This month, we have a couple fundraisers: a used book sale and a Boscov’s shopping pass sale.

The library is once again participating in Boscov’s Friends Helping Friends! For a $5 donation to the library, shoppers receive a 25% off shopping pass for Boscov’s for October 18, 2023. This is only good for in-store purchases.

Our Used Book Sale runs from 9 a.m. - 3 p.m. on Friday, September 22 and Saturday, September 23. On Saturday only, we’ll have a $5-per-bag sale from Noon to 3.

Check out this newsletter and watch our calendar for information about our other upcoming events.

The library’s regular open hours are 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.

We’ll be closed for Labor Day from Saturday, September 2 - Monday September 4. We’ll resume regular hours on Tuesday, September 5.

Special Story Times

We’re going to have two special guests for story times this month. Toddlers to Kindergarteners are welcome, and registration will be required. Whitehall Police Chief Michael Marks will Join us on Tuesday, September 5 at 11 a.m., and Fire Chief David Nelson will visit on September 21 at 11 a.m. Both of them will read stories and answer questions about their jobs, and a craft will follow.

New Database: hoopla

Want more media? Our newest database, open only to adult residents of Whitehall Township, offers movies, tv, music, books, comics, and more! With hoopla, you’ll be able to check out seven items per month. You can find hoopla on the Research & Learn page of our website (www.whitehallpl.org). You'll need to have a valid library card and PIN. Please see the front desk if you need help getting either of those.
Adult Clubs

Adult Coloring Club

We hold this club on the first and third Thursday of every month from 11 a.m. - 1 p.m. This month, it'll be on September 7 & 21.

Adult Book Talks

Once a month, on the first Thursday of the month, we gather to talk about whatever we’re reading now or just finished. This month, the book talks will be on September 7. (There’s a different club that meets every other month where we all read the same book. The next one of these will be on October 19 at 6:30, and we’ll talk about Home Before Dark by Riley Sager.)

A Good Yarn

This club will have a time change starting this month. It'll still meet on the first Thursday from 2 - 4 p.m. (September 7). The second meeting of the month will now be on the third Tuesday from 6:00 - 7:45 p.m. (September 19). Join us for knitting, crocheting, and other crafts involving hooks and needles.

Fall Story Times

Registration is required for all of our Fall Story Times, and it opens on September 5.

- **Tuesday Preschool Story Time**: Tuesdays, September 26 – November 14, 11:00 a.m., for 3 months old to kindergarten. On Halloween (October 31), we’re going to have another program instead, so you can still bring your kids to see the Lehigh Valley Conservation District present Creepy Crawlies, but you’ll need to register for that separately.
- **Wednesday Preschool Story Time**: Wednesdays, September 27 – November 15, 1:30 p.m., for 37 months old to kindergarten.
- **Thursday Toddler Story Time**: Thursdays, September 28 – November 16, 11:00 a.m., for ages 12 – 36 months.

Creation Station

Kids in Grades 3-6 can enjoy fun STEAM projects at our monthly Creation Station, which meets on the third Wednesday of the month from 6 - 7 p.m.

This month, we’ll meet on September 20, and we’ll be making puffy paint. Registration is required.
Museum Spotlight: National Constitution Center

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.

September’s Museum Pass Spotlight is for the National Constitution Center! The National Constitution Center explores and explains the U.S. Constitution through high-tech exhibits, artifacts, and interactive displays. This pass allows for two adults and four children.

Book Nook: National Honey Month

While some cultures raise and eat insects, we do not eat bees, but raise them for several products: honey, beeswax, honeycomb, bee pollen, royal jelly, bee venom, propolis, and bee bread. These are antibacterial, antifungal, and antimicrobial. The earliest honey bee fossils are 150 million years old. Gathering honey predates man’s domestication of animals, baking bread, and wine making. A Spanish cave painting from about 10,000 BCE depicts a human harvesting honey from a tree hive. Pottery used for beekeeping was found in North Africa around 7000 BCE, and paintings of bee domestication or beekeeping dates to 2400 BCE. Written Sumerian records dated 2100 BCE confirm beekeeping was common at that time.

Several bees make honey, but honey bees are preferred for beekeeping. Bees rely on scent and ultraviolet light to find the right flowers. Flowers produce liquid nectar, which bees gather with their tongues and ingest in a special second stomach called the honey sac or crop. When the sac is full, the bee returns to the hive where a line of bees awaits. The nectar is regurgitated from bee to bee until it becomes honey (trophallaxis), and the bee nearest the honeycomb regurgitates it into a cell. The bees fan their wings to evaporate water to thicken it further, and then the cell is sealed with wax for storage. The color and flavor of honey depends on the flowers used for nectar. Bees eat honey when there are no blooming flowers. Otherwise, bees eat nectar, pollen, and water. Bees often make more honey than they need, and that’s how animals and humans came to discover this delicious product.

Honey is 75% sucrose, which is sugar. Honey also contains enzymes, antioxidants, non-heme iron, copper, zinc, potassium, calcium, phosphorous, vitamin B6, riboflavin, and niacin, but not in quantities to make honey considered a good source of these. Commercial honey is processed, which further damages the efficacy of these vitamins and minerals. But honey does have antioxidants and anti-inflammatory properties. It reduces coughing in children and improves their sleep. Honey is also used topically for several conditions, including burns, sunburn, wounds, skin hydration, pore cleansing, acne, eczema, and rosacea.

Loss of habitat, climate change, and bee mites have decimated bee colonies in recent years. Not only do bees collect nectar, but their bodies are designed to pollinate, so bees are very important to maintain plant agriculture. If you have bees in your yard that you do not want, call the Penn State Extension for help identifying the species and removal. Bees are easily confused with wasps.

Look for beekeeping books in our nonfiction collections under 638.1 and 630 (homesteading). For honey recipes, check out the index in almost any cookbook (641.5+) under honey.

~ Chris Andrews
**Banned Books Week**

*Banned Books Week* is the annual celebration of the freedom to read. It’s a time to shine a spotlight on books that have banned from or challenged in various institutions around the country.

Usually, it takes place in September, but this year, we’ll celebrate from **October 2-7**. You can watch for events in our October calendar, but we’ll start putting out displays in September.

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**Top 10 Match**

This is the American Library Association’s list of most-commonly banned books last year. It’s a Top 10 list, but thanks to ties, there are 13 books on the list. See how many books you can match to their authors.

1: Gender Queer  
2: All Boys Aren’t Blue  
3: The Bluest Eye  
4: Flamer  
5.1: Looking for Alaska  
5.2: The Perks of Being a Wallflower  
7: Lawn Boy  
8: The Absolutely True Diary of a Part-Time Indian  
9: Out of Darkness  
10.1: A Court of Mist and Fury  
10.2: Crank  
10.3: Me and Earl and the Dying Girl  
10.4: This Book is Gay  

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**Help the People Reach the Books**

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Library staffers Chris Andrews, Susan Bielucke, and Andrea Hargrove (editor) produced this newsletter.