



Volume 5, Issue 12
**December
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**Whitehall Township
 Public Library**
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Whitehall Township Public Library **Library Lines**

Happy Holidays!

This year, we have some fun **seasonal events** planned: namely craft times for both adults and kids and a holiday performance by the barbershop quartet ffourtissimo. Keep reading to find out more!

We'll be **closed for Christmas** from Sat., December 24 - Mon., December 26, and we'll be **closed for the New Year** from Sat., December 31, 2022 - Mon., January 2, 2023. Otherwise, we're sticking to our **regular hours**, and we're open from Monday - Thursday from 9 a.m. - 8 p.m. and Friday - Saturday from 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. We're closed on Sundays.

Crafts for Kids

We'll have a few sessions where we're offering a **Holiday Family Story Time and Craft** this month. We'll have a **Hanukkah** theme on December 7, **Kwanzaa** on December 14, and **Christmas** on December 21. All of these are on Wednesdays, and on each of the days, you have the option of coming at 11 a.m. or 1:30 p.m. **Registration is required** so that we have enough supplies for everyone.

Adult Christmas Craft

Participants will get to create their own **Pine Cone Christmas Tree** on Thurs., **December 1** at 6 p.m. This is open to patrons ages 18+, and **registration is required**. You can register online or at our front desk.



Opioid Prevention

This presentation from the **Allentown Health Bureau**, on Wed., **December 7** at 6 p.m., touches on opioids, how to prevent overdose, how to store them away, and how to discard them. This presentation is geared especially to seniors, but all are welcome. We'll talk about other methods to deal with pain management, things to look out for when taking opioids, and ways to keep them under lock and key.

Whitehall Township



Public Library



Regular Library Events

Adult Coloring Club: Thu., Dec. 1 & 15, 11a.m.-1p.m.

Adult Book Talks: Thu., Dec. 1, 1p.m.-2p.m.

Library Board of Trustees

Meeting: Thu., Dec. 8, 6:30p.m.

Teen Advisory Board (TAB)

Meetings: Sat., Dec. 10, 1:30p.m.

Sounds of the Season

After a few years away, the **barbershop quartet ffourtissimo** is returning for a special Christmas performance. They'll be here on Thurs., **December 15** at 6:30 p.m. to bring some holiday cheer. Registration is requested, and you can sign up online or at the library's front desk.



Database Spotlight: Holiday Baking

This time of the year, there are lots of holiday parties and events, and it's tough to know what to make some time. If you'd like to add some variety to your repertoire, you can search our two food databases for inspiration.

AtoZ Food America has recipes and food information from different states and regions. You can find information on ingredients, food prep, and other reference tools, there, too. **AtoZ World Food** does the same for food from other countries, if you're looking for an international flair. Both of these also have notes on when certain foods are eaten, so you can search for Christmas to find collections of cookies and other holiday goodies.

Book Nook: National Eggnog Month

Here in America, if "Christmas drink" was a crossword clue, almost everyone would think eggnog. There are probably as many **recipes** for it as there are meatloaf recipes. Milk, sugar, eggs, and vanilla are the building blocks, but there are so many ratios to use and other ingredients to add, that it often becomes a distinctive family recipe that is passed around and down generations. Traditionally, eggnog is an adult beverage containing alcohol. Across the world this drink goes by many other names and it is served both hot and cold. Some recipes required cooking, some don't.



There is debate about the **origin and the name**, but a popular British cold-and-flu remedy in the Middle Ages was "posset," which was hot milk curdled with wine or ale. Monks tweaked the recipe by adding eggs, and the first printed recipe appeared in the 1600s with ingredients close to what we use now. Posset became popular among the upper class because they could afford the ingredients. However, in America, the ingredients were easy to obtain and inexpensive, especially Caribbean rum, so it became very popular. "Nog" mostly likely refers to small wooden mugs called "noggins," but nog was also a term for strong ale, and "nug" was a Scottish term for ale warmed with a hot poker.

Although our library doesn't have an eggnog **cookbook**, you can find recipes in just about every Christmas cookbook. If you think you don't like eggnog, or you do but want a different version, use our online database **AtoZ World Food** and look up "Tom & Jerry" (hot eggnog), "Coquito" (Puerto Rico), "Rompopo" (Mexico), "Biersuppe" (Germany), "Egg Soda" (Vietnam), "Kinutil" (Philippines), or "Tamagozake" (Japan), just to get you started. Happy holiday!

~ Chris Andrews

Holiday Fun

Kwanzaa Word Find

K C O R N D E S N M A T
 F U C E M I B F E E R I
 A S U J I M A L E V S W
 M E A M T I M E R E E I
 I L T A B O C S G E L N
 L P C A L A F R I C A T
 Y I A M A E L E F B J E
 I C N A C R A D T A O R
 M N D J K T G E S Y M O
 A I L U G A H C I J U K
 N R E U R F F R U I T A
 I P S P O R C M I P L Y

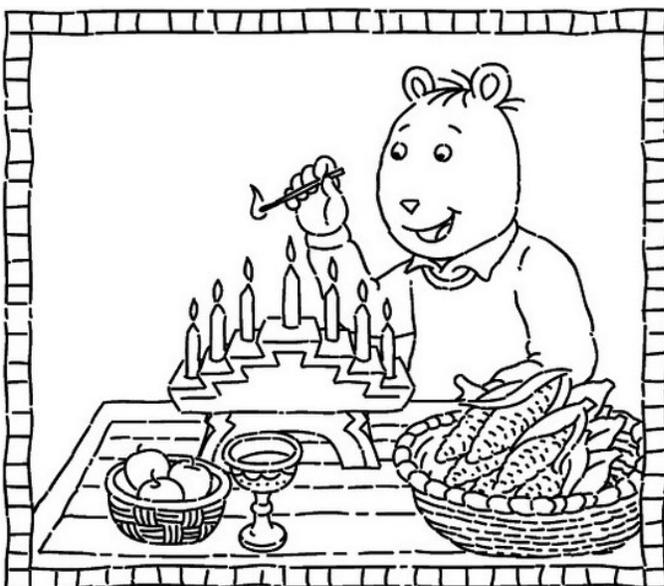
Each of the seven days of Kwanzaa represents a different principle. See if you can find them in the word find, (The words in parentheses are translations. They aren't in the word find.):

1. **Umoja** (Unity)
2. **Kujichagulia** (Self-determination)
3. **Ujima** (Collective work and responsibility)
4. **Ujamaa** (Cooperative economics)
5. **Nia** (Purpose)
6. **Kuumba** (Creativity)
7. **Imani** (Faith)

Then look for these other words associated with the holiday:

- **Africa**
- **Black**
- **Candles**
- **Corn**
- **Crops**
- **Cup**
- **Family**
- **Flag**
- **Fruit**
- **Gifts**
- **Green**
- **Mat**
- **Principles**
- **Red**
- **Self**
- **Seven**
- **Winter**

Can you find the hidden message in the remaining letters? See the answer below.



Homemade Gelt for Hanukkah

Traditionally, Jewish children would give their teachers gelt, or money, around the holidays to say thank you. Eventually, kids started getting gelt, too. These days, they also use it when playing the dreidel game. Some kids use real money, and some use chocolate coins wrapped in decorative foil.

You can make your own chocolate coins with a few simple **ingredients**: 10 oz. chocolate (any kind), your choice of toppings, and foil. Some topping ideas might include dried fruit, seeds, nuts, or sprinkles.

Directions:

1. Line a baking sheet with parchment paper.
2. Melt your chocolate in a double boiler.
3. Take a tablespoon of the chocolate and pour it on to the parchment paper. Smooth it into a circle. Prepare a few more in the same way, leaving your circles a couple of inches apart.
4. Add your decorations to your gelt, pressing them down slightly. You have to put them on pretty soon before the chocolate starts to harden.
5. Repeat with more gelt batches until you're done.
6. Let them sit until they're completely cool before removing them from the parchment (at least 30 minutes). Wrap them in foil so that they look like coins.



Help Santa Find His Way Through the Fog

