



It was one of those March days when the sun shines hot and the wind blows cold: when it is summer in the light, and winter in the shade.

~ Charles Dickens

Director's Note

The geese are back, the cardinals are calling their sweet songs of love, and the sun is powerful. Spring is coming this month!

Spring is a time of renewal and awakening. Open the windows to let in the fresh air. Spring clean those drawers and cabinets. Get rid of whatever does not serve you, including the thoughts and practices that do not work for you anymore. Feel the freedom of having space in your mind, your heart, and your home. Notice the time you can find to sit in contemplation or thinking about what you want to do this season. Gardening, cookouts, or just sitting on the back porch. Start planning now to spring into the warmer weather and enjoy your life.

Museum Passes

The Library museum pass program came to an end in February. While the passes were well used at the beginning of the program, they have rarely left the building in the last few years. The funds that were used to purchase the passes will be returned to the collection development funds and used to support the circulating collection.

Pam Dunning, Director

A little Spring humor...



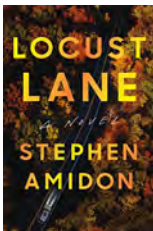


Upcoming Events



Wednesday, March 8th at 9:30am - Friends of WPL meeting. Join us for our bi-monthly coffee social in the library Fiction Room. New members are welcome. Come meet the Friends and learn how we support the library. The business meeting will follow at 10:00, in-person or via Zoom. To learn more, email the Friends at Wiscasset.Library.Friends@gmail.com.

New Adult Fiction: *Locust Lane*



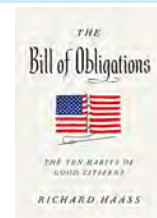
Stephen Amidon's latest novel is being compared to those by Dennis Lehane and Celeste Ng. ***Locust Lane*** is a taut and utterly propulsive story about the search for justice and the fault lines of power and influence in a seemingly idyllic town.

There has been a murder in the affluent New England suburb of Emerson, Mass. The investigation is focused on three local teens. Neighbors close ranks to protect their own, at any cost. Everyone has secrets, and the wealthy citizens of Emerson can behave very, very badly. Who can you trust?

A brilliantly woven, intricately crafted page-turner that gathers momentum on every page, this is superb storytelling told in terse prose—a dynamic read that is both intensely gripping and deeply affecting.

New Adult Non-Fiction: *The Bill of Obligations*

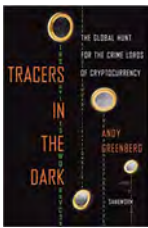
What does it mean to be a citizen of the United States? Are there requirements? Responsibilities? In his new book, ***The Bill of Obligations***, Richard Haass argues that we must re-envision citizenship if American democracy is to survive.



The United States faces dangerous threats from other countries, terrorists, climate change, and future pandemics. The greatest peril to the country, however, comes not from abroad but from within, from none other than ourselves. Are we prepared to do what is necessary and work together to save our democracy? Can we citizens place obligations on the same footing as rights? Haass offers his ideas for healing our divisions and safeguarding the country's future through an expert blend of civics, history, and political analysis. These obligations are not a burden but rather commitments that we make to fellow citizens and to the government to uphold democracy and counter the growing apathy, anger, selfishness, division, disinformation, and violence that threaten us all.

As Richard Haass states, "We get the government and the country we deserve. Getting the one we need, however, is up to us." The Bill of Obligations gives citizens across the political spectrum a plan of action to achieve it.

New in Large Print: *Tracers in the Dark*



This sounds like a new bestselling thriller... crime lords, international law enforcement, and cryptocurrency, in a cat-and-mouse tale of technological one-upmanship. Greenberg's *Tracers in the Dark: The Global Hunt for the Crime Lords of Cryptocurrency* reveals a dark economy that has been spreading worldwide for more than a decade.

These digital black markets operate more freely--whether in drug dealing, money laundering, or human trafficking--than their analog counterparts could have dreamed of doing. By transacting not in dollars or pounds but in currencies with anonymous ledgers, overseen by no government, beholden to no bankers, these black marketeers have sought to rob law enforcement of their chief method of cracking down on illicit finance: following the money.

Utterly of our time, filled with canny maneuvering and shocking twists, this book answers a provocative question: How would some of the world's most brazen criminals behave if they were sure they could never get caught?

Teen News

An advertisement for Comics Plus Library. It features a row of four book covers: 'Assassin's Creed Valhalla', 'The Children of Gaia', 'Shinjuku', and 'Artie the Wolf Moon'. Below the covers is the 'COMICS PLUS' logo with 'POWERED BY LIBRARY' underneath. At the bottom, the text 'Free to use with your library card!' is written in a large, white, sans-serif font against a blue and green background.

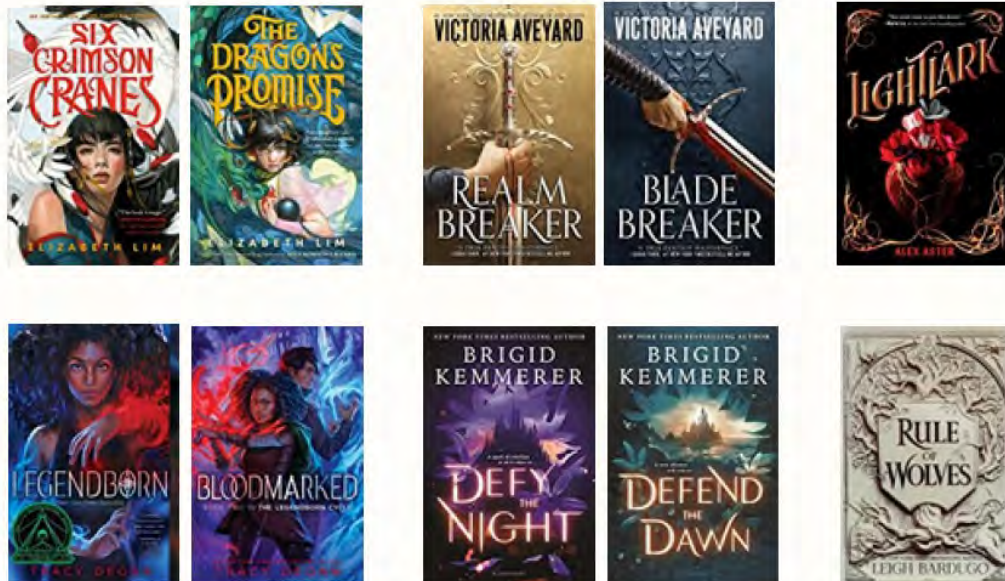
Maine Women Making History

March is Women's History Month!

Stop by the Teen/YA Room to see our selection of materials focused on important women throughout history. Check out our bulletin board where we've put a special focus on highlighting some of the innovative, kind, smart, and talented women in Maine who are making history right now!



Looking for a new fantasy book? Head to the New Arrivals Shelf.



NEW BOOKS FOR TEENS EVERY MONTH
Stop by or check out the "New" feature on our [website](#).



Do you have a favorite book or author? Let us know so we can share with others. You could help someone find their next great read!



Stop by to browse and pick up your library card - free for all Wiscasset students and educators.

The Children's Room



**March 3 is National
"I Want You to be Happy Day"**



I Want You to be Happy Day encourages us to do something that makes others happy. Our idea is to make Smiley Face Magnets. We give you enough materials to make one for you, one to share, and one to show how much you care!



**Happiness is reading a good book!
Let us know if there is any book
you need to make you happy.**



In March, we celebrate **Women's History Month**. Can you name some famous women? Do you have some female heroes? We have wonderful books about so many fascinating women... Marie Curie, Sally Ride, Amelia Earhart, Rosa Parks, Malala, Helen Keller, and Jane Goodall to name a few. Come to the Children's Room and let us help you find a new hero!

A Happy Song*

I have something in my pocket
It belongs across my face
I keep it very close at hand
in a most convenient place
I'm sure you couldn't guess it
If you guessed a long, long while
So I'll take it out and put it on
It's a great big happy smile!

*Used with permission from ChildFun, Inc.

Why is this the first day of spring on March 20? It's the **vernal equinox**. That means the sun is directly over the earth's equator, and day and night are exactly the same length. After the spring equinox, the days get longer and the nights get shorter. More daylight -- hooray!



MARCH STORY TIME

When: Fridays, 10:30-11:00 am

Where: The Children's Room

Who: Children (birth to 5 years) and caregiver

What: Stories, songs, rhymes, and movement



Could spring be just around the corner? In the month of March, the weather changes almost daily as spring approaches. One day it will be warm and sunny, one day it could snow and be really cold, or it could be windy and rainy and cloudy. This month we will celebrate all the changes in the weather with songs, stories, and projects highlighting all the different types of weather March has to offer. We will also share songs and stories about St. Patrick's Day throughout the month.

We will not have Story Time on 3/24. I will be away helping at my former school that day, but I will return and see everyone on the 31st!

-Mrs. Whitney

3/3:



3/10:



3/17:



3/31:



**When you come to Story Time, remember there are activities to go!
(A different activity will be available each week after Story Time.)**

**When you come to pick up your books, remember to get your
Crafts To Go!**



For our youngest patrons -
a shamrock collage



Scratch Art Fun



Make a Magical Wand



St. Patrick's Day
owl ornament

Craft a robin,
a harbinger of spring



News from the Friends of WPL

Meet the new President of the Friends: Tracey Whitney



My name is Tracey Whitney, and my husband Dan and I moved to Wiscasset about a year and a half ago from VT. In VT I was a preschool teacher and program director for a Catholic school. I was heavily involved in our PTO and chaired several fundraising events each year. I also helped with marketing for the school as a whole and my program in particular. I enjoy working in teams, and love seeing how different people bring their unique talents to different projects.

I am passionate about literacy in young children and am delighted to volunteer each week at the WPL Children's Room Story Time. Being able to use my preschool teaching skills in a new way has been a delight.

My first experience working with the Friends was at the Children's Christmas Sale. I honestly didn't know very much about WPL at that time, or about the Friends group at all. I received an email asking for someone to chair the event. I was looking for a way to support the community and I knew that it was something I could do. I was so impressed with how committed everyone was to the Library and to the children in our community. I felt like I had found "my group," and I wanted to become a member so I could stay involved.

At the next Friends meeting I was surprised to learn that our library is not publicly funded (although we do receive some support from the communities served), but rather a non-profit organization. This was a new concept for me coming from another state where libraries are fully funded public institutions. I have come to understand that the Friends play an integral role in fundraising for several important programs offered by the library. In 2023, the Friends are funding the circulation software that provides Interlibrary Loans, CloudLibrary, etc. We also provide funding for Children's and Young Adult Programs including Summer Reading. These are just a few examples of the library resources that are available thanks to the Friends.

As I step into the role of President of the Friends, I look forward to working with everyone on existing fundraising events, and I hope to help brainstorm other fundraisers for the future. I also hope to bring our presence into the greater community through simple outreach programs, and more consistent communication of all that the library has to offer. The addition of our new Communications Chair is going to be a great asset to that cause.

I want to say thank you to everyone for this opportunity. I appreciate your patience as I get up to speed, and most importantly, your passion for our library and all those it serves.

Treasurer's Report

Have you paid your dues? It's that time of the year when our \$10 member dues for the Friends of the Wiscasset Public Library are payable. If you haven't had an opportunity to do so, please mail your check (payable to Friends of the Wiscasset Public Library) to the Library at 21 High Street, Wiscasset 04578. Thank you for your continued support.

Second Hand Prose Used Book Room

Open Tuesday through Saturday when the library is open

February weather never seems to disappoint. There is always something unexpected right around the corner. This past month was no exception to that 'rule' either. If you have volunteered to staff Second Hand Prose and the weather is questionable, please check to see if the library is open before you venture out. Always, use your own best judgment.



Spring is around the corner, and we will soon resume our special events in the Used Book Room. These will be tied to events on the Wiscasset Common. We are always in need of recent, gently used hardcovers and trade paperbacks. **We have a special need for children's books.** Please consider donating those books you received for Christmas and check the local papers and Facebook for our special events. Our greatest pleasure is getting books in the hands of our friends. If you have any suggestions, I can be reached at lynnmaloney5@yahoo.com. I would love to hear from you.

As always, a sincere thank you to the faithful volunteers who staff our Used Book Room. Your diligence is appreciated. It is wonderful to welcome so many people. This is one of the highlights of volunteering. Plus, you get first chance at purchasing our books!

-Lynn Maloney, UBR Chair

Wiscasset Public Library is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization*. Your support helps 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](#). Thank you for your support!

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
Laurie Ridgway, Children's Librarian
Courtney Sonia, Librarian
David Cherry, Assistant Librarian
Annaliese Hart Incháurregui, Library Clerk

Connect with WPL

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