Whitehall Township Public Library

Library Lines

Halloween is coming up fast, and you can check out some of our spooky events in addition to our regular programs! Please note that we'll be **closed all day** on Tuesday, **October 24** for staff training.

Kids' Creepy Fun

- **Movie Night:** *The Nightmare Before Christmas*: Wed., **October 25**, 6 p.m.: The king of Halloween Town discovers Christmas but causes confusion when he brings it home. (This film is rated PG.)
- **Fall Parade at Whitehall High School:** Thurs., **October 26**, 7 - 9 p.m.: See our Teen Advisory Board walk in Whitehall Township's annual parade.
- **Kids & Teens Connect Hallow-Read:** Sat., **October 28**, 1 - 3 p.m.: Kids can come in for food, games, and crafts run by our Teen Advisory Board. Costumes are encouraged!
- **Creepy Crawlies:** Tue., **October 31**, 11 a.m.: The Lehigh Valley Conservation District will teach students about bats, spiders, owls, and more! This program is for toddlers to second graders, and registration is required.

Adults and Autumn

- **The True Story of the Legend of Sleepy Hollow:** Thurs., **October 5**, 6:30 p.m.: This lecture, with historian Michael Jesberger, is about one of America's oldest short stories. The Washington Irving tale was based on real events and took place in the Hudson Valley during the American Revolution. Registration is requested.
- **Lehigh Valley Haunts:** Mon., **October 16**, 6:30 p.m.: Local dark side storyteller Ellen Flynn will join us again with some spooky tales. Registration is requested.
- **On the Same Page:** *Home Before Dark* **by Riley Sager:** Thurs., **October 19**, 6:30 p.m.: This club meets every other month and is for people 18+. Registration is required, and books will be loaned as availability allows. In this month's book, a woman inherits a possibly-haunted mansion from her father. She doesn't remember living there and goes home to uncover the truth.
- **Pumpkin Craft:** Thurs. **October 26**, 6 p.m.: Decoupage your own pumpkin with book pages and other decorative paper. This is open to patrons age 18 and up, and registration is required.

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Fall Story Times

Registration is required for all fall story times. Here are the story times we have this year:

- **Tuesday Preschool Story Time:** September 26 – November 14 (except October 24 & 31), 11:00 a.m., ages 37 months – kindergarten.
- **Wednesday Preschool Story Time:** September 27 – November 15, 1:30 p.m., ages 37 months – kindergarten.
- **Thursday Toddler Story Time:** September 28 – November 16, 11:00 a.m., ages 12 – 36 months.

Banned Books Week

This year, **Banned Books Week** is the first week of October! We have a **Sleepy Hollow** event as part of the week, on **October 5** at 6:30 p.m.

You also can take this week to check out some banned or challenged books. Banned classics include *To Kill a Mockingbird* by Harper Lee and *Animal Farm* by George Orwell. Modern banned books include *The Kite Runner* by Khaled Hosseini, *The Hunger Games* by Suzanne Collins , and J.K. Rowling's *Harry Potter* series.

Fundraisers

Boscov's Shopping Pass Sale (Tuesday, **August 1** - Wednesday, **October 18**)

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

Basket Raffle Presale (Monday, **October 9** - Thursday, **November 2**)

We'll hold our 2023 Fall Basket Raffle from November 3-11. We'll host a wide range of items from filled baskets to gift certificates and a 50/50! You can come in during our open hours to buy tickets, browse our baskets, and drop your tickets. Tickets are $5.00 for one sheet of 15 tickets, but **during the pre-sale only**, you can get 5 sheets of 15 tickets for $20. (If you buy 4 cards of tickets, you get one free.)

Medicare Workshop

Kathy Baker, licensed Medicare insurance agent, will present basic Medicare information and discuss details about Medicare Advantage plans. We'll have one session on Sat., **October 21** at 1 p.m. & Sat. **November 18** at 11 a.m. Registration is requested.

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Database Spotlight: More Halloween

If you want more Halloween, several of our databases can help you do the job. You can hunt around depending on your area of interest, but we have a few choices if you want Halloween **eBooks**. You can get them from **OverDrive** (for all), **TumbleBook Library** (kids), **Teen BookCloud** (teens) and **hoopla** (which also has movies and music, but is only available for adult Whitehall residents). You can access these and most of our other databases from home by going to our Research & Learn page and logging in with your library card number and PIN.

Museum Spotlight: The Mütter Museum

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.

October's museum pass spotlight is for the **Mütter Museum**! This museum displays its beautifully-preserved collections of anatomical specimens, models, and medical instruments in a 19th-century "cabinet museum". The museum helps the public understand the mysteries and beauty of the human body and to appreciate the history of diagnosis and treatment of disease. The pass allows for four guests.

Book Nook: Ghost Stories

Ghost, specter, phantasm, spirit, spook, apparition, phantom, shade, wraith… call them what you will, they make a good story. If they're evil, they become ghouls, poltergeists, and demons. When a ghost is fixed to a particular place, the story expands to a haunting. October is the perfect excuse to add a ghost story to your reading.

The first written record about a ghost is on a clay tablet from Babylon, dated around 1500 BCE. It is a guide to exorcise them. Many cultures feature ghosts, real and imagined. They can be found in myths and legends, which is in our nonfiction collection under the Dewey number 398. If you want books about real ghosts and haunted places, look in the adult and juvenile nonfiction sections beginning 133.1. Charles Adams, a local author, has published several books dedicated to our area. One of my relatives was interviewed by him, and her first-hand encounter with a real ghost is included in one of Adams' Berks County books.

If you want fiction, there are so many books. Dickens's *A Christmas Carol* is a ghost story. Don't forget Poe, Henry James, H. P. Lovecraft, or Shirley Jackson, to name a few. Our library has popular cozy mysteries with ghosts like the *Bailey Ruth* series by Carolyn Hart and the *Aunt Dimity* series by Nancy Atherton. For the younger set, we have The *Ghost Patrol* series by Andres Miedoso in the juvenile paperback section. You can explore our library catalog using the subject ghosts for hundreds more books to keep you in the Halloween mood.
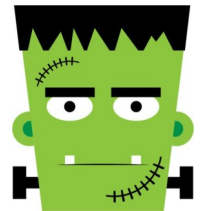
~ Chris Andrews

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SPOOKY FUN

Creature Unscramble

What creatures are lurking here? Unscramble the words to find out. Answers are below.

1. AIEMPRV
2. BLOING
3. GOOFBIT
4. GORE
5. KOENLETS
6. LOGUH
7. LOREEWWF
8. MIBOZE
9. MRIG PEARER
10. NOGGOR
11. SHEBANE
12. SHOTG:
13. SLEDSHEA NORSHAME
14. YEARLOGG
15. YUMMM

Fill in the Books

Complete the titles of these famous horror stories. (Bonus points if you can guess the author.)

1. Co __ __ li __ __
2. D __ a __ u __ a
3. Fra __ __ __ __ st __ __ __
4. The __ __ __ __ __ ing of
   H __ __ __ H __ __ __ __
5. __ __ __ __ __ view with
   the __ __ mp __ __ __
6. __ t
7. J __ __ s
8. J __ __ __ ss __ __ P __ __ k
9. The Pi __ __ u __ e of
   __ __ __ __ an Gr __ __
10. The Si __ __ __ ce of the
    L __ __ __ s
11. __ __ __ ld __ __ r Z

Halloween Scavenger Hunt

This Halloween season, challenge your family and friends to a Halloween scavenger hunt. Pick a day or period of time when you're out searching for Halloween decorations or other themed items outside your house(s). You can walk around your neighborhood or a local trail, among other places. See who can find them all first! You can make your own list or use the one below.

- Bat
- Bones or Skeleton
- Clown
- Early Thanksgiving or Christmas Decoration
- Gravestone
- Inflatable Lawn Ornament
- Lawn Ornament Taller Than You
- Person in Halloween Clothes or Costume
- Person Raking Leaves
- Pumpkin
- Scarecrow
- Something Hanging from or Stuck in a Tree
- Spider (Fake)
- Spider (Real)
- Witch

Puzzle Answers

Creature Unscramble: 1. AIEMPRV: VAMPIRE; 2. BLOING: GOBLIN; 3. GOOFBIT: BIGFOOT; 4. GORE: OGRE; 5. KOENLETS: SKELETON; 6. LOGUH: GHOUL; 7. LOREEWWF: WEREWOLF; 8. MIBOZE: ZOMBIE; 9. MRIG PEARER: GRIM REAPER; 10. NOGGOR: GORGON; 11. SHEBANE: BANSHEE; 12. SHOTG: GHOST; 13. SLEDSHEA NORSHAME: HEADLESS HORSEMAN; 14. YEARLOGG: GARGOYLE; 15. YUMMM: MUMMY

Fill in the Books: 1. *Coraline* (Neil Gaiman); 2. *Dracula* (Bram Stoker); 3. *Frankenstein* (Mary Shelley); 4. *The Haunting of Hill House* (Shirly Jackson); 5. *Interview with the Vampire* (Anne Rice); 6. *It* (Stephen King); 7. *Jaws* (Peter Benchley); 8. *Jurassic Park* (Michael Crichton); 9. *The Picture of Dorian Gray* (Oscar Wilde); 10. *The Silence of the Lambs* (Thomas Harris); 11. *World War Z* (Max Brooks)