



Wiscasset Public Library

Newsletter

July 2021



*With freedom, books, flowers, and the moon, who could not be happy?
~ Oscar Wilde*

Director's Note

COVID restrictions are almost gone. Masks are off for the inoculated and time limits are (excuse the pun) a thing of the past. Entrance to the Children's Room will continue to be via the back door until these precious little people can be inoculated. The one-family-at-a-time rule remains for the Children's Room, as well. Our priority is still to keep the children safe. We are also asking people who are showing any symptoms to not come inside the library.

Can we keep just a few of habits that we learned during the ordeal? I really appreciate having a bit of personal space. I find myself enjoying the ability to move and turn without knocking into the people near me. I have gotten used to the scent of hand-sanitizer. I don't love the scent but find the benefits of not having a cold all winter and spring outweigh the slightly astringent aroma. We have been bemoaning mask-wearing for over a year now. I have been pleasantly surprised by the number of people who are keeping them to wear while they have a cold. We have learned that it is very easy to protect each other with simple gestures. More than that, I want a continuation of the mutual support that we have all shared within the community, the respect and understanding in social situations, and, the increase of neighbors reaching out to neighbors. COVID-19 has taken a great deal away from us. Many lives were lost and freedoms curtailed in the battle against this terrible illness. It has also made us look at our priorities and allowed us to recommit to the people we encounter each day. It has allowed us to show our best selves as we navigated the dangers together.

As I conclude this note, which I do hope is the final COVID update, I want to thank you all again for making our jobs easier by complying with the long list of restrictions. We could not have made this work without all of you.



Notary Public service is available **strictly by appointment**. Please call in advance (207-882-7161) to ensure that the Notary is on duty and can leave the desk to assist you. Notary services are free to the public.

Pam Dunning, Director



Holiday Humor...

Why aren't there any knock-knock jokes about America?
Because freedom rings.

Did you hear the joke about the Liberty Bell?
It'll crack you up.

Upcoming Events

Bands for Books: Ticket on sale now!

The Friends of WPL invite you to the 2021 **Bands for Books** fundraiser on Labor Day, September 6. Tell your neighbors. Bring your friends and family. This event is always a lot of fun – great food, wonderful music and fantastic auction items – all in support of our library. You can purchase tickets (\$20) at the library or by emailing the [Friends](#).

As we get closer to the event, check the library display case and watch the website for a preview of the auction items.



BANDS FOR BOOKS
to benefit
The Wiscasset Library
Labor Day
Sept. 6th 5-7pm
SEAFIELD FARM
191 Indian Rd., Wiscasset

Advance tickets \$20 at Library
Tickets at the Door \$25

Silty Dogs
MUSIC BY THE

For information - 207-882-7161

Archive Access Returns

The **Jane S. Tucker Genealogical and Archival Collection** reopens to the public on **July 13**. We know many of you are waiting to get back into the archives. The WPL archives contain a wealth of information on family histories, local architecture and Wiscasset history. While this space was closed, the importance of making this information readily available became very apparent. To that end, we are currently working to digitize the entire collection to make it available online. We have already scanned over 1,200 images and many files. This process requires us to keep the physical Archive card catalog at the front desk while we convert to digital data. For now, researchers will need to look up information in the catalogs near the front desk, make note of the files they are

interested in searching and then go upstairs to use the materials. We apologize for the added work required for research. Thank you for your patience during this process. We believe that the end benefit of finding all of this material online will make the temporary inconvenience worthwhile.



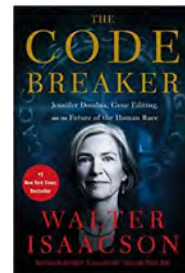
Friends Book Group Summer Vacation

The Friends Book Group is taking the summer off. There will not be a July or August meeting. The next meeting will be on September 16th, 2021 at 10:15 in the library reading room and will be a book share discussion. Until then, happy summer reading. We should have much to discuss in September. To be added to our group, please email us at wiscasset.library.friends@gmail.com.

Stephanie

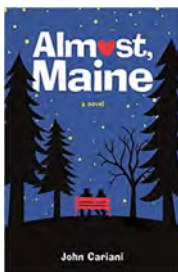
Recommended: *The Code Breaker*

The Code Breaker: Jennifer Doudna, Gene Editing, and the Future of the Human Race by Walter Isaacson is the story of the winner of the 2020 Nobel Prize in Chemistry. Jennifer Doudna and her collaborators developed CRISPR, an easy-to-use tool that can edit DNA. At heart, she is a detective, solving the mysteries of nature. She is also an ethicist, trying to determine the valid uses of her technology. Isaacson is an adept biographer, telling the tale of her quest for answers and the science behind her work in a way that is both fascinating and very readable.



"With his dynamic and formidable style, Isaacson explains the long scientific journey that led to this tool's discovery and the exciting developments that have followed...Isaacson is truly an immersive tour guide, combining the energy of a TED Talk with the intimacy of a series of fireside chats....For readers seeking to understand the many twists, turns and nuances of the biotechnology revolution, there's no better place to turn than *The Code Breaker*."— *BookPage*

New in Young Adult: *Almost, Maine* (based on the play)



John Cariani's *Almost, Maine* is an interlinked collection of heartwarming and heartbreaking YA stories that will have you thinking about love in an entirely new way. Welcome to Almost, Maine, a town that's so far north, it's almost not in the United States—it's almost in Canada. And it almost doesn't exist, because its residents never got around to getting organized. So it's just . . . Almost.

One cold, clear Friday night in the middle of winter, while the northern lights hover in the sky above, Almost's residents find themselves falling in and out of love in the strangest ways. Knees are bruised. Hearts are broken. Love is lost and found. And life for the people of Almost, Maine will never be the same.

– Amazon.com

The Children's Room

Why go to the library? You want your kids to love reading. “Whether you’re a bookworm or not, there are few places in the world more suited to stimulating a love of reading and books than the library. Turning your little one loose in the children’s stacks or directing your middle schooler to the Young Adult section is a great way to help them experience the wonder and excitement of a good book.” (Gonannies.com 2013) Plus there is air conditioning!



July is Contest Month Every week a contest. Every week a winner!

Come to the library to enter.

Week 1: There are many pigs in Children’s Books: Wilbur, Mercy Watson, Piggy and Elephant and more. Guess which Children's book pig hero is Ms. Laurie’s favorite. Think an older novel...

Week 2: Where is the Pangolin from?

Week 3: Help! I ordered the bookmarks in Spanish. What does Colas y Cuentos translate to in English?

Week 4: What kind of animal world is featured in *Duck on a Bike* by David Shannon?

Take a StoryWalk®

Check out the WPL Children's Room StoryWalk® on Wiscasset Common* featuring a laminated story. Take a stroll and read a book at the same time! StoryWalks® were created and copyrighted by Vermont Librarian, Anne Ferguson.



*Come to WPL, tell Ms. Laurie the title of the book and receive a small prize!

Take & Make Crafts: Tails & Tails & More Tails



Stop by the Children's Room to get your July crafts. This month, Ms. Laurie has a bunch of fun crafts with tails, to go with your tales :)



Summer Reading Club!

It's time for Summer Reading Club! Sign-ups are being held in the WPL Children's Room; or, go to www.wiscasset.lib.me.us and click on **JUST FOR KIDS**. There will be weekly contests, crafts to go, books to read and books to win, raffles to enter, incentives to pick up & more!

- Registration is on-going through the end of July
- Reporting on books starts on July 6th and ends on August 21st

We have TEN raffle prizes this year. Every book review earns another raffle ticket. It's time to read!



Raffle prizes!

Children's Room Reminders

We would love to see you! To protect our youngest patrons, some COVID-19 Safety Precautions are still in place. Children's Room visitors must:

- Enter the Children's room via the Children's Room door
- Limit capacity to one family at a time

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

News from the Friends of WPL

**Friends Meeting: Monday, July 12
9:30 Coffee Social, 10:00 Meeting**

The Friends of WPL will hold their July Meeting on Monday, July 12, at 10:00 in the library reading room. Join us for coffee at 9:30.



Not a Friends member yet? Please email us for information on how to join: Wiscasset.Libary.Friends@gmail.com. We hope to see you there.

Stephanie Hergenroeder and Lili Pugh, Co-Presidents

Help Wanted: Programs Committee

Would you like to get more involved with the library and meet new people? The Friends of WPL Programs Committee may be just the thing for you. The library

is ready to restart the public programs of interest that were put on hold this past year. WPL runs 5-6 monthly events during the summer and fall, generally on Wednesday evenings from 5:00 – 6:30 pm. The Friends have supported this by having the Programs standing committee which helps out with these events. The committee responsibilities include helping the Library Director build a theme for the season of programs, attend the events, help set up and break down the meeting room, provide refreshments and provide feedback. If you are interested in participating in this committee or have questions, please email [**Wiscasset.Library.Friends@gmail.com**](mailto:Wiscasset.Library.Friends@gmail.com). Joining the Friends of the Library to be on this committee is easy. Membership is just \$10.00 a year and your dues help support the library.

Second Hand Prose Used Book Room



The Friends of WPL are pleased to announce that the long wait is over. **Second-Hand Prose reopens on Thursday, July 1!** We cannot think of a better way to begin the long holiday weekend than to visit our Used Book Room and see the changes that have been made. We are highlighting books on gardening, cooking, and crafts for all your summer activities. Check out our historical nonfiction collection, where you'll find many wonderful books to learn about our area, our country, and the world around us. Our children's section is truly a welcoming and stimulating environment -- an absolute delight for children and their families.

We hope you will stop by, say hello, and pick up a few items to add to your personal library. Our always-low prices are irresistible. Where else can you buy that book you've been dying to read for \$3 or less? Children's items are just \$1. We look forward to welcoming our longtime patrons and introducing new patrons to this wonderful feature of our library.

Lynn Maloney, UBR Chair

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 assist WPL. We meet at 9:30 am on the 2nd Monday every other month. We start with a coffee social followed by the business meeting at 10:00am. Our next meeting will be held on **July 12**. You can find more information about the Friends on the [WPL website](#). Contact the Friends at Wiscasset.Library.Friends@gmail.com to be added to our email list.

Library Pass Program

Summer is the perfect time to borrow a library pass and visit one of your favorite local attractions. Wiscasset Public Library has passes to several Maine sites. The passes are free for patrons to borrow. Passes are limited to one borrower per day, so check availability with the library.

Historic New England – Visit dozens of fascinating historic properties throughout New England, including the Nickels-Sortwell House and Castle Tucker in Wiscasset, and the Bowman House in Dresden.



Portland Museum of Art – Maine’s largest and oldest public art institution is currently featuring *Untitled, 2020*, exploring the response of Maine artists to this pivotal time in history.



Farnsworth Museum – Celebrating Maine’s role in American art, the Farnsworth has current exhibitions including works by N.C., Andrew, and Jamie Wyeth as well as *Women of Vision*, which highlights thirteen remarkable women who have made lasting contributions to the culture of Maine.

Farnsworth
Art Museum



Coastal Maine Botanical Gardens – The largest botanical garden in New England. This is the perfect place to enjoy Maine’s beautiful outdoors. And there are giant trolls!

Library Information

Thank you for your support! Wiscasset Public Library is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization*. Your charitable contributions help WPL bring information, the joy of reading, and life-long learning to the communities of Alna, Edgecomb, Westport Island, and Wiscasset. To donate, visit our [website](#).

Hours

Tuesday 10:00am-5:00pm
Wednesday 10:00am-7:00pm
Thursday 10:00am-5:00pm
Friday 10:00am-5:00pm
Saturday 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

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



*WPL is governed by Corporators and a Board of Trustees. The Trustees meet each month on the 3rd Thursday at 4:30pm . If you would be interested in serving on the library Board, or if you would like to learn more, email Wiscasset.Library.Trustees@gmail.com.