



August 2026 | Volume 33, Issue 8

Library News and Events



Moments That Made Us

In honor of the 250th anniversary of the United States, we are joining other York County libraries in hosting "Moments that Made Us." Panels are available on the main floor of the building, near the adult circulation desk.

The exhibition explores how generations of Americans have given meaning to the ideals set out in the Declaration of Independence, looking back across centuries and highlighting both challenging and celebratory times from the colonial era to more recent generations.

The exhibition explores five themes drawn directly from the Declaration of Independence: Created Equal; Life, Liberty, and the Pursuit of Happiness; Free and Independent States; Consent of the Governed; and We Mutually Pledge. Every

three weeks, KFL will display a new theme. The first two weeks of August, we will explore "Consent of the Governed. The featured moments from American history inspire curiosity about the events that shaped the nation. They remind us that our story was never inevitable, we shaped it at every turn.

The exhibition was developed through a multi-state collaboration to ensure that Americans throughout the nation would have the opportunity to meaningfully engage in the nation's 250th

anniversary. It adapts the acclaimed Moments That Made US exhibition created by History Colorado and currently on view at the History Colorado Center in Denver.



Spring Appeal 2026

We are thrilled to share that the Spring Appeal 2026 closed with \$75,842 raised — surpassing our \$70,000 goal thanks to the generosity of this community. In all, 357 donors contributed to this campaign, including 63 monthly donors whose ongoing support helps us plan with confidence throughout the year.

Gifts like these make it possible for Kennebunk Free Library to remain a place where neighbors can read, learn, gather, and grow. Whether you gave for the first time or have supported us for years, whether your gift was \$10 or \$1,000, it made a real difference — and we're deeply grateful.

Thank you for believing in your library.



Thank you for a record-breaking 5K!!!!

Thanks to you, our 29th Annual 5K & Community Lawn Party was the most successful 5K fundraiser to date! Nearly 500 runners and walkers registered for the race, and those who came out on race day enjoyed a beautiful course through Hope Cemetery & Woods, live music from Wildes District, and good food and drink from Crotux Catering and Federal Jack's.

Together, the 5K and online auction raised more than **\$91,000** — thanks to our race registrants, 88 business sponsors, and 100+ auction donors. A special thank-you to our Event Sponsor, **Weirs Motors**, and our Diamond Auction Sponsor, Kennebunk Savings Bank, for their outstanding generosity. And to our 80 dedicated volunteers, the Town of Kennebunk, and everyone who showed up to support your library — thank you! Here's to an even bigger celebration at our 30th Anniversary 5K next year!

[Click here to read the full press release.](#)

News from the Friends of KFL

July was an incredible month for KFL and KFL Friends. It was great to be able to support the 29th Annual 5K and enjoy this, as a thank you note said, "Norman Rockwell event". The Blueberry Festival Book Sale on July 23 raised funds and put books in the hands of so many readers! Special thanks to Friends that have taken on leadership roles at the Seashore Trolley Museum Ice Cream Social, July 29 and will be representing KFL at the West Kennebunk Family Fun Day August 1 from 3 to 7 p.m. at the Dorothy Stevens Community Center on Thompson Road. **The Town of Kennebunk Harvest Fest and our next book sale is scheduled for Saturday, October 17.**



Join the Friends today and find out how you can get involved, use this [link](#) or join us at our next meeting on Monday, August 31 at 5:30 p.m..

We hope to see you at KFL summer events,

Kat and KFL Friends



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.



Pawll of Fame - On Display July 14 - August 21

Missed submitting a pic of your pet? We're still taking entries! We love our furry, feathery, and scaly friends! This summer, our display case in the main lobby will become a Pawll of Fame with pictures of our pets! Complete the form and upload a photo of your pet [here](#). We'll print the photos and display them! Every friend who completes the form will receive a certificate and a custom button featuring their pet. The Pawll of Fame Gallery will be on display from 7/14-8/21. **All ages are encouraged to share their photos!**

Adult Programs



Reader's Choice Book Club - August 3

Reader's Choice Book Club will meet on **Monday, August 3 at 2 p.m.** in the Walker Room at the library, and **our theme will be: A Book Set in Maine.**

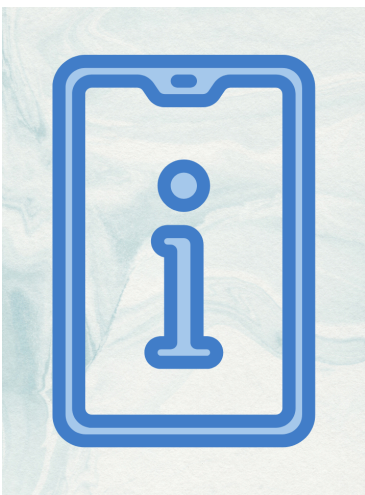
How does this book club work? You choose your own book to read, based on the monthly theme, and then join us for a casual and fun conversation. Everyone is welcome!



Open Hearts Open Mic - August 3

Open Hearts Open Mic will be the **first Monday of every month 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.

August's session will be held outside in the Amphitheatre, weather permitting. Please bring your own seating (blankets/chairs).



Phone Basics Series - August 6, 20, and 27

Looking to get the most out of your smartphone? For the month of August, our Technology Educator will be reviewing basic tasks and functions to teach you more about your phone, and to empower you to use it to its full potential. We will hold sessions on **August 6, 20, and 27** from 3:00-4:00 p.m.

Session One (8/6):

- Understanding your notifications settings to ensure you get the alerts that you need, and that you can declutter the ones you would like to ignore.
- Reviewing email, messaging, and calling functions, including attaching documents and setting up your voicemail.

Session Two (8/20):

- Learning how to move apps on your homescreen to customize your layout.
- Learning how to add new apps to your phone through your app store, including information about the library's digital services.
- Learning about widgets and other tools to customize your experience to fit your needs.

Session Three (8/27):

- Navigating your settings, and common errors users make that can be fixed in the settings app.
- Understanding your taskbar and other quick commands for ease of use.

Registration for this program is not required, and you can attend one or all of the sessions.

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.



Die Well Death Education - August 10

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, August 10 at 1 p.m.** for the *tenth* 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 Ten: The Basics of a Home Funeral

Everyone has the right to care for their own dead. In this session, we will go over the basics of a home funeral; from getting your loved one home if they have died elsewhere, to how to wash, care for, and maintain the body, as well as ideas for a meaningful home vigil for your loved one. If time and space allow, we will hold a “mock” home funeral.

*Individually wrapped, homemade skull cakelets will be provided.



Author Talk with Paul Doiron - August 10

Paul Doiron will be visiting the Kennebunk Free Library on **Monday, August 10 at 6 p.m.** to discuss *Storm Tide*, the latest book in his Mike Bowditch series! Our friends from Octopus Bookshop will be on hand to sell copies of Doiron's books for signing. **Limited seating is available so please register early for a seat.**

Don't worry if seats are taken: there's still plenty of standing room with no reservations required.

Dairy Demo - August 11

Did you know you can make simple, delicious dairy products right at home? Join us **Tuesday, August 11 at 6 p.m.** to learn how to make a three ingredient, no-churn ice cream! This demonstration at Kennebunk Free Library will show you how to make your own whipped cream, butter, butter milk, and ice cream. There will be tasty samples to enjoy as well. We hope to see you there!



To gauge the quantity of supplies needed we highly encourage [registering](#), though it is not required to attend.



Ukulele Group - August 12

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 - August 12

Our Evening Reader's Choice Book Club will meet **Wednesday, August 12 at 6 p.m.** in the Walker Room on the main floor of the library.

July's Theme is "Fantasy"

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!

How Greek Mythology Helped Space Exploration - August 17

Physicist Yuri Freeman will be at Kennebunk Free Library on **Monday, August 17 at 6 p.m.** to talk about the connection between Greek Mythology and the metals Tantalum and Niobium.

The names Tantalum and Niobium were given by Swedish chemist Anders Ekeberg and English chemist Charles Hatchett who discovered these metals in early 1800s. These names came from the Greek mythological figures Tantalus and his daughter Niobe. A major application of tantalum is in tantalum capacitors that combine record-high energy efficiency with high reliability, which is critical for space designs.

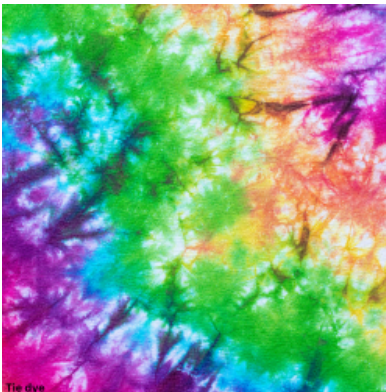
Due to a shortage of tantalum in the former Soviet Union, a high priority project was to substitute tantalum with other metal. Niobium was obvious choice since these two metals have so many



U.S. space program.

similarities in their properties that for some time they were considered the same metal. However, when niobium replaced tantalum, all the capacitors were broken by the end of the manufacturing. The presentation shows how Greek mythology helped resolve this issue and opened door to the major breakthroughs in space, medicine and nuclear science.

Yuri Freeman has a Ph.D. in solid state physics, the foundation of modern electronics and 62 U.S. and international patents. In his career as a scientist and engineer, Freeman developed the most advanced Tantalum capacitors, the key parts of life-saving cardio implants and space systems. For this work, Freeman received the Ekeberg Prize, the highest award in this field of applied science and engineering. Freeman participated in the Russian space program and then was invited to the United States by Sprague Electric in Sanford, Maine, where he got involved in the



Camp KFL!: Adult Summer Camp - August 18

Feeling a little nostalgic (or even a little jealous) from kids having all the fun this summer? Fear not - we are ready to bring you right back to childhood for an evening filled with all the fun of summer camp, but for adults only! Join us on **Tuesday, August 18 from 5:30 to 7 p.m.** for our 3rd year of Adult Summer Camp! We'll have all the classic camp activities from bracelet making and rock painting, to hand-clap and lawn games, tie dye, sand art, snacks, and more! Grab a friend or come and make one at Camp KFL! This event is for adults 18+. We will have bandanas available to tie dye but you are welcome to bring a shirt or other

small item to dye as well. To gauge the quantity of materials needed we are encouraging registration but it is not required. This program will be held rain or shine, with most activities moved indoors in case of inclement weather.



Finale Party & Ice Cream Social - August 19

On **August 19 from 4 to 5:30 p.m.**, drop in for a celebration of a fun-filled summer! We'll have a choice of ice cream or frozen treat, and there will be some fun games to play. What a cool way to wrap up the summer reading program! **Don't forget -- fill out your library program reviews at the front desk for raffle entries into our 2027 State Park Pass Raffle!** We hope you can join us!



Trivia Night - August 19

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.



Fiction Book Discussion - August 25

Come one, come all (even if you didn't finish or disliked the book)! Join us on **Tuesday, August 25 at 1 p.m.** to discuss *Yellowface* by R.F. Kuang.

"/ Starred Review */* A struggling novelist passes off a manuscript left by her dead college friend in this excellent satire from Kuang (Babel, or the Necessity of Violence). Athena Liu, who is Chinese American, dies accidentally by choking at her Washington, D.C., apartment while celebrating a movie deal for one of her novels. At the celebration is June Hayward, who met Athena when they were at Yale together, and whose own career has stalled after her publisher folded. Since then, while watching Athena's meteoric rise, she came to find her old friend "unbearable." In the commotion after Athena's death, June, who is white, pilfers a manuscript from her desk. Titled *The Last Front*, it's a historical novel about the role of Chinese laborers in WWI. After June gets a six-figure deal for it, she excises slurs used against Chinese laborers and adds a love story between a white woman and a Chinese soldier. Against objections from Candice Lee, a Korean American editorial assistant, the book goes to market, where it climbs up the bestseller list and attracts a vociferous backlash from the AAPI community, plus a scathing review from a prominent critic, who calls it a "white redemption" narrative. June grows increasingly anxious as she's accused online by @AthenaLiusGhost of stealing Athena's work, then starts thinking she's seeing Athena at readings and around town. Kuang provides a sharp analysis of publishing's blind spots and guides the plot toward a thrilling face-off between June and Athena's "ghost." This is not to be missed." -Publishers Weekly

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) 985-2173, 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 10:30 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.

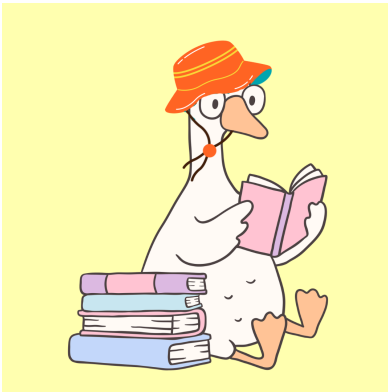
If you have any questions or concerns about this program, please feel free to visit us at the desk, call (207) 985-2173, or email our technology educator at kfl@kennebunklibrary.org so we can help you further.



Improv - Saturdays

Improv will be taking a break for the summer. We'll see you again in the fall!

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 August 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. Here's a sneak peek at the activities we have planned for you this month:

Zoomed In, Can You Guess The Books?

How well do you know the covers to your favorite books? Test your skills this month with this interactive bulletin to find out! The display will be available all month for you to ponder, and the answer will be underneath the picture. Good luck out there!

Moth Paper Puppets

Did you know that moths can be hackers? Some moths have a secret superpower that allows them to emit ultrasonic clicks that can jam a bat's echolocation. Imagine this: you're a bat trying to chat with friends about your favorite book, and suddenly, out of nowhere, the server goes down, and the chat freezes. Now, how will the other bats know about the book's unbelievable twist with moths bugging you? To help clear the communication line, we need these moths adventure outside of the library, and preferably with a new friend to teach them group chat conduct. For the month of August, we will have the template and supplies for you to create a moth paper puppet. Happy crafting!

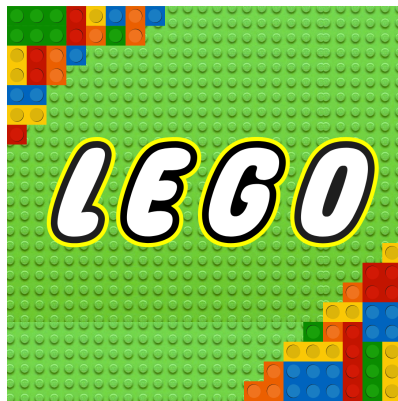
Capture the Moment Photo Frames

Summer is almost over! Before we start thinking about going back to school, let's think about the fun memories that we have about something that we did, read, or saw. Camera templates will be available for you to use as a frame for either a photo or illustration of your favorite Summer memory. Let's capture the moment before it's Autumn!

Lock in on your Summer Reading Challenge Goals Display

We're here to help you smash those Summer Reading goals with our new book display before our **August 22nd** deadline arrives. We'll feature books perfect for your mood and attention span, including short books for those days that it's harder to focus, medium books for those days where you're feeling pulled in multiple directions and interests, and longer books for those days where you want to escape into a story. Don't forget to turn in your Summer Reading Logs! You've got this!

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 **August 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, your creations will then be taken apart so you

can build something new in September, 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!



Dungeons and Dragons - August 3, 10, & 24

Welcome, young adventurers! Come and join in on an exciting quest in the world of Dungeons and Dragons. Beginning our Summer Campaign, we will embark on a journey to the Enchanting Lands. A scourge has been set upon the Emerald Glade by an unknowable evil force, and as a consequence, the heroes who should be defending their village grow weary, losing skills and abilities as exposure times persist. Where will our

adventure take us? It's up to our heroes to decide! This month, we will be meeting on Mondays: **August 3, 10, & 24 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, **August 3 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 for the rest of the summer. We look forward to you joining the adventure!



Victors' Tour: Day One - August 4

Join us for the fourth session of our weekly Tribute Tuesdays: Victors' Tour Day One! This year's Games have had an interesting twist. We have more Victors than Fallen Tributes, completely spinning the Games on its head, and now it's time for our Victors to begin their Panem Tour! We will begin with a lesson on District 13 to remind Victors of this cautionary tale, and then we will visit District 7 to learn about Panem's logging industry with corresponding games and activities for both Districts. Join us on **Tuesday, August 4, from 4 to 5 p.m.** in Hank's Room for this fourth session. All sessions will be rain or

shine events. **Registration is required** to attend this event, but you do not need to register for every event to attend one of the programs in this series. Please register ahead of time with the link, or through our [website calendar](#).



Teen Take and Make: Silly Goose Stickers - August 7

Feeling like you're the silly goose? We have some customizable stickers for you to make to showcase just how silly you really are! Color in a sticker, dress up your goose, and you're ready for whimsy. These kits will be available **starting on Friday, August 7**, in the Teen Room. Supplies are **first come, first served**.



Join us for the Fifth and final session of our weekly Tribute Tuesdays: Victors' Tour Day Two! This year's Games have had an interesting twist. We have more Victors than Fallen Tributes, completely spinning the Games on its head, and now it's time for our Victors to begin their Panem Tour! This leg of the tour, we will visit District 4 to learn about its fishing industry, and District 5 to learn about Panem's power supply with corresponding games and activities for both Districts. Join us on **Tuesday, August 11, from 4 to 5 p.m.** in Hank's Room for this fifth session. All sessions will be rain or shine events.

Registration is required to attend this event, but you do not need to register for every event to attend one of the programs in this series. Please register ahead of time with the link, or through our [website calendar](#).



From Rookie to Rogue: An Interactive, Choose Your Own Adventure Story - August 12 & 13

Plant a Seed, Read! Join us for an engaging "choose-your-own-adventure" story that promises an extraordinary journey following Dungeons and Dragons mechanics, with cherished characters from Young Adult literature for you to play as during your session.

Following our Portcon debut, we will be reprising our adventure for the Kennebunk Free Library to enjoy for our summer reading programming on **August 12 and 13**. With a group of players, we will gather in the Enchanting Lands for a thrilling experience as we delve into the mystery of the Emerald Glade. Players will team up to play as characters, and each session promises different challenges and outcomes.

This event is free, the space is wheelchair accessible, and it is open to ages 8 and up. **Registration is required**, and we will host timed sessions on Wednesday and Thursday afternoons. **Please call the children's desk to reserve your time: (207) 985-2173.**



Mooncakes Summer Bookclub Party - August 18

Attention witches, warlocks, and werewolves! The library is hosting a Mooncakes Potion Making Party to craft magical delights (that you can eat!), and to discuss our love for all things supernatural. We will also have special activities for you to take home based on Suzanne Walker's story, and Wendy Xu's art. Our Potion Making Party will be held on **August 18, 2 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.** No registration is required to attend this event.



Hoping to stay hydrated this school year? We have the perfect craft for you, just in time for back to school season! This Crafting Saturday, we have all of the supplies you'll need to make your very own water bottle holder using a woven paracord keychain. Just stop by the Teen Room on **Saturday, August 22, anytime from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m.** to pick up your kit, or work on it at the library!

Children's Programs



Cody Wells: Lego Man - August 3

What can you build with Legos? Anything you can imagine! Cody Wells, also known as Lego Man of NYC, will be visiting Kennebunk Free Library on **Monday, August 3, at 10 a.m.** Cody Wells is one of the most sought-after custom LEGO artists in the country through his company C3Brix. C3Brix clients range from private collectors and celebrities to Google, Salesforce, New York Hall of Science, NY/NJ Port Authority (for the 50th Anniversary of the 1964 World's Fair), and beyond. Cody's work has been featured on the Steve

Harvey Show, Good Day New York, Details Magazine, and numerous other publications. He is an award-winning designer, winning the 2013 BRICKIE at BrickfairVirginia (featured in "A Lego Brickumentary") in TV & Sci-Fi for his Star Trek Enterprise. Cody will visit KFL to show us some Lego tips and encourage us to use our imaginations! This is a hands-on program best for ages 5 to 15. **Space is limited. Registration is required.**



Beadcraft - August 5

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, August 5, at 1 p.m.** Design suggestions will be offered, but creativity is encouraged! All craft materials will be provided. [Registration](#) is recommended but not required.

Summerween Storytime - August 10



Sure, it's summer, but that doesn't mean we can't be a little spooky! Come celebrate "Summerween" – Halloween in the summertime – with a Summerween Storytime on **Monday, August 10, at 10a.m.** We'll share not-so-spooky stories and songs, make a fun craft, and enjoy some treats. Costumes are welcome!

Glow Party! - August 11

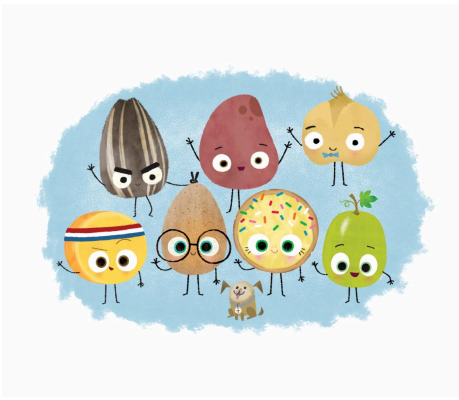


Ready, set, GLOW! Join us on **Tuesday, August 11, at 2 p.m.** for a Let It Glow Party with a Lorax twist at Kennebunk Free Library! We'll switch on the black lights to create a neon wonderland inside the library. Make a Lorax craft, grab some glowing accessories, and dance the afternoon away! Be sure to wear neon clothes so that you'll glow in the black light! No registration is required.

Sensory Play Day: On the Farm - August 13



Cock-a-doodle-doo – it's playtime! Join us on **Thursday, August 13, at 10 a.m.** for a farm-inspired morning of Sensory Play! Explore fun, sometimes messy activity stations and play spots themed on animals, planting, and more. Come play with us, and wear clothes that can get messy! No registration is required. If we experience significant inclement weather, this program will be cancelled. If we have a little rain, the play will go on! This program is designed with ages 1-4 in mind, but everyone is welcome.



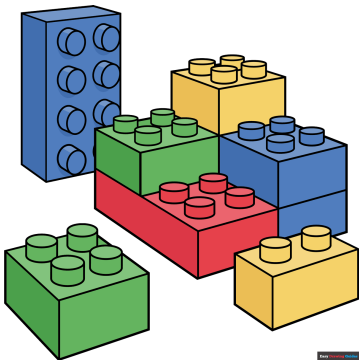
Food Series - August 17

Calling all Cool Beans, Good Eggs, and Smart Cookies! Come join us **Monday, August 17 from 10 to 11 a.m.** for a Storytime celebrating The Food Group series by Jory John, illustrated by Peter Oswald. We'll share a Food Group book or two, say hello to Ami (our Storytime puppet friend), and make a fun craft.



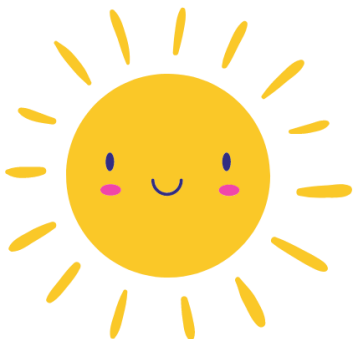
Finale Party & Ice Cream Social - August 19

On **August 19 from 4 to 5:30 p.m.**, drop in for a celebration of a fun-filled summer! We'll have a choice of ice cream or frozen treat, and there will be some fun games to play. What a cool way to wrap up the summer reading program! **Don't forget -- turn in your summer reading log to the Children's Room by Saturday, August 22, for a chance to win one of our raffle prizes!** We hope you can join us!



Lego Club - August 20

Ready to get building? Kennebunk Free Library is offering a Lego Club for children ages 4 and older. Lego Club will meet on **Thursday, August 20, 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.



Storytime - August

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 August at 10 a.m.**, Storytimes will be held in the amphitheater outside the Children's Room at Kennebunk Free Library. Don't forget sunscreen, a blanket to sit on, and a drink to keep hydrated! In case of inclement weather, we will be in Hank's Room inside the library. Note: there will be **NO STORYTIME on Monday, August 3**. On August 10, we'll bring some spooky fun to Storytime and have a Summerween party! On August 17,

we'll have a special Storytime celebrating the Food Group series by Jory John – don't be a sour grape, come for some fun! Storytimes are designed for ages 2-5, but everyone is welcome! We can't wait for you to join us!

Upcoming Storytime dates include:

- August 10 – Summerween Storytime
- August 17 – Food Group Series Storytime
- August 24
- August 31

Speers Gallery



August Artist:

The Speers Gallery at the Kennebunk Free Library presents **"Eliot: Black and White"** by **John Shibley**. The exhibit will run **August 3 through 31**, with a **reception on Wednesday, August 5 from 6 to 7:30 p.m.** All are welcome.

John's exhibit investigates what happens when a street photographer lives in a small town in Maine. His black and white images explore beauty, or geometry and shadow, and

sometimes "capture the humor that is lying right out in the open, waiting for someone to notice it."

While John has no formal photography training, he has 25 years of experience doing strategic planning and leadership consulting with artists and likes to think some of his clients' courage and aesthetic commitment has rubbed off on him.

Kennebunk Free Library is excited to showcase the works of this local photographer.

The public is invited to view the exhibit in the library's Speers Gallery from August 3 through 31, 2026, 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

Books on order for August

August 4

Exhumed — Aaron Mahnke

[Steelborn](#) — Taylor J. Larue

August 11

[Dark Harbor](#) — Bruce Robert Coffin

[Dreamland](#) — Olivie Blake

Hocus Pocus — Brinda Charry

My Person — Mutonji

[A Tender Age](#) — Chang-Rae Lee

August 18

The Divine Gardener's Handbook — Eli Snow

The Secret Dinner — Raphael Montes

August 25

Fallen for France — Elizabeth Letts

[Heart of Glass](#) — Jennifer Hillier

[They Say a Girl Died Here](#) — Sarah Pinborough

A Message from the Director



Another 5K is in the books! I am exceedingly grateful to everyone involved but I would like to specifically call out our volunteers this time. It takes dozens and dozens of volunteers to make our event a successful fundraiser. We have volunteers that provide their time in the tasks leading up to the big day such as assembling our goodie bags for distribution. We have volunteers after the race that deliver certificates to all our sponsors. And of course, we have our volunteers that are carrying out various roles on the day of the race. It is certainly an effort that can be described using the phrase many hands make light work. One of my favorite examples of this is if you look at the library at 5:30, just before the race starts when we're in the midst of our 500-person party, and you look again at 8:30 to find volunteers have cleaned up the event making it look like nothing had taken place.

Thank you, volunteers!
Michelle

Pictured: The Nason family hosts one of our water stops along the route of our 5K!

Staff Picks

Kat, Substitute Library Assistant

Martyr! by Kaveh Akbar

This is a debut novel by an established Iranian American poet. It is also the most captivating, stunning, thought stimulating book I have read in a long time. The author imagines the effect of one life lost when on July 3, 1988, the U.S. Navy guided-missile cruiser USS Vincennes shot down Iran Air Flight 655 over the Persian Gulf, killing all 290 people on board. The writing brilliantly depicts the gritty truths of addiction, complicated queer relationships, how trauma in youth forms and distorts us and goes down a rabbit hole of obsessing about martyrdom. I thought about it, talked about it and was glad it was the Adult Book Discussion pick for July. Sharing with the group members completed the experience.

(Available book from KFL.)

Cabrini directed by Alejandro Monteverde

My husband and I visited the Mother Cabrini Shrine in Golden, CO and were intrigued by what we learned there. Watching this movie filled in all the blanks. Francesca Cabrini, this little, sickly Italian nun had a mission she thought started in China. After multiple attempts to get permission from the Vatican, she approached Pope Leo XIII who saw her spirit and sent her instead to New York City Italian immigrants in 1889. The poverty, squalor and hatred they were experiencing would have thwarted anybody from attempting to change this situation. Mother Cabrini through faith in her mission, tireless work and brilliant strategic arguing with men in power achieved the impossible. Scapegoating immigrants didn't start recently.

(Available DVD from KFL)

Hot Tip for Libby Users

Did you miss the announcement that we are now sharing Libby access with Prince Memorial Library? Adding this library to your account offers many new titles. I placed holds on books and have been able to access 2 books within a few weeks. If you need help adding Prince, ask a librarian.

[Visit our Website](#)



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

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