



Wiscasset Public Library

Newsletter

August 2020

Thank you for reading!

Director's Note: An Update From Pam



One of the many things I love about summer in Maine is the beauty of our surroundings. Mother Nature knows the season is short and she uses the time well. She gets some help from the Garden Club of Wiscasset. Garden Club members maintain the WPL gardens and deliver fresh flower arrangements to the Library each week. The staff and patrons truly appreciate their efforts. Thank you!

I am happy to announce that expanded borrowing options are now available. The Inter-Library Loan service has been restored. If your preferred title is not available at WPL, search the [MILS library catalog](#) for your reading choices. You can also go to [MaineCat](#) to search all participating libraries in the state. Sign in with your last name and library card 14-digit barcode number to submit your requests. The system will email you when your item(s) are ready for pickup at WPL.

The Maine Reciprocal Borrowing program is also back in action. If you would like to go to another area library to borrow material, please call first to ensure that the library is open and has restored services for Reciprocal patrons. You will find a full listing of [Reciprocal Borrowing libraries](#), along with the library contact information, on the [Maine State Library](#) website.

As always, if you are having trouble requesting something online, give us a call at 207-882-7161 or email ill@wiscasset.lib.me.us and let us place that request for you. We are always happy to assist.

Pam Dunning, Director



I got an overdue notice! What is going on?

You returned your books then received an “OVERDUE” notice. Why?!

We are sorry if this has happened to you. The erroneous overdue notices are an unavoidable consequence of our COVID-19 safety precautions. We do not check in returned items until the items have been quarantined for four days. Please be patient and just ignore the notice. For your information:

- Wiscasset Public Library does not charge late fees.
- The notices are designed to accommodate all libraries. They look like a bill but are not a bill.
- WPL only sends a bill if a patron has lost or damaged an item and we have to replace it; or, if a patron borrows a brand new best-seller item with high demand, it is more than a month overdue and we have to replace it. The WPL [overdue policy](#) is on our website.
- The notices are computer-generated and cannot be shut off without shutting down all notices. That includes your notice that your reserved items are ready for you.
- Books returned to the quarantine cart are not checked in until the quarantine period is over. This protects staff from handling contaminated items and keeps items from showing up as available in the card catalog.
- Returned items are held in quarantine for four full days before they are checked in and shelved.
- You can place a hold on items that are in quarantine and you will be notified when the items become available. This practice saves you a wasted trip to WPL for an item that is still in quarantine.
- If you receive a second overdue notice, contact us and we will check the carts for your items.

The Library staff is dedicated to an extensive set of practices that keep the Library building and its collections as safe as possible for public use. We appreciate your support, patience and understanding in this very difficult time. Wiscasset Public Library patrons are the best!

COVID-19 Safety Precautions

We are continually monitoring the COVID-19 news and participating in weekly meetings led by Maine State Library on this topic. Our top priority at this time is to provide library services to the public in a safe manner. Our current policies and procedures are working well and will be left in place for the remainder of the summer:

- 10 patrons allowed in building at a time
- Face covering is required to be worn in the building (bring your own)
- Curbside delivery is available for those who can't wear a facial covering
- Use hand sanitizer immediately upon entering the building, even if you are wearing gloves
- Patrons must be symptom free of any illness for the last two weeks

- 30-minute time limit
- Place items that you touched and aren't checking out on one of the tables, so they can be added to the quarantine cart. **Do not return items to shelves.**
- No public bathrooms
- No meetings
- The Used Book Room is closed until further notice
- Patrons who are non-compliant will be asked to leave the building

The Library is committed to keeping everyone safe and to maintaining a safe environment that will allow us to stay open. **We can do this together!**

Upcoming Events

In-Library programming and meetings have been suspended until further notice. Previously scheduled 2020 events will be rescheduled. See the WPL website for updates.

Planning ahead: Save the date for Bands for Books 2021!

The Friends' annual fundraising event, Bands for Books, has been cancelled for this year... but we are already working on the party of next summer, to be held on **Monday, September 6, 2021**. Plan to join us on Labor Day next year and show your support for WPL.

COVID-19 has severely hampered the Friends' ability to raise funds for WPL this year. Wiscasset Public Library is a nonprofit organization that depends on the contributions from patrons. Please consider making a donation. You can find more information about support the Library on the [WPL website](#).

Book Club: Thursday, August 20 at 10:15am



The Friends' Book Group met on the Library lawn in July; it was great to see members in person. If the weather cooperates, we will meet outside again in August. We will follow Library and State of Maine rules, i.e. wear a mask and stay 6' apart. We plan to meet on the back lawn. Bring your own chair. In case of bad weather, group members will receive an email link for an online discussion.

Book recommendations:

Brain on Fire: My Month of Madness by Susannah Cahalan

The Monkey's Raincoat by Robert Crais (Elvis Cole #1)

Little Fires Everywhere by Celeste Ng

The Coldest Winter Ever by Sister Souljah

A Great Reckoning by Louise Penny (Inspector Gamache #12)

Glass Houses by Louise Penny (Inspector Gamache #13)

What we're currently reading:

Between the World and Me by Ta-Nahesi Coates

Hotel on the Corner of Bitter and Sweet by Jamie Ford

Lisey's Story by Stephen King

Back When We Were Grownups by Anne Tyler

We hope you can join us for our August Book Group meeting. We'll have another Book Share discussion. Tell us what you're reading and why you would recommend it. In September, we will discuss the common read ***Dead Wake: The Last Crossing of the Lusitania*** by Erik Larson. To be added to our Book Club list, email [The Friends of WPL](mailto:info@wpl.org).

Staff Picks: Historical Narrative Nonfiction

The genre of narrative nonfiction has become hugely popular in recent years. Also known as creative or literary nonfiction, this style of writing tells a true story in the form of a novel. This month, the focus is on historical narrative nonfiction. Readers find that learning about historical events is pleasurable when the story is told by an adept author. These WPL books, e-books, and audiobooks are some of the best historical narrative nonfiction of the last decade. Brush up on your history while enjoying a great book! What could be better?

The Boys in the Boat by Daniel James Brown

City of Light, City of Poison by Holly Tucker

Galileo's Daughter by Dava Sobel

In the Garden of Beasts by Erik Larson

Killers of the Flower Moon by David Grann

Liar, Temptress, Soldier, Spy by Karen Abbott

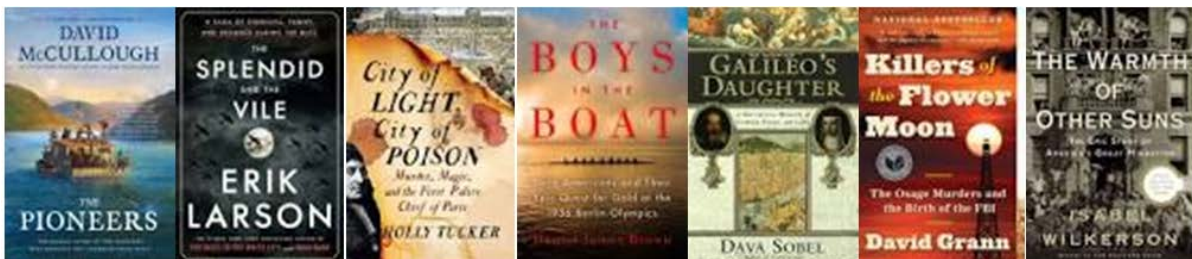
The Pioneers by David McCullough

The Sixth Extinction by Elizabeth Kolbert

The Splendid and the Vile by Erik Larson

Unbroken by Laura Hillenbrand

The Warmth of Other Suns by Isabel Wilkerson



Young Adult: Gretchen Rubin's favorites

Perusing book lists is a good way to find new and interesting books. Sometimes I'll find a great book just by browsing the shelves or referring to the ubiquitous "best sellers" lists. Overall, I have much better luck finding books I *love* when I get suggestions from another reader with similar taste in

books. This month's YA recommendations come from the writer and podcaster, Gretchen Rubin. Gretchen is a huge fan of Young Adult books. These are some of [her favorites](#) that are available at WPL, via Inter-Library Loan, or on [CloudLibrary](#). Have you read any of these? What do you think of Gretchen's list? Would you read other books she recommends? We always welcome your ideas and book requests. Email us at wpl@wiscasset.lib.me.us



Are You There God? It's Me, Margaret and other titles by Judy Blume
What I Saw and How I Lied by Judy Blundell
Graceling and the following books by Kristin Cashore
Up a Road Slowly by Irene Hunt
Wonder by R. J. Palacio
The Golden Compass and the *His Dark Materials* trilogy by Philip Pullman
Eleanor & Park by Rainbow Rowell
A Tree Grows in Brooklyn by Betty Smith
In a Mirror and other titles by Mary Stolz

"Keep reading. It's one of the most marvelous adventures that anyone can have." ~Lloyd Alexander

The Children's Room

Ending soon!

Summer Reading Club

WPL's Summer Reading programs are online this year. Join the fun, read some books, and win great prizes! You can sign up for the Summer Reading Club (ages 4-17) or Read to Me Program (ages 0-6) at our [Beanstack website](#) or via the app. Simply keep track of your summer reading. You'll earn badges and prizes as you log your books and reviews. The more you read, the more chances you have to win.



The **Summer Reading Club ends on August 20**. Get your submissions in and remember to put your e-tickets into the prize drawing(s). We have four fantastic Grand Prize gift baskets this year! Prizes will be announced and winners will be notified on August 21.



Children's Room Reminders

We would love to see you! Before you visit, please read the "COVID-19 Safety Precautions" above. Remember, Children's Room visitors must also:

- Enter at Children's Room door (children and parents)
- Limit capacity to one family at a time
- Children wait in designated area while books are retrieved from the shelves by parent/caregiver
- Face covering must be worn by all but the youngest patrons (bring your own please)

Thank you for helping to keep the Children's Room safe for all visitors.

Used Book Room News

The UBR will be closed for the foreseeable future because the Library Staff will be using that area to quarantine and sterilize incoming materials.



For safety reasons, please do not deliver donations to WPL at this time. We'll let you know as soon as we are "back in business" and accepting donations. We hope to see you soon!

Online Resources

Anyone with an active library card can download ebooks and audio books at [CloudLibrary](https://www.cloudlibrary.org/). There are books for all ages.



[digitalmainelibrary](https://www.digitalmainelibrary.org/) [Digital Maine Library](https://www.digitalmainelibrary.org/) is accessible to everyone in Maine, no library card required. You'll find articles

and abstracts from magazines, newspapers, journals and reference materials. It also includes resources for children.

If you have young children, visit [StoryLine Online](#), an award-winning children's literacy website features dozens of Story Time videos. There are some great free children's podcasts that are short and sweet. Try [Little Stories for Tiny People](#) (young children) or [Stories Podcast](#) (older children).



Free E-books and Audiobooks

Several online retailers offer some products for free. Search for "free":

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- [Barnes & Noble Nook store](#)
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- [Audible.com](#)

You'll find thousands of older titles on these websites:

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(207) 882-7161

wpl@wiscasset.lib.me.us



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