



Volume 4, Issue 4

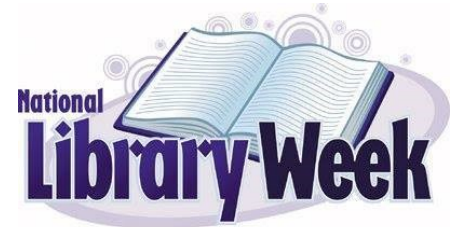
**April
2021**

**Whitehall Township
Public Library**
3700 Mechanicsville Rd.
Whitehall, PA 18052
610-432-4339
www.whitehallpl.org
@WhitehallTPL

Whitehall Township Public Library **Library Lines**

The New Normal

The library will keep the same **hours and restrictions** as it's had for the past few months. You can come into the library or schedule curbside pickup on Monday and Wednesday from 9 a.m. - 3 p.m., Tuesday and Thursday from 9 a.m. - 6 p.m., or on Friday from 9 a.m. - 1 p.m. On Saturday, the library building is closed to the public, but we offer curbside pickup from 9 a.m. - 1 p.m. When you come into the library, you can browse books or use our computers and copy machine. We ask anyone who comes into the library to wear a mask or facial covering over the nose and mouth, use hand sanitizer at the door, and maintain social distancing when possible.



This year, **National Library Week** runs from April 4-10, 2021. Are you looking for ways to celebrate or help the library? Of course, you can **visit us** in person when we're open, and this week, we'll have **giveaways** at our front desk while supplies last. You can also follow us on Facebook and Twitter, and you can visit our library online at any time to explore our catalog, our databases (such as Rosetta Stone for language learning and HeritageQuest for genealogy), and our digital collections (like our Whitehall High School yearbooks).

If you want to support the library, you can donate items from our wishlist or take part in one of our fundraisers. On our **spring wishlist**, we're asking for: disinfecting wipes, disposable masks, hand sanitizer, copier paper (white or colored 8.5"x11"), bird seed, resealable plastic bags (any size, especially qt., 1 gal., & 2 gal.), stand-up sign holders (clear 8.5"x11"), picture frames (8.5"x11"), gift cards (any store, especially Walmart, Giant, & Redner's).

We have a few current **fundraisers** as well. There's an ongoing **used book sale**, and since we can't have our larger annual book sale, we're selling **brown bags** full of new or gently-used books at \$5.00 per bag. The exact books will be a surprise, but each bag has a card on it giving the theme of the bag (like James Patterson, Civil War, or cooking). This month, we'll hold another **basket raffle** from April 12-23 (see pg. 2 for details).

You can even support us from outside the library without ever setting foot in the building! You can **donate money** through the link in the upper right-hand corner of our homepage (www.whitehallpl.org). Also, when you shop on Amazon, go through **Amazon Smile** to generate donations for the Whitehall Township Public Library. Any time you shop this way and choose us as your charity, we receive a percentage of your total purchase. In addition to shopping through this link on your desktop or mobile web browser, you can also go through the AmazonSmile Charity Lists in the Amazon Shopping app.

Board of Trustees Fiscal Year 2020-2021:

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Whitehall Township



Public Library



This year, **Easter** Sunday falls on **April 4**. Different countries celebrate Holy Week in different ways. For instance:

- In Australia, people eat chocolate bilbies instead of bunnies (because rabbits are a pest there).
 - In Bermuda, people fly kites on Good Friday.
 - In Finland, kids dress up as witches and beg for chocolate eggs.
 - In Norway, people read crime novels and ski. (This started as an ad campaign that caught on.)
 - In Poland, people drench each other with water.
- Learn more about holidays in other countries with our database AtoZ the World (see right).

Database Spotlight: AtoZ the World

Earth Day is celebrated around the world every year on April 22, and this year is no exception. It's a day that focuses on environmental protection, and many people mark the day by conserving energy, picking up trash outdoors, planting trees, or doing other things that are helpful to the planet. While you're doing that, this is also a good time to learn about the world around you.

If you're curious about the world, **AtoZ the World** has you covered. With this database, which you can find on the "Research & Learn" page of our website (www.whitehallpl.org), information about world history, cultures, languages, foods, religions, and much more is just a click away. With 174 Country Culture Guides covering more than 60 topics each, AtoZ the World offers a wide range of knowledge. What will you learn today? The world awaits!

Searching

You can click on a country on the homepage to learn more about it, or you can click on the word "Search" in the upper right-hand corner to search for countries or keywords. For instance, if you search for "horses", you'll get a variety of results including Nepal Gift Giving (since horses were once gifts that people gave each other), the Konark Sun Temple (an Indian temple which includes a giant statue of horses and a chariot), and the Royal Andalusian School of Equestrian Art (in Spain).

Contents

If you select a country, you can get an overview of general facts along with the current time and weather in the capitol. Then you can read more in-depth about topics like the languages, holidays, history, and government of a country. (You can even get a few recipes, though for a better selection of these, you can check out our AtoZ World Food database.)



Basket Raffle

Our latest raffle runs from Mon., **April 12** through Fri., **April 23**, 2021, and we'll call the winners on Friday or Saturday.

Ticket prices are the same as before. You can buy a sheet of **25 tickets for \$5**, or you can buy **5 sheets for \$20**. That's 125 tickets, and that's a bargain!

As with our past raffles, you'll be able to find baskets with a variety of **themes** like cooking or kids' items. Of course, this being a library, you can expect to find some books, too!



Virtual Story Time

We have a weekly interactive **Zoom story time** on Tuesdays at 11:00 a.m. that will run through Tuesday, **May 25**. All are welcome to attend, though the stories will be geared towards toddlers – 2nd graders. Contact Lorraine Santaliz at santaliz.l@whitehallpl.org if you'd like to receive the **Zoom links**. These will be available every Thursday (i.e. 01/14/21) for the following Tuesday's story time.



At that time, we'll also post a link to the **weekly craft** with instructions and/or a template. We can't offer supplies for the story times due to budget cuts caused by the Covid pandemic. Here are some of the items you might need for crafts: colored construction paper, blunt-tip scissors, glue sticks, a ruler, white basket coffee filters, toilet paper rolls, cotton balls, paper plates, yarn, stickers, and anything else to add finishing touches to your child's art work.

We want to keep the wonderful world of songs and stories open to our patrons, and we look forward to seeing past story-timers as well as new ones!

In March, we finished up our **Adult Winter Reading Program**. This year, participants read 385 books, which is up from last year's total of 279. Adults and kids can both take part in this year's **Summer Reading Program**, which will start in June. Watch for more details in the May issue of this newsletter.

Book Nook: National Humor Month

It seems appropriate that **National Humor Month** begins with April Fool's Day. The origin is dubious, and traditions vary in every country. Most traditions are pranks, which means there is a victim, and that isn't so humorous. Odessa, Ukraine is the only place in the world where April Fool's Day is an official holiday.

There are clinical studies extolling the **mental and physical benefits** of laughter, and there's even an exercise program called Laughter Yoga. We endured a long year of pandemic restrictions and deprivations, so with Spring and vaccines here, let's lighten up.

If you think back to your childhood, your first jokes were probably knock, knock jokes. Since children's laughter is so genuine, let's start in that library section. Most books in the **children's section** are fun.

Check out the extensive collection of books by Lucille Colandro based on the nursery rhyme song "There Was an Old Lady Who Swallowed a Fly" in the picture book (JE) and paperback picture book (JE P) collections. Let's not forget the tongue twisting silly words of Dr. Seuss. Our Children's Librarian finds underwear particularly funny, so we have lots of books involving underwear, including the Captain Underpants series by Dav Pilkey for older readers. Most **joke books** and humorous writings can be found in and around Dewey number 817 for both kids and adults.

Apart from humorous fiction books, there are many **non-fiction books** offering chuckles for adults from authors such as Mark Twain, Erma Bombeck, George Carlin, Dave Barry, Chelsea Handler, and Lisa Scottoline, to name just a few. Have you mastered, or figured out, the classic Abbott and Costello "Who's On First"? The Dewey 800s also provide sources to enliven those dreaded public-speaking engagements. To quote William Shakespeare, "Frame your mind to mirth and merriment which bars a thousand harms and lengthens life." So make it a point to find and enjoy humor often this month.



~ Chris Andrews



April Fun



Earth Day Scavenger Hunt

Find a group of family members or friends and pick a day (or longer) for your scavenger hunt. You can either search together or look around separately while doing your errands, going on a walk, etc. You can either set a time limit and see how many of these items you can find in that time, or you can see who can find all of them first.



- An aluminum can
- An animal's nest or home
- An animal that lives in water
- A bird
- Blooming flowers
- A book about recycling
- A garden tool
- An insect that helps spread pollen
- The recycle symbol
- A "Reduce, Reuse, Recycle" sign
- A piece of trash to throw away
- A plastic bag
- Something green
- Something made from recycled material
- Something that you recycle
- A tree taller than your house

Earth Day Craft: Planet Earth Pom-Poms

Pom-poms can be a lot of fun to play with, and you and your kids can make some green-and-blue pom-poms that resemble the Earth.

What You Need: Yarn in shades of blue and green, scissors, and either 2 toilet paper rolls (for large pom-poms) or a fork (for small pom-poms).



Instructions:

1. For large pom-poms, hold both toilet paper rolls together and wrap the yarn around them several times. Don't squeeze too tightly, but make sure you have enough layers so that the yarn is nice and thick. For small pom-poms, wrap the yarn around the fork instead. When you're done, cut the yarn from the skein.
2. Cut a piece of yarn about 12". Slip it through the loops of yarn. Tie a tight knot. Slip the yarn off of the tubes or fork.
3. Take another piece of yarn and tie it over the first knot, but tighter. (It can get tighter once it's off the tubes/fork.)
4. Cut through all the loops on both sides of the pom-pom.
5. Fluff it all up and trim the ends to make them as neat as possible.

Here are some fun things that people celebrate in April:

- **April 1:** National Burrito Day
- **April 3:** National Find a Rainbow Day
- **April 10:** National Siblings Day
- **April 11:** National Pet Day
- **April 13:** National Scrabble Day
- **April 14:** National Gardening Day
- **April 17:** International Haiku Poetry Day
- **April 23:** National Picnic Day
- **April 24:** National Skipping Day
- **April 26:** National Pretzel Day
- **April 28:** National Superhero Day
- **April 29:** International Dance Day

Easter Coloring Page



National Poetry Month

April is National Poetry Month, and it's a great time to both read and write poetry. Below are a few short poems for kids and adults to help get you started.

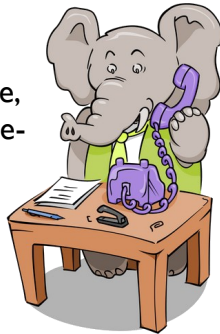
"Eletelephony"

By Laura Elizabeth Richard

Once there was an elephant,
Who tried to use the telephant-
No! No! I mean an elephone
Who tried to use the telephone-

(Dear me! I am not certain quite
That even now I've got it right.)
Howe'er it was, he got his trunk
Entangled in the telephunk;

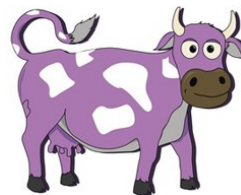
The more he tried to get it free,
The louder buzzed the telephee-
(I fear I'd better drop the song
Of elephop and telephong!)



"The Purple Cow"

By Gelett Burgess

I never saw a purple cow,
I never hope to see one,
But I can tell you, anyhow,
I'd rather see than be one!



"The Crocodile"

By Lewis Carroll

How doth the little crocodile
Improve his shining tail,
And pour the waters of the Nile
On every golden scale!
How cheerfully he seems to grin,
How neatly spreads his claws,
And welcomes little fishes in,
With gently smiling jaws!



"Fire and Ice"

By Robert Frost

Some say the world will end in fire,
Some say in ice.
From what I've tasted of desire
I hold with those who favor fire.
But if it had to perish twice,
I think I know enough of hate
To say that for destruction ice
Is also great
And would suffice.



"Hope Is the Thing With Feathers"

By Emily Dickinson

'Hope' is the thing with feathers-
That perches in the soul-
And sings the tune without the words-
And never stops- at all-
And sweetest- in the Gale- is heard-
And sore must be the storm-
That could abash the little Bird
That kept so many warm-
I've heard it in the chillest land-
And on the strangest Sea-
Yet, never, in Extremity,
It asked a crumb- of Me.

"Dreams"

By Langston Hughes

Hold fast to dreams
For if dreams die
Life is a broken-winged bird
That cannot fly.
Hold fast to dreams
For when dreams go
Life is a barren field
Frozen with snow.

