



September 2025 | Volume 32, Issue 9

Library News and Events



September is Library Card Sign-Up Month!

Come get a **free library card replacement**! If you've lost yours or your current card is falling apart, here is your reminder to come get a new one!

Having your library card with you when you visit the library allows staff to look you up more quickly and accurately, allows you to order books from home through our online catalog, and gives you access to our digital platforms. Stop by the library with your photo ID for your free replacement card all September long!

A Message from the Friends

The next Friends of KFL Meeting will take place on **Monday, September 8, at 5:30 p.m.** at Kennebunk Free Library. [Visit the Friends page](#) to find the meeting documents.

Friends of KFL are excited to have a "booth" at Arundel Heritage Days to be held **in the field at the corner of Limerick Rd and Rt. 111 on Saturday, September 13 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.** We have planned a book sale, sharing information about services available to Arundel residents at KFL, and a



coupon for a free book at HarvestFest for patrons (while they last).

Save the Date: our next book sale at KFL will be during HarvestFest on **October 18.**

If you would like to join the Friends of KFL you will be welcomed! [Here is the link for more information.](#)



KFL Accepting Artist Applications to Exhibit in 2026

The Kennebunk Free Library is currently accepting applications for artists to exhibit during the 2026 calendar year. Since its inception in 2001, the Speers Gallery has offered exhibit opportunities to both amateur and professional artists. The gallery has hosted a variety of mediums including photography, textile arts and mixed media assemblages in addition to renditions in oil, pastel, enamel oil, encaustic, pen and ink, and watercolor.

The application process is open to both individual and group shows. Applications must be received by Friday, October 17, 2025.

Application forms are available at the Library or on the Library's website:
www.kennebunklibrary.org.

In November 2025, an art committee consisting of members from the Library and art communities will convene to review the completed applications and set a monthly exhibit schedule for 2026. Upon completion of the review, applicants will be contacted regarding the Committee's decisions.

Offering monthly artist exhibits contributes to the Kennebunk Free Library's mission to inspire and enable our communities to discover, learn, and connect. The Library is very proud to have showcased the many talented artists who have previously exhibited and is looking forward to continuing this tradition with the 2026 exhibit schedule.



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.



A Big Summer Reading Thank You!

Kennebunk Free Library's 2025 summer reading program is completed! Raffle winners will be drawn and notified in the coming weeks. Thank you again for a wonderful, fun filled summer! We hope to see you again next year.

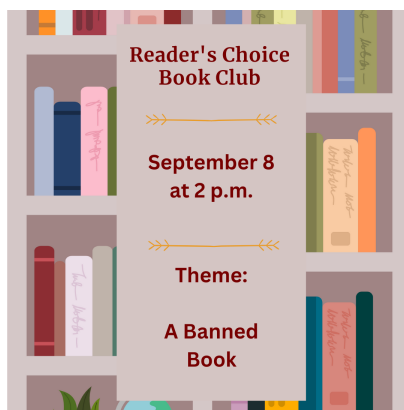
Public Notice of Annual Meeting of Kennebunk Free Library Association

Public notice is hereby given to the public pursuant to the Kennebunk Free Library Association by-laws, that the annual meeting of the Association will be held on **Tuesday, September 30, 2025, at 4:30 p.m. at Kennebunk Free Library.**

Board of Trustees' meetings are typically held on the last Tuesday of the month at 4:30 p.m. over Zoom or in Hank's Room, with the exception of July and December, and they are open to the public.

For more information or to receive the meeting link, contact Library Director, Michelle K. Conners, at (207) 985-2173 or kfl@kennebunklibrary.org

Adult Programs



Reader's Choice Book Group - September 8

Reader's Choice Book Club will meet on **Monday, September 8 at 2:00 p.m.** in the Walker Room at the library, and **our theme will be: A Banned Book.**

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!



Ukulele Group - September 10 and 27

Join us on the **second Wednesday of every month at 3:30 p.m. and the fourth Saturday of every month at 2 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.



MECollab: Scrap Craft: Quilling - September 10

KFL is teaming up with other libraries to offer a series of scrap craft programs. On **Wednesday, September 10 at 2:30 p.m.**, join us to learn how to make a quilled (paper fillagree) card.

This class is being taught by librarians from Curtis Memorial Library. There are two ways to participate. Join us in person at KFL for a viewing party. We'll have all the materials that you'll need to complete the project and we'll all craft together. Register here for in-person crafting.

You can also join from home. Visit the [Curtis Memorial Library website](#) to register for the Zoom link

MORE INFORMATION

Welcome to our MECollab craft class series. You can expect to see a craft class each month at your local library. Each of these craft classes has been designed to use minimal purchased tools, many of which can be borrowed for your local library. These craft classes will also try to provide you with options to purchase ecologically responsible craft materials or provide you ways in which you can acquire your consumable materials for free.

To participate from home you will need:

- A sturdy piece of paper on which to glue your paper art.
- Glue
 - If purchasing, we recommend a biodegradable brand made from plants such as a starch paste (for example such as Yasutomo Nori Paste) but traditional petrochemical PVA glues will also work if you have some to use up.
- Strips of paper to make your artworks
- Tools to wrap paper around or in
 - a round pencil
 - a thin wire
 - small caps
- Tools to secure your paper while it dries
 - a corkboard and pins

A quilling set is available for checkout at KFL but you do not need to use this to participate in this craft.

MORE INFORMATION

Prep for this craft by cutting your colored scrap paper into long strips. 1/8th inch wide is a good width for a beginner. You can find used colored paper by utilizing old magazines. You can use a paper cutter, rotary cutter or scissors to cut the strips.

Evening Readers Choice Book Club - September 10

Our Evening Reader's Choice Book Club will meet at **6 p.m. on Wednesday, September 10** in the Walker Room on the main floor of the library.

Reader's Choice Evening Book Club



September's Theme is "Mysteries" so any book with a whodunit plot, to keep us guessing until the end!

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!



Drop-in Craft and Chat - September 16

Join us and express your creativity in our weekly evening group, Craft and Chat. This drop-in group will take place weekly in the library **beginning on Tuesday, September 16 from 6 to 7 p.m.** Join us in a relaxed atmosphere with other creative people of all skill levels. Explore your creativity with whatever your passion is: handicrafts, journaling, sketching or doodling, coloring, crocheting, embroidery or knitting - all are welcomed! Please bring in any portable project you are working on along with your own supplies. You are free to stop by for a few minutes or stay the whole hour.

This program is free and wheelchair accessible. The Kennebunk Free Library is located at 112 Main Street in Kennebunk, Maine. For more information please call 207-985-2173 or email us at kfl@kennebunklibrary.org.

Cook & Share Cookbook Club

This Month's Theme is
Gluten Free

Cook and Share Cookbook Club - September 17

Welcome to our Cookbook Club! **You are invited to join us on our NEW day, every third Wednesday, at 3 p.m.!** We will gather to celebrate food through various dishes and themes!

How does it work? Make any type of dish from a favorite cookbook or a new one that you have been wanting to try, then bring it in to share! Every month we will have a different theme.

This month we will be meeting on **Wednesday, September 17**, and **our theme will be Gluten-Free!**

Bring along the cookbook or recipe, so we can discuss it and go over all things food! Utensils, plates and napkins will be provided!

Please email Becca at rlong@kennebunklibrary.org to let her know you will be attending.

Trivia Night - September 17



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.



AARP Fraud Watch Network Workshop - September 23

Now, more than ever, users need to be aware of digital safety best practices. In collaboration with AARP presenter, Julie Flynn, KFL proudly presents a Fraud Watch Network event to help you learn how to proactively identify scams, receive support from AARP's fraud specialists if you or someone you know falls victim to a scam, and feel more secure while navigating online spaces. During this session, participants will utilize our new laptops provided by SMPDC's Digital Subgrant alongside Julie's presentation for a hands-on learning experience focused on recognizing and avoiding scams.

This informative workshop will be held on **September 23, from 2 to 3:30 p.m.** As spots are limited, [please register](#) ahead of time with the link below or through our website calendar.

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.



Afarin Bellisario - September 27

Kennebunk Free Library and the Camden Conference present Afarin Bellisario at Kennebunk Free Library on **Saturday, September 27, 2025 at 2 p.m..**

Afarin Bellisario bridges East and West, Past and Present, and technology and human conditions. Born and raised in Tehran, she has built a career in high-tech after graduating with a PhD from MIT. Her debut novel, *Silenced Whispers*, is the winner of Independent Publishers of New England's silver medal for genre fiction. It celebrates the courage of a young woman to resist oppression and colonial aggression

in WWI Iran. The book provides insight into Iran during that era and how that era seeded conflicts in modern Iran and the Middle East.

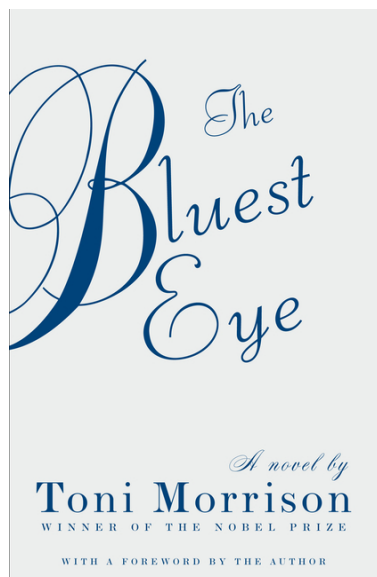
Grounded in the turn of the 20th century, *Silenced Whispers* is a historical fiction that highlights the internal and external pressures on young woman in Iran in the face of patriarchy and colonialism. Though historically and culturally unique, the tensions Bellisario explores echo across time and place offering the reader a world both familiar and removed. In navigating these tensions – internal/external, domestic/political, rural/urban, traditional/technological, past/present – the author

wields magical realism in the Persian, Arabic, and European traditions to counterpoint, highlight, and progress the plot. The result is a timeless narrative that offers a little bit of something for everyone.



Craft & Sip: Yarn Art - September 29

Join us on **Monday, September 29 from 6 to 7:30 p.m.** for an evening of "painting" with yarn! We will use strands of yarn to make designs on 4" x 4" mini canvases. We will be using glue so be prepared to have some sticky hands. Adult beverages will be available to enjoy during your crafting. Attendees must be aged 21+, space is limited, and [registration is required](#).



Fiction Book Discussion - September 30

Join us on **Tuesday, September 30 (please note the fifth Tuesday of the month is this month only) at 1 p.m.** to discuss *The Bluest Eye* by Toni Morrison.

“Set in Lorain, OH, in the years following the Great Depression, the debut novel by Nobel Prize winner Morrison is a powerful work that centers the experience of Black girlhood and introduces readers to the author’s skillful command of language. Pecola Breedlove is an 11-year-old girl who believes she is ugly and prays to have blue eyes so the world will see her differently. Through Pecola’s family and community, the novel traces the generational trauma of racism: her mother, who has internalized white standards of beauty, is left feeling unworthy of love; her father, abandoned as a baby, was humiliated by two white men during his first sexual experience and perpetuates that humiliation and violence when he rapes and impregnates his young daughter.

An outcast when her baby dies, Pecola descends into madness, believing that her eyes have finally turned blue. **VERDICT** Morrison’s unflinching depictions imbue her characters with a richness and complexity that directs readers to regard them as worthy of attention and love. Even in the most painful scenes, she compels readers not to look away. An important text for generating discussion on race, culture, and U.S. society, this is an essential work for public, high school, and academic libraries.”

– Library Journal

Adult Take and Make: Tassel Keychains

Adult take and makes are back after a summer break! This month, pick up a kit to make a tassel keychain perfect for carrying your library card. Kits will be available **starting Tuesday, September 9, while supplies last.**



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 p.m. to 4 p.m., and Thursdays from 10 a.m. 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 (previously Monday), from 12:30 to 3 p.m.** to play Mah Jongg. The library has 3 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. Want lessons? Future newsletters will announce a springtime class signup. We can also share some resources for learning on your own. Please [email the library](#) with any questions.



Improv - Saturdays

Improv - Saturdays Improv is back this fall! **Beginning September 13**, sessions will be held **every Saturday from 10:30 to 12 p.m..**

Teen Programs



Book-ish Activities in the Teen Room!

The teen space in the library is *buzzing* with bookish activities for you to do **beginning September 2**, 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:

Bookworm Challenge

Throughout September, we're putting your reading smarts and candy instincts to the test with two fun activities!

- **Gummy Worm Guessing Game:** In this challenge, you'll try to guess the number of gummy worms in a jar. The person with the closest guess, or the one who hits it perfectly, earns bragging rights and, of course, the candy!
- **Bookish Test:** In this activity, you'll match book introductions with their matching covers. There will be a different introduction and different covers to choose from each week, and we will post the results every Saturday with a community pie chart to show everyone that the KFL Teen Space knows their stuff! Grab your thinking cap and your sweet tooth, and happy guessing!

School's In Session! Who Are You Sitting With?

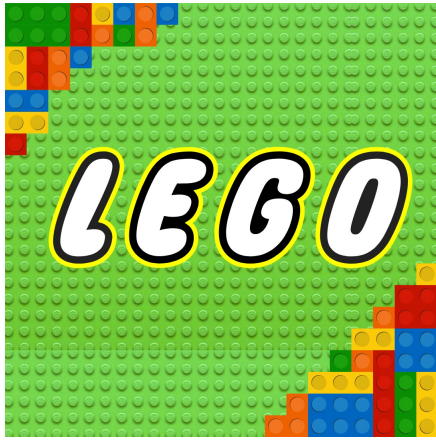
Now's your chance to decide who you'll be sharing a table with in the cafeteria, and this isn't just any regular seating arrangement! It's an interactive bulletin inspired by your favorite book characters. Imagine sitting with Katniss Everdeen, Edward Cullen, or Feyre Archeron. Who do you think would be the best table for you? If you know the answer, place a sticker on the table where you'd like to sit, and you can see where others are sitting too!

If you have any questions about these programs, ask Miss Emmaline or Miss Claudia downstairs in the children's room, or call (207) 985-2173. We look forward to seeing you there!



Teen Take and Make: Book Leaf Banners

It's back-to-school season, which means it's almost the beginning of autumn! To get into those cozy autumn vibes, we have a craft perfect for the season. **Starting September 2**, stop by the library to pick up a take-and-make book leaf banner kit. Supplies are first-come, first-served, and you can find these kits in the Teen Room, waiting just for you! If you have any questions, ask Miss Emmaline or Miss Claudia downstairs in the children's room, or call (207) 985-2173. We look forward to seeing you here!



Teen Lego Build Displays - September 2

Starting **September 2**, 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 Claudia are super excited to showcase your work in the Teen Room for the whole month! Feel free to create as many designs as you like, but please make sure to leave enough Legos for everyone else to have fun too. At the end of the month, there will be ribbons awarded for your designs. Your creations will then be taken apart so you can build something new in October, but we will

have a binder with a gallery of your builds for others to enjoy.

This event is free, the space is wheelchair accessible, and it is open to Teens ages 10 and up. If you have any questions, just reach out to Miss Emmaline or Miss Claudia in the children's room downstairs, or give us a call at (207) 985-2173. We can't wait to see what you come up with!



Forever Twilight Party - September 11

Twilight fans, where have you all been, locas? It's been 20 years since *Twilight* first debuted, and while we can't go to Forks for the Forever Twilight Festival, the library has a fang-tastic event on **Thursday, September 11, from 3:30 to 4:30 p.m.** for you to attend! Whether with a friend or as a lone wolf, we will have Twilight-themed crafts and snacks for you to share with other fans of the series as we discuss what we think Stephanie Meyer will say during her livestreamed Q&A later that night, and also what our favorite Twilight theories or takes might be. Registration is required to attend this event.

[Please register](#) ahead of time with the link provided or through our website calendar. This event is free, the space is wheelchair accessible, and it is open to Teens ages 10 and up. If you have any questions, ask Miss Emmaline or Miss Claudia downstairs in the children's room, or call (207) 985-2173. We look forward to seeing you here!



Saturday Teen Program: Sunflower Coasters - September 20

Want to decorate your room for fall but aren't sure where to start? Have you ever wanted to make cute crocheted decor but don't have the patience? Celebrate the transition from summer to fall with us by making sunflower coasters! Join Miss Emmaline and Miss Claudia on **Saturday, September 20, from 1 to 2 p.m.** in Hank's Room to make these autumnal decorations out of twine, felt, and yarn. [Registration is required](#) to attend this event. Please register ahead of time with the link provided or through our website calendar.

This event is free, the space is wheelchair accessible, and it is open to Teens ages 10 and up. If you have questions, see Miss Emmaline or Miss Claudia downstairs in the children's room, or call (207) 985-2173. We look forward to seeing you there!



Dungeons and Dragons - September 22 & 29

Welcome young adventurers! Come and join in on an exciting quest in the world of Dungeons and Dragons. We have just finished our summer campaign, completing the heist of a century, and now we are returning to our infinite school year campaign. We last left off with our heroes in the Canyons of Carceri, trapped by the Driders of Lolth as we search for Lynx to gather information to solve the Time Loop Mystery. We will be meeting on Mondays: **September**

22 and 29 from 3:30-4:30 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.

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 or Miss Claudia downstairs in the children's room, or call (207) 985-2173. We look forward to seeing you there!

Children's Programs



Kindness Crew - September 9

In a world where you can be anything, be kind! Join us for our next meeting of Kindness Crew on **Tuesday, September 9, at 3:45 p.m..** Come hear a story about kindness and make a craft! This program is open to ages 6 and up; [registration](#) is appreciated but not required! This month, we'll talk about being kind at school! Kindness has no age requirement – if a friend younger than 6 would like to join in, please reach out to Miss Maria at mrichardson@kennebunklibrary.org, or 985-2173 x 105. Caregivers are encouraged to join in! When your little sees you talking about and practicing kindness, they will want to join in even more!

Beadcraft - September 10

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,**

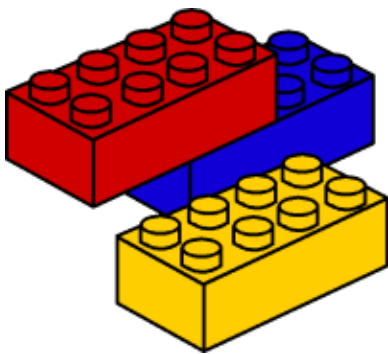


September 10, at 1 p.m.. What a great way to spend an afternoon! Design suggestions will be offered, but creativity is encouraged! All craft materials will be provided. [Registration](#) is recommended but not required.



Paint a Library Bag - September 16

September is Library Card Signup Month, and what better way to celebrate than to decorate a tote bag? You'll need a way to carry all your library items back and forth! **Stop by between 3 and 5 p.m. on Tuesday, September 16** for some creative fun. Ages 5 and up are invited to use fabric paint and markers to decorate a tote however they'd like! Younger ages are welcome with caregiver supervision. All are welcome! Please come ready to take home a wet art project! Don't have a library card yet? Residents of Kennebunk, Kennebunkport, Arundel, and Wells can sign up for a card at no cost!



Lego Club - September 25

Ready to get building? Kennebunk Free Library is offering a Lego Club for children ages 4 and older. Lego Club will meet on **Thursday, September 25, 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.



Storytime - Mondays

It's time for Storytime! Come to the library for stories, songs, and fun with Miss Maria! We'll even get to say hello to our puppet friend, Ami the bunny. On most **Mondays in September at 10:00 a.m.**, Storytimes will be held in the amphitheater outside the Children's Room at Kennebunk Free Library. Because of the holiday closure, we will be having Storytime on **Tuesday, September 2**. 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. We can't wait for you to join us!

Upcoming Storytime dates include:

- **Tuesday, September 2**
- September 8
- September 15
- September 22
- September 29



Family Fun Play - Thursdays

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

Upcoming Thursday Family Fun Play dates:

- September 4
- September 11
- September 18
- September 25

Speers Gallery



September Artist:

The Speers Gallery at the Kennebunk Free Library presents “**Joan Forrester – Maine Artist**”. The art exhibit runs **September 2 through 30**, with a reception on **Saturday, September 13 from 2 to 4 p.m.** All are welcome.

Joan Forrester lives in Andover, Maine and captures everything from nature studies to contemporary mediums using watercolor, pen and ink, acrylic, pastel and oil. The daughter of two Maine artists, she grew up exposed to various art

mediums, and now in retirement is enjoying expanding her desire to create. She says “All art sends different messaging and is received individually. Be open to the experience and take away what you want. I paint for myself, my excitement to see color on paper!”

Joan has had both informal and formal art training and is a member of the Andover Artists Group. She has shown her work at the Congregational Church in Kennebunkport as well as other fine art shows.

Kennebunk Free Library is excited to welcome this enthusiastic artist to our Speers Gallery.

The public is invited to view the exhibit in the library's Speers Gallery from September 2 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

Popular New Reads for September

September 1

[Billion-Dollar Ransom](#) – James Patterson

[Please Don't Lie](#) – Christina Baker Kline

September 2

[Framed in Death](#) – J. D. Robb

[The Hallmarked Man](#) – Robert Galbraith

[Vianne](#) – Joanne Harris

September 9

[The Secret of Secrets](#) – Dan Brown

[The Grave Artist](#) – Jeffrey Deaver

September 16 [The Academy](#) – Elin Hilderbrand

[Gray Dawn](#) – Walter Mosley

[Replaceable You](#) – Mary Roach

[History Matters](#) – David McCullough

September 23

[Circle of Days](#) – Ken Follett

[End Game](#) – Jeffrey Archer

[A Slowly Dying Cause](#) – Elizabeth George

[What We Can Know](#) – Ian McEwan

[The Phoebe Variations](#) – Jane Hamilton

[The Sisterhood](#) – Tasha Alexander

September 30

[The Portrait](#) – Danielle Steel

[The Gift from Devil's Lake](#) – J. A. Jance

[Denied Access](#) – Vince Flynn

[Santa's Holiday Spectacular](#) – Fern Michaels

[In the Time of Five Pumpkins](#) – Alexander McCall Smith

[Calder Strong](#) – Janet Dailey

A Message from the Director



[Kennebunk Free Library's 2025-2029 Strategic Plan](#) was created through various methods of input including interviews, focus groups, and over 440 survey responses from the community.

One thing that we heard loud and clear was the need to upgrade our technology. KFL is happy to relay the following upgrades to our facility that we've implemented:

Enhanced Internet Safety: We have enhanced our Internet safety with the installation of a new Sophos firewall and network switch.

Improved Digital Archives Access: Due to issues with our previous microfilm reader's performance, we have upgraded our service machine and the corresponding software. We have also upgraded its desktop, making it easier for users to access historical and archived content.

Upgraded Public Patron Workstations: As one of our most popular services, we have upgraded all public computers to machines that meet current standards for improved performance, speed, and reliability.

Stronger Privacy Protections: We have also installed the latest version of DeepFreeze software, which ensures that patron data is private and unsaved upon the restart of a workstation's desktop.

Upgraded Public Patron Printing: In addition to desktops and subsequent privacy software, we have also purchased a new patron printer, which can be used to print via our public patron workstations.

Wi-Fi Upgrade and Extension: To provide a stable connection across the library, we have installed new routers, modems, and Wi-Fi 6 mesh extenders.

New Mobile Computer Lab (Coming Soon!): We have just been awarded a grant by SMPDC to develop a mobile computer lab to accommodate our limited space and increasing demand for computer stations in the library. This will allow us to offer group technology classes and flexible computer access in multiple locations throughout the facility.

Some of these purchases were made possible by the Remote Work through Libraries grant.

Sincerely,
Michelle

Pictured: Sophia reads to me!

Staff Picks

Kate, Cataloger/ Tech Services Librarian

Rednecks by Taylor Brown

For a couple of days last month, I was swept up into tent villages, coal company towns, and

mountainside battles as I read Taylor Brown's Rednecks which gives a historical fiction treatment to one of the country's largest and longest labor disputes- the West Virginia Mine Wars of 1921-1922. Culminating in the Battle of Blair Mountain, Brown follows a multi-ethnic cast of characters fighting for worker's rights in the West Virginia coal mines. Short chapters set up a steady paced re-creation of historical events and the story moves at a good clip switching between the action of worker versus company fighting, the squalor of miner's lives in the coal fields, and the collusion of local and national authorities to suppress the worker's uprising. I was unaware of the Mine Wars until Rednecks caught my eye on our shelves and now want to know so much more. I am following up this novel by diving into James Green's The Devil is Here in These Hills for a nonfiction account which is turning out to be as captivating as Brown's fictionalized version. If you like American historical fiction, battlefield tales, underdog stories, or are interested in labor movements, give Rednecks a read.

Kat, Substitute Library Assistant

The Song of Achilles by Madeline Miller

"Profoundly moving and breathtakingly original, this rendering of the epic Trojan War is a dazzling feat of the imagination, a devastating love story, and an almighty battle between gods and kings, peace and glory, immortal fame and the human heart." This quote is taken from the author's website, and it describes the experience of reading it far better than I could. The book has been on my "to read" pile for a long time, so many people told me they loved it. This is my favorite book this year. (Available from KFL in print)

Lost On a Mountain in Maine directed by Andrew Kightlingar based on the book by Donn Fendler

This documentary/drama captures the real-life story of 12-year-old Donn lost on Mt. Katahdin in 1939. After a storm separates him from his family, Donn wandered for 9 days in the wilderness. His father's words to follow a stream to civilization and never give up helped him get through impossible circumstances. I enjoyed the depiction of Maine life during this period as his family grappled with fearing for their son's life. (Available DVD from KFL)

Watership Down: the graphic novel by Richard Adams, adapted and illustrated by James Sturm and Joe Sutphin

I picked this up as a summer reading challenge. It is good to get out of our reading comfort zone from time to time. The illustrations of rabbits are both endearing and personable. True to the original book, scenes that depict violence and gore are not glossed over. Graphic novels are often a steppingstone for young people to read whole books, in my humble opinion. They then often make the leap to reading text for pleasure, which many people never do if they didn't when young. (Available as a book from KFL)

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