



Wiscasset Public Library Newsletter May 2021

Director's Note

When will the used book room re-open? When will the library accept my book donations? When can I visit the archives? All good questions! The short answer is, "I don't know." The longer answer is that there are many things being considered as we move toward relaxing the current pandemic precautions. We are waiting for the state to indicate that the threat of COVID-19 transmission has been reduced to acceptable levels. We await the removal of mask mandates. We need to be reasonably certain that quarantining borrowed items is no longer necessary. When we receive the clearance from the state, we will begin to restore all WPL services.

Wiscasset Public Library is proud to be one of the libraries that had enough support from our patrons and staff that we are able to open the doors and allow people in to use the collection and the computers. Many libraries are still closed to the public and are offering curbside delivery only. Some are not allowing interlibrary loans or are not open at all. Our goal is to continue to offer what we can safely bring to the public. We look forward to the end of the pandemic as much as you do. Until that time, we thank you for your patience, kindness and support.

Pam Dunning, Director

Library Humor...

What did the librarian tell the person who checked out 100 books? Don't overdue it!



COVID-19 Safety Precautions

We are continually monitoring the COVID-19 news. Our top priority at this time is to provide library services to the public in the safest manner. Our current policies are:

- 10 patrons allowed in building at a time
- A **face mask** is required to be worn in the building (bring your own). A face shield is not an approved mask alternative at this time.
- Curbside delivery is available for those who can't wear a face mask
- 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
- Used Book Room sales are discontinued until further notice
- Patrons who are non-compliant will be asked to leave the building

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

Upcoming Events

*Please
join us*

Friends of Wiscasset Public Library Meeting Monday, May 10th at 10:00 via Zoom

The Friends of WPL will hold their May meeting via Zoom on Monday, May 10, at 10:00. The main topic for discussion will be the September Bands for Books fundraiser. Members will receive Zoom instructions, the meeting agenda, and any officer and committee reports via email before the meeting. We look forward to seeing everyone at this meeting. For information on joining the Friends please email Wiscasset.Library.Friends@gmail.com.

Stephanie Hergenroeder and Lili Pugh, Co-Presidents



Bands for Books will be returning this year on **Labor Day, September 6th**. Our Fundraising Committee has reformed and is hard at work restarting the efforts which had to abruptly pause one year ago. We have confirmed our location, which will be **Seafield Farm**, home of Kathy Martin-Savage; confirmed our band – perennial favorites **The Salty Dogs**; and confirmed our tent and bar deposits which have carried over from

last year. Please put our date on your calendar now, plan to attend, and invite your friends and family to come. Our Silent Auction will return with some new and unique offerings. Stay tuned for more on how you can help to make this year's party the best ever!

**Book Group (via Zoom):
Thursday, May 20 at 10:15 am**



Welcome, Spring! The snow is gone and the greening of Maine is soon to follow. This month, the Friends Book Group will select their June nonfiction group read. We have only received a few suggestions so please consider nominating a nonfiction title or titles that you'd like to read. Email ideas to Wiscasset.Library.Friends@gmail.com.

The April Book Group attendees were few but that did not hamper the discussion. The conversation covered several topics and touched upon lesser known Maine children's authors of note. Members recommended Ashley Bryan's *Freedom Over Me* (a Newberry Honor book) and Lea Wait's *Seaward Born*.

April's recommended titles:

Fatelessness by Imre Kertesz (2002 Nobel Prize winner)

Moonlight Mile by Dennis Lehane (#6 in the Kenzie and Gennaro series)

The Tobacconist by Robert Seethaler

Final Mission: The North Woods by Joseph R. Wax

Ernie's Ark: The Abbott Falls Stories by Monica Wood

The book group will meet on **Thursday, May 20th at 10:15 am** via Zoom for another book share. Share what you are currently reading or have recently read and why you would recommend it. Please email the Friends (wiscasset.library.friends@gmail.com) for instructions on how to Zoom if you haven't attended a meeting this way before. If you would like to be added to our group also email us at the above address.

Stephanie

Collection Highlight: New Authors

Looking for something to read? We have many new titles available. You will find the latest from the popular authors you love, like Coben, Steel, and Patterson. You will also notice some new names. In recent months, we have added several first-time and lesser-known authors to the shelves. Suspense, romance, beach reads... There is a little bit of everything. ***Take It Back*** by Kia Abdullah, ***The Children's Train*** by Viola Ardone, ***Beach Read*** by Emily Henry, ***The Three Mrs. Wrights*** by Linda Keir, ***Tell Me My Name*** by Erin Ruddy and ***Dark August*** by Katie Tallo are just a few of our new offerings. Check out our New Books shelves to see what interests you. It will be fun to try something different.



Recommended: The *Maisie Dobbs* Series



British author Jacqueline Winspear released *Maisie Dobbs*, the first book in her popular series, back in 2003. The novel opens in 1929 as Maisie establishes her private investigation agency. She is soon embroiled in two cases at The Retreat, a working farm that acts as a convalescent refuge for ex-soldiers of the Great War. A routine inquiry soon leads Maisie to the trail of a killer.

You will find the entire Maisie Dobbs series at WPL. With the recent release of her sixteenth installment, Winspear's books will provide many hours of entertainment for those series lovers who enjoy a dose of intrigue with their historic tales.

Now in Large Print: *His Truth is Marching On*

His Truth is Marching On: John Lewis and the Power of Hope by
Jon Meacham, afterword by John Lewis

Meacham eloquently portrays the remarkable life of U.S. congressman and civil rights icon John Lewis in this bestselling biography. Born the great-grandson of a slave and son of a tenant farmer, righteously living life on his own terms, Lewis indelibly left his mark on a nation that clearly needed the wisdom, love, and spirit of generosity that flowed so gently from him.



At age four, Lewis decided to become a minister. His first non-violent protest can be traced back to this time. One night, upon learning that dinner was one of the farm's chickens to which he had been addressing his sermons, he gently refused the meal. He was already determined to embrace non-violence as his personal creed, a biblical mandate, and the way to transform peoples' perspectives. Lewis's faith in humanity and in God along with his undaunted belief in the power of hope formed the foundation of his commitment to making positive change in the world.

The Children's Room

Something new and exciting is at your library now. Come check out our small but growing collection of **Go Readers**. What is a Go Reader? It is an audiobook recorded on a portable MP3 audio device that connects listeners to their books. Go Readers are simple, dynamic and ready to use the moment you borrow them from the library. Batteries are included, and if you do not have earbuds or would prefer that the book is available to multiple listeners, we have purchased 5 mini-speakers that may be borrowed too.



AUDIOBOOK BENEFITS

- Audiobooks build crucial listening skills for children
- Audiobooks help build literacy skills
- Audiobooks offer many of the same benefits as reading

Crafts to Go

April showers bring May flowers
AND Mother's Day!



Pick up a kit to make a gift for Mom: a bouquet of felt flowers, a card or a flower ornament. We also have kits to make a nest of birds, a garden gnome, or a beaded necklace for Memorial Day.



Coming next month: **Summer Reading Club** announcement! The theme this year is **Tails and Tales**. Which is a better pet—A cat? A dog? A turtle? A bird? Or maybe a fish? We will vote on this, have

more contests, earn incentives (prizes!) and enter raffles. So get your reading game on.

Until next month, Ms. Laurie

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 the Children's room via the Used Book Room
- 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 remains closed while the library uses this area to quarantine materials. We hope that restrictions are lifted soon. Until then, please do not deliver UBR donations to the library. We will let you know when we plan to reopen. Your donations will be gratefully accepted at that time. Until then, take care and stay safe.



Lynn Maloney, UBR Chair

Online Resources

Anyone with an active library card can download ebooks and audio books at [CloudLibrary](#). There are books for all ages.





[Digital Maine Library](#) 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":

- [Amazon Kindle store](#)
- [Barnes & Noble Nook store](#)
- [Google Play Books](#)
- [Audible.com](#)

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

- [Project Gutenberg](#)
- [Open Library](#)
- [ManyBooks](#)
- [LibriVox](#) (audiobooks)

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
 Closed Sunday and Monday

Staff

Pamela Dunning, Director
 David Cherry, Assistant Librarian
 Karen Delano, Assistant Librarian
 Laurie Ridgway, Children's Librarian
 Stephan Smith, Assistant Librarian

Visit our website

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