



November 2023 | Volume 30, Issue 11

LIBRARY NEWS AND EVENTS



Gift Wrap Exchange

Have you been using the same wrapping paper for forever? Looking for something different this year, but are wary of adding another offering to the stacks of unfinished rolls in your closet/garage? Switch things up this holiday season without spending a dime and avoiding extra clutter!

Come join us at Kennebunk Free Library for our Gift Wrap Exchange! From November 1 to January 5, there will be a box in the mezzanine labeled "Gift Wrap Exchange". To participate, simply take a roll and leave one in its place. We do ask that you only bring wrapping paper that is unused and still on the roll.

Wreath Sale

It's time for our most festive fundraiser: the annual KFL wreath sale is back! All of the



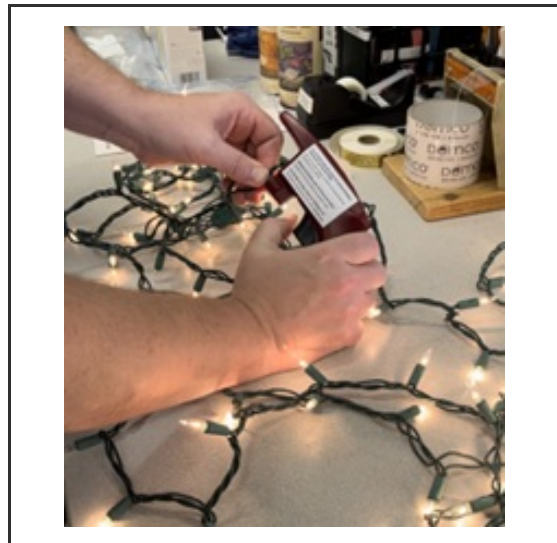
wreaths are made in-state by Wreaths of Maine. Most are 23" balsam, with a variety of decoration options. The large "classic wreath" is 33". Order online or visit the adult circulation desk at the library for a paper order form. All orders should be in by 8:00 on Tuesday, November 7. Wreaths will be available for pick up at KFL on Saturday, November 18 from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. Or, have them shipped directly to friends and relatives around the country for an additional fee.

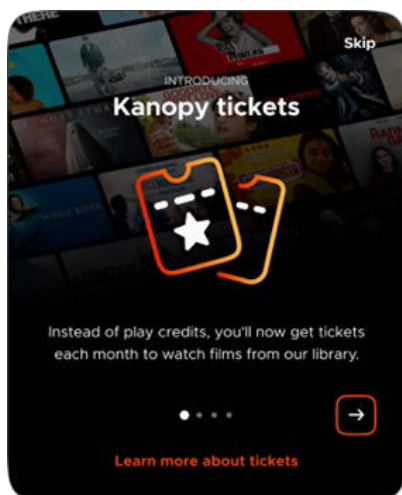
[Order Now](#)

New to Our Library of Things!

Do you have incandescent light strings that annoyingly refuse to light up all the way? Or a collection of half-dead light strings collecting dust in your attic? KFL has a new tool for you! We recently added a LightKeeper Pro, a device that repairs incandescent light strings, extending their life, keeping them out of landfills, and lowering your holiday decorating stress! We tested the LightKeeper Pro on a string of half-dead lights and it worked like a charm and was easy to use. Simply pull out one of the unlit bulbs, plug the socket into the LightKeeper, pull the trigger, and see the dark bulbs illuminate. The tool works by sending a current through the light strand and repairing failed electrical shunts to the sockets. If any bulbs along the damaged strings are fully dead, you will be able to identify them for replacement, while remaining good bulbs stay lit. NOTE: The LightKeeper Pro only works for **incandescent lights**, including artificial trees pre-lit with incandescent bulbs. The tool is not designed for and will not work with any LED lights.

The LightKeeper Pro can be checked out to KFL cardholders for one week. We expect this may be a popular tool coming into the holiday season, so we encourage anyone interested in trying it to check it out as early as possible to get your incandescent lights ready for use.





Changes Coming to Kanopy

Starting November 1, Kanopy will be moving away from its current model of play credits per patron to a ticket-based system. Instead of play credits, each user will now be given a monthly ticket allotment. Each title is given a ticket value based on running time; the ticket value will be displayed when you browse titles. KFL patrons will have 14 tickets per user per month. Content on Kanopy Kids will continue to be its own section and will not be included in the ticket system. If you have any questions, feel free to stop by the library or go to [Kanopy's Help Page](#).



A Message From the Friends

Interested in learning more about what the Friends of KFL do? The public is invited to our annual meeting on Monday, November 6 at 5:30 p.m. Keep an eye on [our website](#) for the agenda, which will be published closer to the meeting date.

ADULT PROGRAMS

Interest in Beginner Mah Jongg?

Do you know how to play Mah Jongg? Would you like to learn? Depending on interest KFL may start a group that meets weekly to play. Let us know if you can help teach or are interested in learning. This game has become very popular as people learn of the fun and the challenge of this Chinese game from the 1800s which has

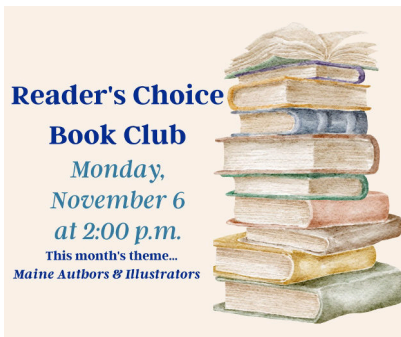


spread and developed throughout the world. Please [email](#) or phone by November 18 to let us know of your interest.



Save the Date!

Our Seed and Plant swap will take place again this year on March 9 at 1:00 p.m. Now is a great time to get into your gardens and start saving the seeds from your plants. More information will be available as we get closer to the date. If you have any questions, feel free to [email Ian](#).



Reader's Choice Book Club - November 6

Reader's Choice Book Club will meet on Monday, November 6 at 2:00 p.m. in the Walker Room at the library, and our theme will be: Maine Authors and Illustrators.

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!

Spanish Language Discussion Group - November 6, 13, 20, 27

Stop by the Kennebunk Free Library from 5:30 to 6:30 on Monday evenings for an opportunity to practice conversational Spanish with educator and native Spanish-speaker Eva Hernandez.



In Stitches - November 7, 14, 21, 28

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 11:00 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.

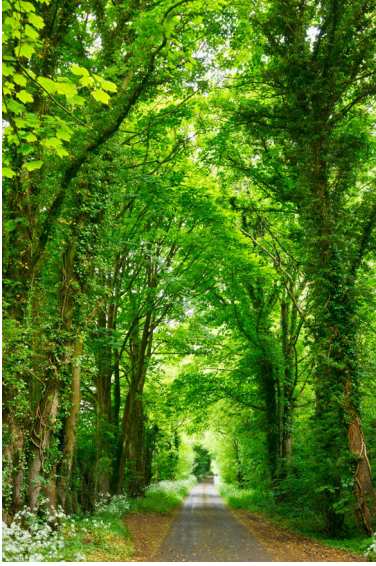
On the first Tuesday of the month, In Stitches will take place on Zoom; see our events calendar for the link to the meeting. The rest of the month, the group will meet in-person in the library. See our events calendar for more information.



Ukulele Group - November 8 and 29

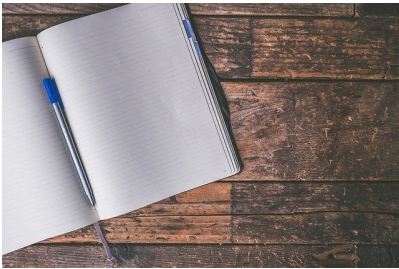
The Ukulele Group is back! We'll continue to meet twice a month: the 2nd Wednesday at 3:30 and the 4th Wednesday at 5:30. We will be playing the same music at both sessions.

You can join us for both or either. Whatever works for you! The 2nd Wednesday Group will meet in person at the library. That session will focus on the songs for the month in greater detail. It will provide an opportunity to answer any questions you may have from your practice and learn from each other. The 4th Wednesday Group will meet via Zoom at 5:30 p.m. Here we'll just strum and pluck and yuck it up in the privacy of home — where no one else can hear you making ukulele fun and no one cares about bloop & errors! Less talk and more play. If you are not already on the music mailing list, please [email Allison](#) to register.



Evening Readers Choice Book Club - November 8

Our Evening Reader's Choice Book Club meets again this month on November 8. This month our theme is Nature, Conservation, and Climate. Fiction, nonfiction, young adult novels, and children's books are all welcome. Using your imagination and creativity is encouraged! If you have any trouble finding a book, feel free to [reach out to Ian](#).



Writer's Group - November 14

Whether you are looking for feedback on your writing or encouragement to keep writing, join us on the third Tuesday of every month from 2:00 - 3:00 p.m. for a meeting of the new KFL Writers' Group! Bring a 500 - 1,000 word piece of work to share with the group. We hope to see you there!



Seed Starting for Native Plants - November 14

Many native plants form seeds one year, drop or otherwise spread seeds, and those seeds spend the winter outside. Then the following spring, they germinate and grow into more native plants to provide sustenance and food sources for

many of our pollinators and wildlife.

On Tuesday, November 14 at 6:00, join a Master Gardner at KFL for a class that will replicate this natural phenomena, but under slightly more controlled circumstances. In this 2-hour class, participants will have the chance to choose 1-2 types from several varieties of native wildflowers, and pot up 1-2 4-inch pots to overwinter outside. They will learn how to watch for germination and growth, and how to divide the young seedlings for more pots to grow for their own gardens and/or plant sales to contribute to. The class will include potting soil, 4-inch pots, builders sand, a variety of native plant seeds, and ideas on how to overwinter the pots. A demonstration for using a distilled water jug as a mini greenhouse to

overwinter pots in will be given, for participants to try later.

The Master Gardeners will be discussing the importance of growing native plants in our home gardens, as well as encouraging the wider use of native plants in public gardens as well. All questions and ideas will be welcome.

Supplies will be provided but participants are asked to bring their own trowels. The library will have a few on hand, if needed. If you are more comfortable with garden gloves and an apron, please bring those as well. Space is very limited. Please [register through the calendar on our website](#).

The Master Gardener teaching this program is Donna Gaylord, an amateur gardener for 50 years, and M.G. since 2021. She is also the Co-President of The Seacoast Garden Club, and after 50 years of all types of home gardening, realizes there is always more to learn! She will be helped by Master Gardener Beth Geary, another fantastic gardener!



Trivia Night - November 15

The third Wednesday of every month at 6:30 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.



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 troubleshoot a piece of software, 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 2:00 - 4:00 p.m., and **Thursdays** from 10:00 a.m. - 12:00 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.



November Take and Make: Holiday Card Display

Get ready to display your holiday cards in style! Use the paper provided or your favorite leftover wrapping paper to create a festive holiday card display. Kits are available beginning Monday, November 13 while supplies last.

TEEN PROGRAMS



D&D - November 6, 20 and 27

Welcome young adventurers! Come and join in on an exciting quest in the world of Dungeons and Dragons. Open to new and experienced players alike, we will meet every Monday on

November 6, 20, & 27 from 3:30-4:30 P.M. You're welcome to bring in a

character from a previous game, to make a new one, or to use one of the pre-made characters provided in the starter set. All other supplies will be provided, just bring your imagination! This event is free, the space is wheelchair accessible, and it is open to Teens ages 10 and up. If you have any questions, see Miss Emmaline downstairs in the children's room, or call (207) 985-2173. We look forward to seeing you there!



Chill Gaming - November 9

Ready to chill, eat snacks, and play some games? Come hang out with friends, test out your gaming card decks, play on our Nintendo Switch, try out new RPG board games, or anything else in between! Anything that relaxes you is welcome and

encouraged! We will meet on the second Thursday of the month, **November 9th**,

from 3:30 - 4:30 p.m. The library will provide games, but players are free to bring their own games, learn new games at their own pace, or you can just come to hang out, eat snacks, and have a good time listening to some Lo-fi beats! This event is free, the space is wheelchair accessible, and it is open to Teens ages 10 and up. If you have any questions, see Miss Emmaline downstairs in the children's room, or call (207) 985-2173. We look forward to seeing you there!



Anime Club - November 16

Join us for Anime Club on the third Thursday of the month, **November 16**, downstairs in Hank's Room from 3:30-4:30 p.m. for a Guess that Anime game! Popular anime intros will be played, and you will have to guess what show the song comes from. You can play this game independently to test your skills,

or you can bring friends to collaborate on a team! And, as always, there will be snacks and prizes available for players. This program is designed for dedicated and new fans interested in learning more about the fandom. Registration is suggested, but optional. This event is free, the space is wheelchair accessible, and it is open to Teens ages 10 and up. If you have any questions, see Miss Emmaline downstairs in the children's room, or call (207) 985-2173. We look forward to seeing you there!

CHILDRENS PROGRAMS



Beadcraft - November 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, November 1, at 1:00 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.

Furry Tales - November 3



What's better than sharing stories? Sharing stories with a furry friend! Come to Kennebunk Free Library on Friday, November 3, at 11:30 a.m. for our monthly Furry Tales Storytime with Animal Welfare Society. Miss Amanda from AWS will share songs, stories, and fun with us. She'll even bring a furry friend for us to meet! Who will visit us this month? Join us and find out! All ages are welcome to attend. No registration required.



Thursday Family Fun Play - Beginning November 9

Have a morning of play at the library! On some Thursday mornings in November, Kennebunk Free Library will bring out the toys for a library play date. These toys are best enjoyed when the whole family plays together! Come play and make new friends

at the library! All programs will run from 10 am to 11 am. Thursday Family Fun Play is for children ages 0-5 and their grown-ups. Upcoming Thursday Family Fun Play dates:

- November 9
- November 16
- November 30



Paws to Read - November 11

We have a new furry visiting friend, and she loves stories! Stop by to read to a visiting therapy dog named Maggie on Saturday, November 11, starting at 1:00 pm. Maggie will be in the library until 3:30 p.m. Register for a half-hour time slot online or at the library! Dogs are wonderful reading companions, as they are non-judgmental and love spending time hearing your voice. Come meet Maggie and share a story! [Registration is limited.](#)

Junior Science - November 13



Do you want to be a scientist? Join us for Junior Science on November 13 at 3:45 p.m. and try out some experiments and activities! In the past, we've made slime, excavated dinosaur fossils, and learned some spy science. What will we do this month? For ages 5+, [registration required](#).

Kindness Club - November 14



In a world where you can be anything, be kind! Join us for our next meeting of Kindness Club on Tuesday, November 14, at 3:45. Come hear a story about kindness and make a craft! In November, we will be talking about gratitude. 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. Parents are encouraged to join in! When your little sees you talking about and practicing kindness, they will want to join in even more!



Tea Rex Tea Party - November 16

What could be better than a tea party? A tea party with dinosaur fun! In honor of Dinovember, you are cordially invited to a Tea Rex Tea Party at Kennebunk Free Library on Thursday, November 16 from 3:30-4:30 p.m. We will share a story, have some delectable treats and drinks, and some prehistoric crafts and fun. Come dressed fancy, or as a dinosaur, or as a fancy dinosaur! No registration is required.

Card Making Workshop - November 25



There's no better way to show your love than with a handmade card. Come to Kennebunk Free Library on Saturday, November 25 between 12:00 and 4:00 to make a card for a friend or loved one! We'll have all the supplies ready – just stop in and get creative! Work together as a family or create your own cards. All ages are welcome to attend. No registration required.



Storytime - Mondays

It's time for Storytime! Come to the library for some stories and songs with Miss Maria! On Mondays in November at 10:00 a.m., Storytimes will be held outside the library near the faerie garden. We'll continue doing Storytime outside as long as the weather allows us! In the event of rain or inclement weather, Storytime will be held indoors. We can't wait for you to join us!

Upcoming Storytime dates include:

- November 6
- November 13
- November 20
- November 27

SPEERS GALLERY



November Artist: Open Studio Artists

The Speers Gallery at the Kennebunk Free Library presents the exhibit "Coastal World" by the Open Studio Artists, which will run November 3-28. The public is invited to an opening reception on Wednesday, November 8 from 5:30-7:30 pm.

The Open Studio Artists are a group with ties to Kennebunk and the local area who

meet weekly at Kennebunk's Unitarian Universalist Church. They have been meeting for 10 years and range from experienced professionals to newer painters. Each person works independently on their choice of projects, but shares in a supportive community as they sketch, draw, and paint in their favorite medium.

Exhibitors include Ellen Pelletier, Cheryl Dahn, Norma Johnsen, Ruth Wallingford, Sara Ostrov, Mary Barrett, Kathryn Davis, Susan Gilbey, Cheryl Lunde, Elizabeth Hunter, and Polly Cecchetti.

Kennebunk Free Library is excited to display this collaborative exhibit.

The public is invited to view the exhibit in the library's Speers Gallery from November 3-28 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

Want to know if we have this week's New York Times bestsellers available in our various collections (print, large print, audio, ebook, eaudio)?

[Click here](#) to see the fiction and nonfiction best seller list.

Books on order for November

November 1

[The Spy Coast](#) – Tess Gerritsen

November 7

[Resurrection Walk](#) – Michael Connelly

[Clive Cussler the Corsican Shadow](#) – Dirk Cussler

[Betrayal](#) – Phillip Margolin

[A Christmas Vanishing](#) – Anne Perry

[The Olympian Affair](#) – Jim Butcher

November 14

The Edge – David Baldacci 11/14
A Very Inconvenient Scandal – Jacquelyn Mitchard
Uhtred's Feast – Bernard Cornwell
Day – Michael Cunningham

November 20

Alex Cross Must Die – James Patterson

November 21

Inheritance – Nora Roberts
The Ball at Versailles – Danielle Steel

November 28

Unnatural Death – Patricia Daniels Cornwell
The Watchmaker's Hand – Jeffery Deaver

A MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTOR



November is always the month that reminds me to take a pause and be thankful. I'd argue that I'm always thankful and I think I do a decent job of letting others know that but why not once again!

Thank you to all of those that help to make KFL the wonderful organization it is. Thank you to our volunteer groups: The Friends of KFL, the Board of Trustees, weekly

volunteers, seasonal volunteers, event volunteers, and outside volunteer organizations that partner with us.

Thank you to our community: the patrons that visit us, the supporters who believe in the need for libraries, the Towns of Kennebunk and Arundel, our fellow nonprofit organizations, our sponsors, and local businesses.

Thank you to the rock star staff at KFL, the crew of 15, as well as our substitutes. I can't express how hard this group of people works to deliver the services you've come to know and love. They are so dedicated!

Pictured: My mom, Cindy, is reading "The Crayons Trick or Treat" by Daywalt and Jeffers to my son, Max. Max loves "The Crayons" books. He also loves croutons which he will eat for breakfast, dessert, or during storytime with Grandma.

STAFF PICKS

Kate, Cataloger

At a recent get-together, we tried a game new to KFL's collection: Great Scott! Our youngest player (10) declared multiple times "this game is FUN!!" and the rest of us concur. Great Scott! combines the card passing play of Sushi Go with the storytelling of Balderdash or Superfight. Over three rounds, players build inventions by combining different attribute and concept cards in a certain order. Once built, players present their invention to the group, describing what it does and how it works. Once presentations are complete, commendations for the top two inventions are handed out. At the end of three rounds, points are calculated from a variety of sources: card values, commendations, and bonuses for alliteration and matching concepts. Our group was in fits of laughter learning all about our inventions like the Alarming Crab Detecting Calcite Airship, the Dependable Bauxite Bituminizing Banana Conqueror, and the Bedazzling Acorn Atomizing Dodo Detonator. KFL's copy includes an expansion deck that we did not try, but all were in agreement that this game will be added to our rotation, and we intend to try playing with the extra deck another time. Give Great Scott! a go and see what you might invent!



Kat, Substitute Library Assistant

The Covenant of Water by Abraham Verghese

I loved the author's book *Cutting For Stone* and it was a long wait for this one but well worth it. Only IF you are someone that likes a detailed and rich study of culture and humanity AND can handle a slow pace. People either love it or hate it. I think what one person reads as lovely prose is another's boring slog and that is a deciding factor. The story takes place from 1900 to 1977 in Kerala, on South India's Malabar Coast. It follows three generations of a family plagued by what they refer to as "the condition" which causes each generation to lose at least one member to drowning. A Scottish doctor appears quite early in the story and adds a new dimension. I loved the characters and related to their struggles, joys, and pain. I wish it had gone on longer. (Available from KFL as a book, audio (read by the author) and on Libby.)

The Orchardist – Amanda Coplin

This is another title from KFL's adult book group. This well-crafted tale about life in the early 1900s in the Pacific Northwest pulls you in and keeps you captivated. The author shows us farming life, the struggles of family (both born and welcomed) and one of my favorite parts was the details of gentling wild mustangs for auction. The cycles of love, pruning and harvesting of the orchard and the sales heritage apples and apricots was beautiful to "see". I cared deeply for each of the characters and loathed the bad guy. (Available from KFL as a book and through Minerva as an audio on cd, large print and a book.)

Friends of KFL Museum Pass opportunity: The Ogunquit Museum of Art will close for the season on November 12th.

Free admission pass for four people is available each day for KFL patrons. I had wanted to go to this museum for years but never picked a day and just went! Finally, I did it in October. What a payoff waits for you on Shore Road in Ogunquit. The outside walks and sculpture, as well as the view of the ocean and Narrow Cove are worth the visit in themselves. Inside they have works by Rockwell Kent, the Zorachs and many other pieces to enjoy. Their temporary exhibits were wonderful! See for yourself!

[Visit our Website](#)



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

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