



Volume 6, Issue 8
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**Whitehall Township
 Public Library**
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Whitehall Township Public Library Library Lines

All Together Now

Our Summer Reading Program “All Together Now” goes through Saturday, **August 5**, so you have until then to register and log your books to earn prizes. Kids and adults alike can choose to log books online or on paper.



We’ll have two **finale** dates for anyone who participated: **Adults** will get together on Thursday, **August 10**, from 1 - 2 p.m., and **kids** will have their party on Saturday, **August 12**, from Noon - 2 p.m.

Book Clubs

If you want to talk about books with other library patrons, we have a few opportunities for you. Here are the ones happening in August:

Adult Book Talks

This meets every month on the first Thursday of the month (this month **August 3**) from 1 - 2 p.m. To be part of this club, you can talk about anything you’re currently reading or recently finished.

On the Same Page

Every other month, adults get together to talk about the same book. Watch the calendar for dates and books, but this month, we’re reading **Black Cake** by Charmaine Wilkerson. This novel is about estranged family reconnecting over an old family recipe, and we’ll talk about it on Thursday, **August 17** at 6:30 p.m. Registration is required.

Summer Book Club

We’ve been holding a series of book talks that relate to the Whitehall Coplay School District’s summer reading lists. You don’t have to go to those schools to attend, but registration is requested either way. All of these are from 6 - 7 p.m.

- **And Then There Were None** by Agatha Christie: Tuesday, **August 1**
- **Night** by Elie Wiesel: Monday, **August 7**
- **Call of the Wild** by Jack London: Tuesday, **August 8**
- **Hamra and the Jungle of Memories** by Hanna Alkaf: Monday, **August 14**

Whitehall Township



Public Library



Regular Events**Adult Coloring**

Club: Thurs.,
August 3 & 17, 11
a.m. - 1 p.m.

A Good Yarn:

Thurs., August 3 &
17, 2 - 4 p.m.

Teen Advisory**Board Meeting:**

Sat., August 5, 1:30
p.m.

Board of Trustees

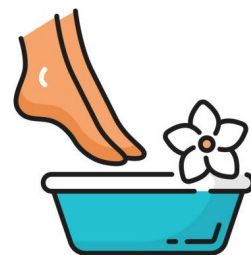
Meeting: Thurs.,
August 10, 6:30 p.m.

Adult Crafts

Patrons aged 18 and up can take part in these fun crafts! All supplies are provided, and registration is required.

DIY Self Care

Would you like a way to relax after a hectic summer? It's time for a little self care! Join us on Tuesday, **August 1** at 6 p.m., and make your own sugar scrub and bath bomb!

**Mini Adult Library Craft**

Make your own mini library in a tin! You can decorate it with tiny books, accessories, wallpaper, and shelves. We'll meet on Tuesday, **August 15** at 6 p.m.

Creation Station

Kids in Grades 3-6 can enjoy fun STEAM projects at our monthly Creation Station. This month, we're learning about the **science of magnets**. We'll meet on Wednesday, **August 16** from 6 - 7 p.m., and registration is required.

Community Heroes

Some of our community heroes will stop by to tell you about their jobs and show some of their equipment on **Community Heroes Night**. This program is open to all! It's scheduled for Wednesday, **August 2** from 5 - 7 p.m. Our rain date is August 9 (also 5 - 7 p.m.) If we have to cancel on both days, we will not reschedule.

**Fundraiser Collections**

This fall, we're going to have a **Book Sale** and a **Basket Raffle**, so we're taking donations for both of those. We take book donations year-round (up to three bags or boxes at a time), but we'll take new or like-new items (or whole baskets) for our Basket Raffle until **November 1**.

If you'd like to attend these events, the Book Sale will be on Friday, September 22 and Saturday, September 23 from 9 a.m. - 3 p.m. The Basket Raffle will run from Friday, November 3 - Saturday, November 11. Thank you for all your support!

Database Spotlight: Brainfuse HelpNow

As you're preparing for the school year, it might help to know what resources are available to you, and **Brainfuse HelpNow** has quite a range!

This database offers **study tools** and **live help** in a variety of subjects from languages to chess!

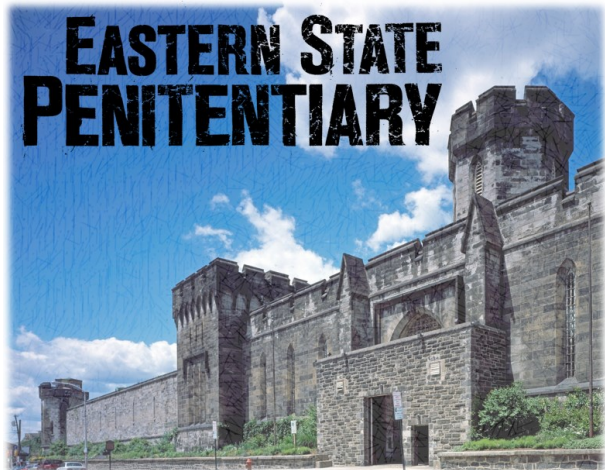
There's a section devoted to **adult learners**, too. Look here for career resources, study aids for the US Citizenship test, resume assistance, and more.

Look for this and other **databases** under Research & Learn on our website (whitehallpl.org). You'll need a current library card and PIN to access it outside our library, so see our front desk if you need either of those.

Museum Spotlight: Eastern State Penitentiary

Did you know that the library offers **museum passes** to check out for free? Passes are checked out for one week with no renewals and can only be checked out at the Whitehall Township Public Library and returned inside this library at the circulation desk. You may place a hold on a pass. Overdue fines are \$10.00 a day.

Eastern State was once the most famous and expensive prison in the world, but stands today in ruin, a haunting world of crumbling cellblocks and empty guard towers. Explore Eastern State Penitentiary through one of their many guided tours. This pass allows for up to six guests.



Book Nook: Read a Romance Month

Evidence of written romance novels can be found in ancient Greece and China, but the “modern” romance novel is considered to start with the publication of books by Samuel Richardson (1740) and Jane Austen (1811). The elements of a romance novel are basically the same: the main character (usually a woman) must be clever, strong-willed, and sympathetic to the reader; there must be some conflict to overcome for the couple to get together and an ending where the couple lives happily ever after (known as HEA in the trade). The genre caught on mostly because female readers had to conform to social standards in real life while the novels’ heroines were more daring and provided a vicarious outlet. A British company, Mills & Boon, created a writers’ mill for mass market consumption of romance novels in the 1930s. For sales in North America, the company name was changed to Harlequin Enterprises. These books were all paperbacks about 200 pages long. They were sold directly to the consumer by subscription plans, and for sale in places where women frequently shopped, such as grocery stores and, of course, bookstores. Soon other companies followed suit. The 1960s expanded the heroines’ career choices from nurses and teachers to reflect real-life women. This era also saw the emergence of gay romance novels. The early 1970s introduced a sub-genre set in historical periods and more sexually explicit, soon called “Bodice Rippers”. The covers were intentionally suggestive, and sales skyrocketed. However, objections over the violent content caused them to fall out of favor, though the term has stuck to refer to all romance novels, which the industry now finds offensive.



Today contemporary romance characters reflect the average person more by appearance, socio-economic status, and even disabilities. There are many sub-genres such as suspense, historical, fantasy, paranormal, Gothic, science fiction, time travel, LGBTQ, and erotica. Some of the current top romance authors currently are (in no particular order) Nicholas Sparks, Danielle Steel, Nora Roberts, Debbie Macomber, Judith McNaught, Lisa Kleypas, Julie Garwood, Jude Deveraux, Julia Quinn, Sandra Brown, Janet Dailey, Robyn Carr, Susan Elizabeth Phillips, and Diana Gabaldon. Thanks to clever use of social media, Colleen Hoover has also ascended to the top recently. Of course, we have these and hundreds more romance authors on our shelves. You can find them in alphabetical order by their last names, and for those not mentioned above, use our catalog and search for the subject “romance fiction” to find and enjoy a HEA.

Summer Fun

People celebrate all kinds of things all the time, and these are some that happen in the month of August!

S'Mores

August 10 is National S'Mores Day! This is a great day to break out a classic s'more or try a variation. After roasting your marshmallow, you can try swapping out one of the other two ingredients for something different or add something else entirely. These are a few ideas to get you started:

- **Graham Cracker Substitutions:** cookies (like Oreos or Fudge Stripe Cookies) or Rice Krispie treats
- **Chocolate Substitutions:** candy (like Reese's Peanut Butter Cups or Kit Kats or Peppermint Patties), chocolate-covered pretzels, Nutella, cookie butter, peanut butter, salted caramel, jam, lemon curd, or a different kind of chocolate (like white chocolate)
- **Add-Ins:** nuts, coconut, fruit (like berries or bananas), potato chips, or butterscotch pieces

Elephants

August 12 is World Elephant Day! After you color this picture, you can always read more about the care and preservation of these animals.

