



July 2026 | Volume 33, Issue 7

Library News and Events



Exciting News for Libby Users

We have exciting news for Libby users! As of July 1, we will be offering Reciprocal Borrowing with Prince Memorial Library in Cumberland. It will work much like Minerva borrowing does now. KFL patrons will still have first dibs on our items but patrons from both libraries will have a bigger catalog to choose from.

To add your card for a partner library:

1. Go to "Add Library"
2. Search for Prince Memorial Library and open it.
3. Tap "Sign in with my Card"
4. Under "Partner Libraries," choose your home library from the list and sign in.

As always, we are happy to walk you through it if you're having trouble connecting.

Leave us a message!



Stop by the library this summer to leave a message for KFL librarians on our new audio guestbook! All the whimsy of talking on an old-fashioned rotary phone but with the ability to save and download messages. At the end of the summer, the phone (with messages cleared) will be joining other items in our library of things for use at your next event.



Wish List

We recently purchased a device for our library of things that can convert VHS tapes to digital. We're hoping to find a VCR (or even better, a VCR/DVD combo) to loan with it but they are hard to come by these days. Does anyone have an old one that you'd be willing to donate? If so, please email Allison at aatkins@kennebunklibrary.org or call 207-985-2173 x102.



50/50 Raffle is underway! Get your tickets for a chance to win!

Half of the proceeds support the Library, the other half goes to the winner! Our 50/50 raffle 5K fundraiser is underway! Tickets may be purchased at the front desk of the library. The more you buy, the greater your chance of winning! The raffle drawing will be held during our post-race festivities on Friday, July 10. Winner need not be present to win.

Our 5K Online Auction just keeps getting better every year!!

Beginning July 1, you can bid on amazing offerings including passes to Mt. Abram Ski Resort and Ogunquit Playhouse, an E-bike guided tour for 2 with Coastal Maine Outdoors, a 90 minute massage with Nolihalala Massage, a private Wine Tasting Party for 8 at Wine House on Main, tickets to the Portland Symphony Orchestra, and more!



These are in addition to gift cards from your favorites like Boulangerie, Mainely Blooms, Roma Pizza KPT, and Dock Square Coffee House; plus must-have merchandise from places like Nemo Equipment, Cloth Interiors, Daytrip Society, and Maine-ly Drizzle.

Be sure to check out a selection of auction items on display in the KFL foyer, and also buy tickets for our 50/50 5K Raffle at the circulation desk. Then hop online July 1 to start bidding!



Kennebunk Free Library Celebrates 29 Years of Running for Readers

Register now for the 29th Edition of the KFL 5K, hosted by Kennebunk Free Library. The community race will take place on **Friday, July 10 at 6 p.m.**, welcoming runners, walkers, and families for an evening event that supports the library. Registration is open now and closes July 8. Same-day registration available at a higher price. Runners and walkers are welcome.

[Register Here](#) or visit www.kennebunklibrary.org

The Race

The USATF-certified course begins and ends in the library parking lot, winding through neighborhood streets before heading into the trails of Hope Cemetery & Woods — one of Kennebunk's most scenic natural areas. Prizes will be awarded to top male and female finishers across eight age categories.

The Party

Following the race, participants and spectators are invited to celebrate on the library lawn with live music from Wildes District, food by Crotux Catering/Garden Street Bowl, and beer from Federal Jack's. It's a community gathering as much as a race.

Make It Happen

This year's event is made possible through the generosity of local businesses and community partners. **Event Sponsor:** Weirs Motors. **Auction Diamond Sponsor:** Kennebunk Savings Bank. **Diamond Sponsors:** Appliance Advantage & Aspire Home, Benchmark Construction, Garden Street Bowl/Crotux Catering, Maine Classic Car Museum, Pawfections Pet Salon, and Webhannet Charitable Foundation. **Other generous sponsors include:** B's Roofing & Construction LLC (Finish Line Sponsor), George Burr and Son Inc., Kennebunk Outfitters (Aid Station Sponsor), M&T Charitable Foundation, Merrill Lynch Wealth Management – Ethan Ladd, CFP® (Race Timing Sponsor), and Yin-Yang Veterinary Care (Volunteer Sponsor).

Looking Ahead

Next year marks the 30th anniversary of the KFL 5K. Organizers are already looking to celebrate the milestone and invite past participants to share photos or memories from previous races at kfl@kennebunklibrary.org.

Thank you to our Event Sponsor!



Thank you to our Diamond Sponsors!



Questions: kfl@kennebunklibrary.org | (207) 985-2173



The Blueberry Festival Book Sale will be held on Saturday, July 25 from 9 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.. Peg and the book sorting team have been very busy preparing. Our usual bargain pricing will help you fulfill your need to read!

What's better than an evening trolley ride followed by an ice cream sundae? Supporting KFL at the same time! **Wednesday, July 29 from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. is Ice Cream Night at the Seashore Trolley Museum.** Tickets, which include both a trolley ride and a sundae, are \$14 each with 50 percent of the proceeds going to KFL.

Thank you to all the Friends that volunteer at these events. We are always welcoming new members. Register at the book sale, at the library or use this [link](#). Or **come to 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

Ice Cream Night

Seashore Trolley Museum | Kennebunkport | Wednesday, July 29 | 5:30-7:30 PM
Delicious Ice Cream Sundaes & Evening Trolley Rides!

Support two great nonprofits!
Kennebunk Free Library
receives 50%
of the proceeds!
\$14/person
(free for ages 2 and under)

For more information and to purchase tickets, visit: [icecreamnight.eventbrite.com](https://www.eventbrite.com/e/icecreamnight)



Pawll of Fame - On Display July 14 - August 21

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](#) between now and July 13. 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!



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



Reader's Choice Book Club - July 6

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

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 - July 6

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.



Ukulele Group - July 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 - July 8

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

July's Theme is "Award Winning"

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 - July 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, July 13 at 1 p.m.** for the *ninth 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 Nine: In the Parlor: The Final Goodbye

Rejecting the mainstream tradition of hiring funeral professionals to care for the deceased, families in search of a more personal and fulfilling way to say goodbye are taking an active role in caring for relatives who have died. *In the Parlor* shares an intimate story of three individuals who, with the support and guidance of their families and communities, were cared for after their deaths, at home. Julie, Ron, and Jarrad, all unique individuals with very different circumstances, are portrayed in a thoughtful, quiet manner to give the viewer an idea of what "family-directed death care" might look like. Both a critical look at the American relationship with death and an inquiry into the home death care movement, *In the Parlor* takes viewers on a journey where very few have gone, and challenges us to reflect on this uncomfortable subject, which so often is hidden away and ignored.

*Individually wrapped, homemade skull cakelets will be provided.



Let's Talk Pelvic Health - July 14

Join Dr. Jenn Gelfand, PT, DPT, E-RYT and Owner of *Root To Rise Physical Therapy & Pelvic Health* at Kennebunk Free Library on **Tuesday, July 14 at 5:30 p.m.** for an engaging and informative discussion about pelvic health (an often overlooked but essential part of overall well-being). This free community presentation will help you better understand the pelvic floor and its important role in our daily lives. Whether you've ever wondered if what you're experiencing is "normal," want to prevent problems before they start, or simply enjoy learning about health and wellness, you're welcome to join us.

We'll cover:

- What the pelvic floor is and how it functions
- How the pelvic floor supports bladder, bowel, sexual, and core health
- Common signs and symptoms of pelvic floor dysfunction
- When to seek individualized care
- Practical tips and simple strategies you can begin using right away

This interactive session will include opportunities for questions, discussion, and hands-on learning, leaving you with valuable knowledge and tools to support your pelvic health at every stage of life.



Trivia Night - July 15

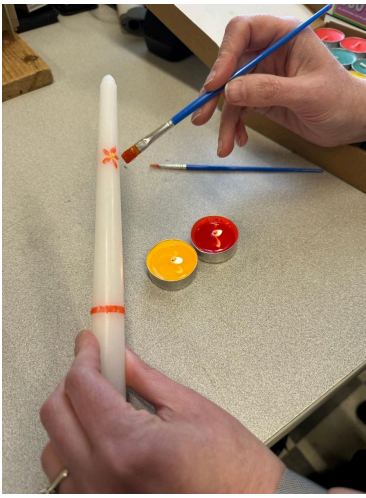
The third Wednesday of every month at 6:30 p.m. is trivia night at KFL! Bring a team, join one of our friendly teams of regulars, or take on the challenge solo. Light refreshments will be served.



KFL Movie Club - July 20

Not much of a reader but LOVE movies? Then please join us on **July 20 at 3 p.m.** where for this month we will discuss Academy Award winning films and what made them award worthy. Everyone is encouraged to watch or have seen at least one Best Picture winner and discuss it with the group. The discussion will be held in person at the library **every third Monday of the month.**

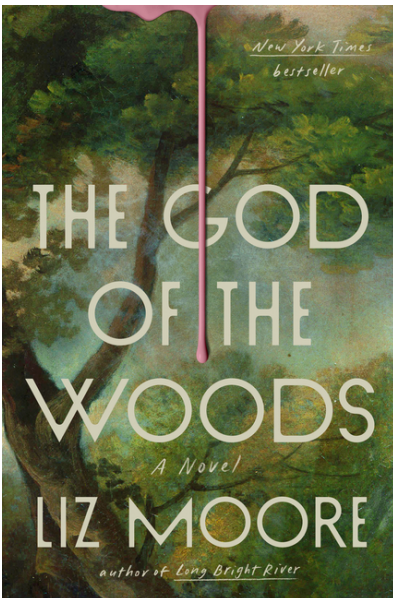
For more information please call 207-985-2173 or email us at kfl@kennebunklibrary.org.



Craft and Sip: Candle Painting - July 21

Join us on **Tuesday, July 21 at 5:30 p.m.** for a different kind of paint and sip: candle painting! You will use melted wax to create your own designs on white taper candles. Ideas and templates will be available to spark your creativity. Enjoy a glass of wine and light refreshments while working on your creations. This program is for ages 21+.

Registration Required.



Fiction Book Discussion - July 28

Join us on **Tuesday, July 28 at 1 p.m.** to discuss *The God of the Woods* by Liz Moore.

“When Louise notices that camper Barbara is missing, she knows there's trouble. Barbara is a Van Laar, daughter of the owners of Camp Emerson, whose estate, Self-Reliance, sits on the same grounds where the family's annual party is being held. Plus, Barbara's brother Bear went missing a dozen years earlier, and their mother, Alice, never really recovered. Moore (*Long Bright River*, 2020) deftly weaves several time lines together, mainly early summer 1975, when Barbara unexpectedly shows up at camp and befriends loner Tracy; August 1975, as the search is mounted, through the eyes of novice investigator Judy Luptack; and 1961 and the mission to find Bear before it's too late. In 1975, campers suspect the legendary Jacob Sluiter, or Slitter, a serial killer who has just escaped from prison, but the truth, when it is revealed in the final pages, is much more surprising and satisfying. *The God of the Woods* is an exploration of the differences between the haves and the have-nots and the stifling roles for women of all ages mixed with a police procedural and a family drama. Moore manages it all smoothly, resulting in a compulsively readable novel that will appeal to fans of mysteries and historical fiction alike.” -Booklist

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. **Registration opens at 9 a.m. on Wednesday, July 1 through the KFL website.**

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

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.**



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 July 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:



Reader Recommends Shelf Display

Is there a book that changed your life that you need others to know about? Add it to our Reader Recommended Bookshelf this month so we can hear all about it! There will be sticky notes and other creative items for you to recreate the book covers, and shelve them back for others to find.

Worm Bookmarks

Would you still love reading, even if you were a worm?

Bookworms and earthworms might not seem related at first glance, but both play vital roles in their respective worlds.

Bookworms devour literature, enriching their minds through the power of reading, while earthworms enrich the soil by breaking down organic matter. Both serve as catalysts for growth (intellectual and environmental), and they make a pretty cute bookmark that is perfect for our Summer Reading theme, "Plant a Seed, Read!"

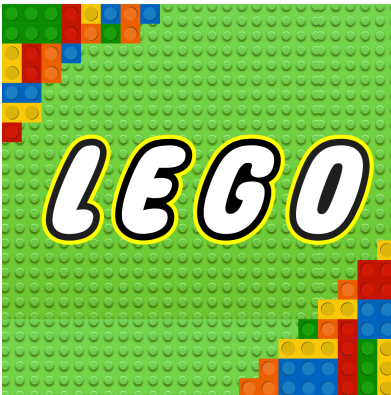
Travel the 50: Celebrate America's 250th Birthday!

Have you traveled to any of the 50 states? For the month of July, we will have a map of the USA posted for you to place stickers to mark where you've been. Together, we'll discover which States are the most popular among fellow explorers. Let's celebrate the diverse landscapes and people that make up this great nation for our 250th birthday, reminding us that the USA truly is a home for everyone!

250th Cookout Display

It's BBQ season! What are you bringing to the cookout? For the month of July, we'll have dishes for you to decorate and bring as either a side dish, or the main course to highlight the many food traditions we share in the United States. Finished meals will be placed in our interactive window buffet display for people to checkout. We can't wait to see what you're cooking!

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 July 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 Aspen 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 August, 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: Postage Stamp Pins - July 1

Special delivery! With felt and safety pins, we have special postage stamp pins for you to take-and-make this month. These kits will be available **starting on Wednesday, July 1**, in the Teen Room. Supplies are **first come, first served**.



Dungeons and Dragons - July 13 & 27

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 Emerald Glade. We have heroes who have risen in ranks, just nearing their retirement, when something shifts within the air, and chaos ensues. 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: July 13, July 27 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, July 13 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!



Tribute Tuesdays: Session 1: Opening Ceremony - July 14

Join us for a fun summer of Tribute Tuesdays, a series of weekly teen programming inspired by The Districts and characters from the Hunger Games series! Sessions will run **every Tuesday night of Summer Reading from 4 to 5 p.m.** and have both craft and activity components. During our **first session, Opening Ceremony**, we'll ride chariots to interviews with Caesar Flickerman to showcase our selected Tributes' skills, avoid Dr. Gaul's snake mutts, and learn from our favorite baker, Peeta, how to create effective camouflage with pastries. Join us on

Tuesday, July 14 from 4 to 5 p.m. in Hank's Room for our first session. All sessions will be rain or shine events. **Registration is required** to attend this event. Please register ahead of time with the [link](#), or through our [website calendar](#). This event is free, the space is wheelchair accessible, and it is open to Teens ages 10 and up. We look forward to seeing you here. May the odds be ever in your favor!



Warrior Cats Summer Bookclub Party - July 16

Attention, warriors, apprentices, and medicine cats! The library is hosting a Gathering unlike any seen beneath the full moon. Join your Clanmates for a mouse hunt through the territory, agree to the Warrior Code with your pawprint signature, feast on themed treats, and test your endurance in warrior-training challenges that would make even WindClan proud. Before returning to camp, collect a special fandom bundle packed with reading quests, activities, puzzles, and creative challenges to continue your journey beneath the watchful eyes of StarClan. Our Gathering will be held on **July 16, from 2 to 3:30 p.m.** No registration is required to attend this event.



Tribute Tuesdays: Session 2: Arena Day! - July 21

Join us for the **second session** of our weekly Tribute Tuesdays: **Arena Day!** This week we'll focus on surviving in the Game Maker's Arena. We will compete in the Games, test our skills in survival with a Nightlock memory game, and create Tracker Jacker tin boxes. Join us on **Tuesday, July 21st, from 4 to 5 p.m.** in Hank's Room for this second 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](#). This event is

free, the space is wheelchair accessible, and it is open to Teens ages 10 and up. We look forward to seeing you here. May the odds be ever in your favor!

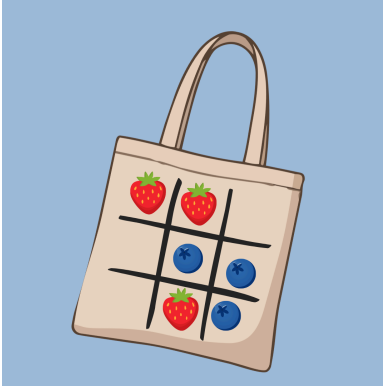


Overcooked Competition - July 22

Think you can survive a busy dinner rush? Step into the chaos of a professional kitchen and test your skills in our Overcooked Competition on **July 22**, where you'll chop, cook, plate, and race against the clock as orders pile up. **The restaurant opens at 3 p.m., and will run until 4:30 p.m. (or until supplies run out).** Sign up with friends and work the line together, or register solo and get matched with a team. The winning team will win 4 free movie ticket vouchers to Smitty's to use for any movie of your choice! **Registration is required**, so be sure to claim your spot before the kitchen fills up. Please register ahead of time with the [link](#), or through our [website calendar](#).

Teen Crafting Saturday: Berry Tic Tac Toe - July 25

It's Blueberry Festival weekend, and we have a berry sweet craft for you to make! This Crafting Saturday, we have all of the supplies you'll need to make your very own tic-tac-toe set out of clay



strawberries and blueberries with a pancake board. Just stop by the Teen Room on **Saturday, July 25, anytime from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m.** to pick up your kit, or work on it at the library!



Tribute Tuesdays: Session 3: District 12 Victor's Village Day! - July 28

Join us for the **third session** of our weekly Tribute Tuesdays: **District 12 Victor's Village Day!** This year's Games have had an interesting twist. We have more Victors than Fallen Tributes, completely spinning the Games on its head. The catch is that you have all been told you have to move to District Twelve, and President Snow will be keeping a close eye. To pass the time, we have activities like Panemopoly, archery and bread making, and sometimes, Effie Trinket even comes to visit to give us fashion advice. Join us on **Tuesday, July 28, from 4 to 5 p.m.**

in Hank's Room for this third 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](#). This event is free, the space is wheelchair accessible, and it is open to Teens ages 10 and up. We look forward to seeing you here. May the odds be ever in your favor!



Teen Science Cafe - July 31

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. This month, our TSC event will be held on **July 31 between 3:45-4:30 p.m.**. During this

meeting, we will learn how to make automatic watering systems for indoor plants to understand how farmers may tend to their crops with the help of technology. This activity is perfect for our Summer Reading theme, "Plant a Seed, Read!" Oh, and did we also mention that there's also going to be snacks?



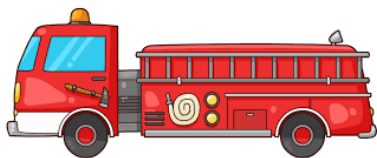
Beadcraft - July 1

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, July 1, 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.



Sensory Play Day: Splish Splash! - July 2

Splish splash – it's playtime! Join us on **Thursday, July 2 at 10 a.m.** for a water-inspired morning of Sensory Play! Explore fun, sometimes messy activity stations and play spots featuring water, water, and more water. Come play with us, and wear clothes that can get messy! No registration is required. This program is designed with ages 1-4 in mind, but everyone is welcome. If we experience significant inclement weather, this program will be cancelled. If we have a little rain, the play will go on – we'll be getting wet anyway!



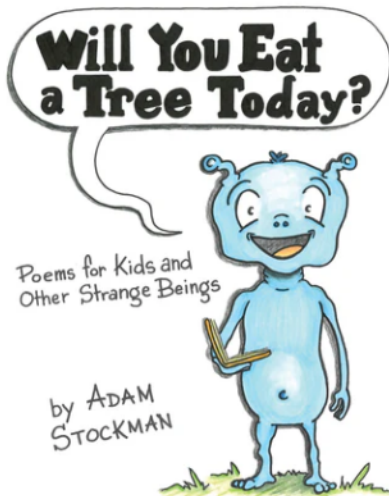
Fire Truck Storytime - July 6

Come to the Kennebunk Free Library, rain or shine, on **Monday, July 6, at 10 a.m.** to meet our local firefighters and learn about firefighting! Kennebunk Fire and Rescue will visit us at the library to teach us about what it takes to become a firefighter and how to keep ourselves safe. An emergency vehicle will be available to see up close! All ages are welcome.



Super Science: Bottle Rockets - July 7

Time to blast off! Join us on **Tuesday, July 7 at 2:30 p.m.** for a bottle rocket bonanza! Bring your own plastic bottle or use one that will be provided. Decorate it and watch it fly! For ages 5-10. [Registration required.](#)



Adam Stockman Poetry Reading - July 9

Do you like poetry? How about being silly? How about BOTH? Come hear author Adam Stockman share his poetry on **Thursday, July 9 at 2 p.m.!** In Adam's poetry, you'll find giggles, rhymes, and a whole lot of heart! His book *Will You Eat a Tree Today?* is home to snakes, umbrellas, aliens, and so much more. Adam's poetry is best enjoyed by grades 1-4, but everyone is invited! Join us at KFL to meet Adam, hear his poetry, and make a fun craft!



Cow Story Time - July 13

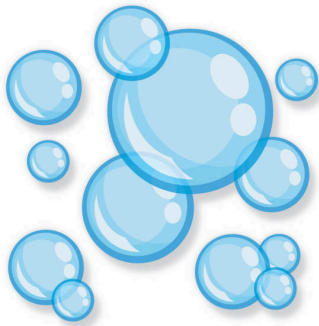
Moo – It's time for Storytime! Come to the library for cow stories, songs, and fun with Miss Maria! We'll even get to say hello to our puppet friend, Ami the bunny. On **Monday, July 13 at 10 a.m.**, Storytime will be held in the outdoor amphitheater at the Kennebunk Free Library. If the weather is gloomy, we'll be inside the library in Hank's Room. Remember to bring sunscreen, water, and a blanket to sit on! We can't wait for you to join us!

Teddy Bear Picnic - July 14



Today's the day the teddy bears have their picnic – and you're invited! On **Tuesday, July 14 from 1 to 2:30 p.m.**, bring your favorite stuffie to a picnic at Kennebunk Free Library! Hear a story, make your own teddy bear ears, play fun games, and enjoy some picnic treats. We can't wait for you and your stuffie friend to join us! This program is for ages 4 and up. No registration is required.

Bubble Party - July 20



Life is the bubbles! Join us for some soapy fun outside Kennebunk Free Library on **Monday, July 20 at 10 a.m.** Come make bubbles of all sizes, and of course, make them POP! This program will be in place of our regularly scheduled outdoor storytime. In the event of inclement weather, we will have our Bubble Party on Monday, August 10 at 10 a.m..

Super Science: Make Your Own Ice Cream - July 23



We all scream for ice cream! Join us for a fun science experiment making Ice Cream in a Bag on **Thursday, July 23 at 12:30 p.m.** For ages 5+; **Registration Required.**



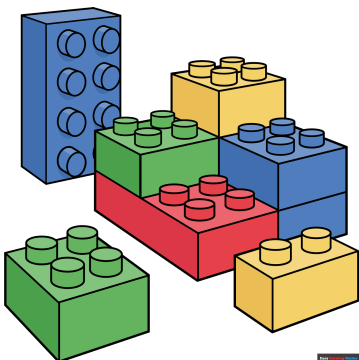
Ami the Bunny's Birthday Celebration and Storytime - July 27

Happy birthday, dear Ami! Come celebrate our favorite bunny puppet friend with a birthday Storytime on **Monday, July 27, at 10 a.m.** We'll share birthday stories and songs, sing "hoppy birthday" to Ami, and of course, enjoy some cupcakes.



Secret Garden Tea Party - July 29

"If you look the right way, you can see that the whole world is a garden." On **Wednesday, July 29, from 2 to 3:30 p.m.**, journey to Misselthwaite Manor for a Secret Garden Tea Party at Kennebunk Free Library! Hear the story of Mary Lennox and her bit of earth, followed by crafts and activities. We'll also enjoy snacks inspired by The Secret Garden and tasty drinks. Come dressed in your tea party finery! This program is for ages 4 and up. No registration is required.



Lego Club - July 30

Ready to get building? Kennebunk Free Library is offering a Lego Club for children ages 4 and older. Lego Club will meet on **Thursday, July 30 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.

Speers Gallery

July Artist:



The Speers Gallery at the Kennebunk Free Library presents **an exhibit of original works by The Artists' Collective**. The exhibit will run **July 1 through 30**, with a **reception on Tuesday, July 7 from 5 to 7 p.m.** All are welcome.

The Artists' Collective is a group of fifteen local artists woven together by their love of painting and the guidance and teaching of water media classes, **Dennis Rafferty**. Dennis shares his joy of the painting journey and love of Maine through his classes at the Unitarian Church in Kennebunk. A Kansas native, Dennis has been teaching art since 1987 at the Kansas City Art Institute, at Heartwood College which existed in Kennebunk and Kennebunkport, and now privately. His classes, currently held on Monday and Wednesday afternoons, meet students where they are in skills, interests, and subject matter but he offers specialized techniques as they occur or are requested by class

members. Water mediums included are watercolor, gouache, and acrylics.

With members longevity as students with Dennis spanning well over a decade, Monday's group includes former oil painter **Pat Minichello**; **Marie Wilson-Lago** who specializes in acrylics and marsh scenes; **Mary Elizabeth Grady**, who approaches painting intuitively through love of color; **Gerri Bogdan**, who has fun experimenting with various media; **John Bubar** who characterizes his decade of time with Dennis as "Time flies when you're having fun."; and **Liz Roper**, who dabbles in a variety of subjects that include nature and man-made settings.

The Wednesday afternoon group includes members with a variety of backgrounds. **Heather Bruhl**, who holds a BFA in oil painting, is the show organizer. **Marleen Clark** and **Nikki Evans** reconnected with acrylic painting after some breaks. Felted bird artist **Danielle Bonney McPherson**, calligrapher and draftsman **Paula Webb** along with newly discovered interest painter **Judy Metcalf** are studying watercolor.

Part of the flexibility and strength of the Collective is that the commonalities of joy in creating and the fun-loving mood of both groups, lets members move back and forth between Monday and Wednesday, as needed. Come meet the members, socialize with them, and see their various works at their **Opening Reception Tuesday, July 7 from 5-7 at the library**.

The public is invited to view the exhibit in the library's Speers Gallery from July 1 through 30 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 July

July 1

[The Delivery](#) – Gregg Andrew Hurwitz

July 7

[An Infinite Love Story](#) – Chanel Cleeton

Miss Bates: Emma Revisited – Catherine Cliff

Perfect Life – Meredith Lavender

[Country People](#) – Daniel Mason

Crash Into Me – Robinne Lee

Every Version of You – Natalie Messier

[Men in Love](#) – Irvine Welsh

Helpless – Jessica Knoll

[We Will See You Bleed](#) – Ron Currie

[Love You More](#) – Emily Giffin

July 13

[The Country Road Murders](#) – James Patterson

July 14

The Devoted – Catherine Cho

[Ace & Ember](#) – Kate Crew

[The Romance Revival](#) – Christina Lauren

[A Dark Path](#) – Linda Castillo

[This Changes Everything](#) – Lisa Scottoline

July 15

[A Witch's Guide to Magical Innkeeping](#) – Sangu Mandanna

July 21

Just a Highland Fling – Naina Kumar

The Masala Chai Mystery Club – Mj Soni

Dad, Love, Me: A Memoir – Matthew Quick

[Subtle Pleasures of Indiscretion](#) – Alexander McCall Smith

July 28

[Beginning Middle End](#) – Valeria Luiselli

[Meet Me in Paris](#) – Kristin Harmel



As an independent nonprofit organization, KFL manages our own facility. Our Maintenance Manager, John Kinney, handles day-to-day custodial and repair needs, procures quotes for large projects, and is always on hand when something unexpected pops up. He is supported by the KFL Facilities Committee.

There have been several problems to deal with recently as is often the case with an aging building and property. The original part of KFL was built in 1907 with an expansion in the mid '90s. One issue we are currently tackling is that part of the building is not cooling the way it should. Trust me, I know, I don't function well in a warm office environment. But we are doing our best to pursue contractors to help us with the issue. Unfortunately, this takes time. Please, hang in there with us.

We also had a sink hole appear in our driveway into the parking lot. The culprit was a large, rotting tree stump. It had finally decayed enough to collapse, taking the earth above down with it. Once cleaned out and a solid base was found, it was just a matter of cleaning up the hole with an excavator, filling it with the appropriate layers of compacted stone and gravel, and repaving the area with asphalt.

Michelle

Pictured: A freshly patched section of driveway

Staff Picks

Amelia, Library Assistant

The Girl from the Other Side by Nagabe

This series is my go-to recommendation for those wanting a quick read and an introduction into the graphic novel format. With stunning black and white artwork, in a style that blends seamlessly with the story it depicts, this dark fantasy follows a young girl and her 'teacher' and how they survive together in a cursed world. With an ancient conflict between gods, a people divided, and a twist leaving you with an uncertain ending, this series gives you a lot to think about, and I highly recommend. Volumes 1 through 4 are available here at KFL, and the rest may be ordered via interlibrary loan through Minerva.

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