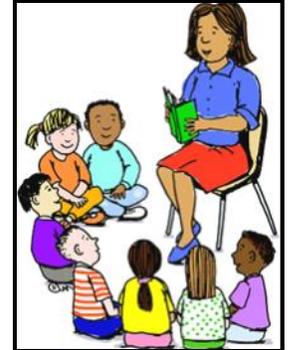
— Patty Vahey

Tell me a story!

“If Winter comes, can Spring be far behind?” — Percy Bysshe Shelley.

Well, there are many days in winter when it seems as if spring will never, ever, come again. But have patience — it will reappear in March, as will our spring story times!

- ☉ **Preschool story times:** Tuesdays, March 6–April 24, 10:30 a.m. (no story time session on April 10)
Wednesdays, March 7–April 25, 1 p.m. (no story time session on April 11)
- ☉ **Family story times:** Wednesdays, March 7–April 25, 7 p.m. (no story time session on April 11)
- ☉ **Toddler story times:** Thursdays, March 15–April 26, 10:30 a.m. (no story time session on April 12)



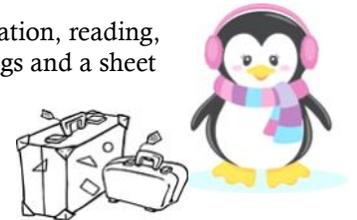
Preschool story times, for ages 37 months–6 years, and toddler story times, for ages 18–36 months, require advance registration. (As of Tuesday, February 6, you can register online at <http://www.whitehallpl.org>, phone the library at 610/432-4339, or register in person at our front desk. [Please register online if you can.]) For family story times at 7 p.m. on Wednesdays, no registration is necessary — just walk in!

Please check under the “Kids & Teens” section of our website or call the library if you have any questions about story-time registration.

Adult winter reading program and reading challenge: “Book Your Winter Getaway!”

It’s time for our winter adult reading program! This year, the theme is “**Book Your Winter Getaway!**” and it’s open to anyone who is 18 years old or older

To participate, you must register for our reading program online or at our front desk. Registration, reading, and book logging all begin on Monday, January 15, and end on Thursday, March 15. (Paper logs and a sheet of details can be picked up at the front desk; however, if you register and log your books online, we’ll receive that information automatically.) Those who finish reading and logging at least one book are invited to attend our wrap-up party on Tuesday, March 27, from either 1–2 p.m. or 6–7 p.m. — whichever is more convenient. (There is also an additional reading challenge that you may wish to complete to be entered into a drawing for an additional prize. The challenge must be completed and returned to the library by 5 p.m. on March 15.)



As part of the wrap-ups, we’ll discuss what we read during the program and we’ll also distribute small gifts to those who read and logged at least one book, no later than 5 p.m. on March 15.

On your mark, get set, and be ready to go in January!



Building programs — just for kids!

At 6:30 p.m. on every monthly first Tuesday, the library will feature **Creation Station**, an opportunity for kids to build with a variety of materials that will change on a monthly basis. Come out and see what we’ll be using to construct our



next projects! ... While this activity is most suitable for kids in grades 2–6, children of all ages are welcome.

And at 1 p.m. on every Wednesday afternoon in January and February, the library will offer

Wee Build/Simply Play. This program seeks to interest youngsters in STEM areas (science, technology, engineering, and mathematics) through playing with educational and STEM-related toys. This activity is primarily for preschoolers, but again, it’s open to all children. ... This program is funded through donations and a Commonwealth Libraries grant.

Bits & Pieces ... WTPL programs by the numbers: In 2016, the library held 220 programs; in 2017, we held 268. These numbers include a jump in our adult offerings, from 78 to 146. Attendance at our block party jumped from 83 to 172.

NOTES



☉ Most of our children’s programs require prior registration; some are limited by age; and all of them require participating young children to be accompanied by a parent or another responsible caregiver. We suggest that you phone us at 610/432-4339, speak with a staff member, or visit our website (<http://www.whitehallpl.org>), if you wish to learn what, if any, limits exist for whatever program interests you.

☉ This newsletter may not reflect all of our programs for January and February. Consult our calendar insert, call us, or check our website to see what else might be happening at your library.

Looking ahead



- ★ Are you interested in **beading**? Whether you're an experienced beader or a rank beginner, you are welcome to attend our free beading classes, which will be held at 1:30 p.m. on Mondays and Wednesdays in January and February.
- ★ The **Lehigh Valley Knitting Guild** meets here on the first and third Thursday of each month. Although its name says "knitting," any type of needlework is welcome! Bring your current project and join us at 6 p.m. on January 4, January 18, February 1, and/or February 15.
- ★ **TAB** — our teen advisory board — will meet at 1:00 p.m. on Saturday, January 6, and Saturday, February 10. Curious about TAB? Contact **Lorraine Santaliz**, youth services librarian, at **610/432-4339** or at santaliz.l@whitehallpl.org.
- ★ **Friends of the Library** will meet at 10 a.m. on Friday, January 12, and Friday, February 9. Almost everybody needs more friends! Stop in during a meeting and become one of ours!
- ★ The library's **Board of Trustees** will meet at 7 p.m. on Thursday, January 11, and Thursday, February 8. As always, these meetings are open to the public.
- ★ Our **Adult Coloring Club** meets on the fourth Tuesday of each month, 11 a.m.–12:45 p.m. Why might an adult want to color? Because it reduces stress and anxiety and can bring you into a state of mindfulness, with the focus on "now."
- ★ Our "**What Are You Reading Now?**" **Club** also meets on the fourth Tuesday of each month. Come at 1 p.m. on January 23 and/or February 27 and share your opinions with other readers!

Help us help the animals

Local animal shelters see an apparently endless stream of animals needing homes. Won't you help us help **Peaceable Kingdom**, a shelter in Whitehall, feed the animals to which it provides shelter? The library is continuing to collect supplies, which can be dropped off here anytime we're open.



The shelter is looking for new toys, specific foods, old (but clean) towels and blankets, and other supplies to care for its cats and dogs. We have a list of the shelter's requests that we can give you — ask for it at our front desk.

AudioBookCloud

Do you enjoy listening to audiobooks? Have you — somehow — managed to rip through WTPL's collection? Then you might want to click the button on our website (www.whitehallpl.org) for www.AudioBookCloud.com. This site bills itself as "your online audio library," and with a collection of 1,400 audio titles all available, all the time, it might well be.



If you can connect to the internet with a digital device, you're set! Because the audio is streamed, rather than downloaded, it takes up no permanent space on your device and can be accessed by multiple listeners simultaneously. Enjoy!

✓ this out!

If you're planning to stencil a design on a wall in your home, a piece of clothing, or a piece of furniture, one place to find a stencil is **Free-Stencils.com**. This site offers 100 stencils, arranged by themes (for example, cherry blossom wall stencils, number stencils, and horse stencils). The downside is that even though the site offers directions on cutting stencils, you have to either cut the stencils yourself or find someone to do it for you. The upside is that the stencil designs are free. Can't beat that price!

Open Mic/Jam Night



Do you tell spellbinding tales? See yourself as winning a TV talent show with your singing/ juggling/ventriloquist act? Eager to try out the magic set your BFF gave you for your last birthday? Anxious to play your didgeridoo for an audience? Do we have a gig for you!

The third Monday of each month is **Open Mic/Jam Night** at WTPL! Hosted by **Earl Andrews**, the event begins at 6:30p.m., with signup beginning at 6:15 p.m. (Slots are available on a first-come, first-served basis.) Here are our three rules for performers: (1) Your act must be family-friendly, (2) it must be no longer than three songs or 15 minutes, and (3) you must be ready to perform when Earl calls your name (i.e., tune up before the show).

The next Open Mic/Jam Nights will be on January 15 and February 19. (We've hosted 30 featured acts and have had 912 attendees drop in!) Even if you can't quite see yourself performing in front of other people, please come anyway. Without an audience, a performance is only a rehearsal. Show your appreciation for our local talent, and when it's your turn to try out your skills, they'll appreciate you right back!

