MARCH 2026

Good Afternoon, Whitefield Public Library Friends and Patrons,

The countdown to spring is on. The Vernal Equinox will occur on Friday, March 20th at 10:46 AM. The vernal equinox is when the sun crosses the Earth's equator and signifies the start of spring. According to Earthsky.com, "*At the equinox, Earth's two hemispheres are receiving the sun's rays equally. Night and day are often said to be equal in length. In fact, the word equinox comes from the Latin aequus (equal) and nox (night). For our ancestors, whose timekeeping was less precise than ours, day and night likely did seem equal. But today we know it's not exactly so."* To learn why it is not exactly equal, visit https://earthsky.org/astronomy-essentials/equal-day-and-night-on-the-equinox-march/

March also brings:

- March 1: Zero Discrimination Day https://www.internationaldays.org/march/zerodiscriminationday
- March 2: Read Across America/Dr. Seuss' Birthday https://www.seussville.com/educators/dr-seuss-birthday/
- March 3: World Wildlife Day
- March 4: National Grammar Day
- March 8: International Women's Day https://www.internationalwomensday.com/About-IWD
- March 10: International Bagpipe Day
- March 11: World Plumbing Day
- March 12: World Day Against Cyber Censorship
- March 14: Pi Day (3.14)/International Day of Mathematics
- March 15: Ides of March, World Consumer Rights Day
- March 17: St. Patrick's Day
- March 18: Global Recycling Day
- March 20: First day of Spring & International Day of Happiness
- March 21: World Down Syndrome Day, International Day of Forests, & World Poetry Day
- March 22: World Water Day https://www.un.org/en/observances/water-day)
- March 23: World Meteorological Day
- March 24: World Tuberculosis Day, National Cocktail Day
- March 25: International Day of Remembrance of the Victims of Slavery
- March 27: World Theatre Day
- March 31: International Transgender Day of Visibility

Check out our display on **BOOKS BECOME MOVIES,** featuring books that have recently(ish) been made into movies or television shows.

Take some time to educate yourself at the **INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY** display**.** International Women's Day is celebrated around the world on March 8. The day first grew out of the international women's movement in the early part of the 1900's. This group was concerned with ensuring rights for women, including the right to vote, to hold public office, and to end discrimination.

The UN first celebrated International Women's Day in 1975.

Various countries celebrate International Women's Day by presenting small gifts to women, and providing women free entry to museums. In Italy, it is traditional to present women with small mimosa branches. The mimosa is the official flower of International Women's Day.

In the United States, it coincides with Women's History Month, which has been celebrated during the month of March since 1987.

UPCOMING PROGRAMS for ADULTS & TEENS

NEW HAMPSHIRE'S CHANGING DEMOGRAPHICS - FACT or FICTION and WHY IT MATTERS with Anthony Poore & Chris Roberge from the New Hampshire Center for Justice and Equity
Saturday, February 28th
10:30 AM
Open to adults, teens, and pre-teens
Sign-up Requested: https://forms.gle/coseZvozBTaRTtp79

Anthony Poore and Chris Roberge, from the NH Center for Justice and Equity, will present on New Hampshire's Changing Demographics, what do the numbers tell us, and why this information is relevant and important to New Hampshire citizens. Free lunch will be provided by Sunny and Jillian's Pizza & Pub.

PUZZLE RACE
Saturday, February 28th
1 PM
Open to adults, teens, and families
Sign-up Required: https://forms.gle/jQcbZAcbEEwb6bNt8

Join us for a puzzle assembling competition!
Teams of up to 4 participants may register.
There are two categories available - family & adult.
Family category teams must include at least one participant under age 12.
Family teams will complete a 200-piece puzzle.
The adult category is for teams with participants ages 12+.
Adult teams will complete a 500 Piece puzzle.

Each team in the category will receive the same puzzle. Puzzlers will work together to assemble the puzzle. There will be a time limit of 90 minutes to complete the puzzle. Prizes will be awarded to the fastest team to complete the puzzle in each category.

INTRODUCTION TO MACHINE SEWING with KELLY BLAIS
Thursdays, March 5, 12, 19, & 26
5-6 PM
Open to adults & teens
$60 fee
Space limited to 8 participants (minimum of 3 to hold class)
Sign-up Required: https://forms.gle/qdXvzsM3QPybkJK98

Curious about sewing but not sure where to start? This 4-week beginner-friendly class is designed for absolute beginners who want to learn how to confidently use a sewing machine and complete simple, practical projects. Over four weeks, students will learn essential skills step by step, with plenty of hands-on practice and guidance. Students will provide their own machine and thread. Fabrics and notions provided in class.

CAREGIVERS SUPPORT GROUP & LOVED ONES LIVING WITH DEMENTIA PROGRAM
With Cate DiBlasi & Jeannie Jacobs, with support from Mary Bates
Friday, March 6th (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 about 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.

OLD LIFE SKILLS REVIVAL - SOAP MAKING with Suzanne Schultz
Tuesday, March 10th

(2nd Tuesday of each month)
4:30 PM
Open to adults & teens
Sign-up Requested: https://forms.gle/8nvhA9HTAAvALrRW9

Are you interested in learning all of those skills that our ancestors relied on in daily life that have become obsolete for most of us in the modern day, such as sewing, mending, making food from scratch, basket weaving, etc.? Join Teresa on the second Tuesday of each month to learn some of these skills.

In March, Suzanne Schultz, from Snowfield Farm will teach us how to make soap using simple ingredients. Each participant will leave with a sample bar of soap.

MAHJONG
Wednesdays, March 11th & 25th
(2nd & 4th Wednesdays of each month)
10 AM
Open to adults & teens
Sign-up Required: https://forms.gle/87xWcSFVT7rps3xK7

Are you an experienced Mahjong player and looking for a group to join? Are you a beginner and looking to improve your skills? Are you interested in learning though you have never played before? Join our twice monthly Mahjong group. All skill levels are welcome.

BOOK GROUP
Wednesday, March 11th
(2nd Wednesday of each month)
6:30-7:30 PM
Open to adults & teens

Pick up a copy of this month's book, ***The Heaven and Earthy Grocery Store***, by James McBride, at the library.

THE HEAVEN & EARTH GROCERY STORE, by James McBride, winner of the National Book Award for The Good Lord Bird, a fictional story about the American abolitionist John Brown.

The Heaven & Earth Grocery Store starts in 1972, when workers in Pottstown, Pennsylvania, digging the foundations for a new housing development, uncover a

human skeleton. Who the skeleton was and how it got buried there were just two of the long-held secrets that had been kept for decades by the residents of Chicken Hill, the dilapidated neighborhood where immigrant Jews and African Americans lived side by side, sharing ambitions and sorrows.

Chicken Hill was where Moshe and Chona Ludlow lived when Chona ran the Heaven & Earth Grocery Store, which served the neighborhood's quirky collection of blacks and European immigrants, helped by her husband, Moshe, a Romanian-born theater owner who integrated the town's first dance hall. When the state came looking for a deaf black child, claiming that the boy needed to be institutionalized, Chicken Hill's residents—roused by Chona's kindness and the courage of a local black worker named Nate Timblin—banded together to keep the boys safe.

As the novel unfolds, it becomes clear how much the people of Chicken Hill have to struggle to survive at the margins of white Christian America and how damaging bigotry, hypocrisy, and deceit can be to a community. When the truth is revealed about the skeleton, the boy, and the part the town's establishment played in both, McBride shows that it is love and community—heaven and earth—that ultimately sustain us.

LADDERS ***(Library After Dark: Deliciously Entertaining Romance Social-Club)***
Wednesday, March 18th
(3rd Wednesday of each month)
6 PM
Open to adults
Sign-up Required: message Earth2Sunshine on Facebook or tell a librarian by February 13th

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!

Our March pick is *The Duke and I* by Julia Quinn.

In the ballrooms and drawing rooms of Regency London, rules abound. From their earliest days, children of aristocrats learn how to address an earl and curtsy before a prince—while other dictates of the ton are unspoken yet universally understood. A proper duke should be imperious and aloof. A young, marriageable lady should be amiable…but not too amiable.

Daphne Bridgerton has always failed at the latter. The fourth of eight siblings in her close-knit family, she has formed friendships with the most eligible young men in London. Everyone likes Daphne for her kindness and wit. But no one truly desires her. She is simply too deuced honest for that, too unwilling to play the romantic games that captivate gentlemen.

Amiability is not a characteristic shared by Simon Basset, Duke of Hastings. Recently returned to England from abroad, he intends to shun both marriage and society—just as his callous father shunned Simon throughout his painful childhood. Yet an encounter with his best friend's sister offers another option. If Daphne agrees to a fake courtship, Simon can deter the mamas who parade their daughters before him. Daphne, meanwhile, will see her prospects and her reputation soar.

The plan works like a charm—at first. But amid the glittering, gossipy, cut-throat world of London's elite, there is only one certainty: love ignores every rule...

📌RSVP is required by March 13 so we have enough snacks, seats, and supplies.

THE CLASSICS BOOK GROUP
Tuesday, March 24th
(4th Tuesday of each month)
4:30 PM
Open to adults & families
March & April: The Count of Monte Cristo by Alexandre Dumas
Sign-up Requested: https://forms.gle/LxoecGQi4iZkYtNy8

Are you interested in reading some of the CLASSICS and discussing them with a group of other interested individuals? Join Teresa for a monthly exploration of the classics. Each book will be read and discussed over two or three months. Pick up a copy at the library and get started! We will be studying The Count of Monte Cristo by Alexandre Dumas in March in April.

Alexandre Dumas's epic tale of suffering and retribution, inspired by a real-life case of wrongful imprisonment—nominated as one of America's best-loved novels by PBS's *The Great American Read*

Thrown in prison for a crime he has not committed, Edmond Dantes is confined to the grim fortress of If. There he learns of a great hoard of treasure hidden on the Isle of Monte Cristo, and he becomes determined not only to escape, but also to unearth the

treasure and use it to plot the destruction of the three men responsible for his incarceration.

GAME NIGHT AT THE LIBRARY
Friday, March 27th
(4th Friday of each month)
6 PM
Open to adults, teens, and youth
Sign-up Requested: https://forms.gle/g6mXEstFHtEiA5ez9

Do you LOVE board games? Do you kind of like board games? Do you play board games to make your family happy? Do you want to learn some new ones or enjoy some old favorites? Join us for our new monthly board game night. Come on your own, with a friend, or as a family. Try out some new games or stick to your go-tos. Bring your own, or see what is available here. Some options include Settlers of Catan, Ticket to Ride, Azul, Really Loud Librarians, Apples to Apples, DiXit, Ouisi, etc.

THE SCAM LANDSCAPE with IRIS ALITO from AARP
Friday, March 27
10 AM
Open to adults & teens
10 Participants required to hold this program
Sign-up Requested: https://forms.gle/P4LUCS5KZKL1jviJA

Have you ever been approached with a fraudulent offer or been a victim of identity theft? AARP is working to empower you in the fight, with proven resources and tools to help you spot and avoid identity theft and fraud. By taking a few practical steps, you have the power to fight back against fraud. Join AARP NH for a presentation of "Scam Landscape - Staying Safe" to hear about the latest data on fraud trends, learn tips to keep you safe and find out about resources available to protect yourself and your family.

UPCOMING PROGRAMS for YOUTH

OPEN LEGO PLAY
Tuesdays
3-4 PM
Suggested ages 5+ years

Come create with LEGOS. Build scenes, creatures, etc., using the available LEGO pieces. Create robots or other creations using the Lego Spike App, then code them to move. *Due to limited numbers of batteries and computers, building and coding may need to be done with a partner or in teams, depending on participation.

ALPHABET SOUP GROUP
Thursdays, February 12, 19, March 5, 12, 19, & 26
3-4 PM
Suggested ages 3+ years (and their caregivers)
Sign-up required: https://forms.gle/Kjg1NHxSNV9iAS6y8

This initial Alphabet Soup Group is an introduction to concepts of pre and early literacy. This 6-week program will introduce fun activities and ideas for incorporating pre and early literacy skills into daily life, as well as highlight what those skills are, and how to help your child build and strengthen them. We will sing songs, read stories, play games, do some writing and drawing, and learn activities to practice letter names, letter sounds, rhyming, alliteration, syllabication, and phonemic manipulation. Caregivers will be offered information about the role of these skills in literacy development.

DOLL CLUB with Amy
Saturday, March 14
1 PM
Suggested ages 7-12
Materials Fee - To Be Determined - to be paid directly to Amy upon arrival
Sign-up Required: https://forms.gle/w23PgA2UVuAshvh88

Make your 18" doll its own poncho. Cut out the fabric, sew the pieces together, then use fabric glue to add fringe to the bottom.

HOMESCHOOL MATH
Tuesday, March 17
11 AM -12 noon
Suggested ages 5-12 years
Sign-up requested but not 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 targeted toward a variety of math topics and learning levels. Led by an experienced high school math teacher, Amy Green, this program gets your

students engaged in problem solving and seeing math in concrete form, and moving to abstract.

REGULARLY SCHEDULED PROGRAMS

PRE-K STORIES & PLAY
9:30-10:30 AM Tuesdays & Thursdays
Preschool & Kindergarten age children & their caregivers
Program Room
Suggested ages 3-6 years
Join us for stories and activities, including games, songs, movement, and crafts.

TODDLER TALES & TUNES
11-11:30 AM Thursdays
Program Room
Suggested ages birth-3 years
Join us for stories, songs, and movement that are developmentally appropriate for children under 3.

KNITTING, CROCHETING & HANDICRAFTS GROUP
1:00-3:00 Fridays (may be intermittent, so call ahead 837-2030)
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.

WEEKLY MATH CHALLENGE PROBLEMS
All Ages
Program Room

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 mathematical concepts 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.

WHITE MOUNTAIN HERDSMEN 4-H
2nd & 4th Saturdays - February 14th & February 28th
9-10 AM
Stop in and check it out to see if it's for you, then join if you are interested!

White Mountain Herdsman, a newly formed 4-H group led by Jessie Ingerson, will meet on the second and fourth Saturdays from 9-10 AM in the program room. Youth aged 5 to 18 years are welcome to participate. To join, please follow this link (https://4h.zsuite.org) and sign up under the White Mountain Herdsman.

For questions, contact Jessie at jessieingerson4H@gmail.com.

OTHER OFFERINGS at WPL

FREE BOOKS FOR KIDS through DOLLY PARTON'S IMAGINATION LIBRARY
According to the World Literacy Foundation, *"Home Libraries are inextricably linked to student success and achievement. An in-depth analysis of 31 countries found that, "reading volume and exposure to books outside of school have a positive effect on students' reading achievement and are powerful contributors to a variety of academic skills." When children have books readily accessible at home, they gain a significant academic advantage. Books are sources of infinite learning, exposing children to new ideas and vocabulary that they can apply when in the classroom. These positive academic effects are long-lasting: children who grow up with access to books benefit in a myriad of ways, lasting into adulthood. Evans, author of Scholarly Culture and Occupational Success in 31 Societies, says that, "The academic impact of home access to books and reading materials continues long after these early experiences. We know that when books are part of a home environment, children are more likely to read for pleasure and have a better vocabulary. Studies show they also have increased access to information and a more comprehensive 'cultural toolkit' that positively impacts educational achievement."*

Introducing books at home can boost a child's academic success regardless of their parents' educational background. In many ways, books can be the greatest teachers for

children when their parents are unable to attend to their academic needs. A 2019 study found that "the difference between being raised in a bookless home compared to being raised in a home with a 500-book library has as great an effect on the level of education a child will attain as having parents who are barely literate (3 years of education) compared to having parents who have a university education (15 or 16 years of education)."

If you have a child from 0-5 years old who is a resident of upper Grafton or Coos County, enroll them to receive free monthly books delivered through the mail from Dolly Parton's Imagination Library. Thanks to many generous donors throughout our community and the state, Dolly Parton's Imagination Library is fully funded for this region for 2026. Click this link to enroll a child: https://imaginationlibrary.com/check-availability/

YOTO PLAYERS & CARDS

Our library now has 3 Yoto Players and a growing collection of Yoto Cards available to borrow. A Yoto Player is a screen-free smart speaker for kids that plays audiobooks, music, podcasts, and more using physical, interchangeable cards, giving children independence to choose their own content without ads, cameras, or microphones. Kids control it by inserting cards into a slot and turning knobs for volume and chapters, making it easy to use for ages 3+. This means that ALL readers - including emerging readers, struggling readers, neurodivergent learners, and kids who simply love stories - can enjoy independent access to books at the library and at home. No screens. No reading required. Just stories, learning, and imagination for everyone. This video explains what it is and how it works https://youtu.be/TXLliFFJjec?si=ZVCZZ0ld6pxFMTDX.

For those interested in purchasing a card or set of cards for donation, visit our YOTO wishlist here: https://www.yotoplay.com/wishlist/4xHgxbnOfmF9trfCRA7Hy?store=us.

DEVELOPMENTAL SCREENINGS

Through a collaboration with Ammonoosuc Community Health Services (ACHS), families of children ages birth through 5.5 years may complete the Ages and Stages Questionnaire Developmental Screenings (ASQ-3 and ASQ-SE 2). The ASQ-3 asks 6 questions in 5 categories (fine motor, gross motor, speech & language, social emotional, and problem solving) to give you an idea of areas where your child is developing typically and where they may benefit from further evaluation or support. The ASQ-SE 2 focuses specifically on social and emotional development. You can complete one or both of these screenings by clicking here: https://www.asqonline.com/family/832443.

Lyn, who is not just a librarian, but is also an Early Childhood Development Community Health Worker at ACHS, will send you results within a week, as well as ideas for developmental activities that you can do to strengthen and build your child's skills. If you have concerns about your child's development and/or questions about further evaluation, speak with Lyn.

Lyn can also do hearing and vision screenings using the Welch Allyn OAE Hearing Screener and the Welch Allyn Spot Vision Screener. To schedule a screening, stop by the library and speak to Lyn, or email lyn.schmucker@achs-inc.org.

3D PRINTER
We have a Prusa MK4S 3D printer available for use in the program room. Bring your own filament, or use ours and pay a nominal fee. *Please note, prior experience or training is needed to use the printer. Sign up for Tanner's class on the 7th to learn how to find files for printing and use the machine.

CRICUT MAKER
A Cricut Maker is available for use in the program room. If you know how to use a Cricut, you may use it upon request and availability. If not, keep an eye out for upcoming training.

FAMILY PASS to FAIRBANKS MUSEUM and PLANETARIUM
The Morrison Communities has sponsored a family pass to the Fairbanks Museum in St. Johnsbury, VT for library patrons. This pass allows 1 family per day to visit the museum and attend a planetarium show. To access the pass, please speak with a librarian.

EYEGLASSES RECYCLING at WPL
A collection box for eyeglasses is available in the front reading room of the library, which is monitored and collected by the Whitefield Lions Club.

DAILY & WEEKLY NEWSPAPERS
The library has subscriptions to the Caledonian Record, which arrives daily, and the Coos County Democrat and Littleton Courier, which arrive weekly on Wednesdays. These are available for patrons to read in the library.

LIBRARY OF THINGS
We have a variety of non-book items available for borrowing, including a **telescope**, donated by the NH Astronomical Society Library Telescope Program, a **birding backpack** with binoculars and an Identification Guide to Birds, a **metal detector**, and

a **tent**. We also have 11 **Development Kits** available to borrow for children birth through 4 years, provided through the Early Childhood Development Program at Ammonoosuc Community Health Services. Each kit includes a variety of developmental toys for young children.

ELECTRONICS RECYCLING at WPL

Do you have old or broken electronics such as laptops, computers, phones, tablets, video games, cables, chargers, power cords, wifi routers, or similar items? Instead of paying to throw them away, you can now recycle them for free in the blue bin near the magazine stand marked "We Recycle Electronics" at the WPL. This diverts them from going to a landfill and generally makes the world a little bit better. If the item has a battery or plugs into the wall, it can probably be recycled. If you have a question about whether an item can be recycled, or if you have larger items that won't easily fit in the bin, feel free to text a picture of the item to Jonathan at North Country Recycling at 603-684-2425.

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

We hope to see you at Whitefield Public Library soon!

Cheers,
Lyn