



April 2026 | Volume 33, Issue 4

Library News and Events



Serve on our Board!

Registration Required

**March 31 at 6 p.m.
& April 8 at 6:30 p.m.**

Trustee Information Nights

Are you enthusiastic about the Kennebunk Free Library? Would you like to serve on our Board? We are seeking new Trustees who will be active participants at monthly Board and committee meetings and will serve as library advocates, promoting KFL in its mission to inspire and enable our communities to discover, learn, and connect. Interested? You can look over the FAQ for Potential Trustees by going to kennebunklibrary.org and clicking on the **About Us** tab. To learn more, join us at our in-person Information

Session **on Wednesday, April 8 at 6:30 p.m.** Current Trustees will be available to answer your questions and describe their Trustee experience. Register through the calendar on the KFL website or email kfl@kennebunklibrary.org.

KFL: The Next Chapter Survey Responses Gathered; Virtual Building Tour Shared

Kennebunk Free Library (KFL) has concluded its community survey as part of KFL: The Next Chapter, an exploratory effort focused on evaluating how the library's building can best serve the community in the years ahead.



The survey, which received nearly 350 responses, provides the library with valuable insights into how the building is used today and what the community hopes to see in the future. “We’re incredibly grateful to everyone who took the time to share their thoughts,” said Michelle Conners, Executive Director of the Kennebunk Free Library. “Nearly 350 responses give us a meaningful snapshot of how our community experiences the library and where there are opportunities to grow or improve.”

KFL will now begin reviewing and analyzing the survey data, with findings to be shared publicly once the evaluation process is complete. “The level of engagement we saw reflects how much the library means to our community,” said Vicki Lyons, Board President. “We look forward to sharing what we learn and continuing this conversation together.”

While the analysis is underway, the library is inviting the public to explore its current space in a new way through an interactive Matterport scan of the building. The digital walkthrough allows visitors to virtually move through the library and see its layout, spaces, and features from anywhere. The virtual tour can be accessed through the library’s website at www.kennebunklibrary.org or directly through this [link](#). Updates about KFL: The Next Chapter will continue to be shared with the community as the planning process moves forward.

KFL serves its communities with collections, programs, technology access, and community gathering spaces. Through KFL: The Next Chapter, the library is exploring how its building can continue to support growing community needs for generations to come.

112 Main Street - 207-985-2173 – kfl@kennebunklibrary.org.



A Message from the Friends of KFL

The next meeting of the Friends will be held on **Monday April 6 from 5:30 to 6:30 p.m.** at KFL. We will be talking about upcoming sales and events. All are welcome to come to learn more about how you can become involved and meet other library supporters.

Our next big event will be the May Day Book Sale which will be on **Saturday, May 2, 2026, from 9 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.** Watch your inbox for an email offering of time choices to volunteer to help with this important fundraiser.

Arundel Town Hall gave the Friends of KFL a spot in their entrance to offer information and a free book. Stop in and take a look! We are grateful for this opportunity to reach out to our Arundel patrons.

If you haven’t joined for 2026, it isn’t too late. Come into the library during regular hours or use this [link](#).

5K Registration is Now Open!

Registration is now open for the 29th Edition of the KFL 5K, hosted by the Kennebunk Free Library. The community race will take place on Friday, July 10, welcoming runners, walkers, and families for an evening event that supports the library.

[Register Here](#)



The scenic, USATF-certified course begins and ends in the library parking lot, winding through neighborhood streets before heading onto the trails at Hope Cemetery & Woods. The route offers a mix of peaceful local roads and wooded trails.

Preregistration is open now and closes on July 8. Prices increase for same-day registrations. Prizes will be awarded to the top male and female finishers in eight age categories.

Following the race, participants and spectators are invited to celebrate on the library lawn with live music, food, and a beer tent. [Keep up to date at this page.](#)

Next year marks the 30th anniversary of the KFL 5K, and organizers invite past participants to share photos or stories from previous races. For information, email kfl@kennebunklibrary.org or call (207) 985-2173.

Thank you to our Event Sponsor!



Thank you to our Diamond Sponsors!



Monthly Phone Wallpaper

Looking to change up your phone background? Like our Newsletter Banner? [Download our monthly phone wallpaper](#) and match with us! New backgrounds every month! [E-mail Amelia for assistance.](#)

To download to your phone, tap 'Download' as highlighted in the newsletter on your mobile device. Follow the link. Once you arrive at the download page from our calendar, tap and hold on the image, then select 'Save to Photos'. The image will be saved to your 'Photo Gallery' and you can change your wallpaper from there.

Adult Programs

Plant and Seed Swap - April 4

Ready to grow something new? Are you planning your gardens for this year? Ready to start some seeds indoors? Are you awash in houseplants or overrun with saved seeds?



It's time to trade your extras and diversify your collection! Join us for an informal Seed and Houseplant Swap to kick off the growing season. Come to the Kennebunk Free Library's Houseplant & Seed Swap!

Saturday, April 4 from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.. Swap plants, share seeds, and connect with fellow plant lovers in the community. We'll also have plant and gardening books for sale. You're welcome to bring plants, seeds, or both.

What to Bring:

- **Seeds:** Stored for 3 years or less (labeled with name/year).
- **Houseplants/Cuttings:** Healthy, pest-free, and rooted or ready-to-root.
- **Seedlings:** Extra vegetable or flower starts.
- **Extras:** Your favorite green thumb tips, tricks, and stories to share!

How it Works:

This is an informal swap—bring what you can, take what you need! *Tip: Please label your plants with their name and care instructions (e.g., sun/shade).* If you can't attend but have healthy plants or seeds to donate, you may drop them off at the library *beginning Monday, March 30.*



Reader's Choice Book Club - April 6

Reader's Choice Book Club will meet on **Monday, April 6 at 2 p.m.** in the Walker Room at the library, and **our theme will be: Around the World.**

How does this book club work? You choose your own book to read, based on the monthly theme, and then join us for a casual and fun conversation. Everyone is welcome!



Open Hearts Open Mic - April 6

Open Hearts Open Mic will be the **first Monday of every month starting Monday, April 6th at 6 p.m.** at Kennebunk Free Library! Hosted by local writer Kacy Fallon, there are 10 slots, and sign-up is first-come, first-served. Writers and artists may share up to five minutes of their work. Admission is always free and open to the public. This month, cake and wine will be available to celebrate Open Heart Open Mic's 1st Birthday as well as National Poetry Month!



Ukulele Group - April 8

Join us on the **second Wednesday of every month at 3:30 p.m.** to make some music in the library! Ukulele players of all skill levels are invited to stop in to play along. We will be choosing songs to play each month from *The Daily Ukulele: 365 Songs for Better Living*. Ukuleles and songbooks are available to check out from the library.



Evening Readers Choice Book Club - April 8

Our Evening Reader's Choice Book Club will meet **Wednesday, April 8 at 6 p.m.** in the Walker Room on the main floor of the library.

March's Theme is "Historical Fiction"

The Reader's Choice format allows readers to select any book that fits this month's theme. Readers can select from fiction or non-fiction, adult books, young adult, or children's, and everything in between. We hope you'll join us!



Die Well Death Education - April 13

If you missed the first series of the Die Well Death Education Series at KFL, you have another chance to participate. It was so well received, we are offering the entire series again this year.

Join us at Kennebunk Free Library on **Monday, April 13 at 1 p.m.** for the *sixth session* in the new year-long Die Well Death Education Series with host Leona Oceania. You are welcome to attend one or all of the sessions. No registration is required.

Session Six: MAID (Medical Aid in Dying)

We will discuss MAID: Medical Aid in Dying, focusing primarily on Maine's Death with Dignity Act. MAID is the process by which qualifying competent and terminally ill state residents with a prognosis of 6 months or less life expectancy may legally obtain MAID prescription medication, which they may take voluntarily and without assistance, to end their life peacefully and on their terms.

*Individually wrapped, homemade skull cakelets will be provided.

Our Constitutional Rights in Context - April 13



What do laws written in the 18th and 19th centuries mean here in the 21st? Join ACLU of Maine staff attorney Anahita Sotoohi at Kennebunk Free Library on **Monday, April 13 at 5:30 p.m.** for an informative talk on the origins and modern-day applications of some of the constitutional amendments that form the bedrock of our democracy. By investigating the text of key amendments and their application in legal cases before the courts today, we will explore the Constitution as both a historical and a living document.



Cook and Share Cookbook Club - April 15

Welcome to our Cookbook Club! You are invited to join us **every third Wednesday at 3 p.m.!** We will gather to celebrate food through various dishes and themes! How does it work? Make any type of dish from a favorite cookbook or a new one that you have been wanting to try, then bring it in to share! Every month we will have a different theme.

This month we will be meeting on **Wednesday, April 15th** and our **theme** will be **Dim Sum!** Dim sum is a traditional Chinese meal made up of small plates of dumplings and other snack

dishes - there are many options to choose from! So choose something that you're interested in and bring it (and the recipe) in to share!

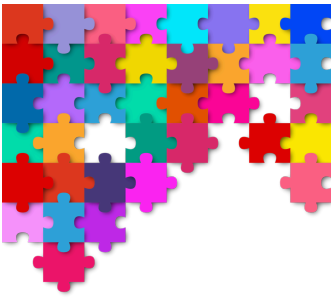
Utensils, plates and napkins will be provided!

This event is free and wheelchair accessible. Kennebunk Free Library is located at 112 Main St., Kennebunk. Please email Becca at rlong@kennebunklibrary.org to let her know you will be attending.



Trivia Night - April 15

The third Wednesday of every month at 6:30 p.m. is trivia night at KFL! Bring a team, join one of our friendly teams of regulars, or take on the challenge solo. Light refreshments will be served.



✂ Puzzle Exchange - April 18

Puzzle Lovers, This One's for You! Finished a few puzzles and ready for something new? Bring your completed puzzles and trade them in for new-to-you challenges! On **Saturday, April 18**, swing by the Kennebunk Free Library from **10 a.m. to 3 p.m.** for a fun and easy **Puzzle Swap! Bring a puzzle, take a puzzle!** It's the perfect way to refresh your puzzle stash, meet fellow puzzle fans, and keep the fun going all year long.

- All sizes welcome
- Must be in good condition
- All pieces included
- From a smoke-free home
- Pieces packed in a large Ziploc bag (so none wander off!)



Craft Supply Swap - April 18

Are your closets filling up with craft supplies that you've always told yourself you'd use but are gathering dust? Would you like to try a new craft but haven't gotten around to buying the supplies? Join us for a craft supply swap! This year's swap will take place on **April 18 from 2 to 4 p.m.**

Bring your unused yarn, fabric, drawing, scrapbooking, jewelry-making, wreath making, and other supplies and swap them with fellow crafters! Who knows, maybe you'll end up with a new favorite hobby!

Donations can be dropped off at the library starting April 1 by appointment only. Donations are limited to two bags or one large tote per person; donations may be denied based on condition at staff discretion. Contact Brittany at bkashar@kennebunklibrary.org to set up a time. Supplies can also be brought during the swap. You don't need to donate in order to attend and take!

Any supplies not taken during the swap will be used by the library for programs, donated to local nonprofits, or recycled.



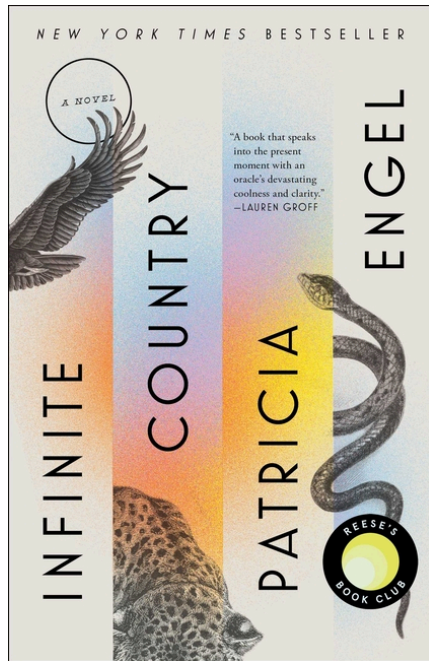
Dismantling Democracy: 53 Days in Nazi Germany - April 21

Join us at Kennebunk Free Library on **Tuesday, April 21 at 6:30 p.m.** for a program with the Holocaust and Human Rights Center of Maine (HHRC).
Dismantling Democracy: 53 Days in Nazi

Germany explores the critical weeks following Hitler's appointment as chancellor in 1933, when the Nazi Party legally and systematically dismantled the democratic foundations of the Weimar Republic. Grounded in primary sources and historical context, the program offers an opportunity to learn about this pivotal moment in history—one that reminds us how quickly democratic institutions can erode.

HHRC Executive Director Tam Huynh will begin the evening with a brief introduction, followed by the presentation led by colleague and Holocaust Scholar Erica Nadelhaft. Erica will facilitate a Q&A following the program, creating space for thoughtful dialogue and reflection focused on this pivotal moment in history.

The HHRC works to promote Holocaust education, confront antisemitism and bias, and strengthen a more informed and compassionate civic culture across our state. One way we pursue that mission is through educational programs that invite communities to examine history in ways that deepen understanding and inspire civic engagement.



Fiction Book Discussion - April 28

Join us on **Tuesday, April 28 at 1 p.m.** to discuss *Infinite Country* by Patricia Engel.

“Engel (*The Veins of the Ocean*) delivers an outstanding novel of migration and the Colombian diaspora. Talia breaks out of a reformatory for girls in Colombia with a single purpose: to reunite with her family in the U.S. Her parents, Elena and Mauro, fell in love as teenagers and had a child before fleeing from the violence, poverty, and uncertainty of Bogotá and moving to Houston, where “their ears took in English, English, all the time English, and if they heard Spanish, it was with no accent like their own.” After overstaying their visas, they have two more kids including Talia, the youngest, and move to various cities. But the family is separated when Mauro is deported for driving without a license. The narrative moves between past and present to chronicle Talia’s travails—first sent back to Colombia to live with her grandmother as a young girl, and later hitchhiking to Bogotá to meet Mauro—and the lives of Elena and Mauro, revealing the struggles of undocumented migrants and exploring “how people who do horrible things can be victims, and how victims can be people who do horrible things.” Engel’s sharp, unflinching narrative teems with insight and dazzles with a confident, slyly sophisticated structure. This is an impressive achievement” -- Publishers Weekly Starred Review

Weekly Programs

In Stitches - Tuesdays

Do you love to knit? Crochet? Sew? Have you always wanted to learn? Do you have an unfinished project hidden on the closet shelf? Then join us **every Tuesday at 11 a.m.** for "In Stitches", our weekly handicrafts group! Grab that half-finished project and enjoy the company of others while you work; all skill levels are welcome. Feel free to stop by for a few minutes or stay the whole hour.



Tech Talk Line - Tuesday Evenings



Are you stuck on a technology question, but can't visit the library during its regularly scheduled Technology Time Appointments? Whether it be trying to use one of the library's digital services, making heads or tails of a new device, or just having someone's help to guide your troubleshooting efforts, don't worry, the library is here to help!

To use our **Tech Talk Line**, all you need to do is call downstairs to the Children's Room to speak with our Technology Educator, Emmaline. Our Tech Talk Line will be open every Tuesday night from **5 to 6:30 p.m.** Calls can include, but are not limited to,

using smartphones and tablets, navigating websites or emails, or accessing digital library resources. Support will be provided on a **first-come, first-served** basis for issues that can be addressed in **10 minutes or less**. If the line is busy during a call, please leave a voicemail so we can get back to you accordingly. If during a session we determine that the issue requires more time than 10 minutes, we can schedule a 45-minute Tech Time appointment on Wednesday or Thursday, allowing for in-person, one-on-one assistance.

If you have any questions or concerns about this program, please feel free to visit us at the desk, call (207) 985-2173, or email our technology educator at kfl@kennebunklibrary.org so we can help you further.



Tech Time - Wednesdays & Thursdays

Are you stuck on a technology question that might need some extra help to be solved? Whether it be trying to use one of the library's digital services, making heads or tails of a new device, or just having a second pair of eyes help you troubleshoot your next steps, don't worry, the library is here to help!

To sign up for one of our Tech Time appointments, please visit the front desk to be placed on our scheduling sheet.

Appointments to meet one-on-one with our Technology Educator can be *scheduled* **Wednesdays from 2 to 4 p.m., and Thursdays from 10 to 12 p.m.** Appointments are 45 minutes long, but there is always an opportunity to schedule a follow-up appointment if we run over our time limit. When setting up the appointment, help us to better assist you by describing the issue you want to discuss. If possible, also make sure to bring your charged device with you, along with any needed usernames and passwords. If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to visit us at

the desk, call (207) 295-2173, or email our technology educator at kfl@kennebunklibrary.org so we can help you further.



Mah Jongg - Wednesdays and Fridays

Everyone is invited to drop in on **Wednesdays from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m.** or **Fridays from 12:30 to 3 p.m.** to play Mah Jongg. The library has **4** sets available for use or you are welcome to bring your own. Don't know how to play? You're welcome to watch and learn. We can also share some resources for learning on your own. Please [email the library](#) with any questions.



Living with Grief (aka Grief Group) - Thursday Afternoons

KFL is now hosting a weekly Grief Group, led by retired RN Carol MacLeod. **Every Thursday morning from 11 to 12:30 p.m.**

Because of the sensitive nature and confidentiality of this group, and for more information, **please contact Carol MacLeod (Facilitator) before joining.**

Her email is mugbob66@gmail.com and her number is (207)-468-0668.



Drop-In Tech Time - Thursday Afternoons

Looking for some quick Tech Help? Whether it be trying to use one of the library's digital services, making heads or tails of a new device, or just having someone's help to guide your troubleshooting efforts, don't worry, the library is here to help!

To use our **Drop-in Tech Help Service**, all you need to do is visit the library on **Thursday afternoons from 3 to 4:30 p.m.** Our Technology Educator, Emmaline, will have a reference desk available for you to find local resources, and help you with your quick technology questions. Visits can include, but are not limited to, using smartphones, laptops, or tablets, navigating websites or emails, or accessing digital library resources. Support will be provided on a **first-come, first-served** basis for issues that can be addressed in **10 minutes or less**. If during a session we determine that the issue requires more time than 10 minutes, we can

schedule a 45-minute Tech Time appointment on Wednesday or Thursday, allowing for in-person, one-on-one assistance.

If you have any questions or concerns about this program, please feel free to visit us at the desk, call (207) 985-2173, or email our technology educator at kfl@kennebunklibrary.org so we can help you further.



Improv - Saturdays

Improv - Sessions will be held **every Saturday from 10:30 to 12 p.m.**

Teen Programs



Book-ish Activities in the Teen Room!

The teen space in the library is full of bookish activities for you to do **beginning April 1**, and it's the place to be for all things literary right now! Whether you're flying solo or hanging out with friends, you can do these activities at your own pace, so no rush, and no pressure. Here's a sneak peek at the activities we have planned for you this month:

Is it Taylor Swift, or Robert Frost?

It's National Poetry Month! Can you tell the difference between Robert Frost's poems, and Taylor Swift's lyrics? Both are storytellers who use nature-based imagery to explore complex human emotions, and their writing can often be very similar in style. To test your knowledge, we'll have a bulletin board of quotes for you to decipher, and an answer sheet for you to complete. Leave your answers in the green box, and at the end of the month, we will share the answers, and our community stats to see how accurate we were!

Step into Style: Design a Rainboot!

April Showers bring May Flowers, and we want to step into spring with some style! Help us decorate the Teen Space with a haute couture design of your very own this month. Once your boot is runway ready, place it in our windows for us all to see!

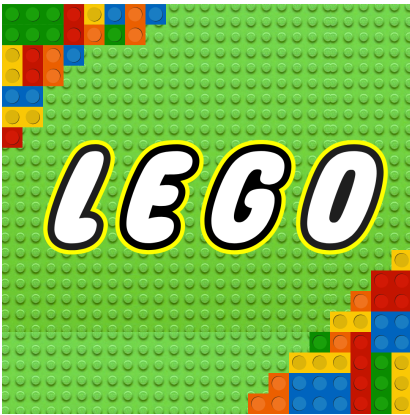
National Scrabble Day Bulletin

April 13th is National Scrabble Day, and we have a fun bookish challenge for you to try to celebrate! Using as many scrabble tiles as you need, spell a word by arranging the "books" on a shelf. Once you have created a word, check to see if it has already been taken, and if it hasn't, claim it by writing it on the Book Barcode. Each Scrabble Tile will also have a corresponding book that begins with the letter of the tile to give you a book recommendation as well!

Hide Lego Samwise

They're taking the hobbits to the Library! Lego Samwise is hidden somewhere in the Teen Space. Find him, and change his hiding place somewhere else in the room for the next person to find and move him. Don't make it too hard for someone to find him, but make sure he is hidden from the Eye of Sauron.

Teen/tween programming is free, the space is wheelchair accessible, and it is open to Teens and Tweens ages 10 and up. If you have any questions about these programs, ask Miss Emmaline or Miss Aspen downstairs in the children's room, or call (207) 985-2173. We look forward to seeing you there!



Teen Lego Displays

Starting April 1, come on over to the library to build with Legos! With building bricks provided by the library, you can place your amazing creations in the "Drop-Off" box for Miss Emmaline and Miss Claudia to find at the end of the day to display. Just remember to include a title, date, and your name. Miss Emmaline and Miss Aspen are super excited to showcase your work in the Teen Room for the whole month! Feel free to create as many designs as you like, but please make sure to leave enough Legos for everyone else to have fun too. At the end of the month, there will be ribbons awarded for your designs. Your creations will then be taken apart so you

can build something new in May, but we will have a binder with a gallery of your builds for others to enjoy. We can't wait to see what you come up with!

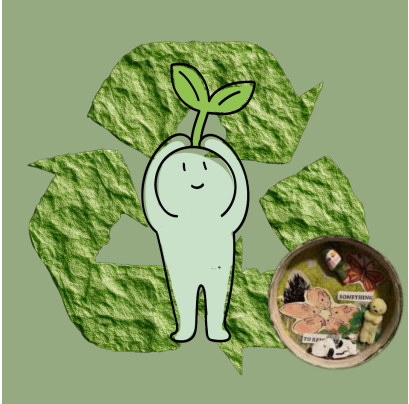


Teen Take and Make: Rainbow Keychains!

At Kennebunk Free Library, we say, "Let it grow!," and we're channeling our favorite speaker for the trees with a Lorax craft. With pom-poms, googly eyes, and pipe cleaners, you'll be able to make a Lorax minifigure and a Truffula tree, perfect for decorating your space! These kits will be **available starting on Wednesday, April 1**, in the Teen Room. Supplies are first come, first served.

Teen/Tween Saturday Program: Drop-In DIY Recycled Locker Magnets - April 4

Are you looking to add some decoration to your desk or locker, while also using recycled materials? If you said yes, we have the perfect Earth Day activity for you! We'll have jar lids, magnet strips, newspapers, and other collaging materials available to decorate your very own magnet masterpiece. Whether you want to showcase your favorite characters or celebs, create a scene from your favorite book, or make your own unique design, stop by the Teen Room **on Saturday, April 4th, anytime from 10:30 a.m. to 1 p.m..**



Dungeons and Dragons - April 6 & 13

Welcome, young adventurers! Come and join in on an exciting quest in the world of Dungeons and Dragons. We have left the City of Aetria to the Encampment of Arghh to find shelter with the Orcs of the Rotten Horde. After defeating the first Death Knight Aspirant with the help of Balazar, the salamander, only 3 soul gems remain. We need to find the Arch of Xeno, and then face the Death Knight for one final battle. Where will

our adventure take us next, as time is running out? It's up to our heroes to decide! This month, we will be meeting on **Mondays: April 6 & 13 from 3:30 to 4:30 p.m.**. The library will provide all supplies, just bring your imagination! This program is dedicated to players who are familiar with the world and mechanics of Dungeons and Dragons. **If you are a new player, we will host a Session 0 on the first meeting of the month, April 6 at 3 p.m., 30 minutes before our first gaming session.** *This session is required* for new players to create their character and to participate in the campaign. We look forward to you joining the adventure!



Teen Magic the Gathering Night - April 9

Looking to test out your new Magic the Gathering deck with friends? Join us to play **on April 9 from 3:15 to 4p.m.**! There will be cards available to make a deck, but if you have your own, we encourage you to bring them to share and compete!

Teen Science Cafe: Coded Robots - April 10

Looking for an opportunity to earn your volunteer hours, build your resume, and also grab a snack? KFL is excited to announce that we've joined the Teen Science Café Cohort, and we're inviting you to help us lead and design STEM events with your peers here at the library. Designed



by teens for teens, Teen Science Cafes bring together local scientists and students, grades 6-12 to explore new research and discuss what inspires and influences people to pursue careers in STEM with interactive lessons and activities. For our next meeting, this event will be held **on April 10 between 3:30 and 4:30 p.m.** During this meeting, we form teams to code robots to traverse mazes, and we will discuss and plan our May program. Oh, and did we also mention that there's also going to be snacks?



Teen Pokemon Club - April 14 & 28

Welcome to the Kennebunk Free Library Pokémon Gym! We will be meeting on **every other Tuesday: April 14 & 28 from 3:15 to 4 p.m.** to hang out with friends, eat some snacks, and catch 'em all. This program is primarily dedicated to Pokémon card battles, but all Pokémon formats can be played during our meeting times. The library will have cards for you to use, but you are encouraged to bring your own decks for battles and trading.



Teen Desserts in a Mug - April 23

Looking for something fun to do during Spring Break? Have you ever wanted to bake something without waiting an hour and making two dozen cookies? Join us **on Thursday, April 23, from 3 to 4 p.m.**, to make desserts in a mug! We'll mix together different ingredients to make brownies, cookies, and cakes to eat in person (in a mug that you can keep!), then we'll combine all of the dry ingredients for you to take home two of your favorite recipes to make whenever you'd like! **Registration is required** to attend this event. Please register ahead of time with the link provided, or through our website calendar. If you have questions about the program or potential allergens, ask Miss Emmaline downstairs in the children's room, or call (207) 985-2173.

Children's Programs



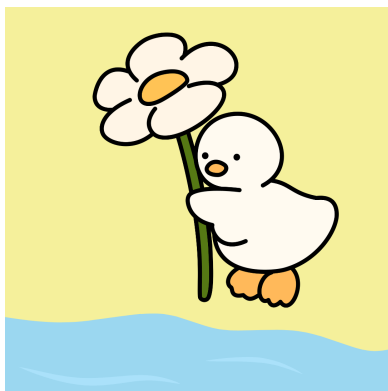
Beadcraft - April 1

In the mood to get creative? Perler Beads - tiny plastic beads that can melt - were first introduced as a craft in Sweden in the 1950's, and we still love them! Children ages 6 and up, or age 5 with a caregiver, are invited to join us for an afternoon of beading fun **on Wednesday, April 1, at 1 p.m.** What a great way to spend an early-release afternoon! Design suggestions will be offered, but creativity is encouraged! All craft materials will be provided. [Registration](#) is recommended but not required.



Kindness Crew - April 7

In a world where you can be anything, be kind! Join us for our next meeting of Kindness Crew **on Tuesday, April 7, at 3:45 p.m.** This month, we'll read a story about umbrellas and make an umbrella craft. This program is open to ages 6 and up; registration is appreciated but not required! Kindness has no age requirement – if a friend younger than 6 would like to join in, please reach out to Miss Maria at mrichardson@kennebunklibrary.org, or 985-2173 x 105. Caregivers are encouraged to join in! When your little sees you talking about and practicing kindness, they will want to join in even more!



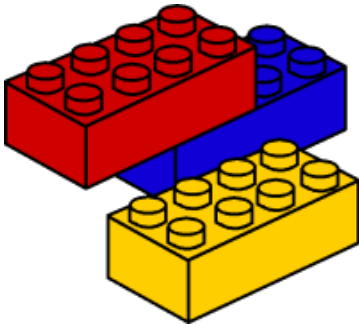
We Love To Play - April 9

There are so many ways to play! Join us **on Thursday, April 9, at 10 a.m.** for a morning of sensory play celebrating Spring! Explore fun, sometimes messy activity stations and play spots themed on flowers, birds, and more. Come play with us, and wear clothes that can get messy just in case! No registration is required. This program is designed with ages 1-4 in mind, but everyone is welcome.



Drop-In Spring Crafts - April 11

Are you ready to get crafty? Hop on over to Kennebunk Free Library **on Saturday, April 11 between 12 and 3 p.m.** to make a craft or two celebrating spring! All ages are welcome to attend. No registration required.



Lego Club - April 16

Ready to get building? Kennebunk Free Library is offering a Lego Club for children ages 4 and older. Lego Club will meet **on Thursday, April 16, from 3:45 to 4:30 p.m.** Come and build new and imaginative creations or ask the librarian for a challenge to complete. All Lego blocks will be supplied; please leave yours at home. Registration is appreciated but not required.



Faerie House Exhibition - April 21 through 228

It's faerie house time! Build a faerie house to welcome the faeries back to the garden at Kennebunk Free Library! Faerie houses will be accepted at the library from **April 21-April 28**. We want to display your faerie house in the library! Help us do this by building a house with a base no larger than 14" by 14", and no taller than 30". Please use natural materials only! There will be a selection of natural materials available in the library starting April 6. All faerie houses submitted to the library

by April 29 will receive a certificate from the Seacoast Garden Club. Stop by the Faerie Festival on May 2 from 9:30 to 11:30 a.m. and find Miss Maria to receive your certificate! Faerie houses will be on display at the library through May 15. May 16 is the last day to pick up faerie houses. Would you prefer to keep your faerie house at home? Snap a photo and send it to ys@kennebunklibrary.org by April 31. We will share the photos on our social media!

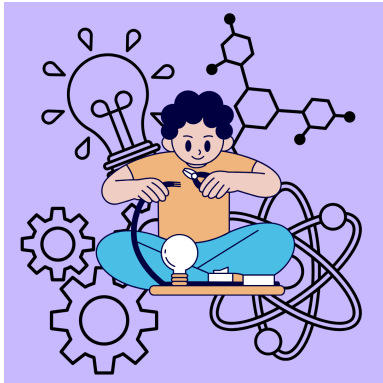
In summary:

- **April 6:** First day to pick up natural materials at the library to inspire your faerie house
- **April 21:** First day to bring your faerie house to the library for display
- **April 28:** Last day to submit your faerie house or a photo of your faerie house to the library
- **May 2:** Faerie Festival!
- **May 16:** Last day to pick up your faerie house to take home



Faerie House Workshop - April 22

The faeries are returning and need a place to stay! Come to the library **on April 22nd from 1 to 3 p.m.** to make a faerie house! We will provide some supplies but feel free to bring your own **natural materials**, like sticks, stone and pinecones! Hot glue will be used in this program with assistance. When you're done, leave your faerie house here to receive a certificate or bring it home to decorate your yard!



STEM Saturday with Mousam River STEM Academy - April 25

Want to add some STEM to your Saturday morning? Join us **on Saturday, April 25, from 10:30 to 11:30 a.m.** for a fun STEM activity hosted by Mousam River STEM Academy! This program is for PreK – 5th grade, no registration required.



Storytime - Mondays

It's time for Storytime! Come to the library for stories, songs, and fun with Miss Maria! We'll even get to say hello to our puppet friend, Ami the bunny. **On most Mondays in April at 10 a.m.**, Storytimes will be held in Hank's Room at the Kennebunk Free Library. **Due to the holiday closure, we will be having Storytime on Tuesday, April 21.** We can't wait for you to join us!

Upcoming Storytime dates include:

- April 6
 - April 13
 - **Tuesday, April 21**
 - April 27
-



Family Fun Play - Thursdays

Have a morning of play at the library! On **Thursday mornings in April**, Kennebunk Free Library will bring out the toys for a library play date. These toys are best enjoyed when the whole family plays together! Before we say goodbye until next time, Miss Maria will read a story. **Playtime starts at 10 a.m. and Miss Maria will read a story at 11 a.m.**, but feel free to drop in anytime! We usually leave the special toys out until around 11:30. Friends are welcome to come and go as they please! Thursday Family Fun Play is for children ages 0-5 and their grown-ups. No registration is required.

This month, **on April 9**, we'll take a break from our regular play group to have a special Sensory Play Day! Join us for sensory activities all about water. Make sure to wear clothes that can get messy! Come play and make new friends at the library!

Upcoming Thursday Family Fun Play dates:

- April 2
- **April 9 - We Love to Play! Sensory Play Day**
- April 16
- April 23
- April 30

Speers Gallery



April Artist:

The Speers Gallery at the Kennebunk Free Library presents "**Perspectives**", a **multi-artist show**. The exhibit will run **April 2 through 29, with a reception on Saturday, April 4 from 2-4 p.m.** All are welcome.

Seven local artists have come together to share their art with the community. These artists are active in the arts and local art organizations. They cross paths in a variety of venues and have come together

to celebrate the diversity of their work. They use a variety of mediums and paint a wide range of subject matter:

- Polly Cecchetti has found detailed pencil drawings rewarding. She now challenges herself to add watercolor to her work and is using less detail to create her paintings.
- Susan Gilbey has been painting since she was four years old. She works in watercolors and paints things that catch her interest. As a biologist, she gravitates toward nature and its wealth of subject matter.
- Elizabeth Hunter is one of the more abstract painters in the group. She works in pastels but also is an exceptional weaver. She has been weaving since she was ten years old and has more

recently begun painting. Her paintings will be represented in this show.

- Norma Johnsen studied art at the Rhode Island School of Design. She's an award-winning artist working in pastel, oil, watercolor, acrylic, and mixed media.
- Cheryl Lunde paints mostly in watercolors but also enjoys oils and acrylics. Her work has been recognized as well. She loves to paint scenes which include interesting architecture but ventures into other areas which emphasize the use of color.
- Sara Ostrov was a professional studio potter for 35 years. She now works in pastels. Sara loves the outdoors, hiking and exploring beautiful natural areas. Painting landscapes naturally evolved from that interest. She loves painting trees, water and skies with particular emphasis on light and its impact on the landscape. Sara is an award-winning artist as well.
- Ellen Pelletier works primarily in her favorite medium of pastels, but she also dabbles in oils and acrylics. She loves to paint landscapes to capture a mood, a feeling, a sense of space. Her work has been recognized with multiple awards.

These artists find joy in their work and invite you to visit the show and experience the passion that is represented in their work.

The public is invited to view the exhibit in the library's Speers Gallery from April 2 through 29 at 112 Main St., Kennebunk, Maine during regular library hours when the gallery is not in use for library programs. Please check the library website for current hours and gallery access, www.kennebunklibrary.org.

New Books, Audio Books & DVDs

Please note that the new items lists below are updated regularly, but through a quirk of the system, the newest items go to the end of the list. If you want to see the newest arrivals, start on the last page and work your way backward.

[Click here](#) for a look at books that arrived in the last month.

[Click here](#) for audio/video that arrived in the last month.

[Click here](#) for new children's items that arrived in the last month

[Click here](#) for new teen items that arrived in the last month

Books on order for April

April 7

[A Cruise to Die For](#) – Heather Graham
[Revenge Prey](#) – John Sandford
[The Ending Writes Itself](#) – Evelyn Clarke

April 14

[Cat on a Hot Tin Woof](#) – Spencer Quinn
[Death Times Seven](#) – Anne Perry
[Hope Rises](#) – David Baldacci
[The Patchwork Players](#) – Jennifer Chiaverini
[Last One Out](#) – Jane Harper

April 20

[The Mother Daughter Book Club](#) – Susan Patterson

April 21

[Lidie](#) – Jane Smiley

March Releases

[Daughter of Egypt](#) – Marie Benedict
[Felicia's Favorites](#) – Danielle Steel
[The Final Storm](#) – Fern Michaels
[The Harvey Girl](#) – Dana Stabenow
[How to Be Okay When Nothing Is Okay](#) – Jenny Lawson
[Judge Stone](#) – Viola Davis
[Life: A Love Story](#) – Elizabeth Berg
[The Moonlight Runner](#) – Karen Robards
[The News from Dublin](#) – Colm Toibin
[The Night We Met](#) – Abby Jimenez
[Son of Nobody](#) – Yann Martel
[A Historian in Gaza](#) – Jean-Pierre Filiu
[Adult Braces: Driving Myself Sane](#) – Lindy West
[The Bridge Back to You](#) – Riss M. Neilson
[Cave Mountain](#) – Benjamin Hale
[The Complex](#) – Karan Mahajan
[The Debtor's Game](#) – Isabelle Mongeau

[Paradox](#) – Douglas Preston
[A Woman's Place](#) – Danielle Steel

April 28

[Chasing the Clouds Away](#) – Debbie Macomber
[Clawed and Dangerous](#) – Rita Mae Brown
[A Deadly Episode](#) – Anthony Horowitz
[Kill for a Million](#) – Janet Dailey
[Master Alvin](#) – Orson Scott Card
[A Violent Masterpiece](#) – Jordan Harper

[Growing Up With Addiction](#) – Tian Dayton
[It Girl](#) – Allison Pataki
[Lady Tremaine](#) – Rachel Hochhauser
[Lake Effect](#) – Cynthia D'Aprix Sweeney
[Nonesuch](#) – Francis Spufford
[Star Shipped](#) – Cat Sebastian
Tending Your Forest – Paul Catanzaro
[This Story Might Save Your Life](#) – Tiffany Crum
[The Tree of Light and Flowers](#) – Thomas Perry
[All the World Can Hold](#) – Jung Yun
[America's Founding Son](#) – Bob Crawford
[Bloodlust](#) – Sandra Brown
[Chain of Ideas](#) – Ibram X. Kendi
[A Day of Judgment](#) – Charles Todd
[The Keeper](#) – Tana French
[Missing Sister](#) – Joshilyn Jackson
[Python's Kiss](#) – Louise Erdrich
[Served Him Right](#) – Lisa Unger
[The Sisters of Book Row](#) – Shelley Noble
[Strangers in the Villa](#) – Robyn Harding
[Tojo](#) – Peter Mauch
[Vanished in the Crowd](#) – Rhys Bowen
[Want to Know a Secret](#) – Freida McFadden

A Message from the Director



I have the honor of serving as the Legislative Chair for the Maine Library Association's Legislative Committee. In this role, I attended National Library Legislative Day (NLLD) in Washington D.C. from February 25-26 alongside Sonya Durney, Scholarly Communication Librarian at UNE. Sonya and I represented Maine libraries during meetings with congressional staff for Congressman Golden, Congresswoman Pingree, Senator Collins, and Senator King. Among our talking points were:

- [Library Services & Technology Act \(LSTA\)](#) - In FY24, this funding provided 24/7 WiFi to 235 Maine public libraries via the Maine School and Library Network (MSLN) and supported hotspot lending for Maine's remote workforce.
- [Right to Read Act](#) – Supports the recruitment and retention of certified school librarians. Nationally, the ratio is 0.40 FTE (Full-Time Equivalent) certified librarians per school. Maine currently sits at just .31 FTE, ranking 32nd in the country.
- [Government Accountability Office \(GAO\) report](#) - The recent GAO report reveals a national crisis: 38% of libraries have failing HVAC systems, and 61% have safety concerns.

Michelle

Pictured: The American Library Association National Library Legislative Day participants representing 49 states and Canada.

Kat, Substitute Library Assistant

Dear Edward by Ann Napolitano

A friend recommended this book to me. We both loved it. The author wanted to write this book after she became fascinated with an actual plane crash with only one survivor, a nine-year-old Dutch boy. His family was among those that lost their lives on Afriqiyah Airways Flight 771. From this set of facts, Ms. Napolitano imagines what survival required of this boy due to the crash, its aftermath and as he rebuilt his life. Of course, it is harsh and sad at the start, but through grief, the empathy of others and discovering about the other lives lost and their loved ones' stories allows Edward to begin to thrive. This book was just the boost I needed.

(Available book from KFL, large print and audio cds from Minerva, Libby as audio)

Evvie Drake Starts Over by Linda Holmes

In my search for an extremely light but engaging story I found this fun "beach read". In a small town in Coastal Maine, Evvie has packed her bags to leave her unhappy marriage with the doctor of her father's dreams. As she went out the door, her phone rang. Her husband has been in a car accident, and she must come to the hospital immediately. She is too late, her husband died. No one knows she was leaving and she doesn't tell anyone, even her best friend Andy. A year later, once things settle down a bit, Andy suggests Evvie rent her guest house to his friend, a major league baseball pitcher that suddenly can't pitch. Can romance fix them both?

(Available from KFL as a book, Minerva as large print, Libby as audio)

Poetry Unbound podcast - <https://onbeing.org/series/poetry-unbound/>

April is poetry month and maybe you could use poems in the time-honored way of revealing the world around us and yourself in a new way. "Short and unhurried, Poetry Unbound is an immersive exploration of a single poem, hosted by Pádraig Ó Tuama. He greets you at the doorways of brilliant poems and walks you through — each one has wisdom to offer and questions to ask you." His Scottish accent enhances the experience. I turn to this podcast when I want to calm my mind and often, it helps me sleep.

Visit our Website



Kennebunk Free Library | 112 Main Street | Kennebunk, ME 04043 US

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