



# Wiscasset Public Library Newsletter

February 2020



**Wiscasset Public Library**  
**21 High Street**  
**Wiscasset, ME 04578**

## Library information

### Hours:

Tue. 10:00am-5:00pm  
Wed. 10:00am-7:00pm  
Thu. 10:00am-5:00pm  
Fri. 10:00am-5:00pm  
Sat. 10:00am-2:00pm  
Sun. Closed  
Mon. Closed

### Staff:

Pamela Dunning, Director  
David Cherry, Assistant Librarian  
Karen Delano, Assistant Librarian  
Carol McFadden, Assistant Librarian  
Laurie Ridgway, Children's Librarian

### Contact:

(207) 882-7161  
wpl@wiscasset.lib.me.us

Website: **www.wiscasset.lib.me.us**

See the Library website for the latest information.

### Library Trustees:

Richard Litz, President  
Sally Gemmill, Vice President  
Thomas Boudin, Treasurer  
Greg Uthoff, Secretary  
Linda Belmont  
Linda Bleile  
Sandra Crehore  
Sherri Dunbar  
Tracy Joyce  
Betsy Kyle  
Cheryl Rust

## Annual Meeting News

On January 26, the WPL Corporators, Trustees and the public were invited to the Annual Corporators Meeting.

Many improvements during the last year were highlighted by Board President Richard Litz, Library Director Pam Dunning and the Friends. In addition to the new roof (see p. 4), the Library received a new front door and sidelights, new carpet in the Children's Room, new art panels and track lighting in the Art Room along with general repairs and maintenance.

WPL has expanded its offerings to include STEM kits (see pg. 3) for preschool through middle school children. The improvements in the Art Room make the area more appealing and accessible for patrons and will allow the Library to display the work of current artists. New business included a Finance update by Treasurer Tom Boudin, changes to the Bylaws, expansion of the Board to 11 members and confirmation of new Corporators and Trustees.

To learn more about the work of the Corporators and Trustees, see the "How Your Library Works" articles in the recent Newsletters, available on the Library website.



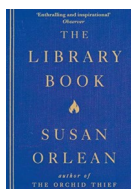
## Evening Book Group

**February 12 at 5:00pm**

***The Library Book* by Susan Orlean**

We'll discuss another nonfiction book in February. **The Library Book** is described as a "thrilling journey through the stacks that reveals how these beloved institutions provide much more than just books--and why they remain an essential part of the

heart, mind, and soul of our country." In March, we will read fiction. What would you like to read? For more information or to suggest titles, email [tracydawsonjoyce@gmail.com](mailto:tracydawsonjoyce@gmail.com).



## Where's Gnoman?!

Oh no! Gnoman, our Library gnome, has gone missing. Poor Gnoman has a terrible sense of direction and gets lost easily. He's missing all the fun at the front desk. Can you help him find his way back to where he belongs? Check the shelves. He must be here somewhere. There will be a sweet treat reward if you find Gnoman and bring him to the desk. Hint: Gnoman *never* goes into the Children's Room. He's afraid of the wild animals in the Stuffies Totes ;)



## 2020 Board of Trustees

Welcome to our 2020 Trustees! The Board was confirmed at the January 26 Corporators Meeting. Back: Greg Uthoff, Sherri Dunbar, Richard Litz, Sally Gemmill, Sandra Crehore, Linda Bleile, Cheryl Rust, Tom Boudin. Front: Betsy Kyle, Linda Belmont, Tracy Joyce.



## Familiar Faces: Carol McFadden

Many people contribute to the success of WPL. We like to introduce you to the volunteers and staff who keep this ship afloat. This month, meet our new Assistant Librarian, **Carol McFadden**:

Wiscasset Public Library is truly a shining gem of a library! Believe me, I've been in scores of libraries and this one is very close to perfect. I'm so very delighted to be on the WPL team with Pam at its helm, doing wondrous deeds for the community. Please know, I'm ready to help in any capacity. I've made my living these past four decades as a professional librarian. I received my MLS from Simmons College back in 1985. Over the years, I have gained lots of experience in public, school and college libraries, becoming well-trained in myriad library tasks and in most library departments. I truly love libraries and you can often see me at the Boothbay Harbor Memorial Library where my husband, Tim, was the Director for many years. For a short time, I was the Children's Librarian at the Skidompha Public Library. Recently, I retired after 12 years as Head of Children's Services at Patten Free Library in Bath.

My reading passion is history; I usually complete a historical fiction or non-fiction book per week. I hold a BA in art history from Boston College and, before my library years, I worked in museums, galleries and archives. I love suggesting awesome books to patrons. People fascinate me and I love listening to their life stories. Another love is languages. I've learned American Sign Language and have studied some Irish-Gaelic, Russian and Hebrew.

Thus far in my retirement, I have been spending time with Tim working our way down the 'honey do list' together. We are building chicken coops and red shelter sheds for the future piggies and little goaties and spending time with our two Irish Jack Russells, Henry and Lily. We're planning our little permaculture farm in Edgecomb -- you know the town between the rivers -- just over what we call the Ahhh Bridge, which translates to "the blissful road home." Thanks for reading my short memoir and I really look forward to seeing you around the library!



**I have challenged myself that I will read thousands of books and I will empower myself with knowledge. Pens and books are the weapons that defeat terrorism.**

~ Malala Yousafzai, 2014 Nobel Peace Prize laureate

## Staff Picks: Nonfiction Graphic Novels by Janet Morgan

This month, we are highlighting our nonfiction graphic novel collection. During the last 50 years, graphic novels have evolved into a serious literary format. Though the word "novel" traditionally refers to longer works of fiction, "graphic novels" include many genres such as fiction, nonfiction and anthologies. Educators have recognized the value of graphic novels for years; they're useful to encourage reluctant readers and the visual content enables capable readers to read at a higher level. However, the content of graphic novels is not just for children. In this world of small screen media and exploding information content, the ability to interpret images is more important than ever. Images are powerful. Graphic novels can make challenging content more accessible. They encourage all of us to exercise our brains in new ways. WPL has an excellent collection of graphic novels shelved in the Young Adult Room.

### NONFICTION

*Drowned City: Hurricane Katrina & New Orleans*  
by Don Brown

*The War to End All Wars: World War One, 1914-1918*  
by Alan Cowsill

*Fairy Tale Comics* by Chris Duffy

*The Industrial Revolution* by Lewis Helfand

*World War Two: Under the Shadow of the Swastika*  
by Lewis Helfand

*March, Book 1 - 3* by John Lewis

*World War Two: Against the Rising Sun* by Jason Quinn

*Maker Comics: Fix a Car!* by Chris Schweizer

*The Complete Maus* by Art Spiegelman

*They Called Us Enemy* by George Takei

*This Land is My Land* by Andy Warner

*A Quick & Easy Guide to Queer & Trans Identities*  
by Mady Zuckerberg

### BIOGRAPHIES

*Leonardo Da Vinci: The Renaissance Man* by Dan Danko  
*Lost Trail: Nine Days Alone in the Wilderness*

by Donn Fendler

*Conquering Everest: The Lives of Edmund Hillary and  
Tenzing Norgay* by Lewis Helfand

*Nelson Mandela: The Unconquerable Soul*  
by Lewis Helfand

*They Changed the World: Edison-Tesla-Bell*  
by Lewis Helfand

*Michael Jackson*

*Ambedkar: India's Crusader for Human Rights*  
by Kieron Moore

*Buddha: An Enlightened Life* by Kieron Moore

*Gandhi: My Life is My Message* by Jason Quinn

*Martin Luther King JR.: Let Freedom Ring*  
by Michael Teitelbaum & Lewis Helfand

*Harry Houdini* by C.E.L. Welsh



# The Children's Room News

February 2020



## PROGRAMS

**Storytime**, Friday, Feb. 7, 14, 21 and 28 at 10:30am  
Stories, songs, and a snack\*. All ages welcome.

**Saturday Story Hour**, Saturday, Feb. 8 and 22 at 11:00am  
Stories, songs, and a craft. All ages welcome.

\* Feb. 8 Red Hearts all around

\* Feb. 22 Painting with Q-tips, warning—we maybe messy!

**Last Friday Drop-in Fun!** Friday, Feb. 28 at 3:00—4:45.

Legos and games. We have a new UNO deck! I need snack suggestions. Email me at [Iridgway@wiscasset.lib.me.us](mailto:Iridgway@wiscasset.lib.me.us)\*

\*Alert us to allergies prior to the program please.

**Take & Make Crafts:** available while supplies last

Valentine's  
Day craft



Cross-stitch  
heart

Paint a  
Penguin



Q-tip  
painting

## February Reading Round-up featuring award winners

Voting for the Maine Chickadee Award has commenced. This is a children's choice picture book award that is intended to complement the Maine Student Book Award program. Here are the titles:

- |                                    |  |
|------------------------------------|--|
| * <b><i>Can I Be Your Dog?</i></b> | * <b><i>Inky's Incredible Escape</i></b> |
| * <b><i>Found</i></b>              | * <b><i>Julian is a Mermaid</i></b>      |
| * <b><i>Geraldine</i></b>          | * <b><i>My Pillow Keeps Moving</i></b>   |
| * <b><i>Girl Running</i></b>       | * <b><i>Up in the Leaves</i></b>         |
| * <b><i>I Need It All</i></b>      | * <b><i>The Very Last Castle</i></b>     |

The American Library Association has just announced these 2020 Awards: The Newbery went to Jerry Craft for ***New Kid***. The Caldecott winner is Kadir Nelson, who illustrated ***The Undeclared*** by Kwame Alexander. The amazing Kevin Henkes has won the Children's Literature Legacy Award. Henkes wrote ***Kitten's First Full Moon*** and ***The Year of Billy Miller***. He has earned many accolades but this award for having "made, over a period of years, a substantial and lasting contribution to literature for children through books that demonstrate integrity and respect for all children's lives and experiences" reflects achievement spanning a lifetime. (<http://www.ala.org>)

**STOP IN AND SEE WHAT WE HAVE!**

## SUGGESTION JANUARY RESULTS (through week 3)

Thank you for your 19 suggestions! These are a few of your great ideas:

- \* Books by Judy Blume
- \* More animal books
- \* More *Amelia Rules*
- \* Math games and math game day
- \* New PG movies
- \* More Mo Willem books
- \* *Snowmen at Work*
- \* UNO deck of cards
- \* One request for more treats(!) and a water fountain



I am on it kids! Look for the books this month. UNO has been ordered. Summer reading club will be here soon and that means more treats :) As for the water fountain, I am afraid you're stuck with paper cups.

Raffle winners: Week 1—**Nolan Bragan**, Week 2—**Llireva Blagdon** and Week 3—**Owen Brown**. All winners have received a \$5.00 certificate to **Mammy's** here in town. Congratulations!

## Check these out!

**STEM Kits** circulate from the WPL Children's Room

What's a STEM Kit? STEM means Science, Technology, Engineering and Math. Each kit provides a practical hands-on introduction to one or more of these concepts through the use of the provided materials. Test your theories and solve problems. The trial and error in the manipulation of the materials makes learning fun!

We have kits for preschool level up through middle school age housed in the Children's Room and the Young Adult Room. Teachers, some of these kits could enhance classroom learning. Do you have questions or need suggestions? Call our Children's Librarian, Laurie Ridgway, at 882-7161.





## Friends to Friends

News from the Friends of Wiscasset Public Library

### Friends Meeting

Monday, March 9 at 10am

Please plan to join us at our next Friends meeting on March 9. New members are always welcome. We covered a lot of topics at the last meeting. The Friends efforts in 2019 contributed almost \$10,000 toward Library programs, materials and building improvements. We'd love to have your help to make 2020 even more successful.

The annual dues (\$10) for Friends are now due. Please drop your payment at the front desk or mail a check, payable to Friends of WPL, to 21 High St., Wiscasset. To all who have paid, thank you! Current Friends will receive an email in early February to confirm their contact info for the Friends directory. The directories will be available at the March meeting.

We truly need volunteers for the Friends Executive Committee. We need a President and a Treasurer. These are not difficult jobs, the co-workers are great and you get to work in the Library! If you are interested or would like to know more, come to a meeting or email us: [wiscasset.library.friends@gmail.com](mailto:wiscasset.library.friends@gmail.com)

### New Roof Update



At long last, our new roof is being installed. Replacing the old roof has been on the To Do list for a while and the tree damage from the October windstorm made the need even more pressing.

We are extremely grateful for the generous anonymous donation from a WPL patron, along with a grant from the Stephen and Tabitha King Foundation, that provided the funding for this beautiful roof and the much-needed chimney repairs.



### Used Book Room News

In my first month as UBR Chair, I've been extremely impressed with the support I have received from the Friends. I must thank **Judith Sutter** for her years of work to develop and grow this resource. I am also grateful to her for her mentoring. I've had many questions and she has been most kind. **Sharman Ballantine** has done yeoman's work in organizing the Children's Corner. It is stunning and so inviting. I am also grateful to the volunteers who have assisted in staffing. Thank you, all.

This weekend I spoke with a young mother who homeschools her children. She was unaware that we have a Used Book Room. Whenever possible, please mention our amazing UBR to your friends and family. It's also helpful to remind everyone that we accept donations of books, videos, etc. Used book sales provide significant funding for the Library. Stop in often and bring your friends. We constantly add new books and our prices can't be beat.

Looking ahead, I am planning a book sale for the spring. I need your ideas about when to hold this and please let me know if you can volunteer.

My thanks, Lynn Maloney  
[lynnmaloney5@yahoo.com](mailto:lynnmaloney5@yahoo.com)

### Friends Book Discussion

February 21 at 10:15am

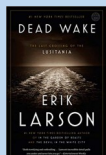
Book Share (reader's choice)

The morning book discussion is held in the Fiction Room on the 3rd Thursday of each month. Our next meeting will be held on Feb. 21. Check with the Library in case of inclement weather. We hope you can join us. All are welcome.

In February and March, we will have book share discussions. Come tell us about a interesting book that you

have read and would recommend.

Our next common read will be in April. We'll discuss the nonfiction bestseller ***Dead Wake: The Last Crossing of the Lusitania*** by Erik Larson. This engrossing book thrillingly relates the events of 1915 that led to one of the great disasters of history.



To be added to our email list or to offer title suggestions, email Janet at [janetcmorgan@gmail.com](mailto:janetcmorgan@gmail.com).

### Be a **FRIEND!**

Would you like to support your community and have some fun? Come to a Friends meeting to learn about the many ways we support WPL. We meet at 9:30am on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Monday every other month. We start with a coffee social followed by our business meeting at 10:00am. Our 2020 meeting dates:

January 13  
**March 9**  
May 11

July 13  
September 14  
November 9