



Library Lines

Volume 9, Issue 3

**March
2026**

**Whitehall Township
Public Library**

3700 Mechanicsville Rd.
Whitehall, PA 18052
610-432-4339
www.whitehallpl.org

Library Hours

- **Monday - Thursday:**
9 am - 8 pm
- **Friday - Saturday:**
9 am - 4 pm
- **Sunday:**
Closed

Board of Trustees

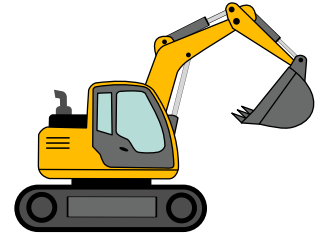
- Kathy Betz, treasurer
- Dhara Dekhtawala, vice president
- Tom Ernst
- Ed Hozza
- Melissa Sassaman, secretary
- Denise Shaffer, president
- Hope Stakes

Director: Susan Bielucke

Fiscal Year 2025-2026

Our Next Chapter

The Whitehall Township Public Library is proud to announce an exciting new chapter. Within 2026, the library building will undergo multiple projects to enhance accessibility and functionality.



There may be some library closings or program changes to accommodate these improvements. Everything in this newsletter and on our calendar may be subject to change. Please watch for updates.

Key Project Features

- Improving entrance doors with automated openers
- Restroom updates, including a new ADA bathroom
- Main circulation desk replacement
- Replacement of exterior windows and remodeled pergola

America's Legacy at 250

This year, in celebration of our country's 250th anniversary, we'll host a series of talks about our founding.



- **March 24, 6:30 p.m.: Revolutionary Women: Writing About War** (Museum of the American Revolution) (Zoom - Registration Required)
- **May 11, 6:30 p.m.: Washington Crossing the Delaware and The Battle of Trenton** (Michael Jesberger)
- **July 6, 6 p.m.: The Declaration of Independence: Birth of a Nation** (Jim Ward) (Zoom - Registration Required)
- **August 11, 6 p.m.: Local Tales of the Revolution** (Sigal Museum)
- **October 1, 6 p.m.: Journey of the Liberty Bell** (LV Heritage)

Adult Winter Reading Program

The Adult Winter Reading Program runs from **January 2 - March 31**.

During this time, adults can register and pick up a winter reading bookmark. Complete the challenge on the bookmark and return it to the front desk for a small prize.



March Story Times

All March story times will be drop-in, with no registration required.



Spring Story Time

We'll hold our Spring Story Time from March - April.

- **Preschool Story Time:** Ages 37 months – 5 years. Tuesdays at 11 a.m. & Wednesdays at 1:30 p.m.
- **Toddler Story Time:** Ages 12 – 36 months. Thursdays at 11 a.m.

Saturday Story Time

This story time will be on **March 21** at 11 a.m., and it's for ages 3 - 7.

Beginning Bird Watching

Kids can learn about backyard birds, how to use binoculars, and how to check out the library's Birding Backpacks. This program, presented by the Whitehall EAC, will be on Thurs., **March 26** at 4 p.m. It's for Grades 3 - 6, and registration is required.



Did You Know?

Less than 40% of the world observes **Daylight Savings Time**. When we set our clocks forward this year on **March 8**, we'll be in the minority. As of 2023, only 71 countries used Daylight Savings Time.

Regular Events

- **Adult Coloring Club:** Thurs., March 5 & 19, 11 a.m. - 1 p.m.
- **Adult Book Talks:** Thurs., March 5, 1 - 2 p.m.
- **Board of Trustees Meeting:** Thurs., March 12, 6:30 p.m.
- **Death Café:** Mon., March 16, 6:30 p.m.
- **A Good Yarn:** Tues., March 17, 6 - 7:45 p.m.
- **Creation Station: Paper Sculpting:** Wed., March 18, 6 p.m. This month, kids in Grades 3 - 6 will make fun creations with paper. Registration is required.
- **Teen Advisory Board Meeting:** Sat., March 21, 1:30 p.m.
- **Movie Night: *Hidden Figures*:** Wed., March 25, 6 p.m.



On the Same Page

Every other month, adult patrons read and discuss the same book. Generally, it's on a Thursday evening at 6:30 p.m.



This Month

This month, we're reading ***The Very Secret Society of Irregular Witches*** by Sangu Mandanna and meeting to discuss it on **March 19** at 6:30.

In this cozy fantasy, an isolated witch named Mika travels to a remote house to teach three young witches how to control their magic. Mika gets an opportunity to embrace a new family and love with the children and their guardians.

Upcoming Books

- **May 21: *Master Slave Husband Wife: An Epic Journey from Slavery to Freedom*** by Ilyon Woo (*Nonfiction, Biography, Historical*)
- **July 16: *Hidden Pictures*** by Jason Rekulak (*Fiction, Mystery/Thriller, Horror*)
- **September 17: *They Called Us Enemy*** by George Takei (*Nonfiction, Graphic Novel, Biography, Banned Book, WWII*)
- **November 19: *Long Bright River*** by Liz Moore (*Fiction, Mystery/Thriller, PA Location*)

Teen Book Boxes

Not sure what to read next? Teens can sign up for this quarterly library subscription!

Each box will contain one library book that's checked out to you, plus some fun extras, like snacks and crafts.

Boxes are available in March, June, September, & December. Sign up by the end of any given month to get that month's box.

Supplies are limited, and registration is required.



Book Nook: Academy Awards

The Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences (AMPAS) generally holds its annual awards presentation in early March. The official name of the award is the Academy Award of Merit, but it is nicknamed the Oscar. There are several versions of how it got this name, but the generally accepted story is that the 1931 Academy president and librarian named it after her uncle, and the name became official in 1939.



This award is a gold-plated Art Deco styled knight holding a sword atop a five-spoked film reel, with one spoke each representing actors, directors, writers, producers, and technicians. It stands 13.5 inches tall and weighs 8.5 pounds. There is a space on the statuette that is left blank at the time of presentation to keep the recipients' names secret, but engraved nameplates are attached at the Governor's Ball after the ceremony.

The first AMPAS awards were in 1929 and awarded to actors who appeared in multiple films. The first recipients were Emil Jannings and Janet Gaynor. The 1930 ceremony was broadcast over radio. The names of the award winners were released to newspapers at 11 PM the evening of the ceremony. But when the Los Angeles Times released the names before the presentation in 1940, AMPAS switched to sealed envelopes in 1941. The first televised Academy Awards ceremony was in 1953, when only about 9% of American homes had a television.

AMPAS is a professional honorary organization whose members join by invitation only and pay an annual membership fee. There are currently about 10,000 members representing the five branches of the film industry. Members are required to view all the nominated films. There are very specific rules applied to those films, which were all released during the previous calendar year. Members may not be paid for their votes.

AMPAS has nine non-competitive awards: three bestowed occasionally to recognize special accomplishments, five for scientific/technical recognition, and one for student films. Nominees and presenters receive two free tickets to the ceremony. Studios that have movies nominated are also given blocks of free tickets, as are media outlets covering the event. AMPAS also uses a lottery to select about 700 fans to fill the outside "red carpet" bleachers for free.

Our library owns many AMPAS winning and nominated films. There are many websites providing lists, including AMPAS.

~ Chris Andrews