OCTOBER 2025

Happy (almost) Fall!

The thrill of autumn leaves, frosty mornings, garden harvests, and Halloween fun has arrived!

The library will be **CLOSED** **MONDAY, OCTOBER 20th through THURSDAY, OCTOBER 23rd** for Professional Development. We will travel to New York for a four-day training to become a Family Place Library, an exciting initiative that will make us a community hub for families with young children. We will become the only Family Place library north of the notch. (https://www.familyplacelibraries.org/) October is **NATIONAL DYSLEXIA MONTH**. Dyslexia is a neurodevelopmental language disorder that leads to difficulty reading, writing, and spelling. Many experts believe that dyslexia affects 20% of the population, though it is woefully underdiagnosed. If identified early, and explicit, multisensory, structured reading instruction is provided by a trained educator, an individual with dyslexia can learn to read. Check out our book display on Dyslexia to learn more.

October is the month of ghosts, ghouls, witches, and vampires, scary shadows, and terrifying creatures. Check out one of our **SPINE CHILLING READS** from our spooky book display.

Meaghan Russo, a junior at White Mountain Regional High School, is volunteering **TUTORING SERVICES** at the library. She will work with all elementary ages up to middle school in all subject categories and will work one-on-one or in small groups with children working on the same subject. Meaghan will be available Wednesdays 3-4 PM, Thursdays 3-4 PM, and Saturdays 9-11 AM by appointment. If you are interested in scheduling a time for her to work with your child, please email her at meaghan.russo@sau36.org or Teresa at trusso@whitefieldpubliclibrary.org.

Halloween is on the way, and that means **TRICK-or-TREAT for BOOKS**. We would appreciate **DONATIONS** of lightly used (or new) children's books for children to receive as Halloween treats. Enter a **SCARECROW** in the scarecrow competition. Pick up an entry form at the library or sign up online at https://forms.gle/h3msBmxFBDfTuQdZA. Categories will be group, individual, and children. Entries may be installed any time, but must be submitted by September 28th. Judging will be October 4th. Scarecrows must be removed by November 1st. For more information, please reach out to Mike Medeiros at Themedeirosfamily@hotmail.com or on Facebook.

The Whitefield **COMMUNITY DAY FALL FESTIVAL** is scheduled for October 4th from 10 AM - 2 PM on the common. Hope to see you there!

UPCOMING PROGRAMS for ADULTS & TEENS

READING AND WRITING - A WHOLE BODY EXPERIENCE with Learning Efficiency Coach Sue High Tuesday, September 23
6-7 PM
Open to adults & Teens
Sign-up Requested: https://forms.gle/u4B6HGgpQmAhgbXT6
Did you know that just about the entire body needs to work together well to read & write? Reading and writing may seem simple, but they're actually full-body feats—requiring seamless coordination between your brain, eyes, muscles, and even your heart and lungs. This presentation reveals the astonishing symphony of systems that must harmonize to turn thought into text and symbols into meaning.

CIVICS EDUCATION with Caleb Murphy
Thursday, September 25
6:30-7:30 PM
Open to adults & teens
Sign-up Requested: https://forms.gle/LmZtormqy2gsDSsa6
Caleb Murphy, a CIVICS teacher at White Mountain Regional High School, will lead monthly discussions around how government is organized and how it works.

CAREGIVERS SUPPORT GROUP & LOVED ONES LIVING WITH DEMENTIA PROGRAM
With Cate DiBlasi & Jeannie Jacobs, with support from Mary Bates
Friday, October 3rd (First Friday of the month.)
9-10 AM
For those living with Dementia and their Caregivers
This is an opportunity for caregivers to meet and share their experiences, share some ideas and strategies, provide some understanding, support, and connection with other caregivers, and connect with Jeannie and Mary. Separately, loved ones will enjoy a program with Cate to stimulate their minds and move their bodies.

THE SALEM WITCHCRAFT TRIALS AND 'MOLDY BREAD' - A CASE STUDY IN FAKE NEWS
with Margo Burns

Sponsored by NH Humanities
Saturday, October 4th
1:30 PM
Sign-up Requested: https://forms.gle/Tydz1izTuDrnSseL6

On April 2, 1976, *Science Magazine* published an article by Linnda R. Caporeal which posited that during the 1692 Salem witchcraft trials, the visions of specters and painful physical sensations described by the girls who claimed to be afflicted by witches could have been caused from eating bread made with flour tainted by ergot, a naturally occurring fungal hallucinogen that grows on rye grain under certain growing conditions. While experts immediately debunked this claim – the historical and medical data used to support the hypothesis was cherry-picked – the claim went viral in a pre-Internet age. More than four decades later, belief in this is still pervasive. This program will unpack how this explanation about a lurid chapter in American history was born and cemented in the public imagination. It is a case study in how mass media induces people to buy into “fake news."

Margo Burns is the 10th-generation great-granddaughter of Rebecca Nurse, who was hanged in Salem in 1692 on the charge of witchcraft. She is the project manager and an associate editor of *Records of the Salem Witch-Hunt*, published in 2009 by Cambridge University Press. This work is the definitive collection of transcriptions of the legal records of the episode. Burns is also a lifelong fan of cartoons, cutting her teeth on Popeye and Yogi Bear on Saturday mornings as a child, then formally studying animation for two years in the Rhode Island School of Design's continuing education program as an adult. She has been leading computer animation projects with middle and high school students since 2001 at UNH's Tech Camp in Durham, where each crew makes a complete film in a week. Burns recently retired from St. Paul's School as the director of The Language Center, where she was also the adviser to a student club, the International Lunchtime Animation Festival (iLAF), which tapped her personal library of animation of over 750 titles.

STRENGTHS-BASED APPROACHES to FUNCTIONING EFFICIENTLY with ADHD
with Learning Efficiency Coach Sue High
Tuesday, October 7
6-7 PM
Open to adults & Teens
Sign-up Requested: https://forms.gle/7z9M4HuCUKjVa8DM9
How can we help people with ADHD function efficiently in their own way? People with ADHD don't need to be "fixed." They need environments, tools, and strategies that honor how their brains naturally thrive. This presentation explores strengths-based

approaches that empower individuals with ADHD to function efficiently on their own terms, unlocking creativity, focus, and resilience.

BOOK GROUP
Wednesday, October 8th
(2nd Wednesday of each month)
6:30-7:30 PM
Open to adults & teens
Pick up a copy of this month's book, *Travels with Charley* by John Steinbeck
Travels with Charley: In Search of America is a quest across America, from the northernmost tip of Maine to California's Monterey Peninsula.

To hear the speech of the real America, to smell the grass and the trees, to see the colors and the light—these were John Steinbeck's goals as he set out, at the age of fifty-eight in 1960, to rediscover the country he had been writing about for so many years.

With Charley, his standard poodle, Steinbeck drives in his specially made camper he named Rocinante, after Don Quixote's horse, the interstates and the country roads, dines with truckers, encounters bears at Yellowstone, and old friends in San Francisco. Along the way he reflects on the American character, racial hostility, the particular form of American loneliness he finds almost everywhere, and the unexpected kindness of strangers.

The book reached #1 on the New York Times Best Seller list (Non-Fiction) on October 21, 1962, where it stayed for one week, replaced by Rachel Carson's Silent Spring on October 28

HALLOWEEN APOTHECARY JARS CRAFT
Saturday, October 11th
1:30 PM
Open to adults & teens
Sign-up Required: https://forms.gle/Rk8xriprUAbmoqGH7
Come create some Halloween ornamentation. Repurpose bottles, containers, and tins into apothecary jars or witch potion bottles to display for the spooky season. All materials provided.

LADDERS *(Library After Dark: Deliciously Entertaining Romance Social-Club)*
Wednesday, October 15th
(3rd Wednesday of each month)

6-7 PM
Open to adults & teens
Stop by the library to pick up a copy of this month's book, *Yours Truly* by Abby Jimenez

Looking for a book club with a little more spice, swoon, and laughter? You just found your people! Join us for LADDERS, a new romance book club!!! We'll be exploring swoony page-turners full of love, drama, and just the right amount of spice; all in good company!

For our first book, we will read *Yours Truly*, by Abby Jimenez. Dr. Briana Ortiz's life is seriously flatlining. Her divorce is just about finalized, her brother's running out of time to find a kidney donor, and that promotion she wants? Oh, that's probably going to the new man-doctor who's already registering eighty-friggin'-seven on Briana's "pain in my ass" scale. But just when all systems are set to hate, Dr. Jacob Maddox completely flips the game . . . by sending Briana a letter. And it's a really good letter. Like the kind that proves that Jacob isn't actually Satan. Worse, he might be this fantastically funny and subversively likeable guy who's terrible at first impressions. Because suddenly he and Bri are exchanging letters, sharing lunch dates in her "sob closet," and discussing the merits of freakishly tiny horses. But when Jacob decides to give Briana the best gift imaginable—a kidney for her brother—she wonders just how she can resist this quietly sexy new doctor . . . especially when he calls in a favor she *can't* refuse.

BLACK BEAR in NH
with Jack Varin, NH Fish and Game Volunteer presenter
Saturday, October 18
1:30 PM
Open to adults & teens
Sign-up Requested: https://forms.gle/2QUVQfQhdxgCeaU4A
New Hampshire Fish and Wildlife Steward, Jack Varin, will share information about black bears in the state. You will learn about the natural history of this intriguing mammal, its habitat needs, and ways to avoid potentially costly conflicts. Also, hear about the amazing federal funding mechanism that supports long-term research and is largely responsible for our country's abundant fish and wildlife.

CIVICS EDUCATION with Caleb Murphy
Thursday, October 23
6:30-7:30 PM
Open to adults & teens
Sign-up Requested: https://forms.gle/YNMHP8L3pibDKsQo7

Caleb Murphy, a CIVICS teacher at White Mountain Regional High School, will lead monthly discussions around how government is organized and how it works.

STAINED GLASS ORNAMENT MAKING
with Jacki Scott
Saturday, October 25
9 AM - 12 PM
Open to ages 16-100
Sign-up Required: https://forms.gle/YRB52uZdBj9LvS4c9***This workshop will be held for 6 participants$45 fee - prepay at the library to confirm registration***

Try your hand at stained glass in this simple workshop. You will have the opportunity to cut some glass, grind your chosen piece, learn solder techniques, solder your piece, and finish your creation, ready to hang!

If more than 6 participants sign up, it will be first to PAY, first accepted, and others will be added to a wait list. If there is enough interest, a second workshop of 6 individuals may be held. Should you have to cancel prior to the workshop, please find a substitute if there is not someone on the waiting list who can take your spot. The workshop will only be held if 6 people can attend.

AUTISM - A VIBRANT SPECTRUM
with Learning Efficiency Coach Sue High
Tuesday, October 28
6-7 PM
Open to adults & Teens
Sign-up Requested: https://forms.gle/3MyfLyXFpdfwS23YA

No two people with Autism are alike, just like the rest of us. Autism is not a single story—it's a vibrant spectrum of unique ways of thinking, feeling, and connecting. This presentation celebrates the individuality of every autistic person, challenging stereotypes and embracing the beautifully diverse expressions of neurodivergence.

UPCOMING PROGRAMS for YOUTH and FAMILIES

HOMESCHOOL MATH September 30th, October 28 (Last Tuesday of the Month) 11 AM -12 noon Suggested ages 5-10 years Sign-up required: https://forms.gle/yojzLZojpLCqfYt19

Do you have an elementary-level student who could benefit from "seeing" math? Join us once a month for a hands-on math program! This program will include a tiered mathematics problem, mathematical thinking-based games and puzzles, and other interactive math activities.

WEEKLY MATH CHALLENGE PROBLEMS Begins September 30th
Look for the weekly Math challenge problems in the program room. Multiple levels will be available. Beware! Some problems may even get you to think differently about a mathematics concept you have known most of your life. There will be open middle questions separated into three categories - early elementary, middle elementary, and late elementary. Open middle questions challenge your thinking and math reasoning. Odd One Out problems will be available in two levels. For odd one out, you determine which of the 4 images does not belong. The ultimate goal is to have fun while building spatial-reasoning, pattern recognition, number sense, and problem-solving skills.

FREE HEARING & VISION SCREENINGS for all children and FREE AGES & STAGES DEVELOPMENTAL SCREENINGS FOR 0-5 year olds
Saturday, October 11
9 AM - 1 PM
In collaboration with Ammonoosuc Community Health Services, we will hold drop-in hearing and vision screenings for children of all ages, and provide ASQ developmental screenings for children ages birth through 5 1/2 for families to complete. The vision screening takes seconds and is done with a hand held machine that quickly scans the eyes. Hearing screenings are done with a machine that has a small probe covered by a foam tip that goes into the ear. It bounces sound waves off the ear drum to detect any hearing impairment. The ASQ developmental screening can be filled out by a parent on a tablet to get a glimpse of where your child is developmentally. It will help identify strengths and any areas that may benefit from additional support and/or evaluation. Just stop by the front desk and ask Lyn to perform a vision and/or hearing screening, and for access to a tablet to complete the ASQ.

First LEGO LEAGUE EXPLORE - UNEARTHED
Tuesdays - September 30, October 7, 14, 28, November 4 & 11 (6 sessions)3-4 PM
Recommended ages 5-9
Space limited to 8 participants
Sign-up Required: https://forms.gle/kPfvoZhm6KBGeA9W8

The 2025 FIRST LEGO League (FLL) Explore season is UNEARTHED, an archaeology-themed season focused on uncovering the past to discover the future. Check out this video for the season intro: https://youtu.be/FbVGUoY4fgM

MARVELS OF MIGRATION
Thursdays - October 2, 9, & 16
3-4 PM
Suggested ages 5-10 years
Sign-up required: https://forms.gle/4g8Lyt3i5B7LiQwq9

Through a grant from Tangled Bank Studios, we are joining other libraries across the United States for a Spark of Science initiative, Flight Path, focusing on the science of birds and bird migration. Using books, videos, discussion, and activities, we will get to know our local migratory birds, gain a deeper understanding of how and why birds migrate; explore the science of how birds see and why window collisions happen; and explore citizen and community-based science efforts that help bird conservation, research, and identification efforts.

CERAMIC FIGURES PAINTING
with Sue High
Saturday, October 1810 AM
Pay per piece - $3-$5 each
Sign up required - email Sue at workforpeace14@gmail.com. She will send you photos of available options.

Use acrylic paints to paint your selected ceramic piece(s). Holiday options are available, including coffins and a Gnome with a Trick-or-Treat sign. Wear clothing that can get stained. Please email Sue your selections prior to October 11th so she has time to mold the pieces.

HALLOWEEN CRAFTERNOON Thursday, October 30 3-4 PM Suggested ages 5-12 years
Sign-up required: https://forms.gle/265ePR11ma28dKZe7
Join us for a fun afternoon of Halloween crafts and games. Prepare to get creative and spooky!

REGULAR WEEKLY PROGRAMS

PRE-K STORIES & PLAY
9:30-10:30 AM
Tuesdays & Thursdays
Preschool & Kindergarten age children & their caregivers

Program Room

Join us for stories and activities, including games, songs, movement, and crafts.

TODDLER TALES & TUNES
11-11:30 AM
Thursdays
Program Room
Join us for stories, songs, and movement.

KNITTING, CROCHETING & HANDCRAFTS GROUP
1:00-3:00 Fridays (may be intermittent, so call ahead 837-2030)
NO GROUP ON HALLOWEEN 10/31
To be added to the email list for this group, please email Lyn at whitefieldpubliclibrary2@gmail.com Front Reading Room Teens & Adults

Are you a seasoned handicraft person? Do you want to learn? Do you have a project in the works or something you have dreamed of creating? Adults & Teens of all skill levels are welcome to join others while you knit, crochet, needlepoint, sew, etc. Please call first in case a session has been canceled if you plan to participate for the first time – (603) 837-2030.

Check us out on our website at www.WhitefieldPublicLibrary.org and at www.Facebook.com/WhitefieldPublicLibrary on Facebook.

We hope to see you at Whitefield Public Library soon.

Cheers,
Lyn