



Library Lines

Volume 9, Issue 4

**April
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

Upcoming Renovations

As a reminder, this spring, we're undergoing improvements for accessibility and functionality. There may be some library closings or program changes to accommodate these. Please watch for updates.

April Story Times

No registration is required for any April Story Time.

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

On Sat., **April 25** at 11 a.m., we'll have a story time for ages 3 - 7.

New Museum Pass: Academy of Natural Sciences

You can check out a number of museum passes at the library! The most recent is to the Academy of Natural Sciences of Drexel University, the oldest natural science research institution and museum in the Americas. You can have one pass out per family, for one week with no renewals. It can only be checked out inside this library and returned at the circulation desk. Overdue fees are \$10.00 a day.

Grant Update

We are thrilled to announce that we have received a grant from **IronPigs Charities!** This grant will go towards Read and Reach Fitness and Fun. Programs are intended for kids and teens and will include Story Time Yoga, Nutrition classes, and Everyday Skills classes. Thank you Lehigh Valley IronPigs!

AmeriCorps Seniors

This is a network of volunteer programs for Americans 55 years and older. They'll have a table at the library on Thurs., **April 2** from 10:45 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. If you are interested in volunteering, you can stop by and get some information from them.

Medicare

Medicare 101

Liz Sweedo, of Lehigh County Aging PA MEDI, will present the basics of Medicare on Thurs., **April 2**, at 6 p.m. Medicare topics will include enrollment, cost, and coverage. Registration is requested.



Medicare Enrollment Assistance

Get free, personalized help with enrollment or other questions that you might have. We'll have a specialist on Mon., **April 6 & 13**. You can schedule an appointment for 1:00, 2:00, or 3:00, as available. Appointments must be scheduled in advance at 610-423-4339 x201.

Regular Events

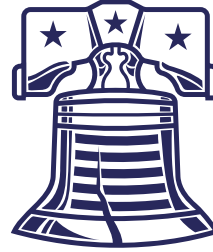
- **Adult Coloring Club:** Thurs., April 2 & 16, 11 a.m. - 1 p.m. The library has some supplies, but you're also welcome to bring your own.
- **Adult Book Talks:** Thurs., April 2, 1 - 2 p.m. Here, we talk about whatever we're reading right now or just finished. If you'd like to join a book club where we all talk about the same book, see On the Same Page (pg. 3).
- **Board of Trustees Meeting:** Thurs., April 9, 6:30 p.m. Members of the public are welcome to attend our Board of Trustees meetings. You can find past minutes and our most recent agenda on the Publications page of our website.
- **Creation Station: CANCELLED DUE TO CONSTRUCTION**
- **A Good Yarn:** Tues., April 21, 6 - 7:45 p.m. Whether you work with hooks or needles, yarn or thread, you're welcome to join the club!
- **Movie Night: CANCELLED DUE TO CONSTRUCTION**
- **Teen Advisory Board Meeting:** Sat., April 25, 1:30 p.m. TAB puts together library activities and is always looking for new members.



Looking Ahead

America at 250

Join us as we celebrate our country's 250th anniversary with a series of historic talks.



- **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)

On the Same Page

Every other month, adult patrons read and discuss the same book.

- **June 3** (rescheduled from May): **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)

Summer Reading Program

Our upcoming Summer Reading Program will feature dinosaurs, archaeology, and paleontology. Kids and adults can read and log books throughout the summer to win prizes.

- **Book Registration & Logging:** Sat., June 13 – Sat., August 1
- **Kickoff Event:** Sat., June 13, 1 p.m. This event, featuring the Wildlands Conservancy, is open to all.
- **Adult Finale:** Thurs., August 6, 1 – 2 p.m.
- **Kids' Finale:** Sat., August 8, Noon

Teen Book Boxes

Not sure what to read next? Sign up for this quarterly library subscription!

Each box will contain two library books that are checked out to you, plus some fun extras, like snacks and crafts.

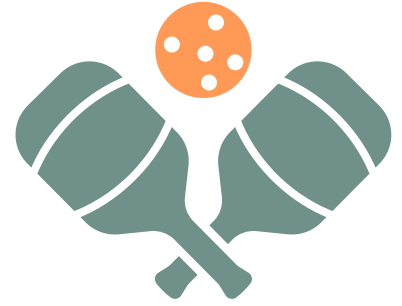
Boxes are available in March, June, September, & December.

Teens in Gr. 6-12 can sign up by the end of any given month to get that month's box.

Supplies are limited, and registration is required.



Book Nook: National Pickleball Month



What do you do when you have summer guests and don't have enough sports equipment for any one game? You invent your own game with the things you have – and that's how pickleball began.

Joel Pritchard, Barney McCallum, and Bill Bell created pickleball in the summer of 1965 on Bainbridge Island, Washington as a casual backyard game, and it now has become a structured sport using a badminton court, lowered net, table tennis paddles, and a plastic whiffle ball. Joan Pritchard is credited with the name, coming from the crew racing term “pickle boat” for a mismatched boat with leftover rowers. The men refined the equipment and rules and made the first official pickleball court on Bainbridge Island in 1967. It quickly became the “in” thing to do and quickly carried over to nearby Seattle.

In 1972, Barney McCallum's son, David, trademarked the name and then started to manufacture pickleball equipment at Pickle Ball Inc. Pickleball became a phenomenon throughout the Pacific Northwest. The *National Observer* featured an article about pickleball in 1976, and it soon crossed the line from “game” to “sport” when later that year *Tennis* magazine covered the first Pickleball Championship Tournament.

Popularity grew, and in the 1980s the U.S. Amateur Pickleball Association (now the USA Pickleball Association) was founded. Standardizations were made to the equipment, and by the 1990s, pickleball was being played in all 50 states. In 2008, pickleball was included in the senior Olympics, and soon many senior communities had pickleball courts – The Villages in Florida has over 250 courts. It became one of the fastest growing sports, especially after a segment about it was featured on *Good Morning, America*.

Its biggest spurt occurred during the 2020 COVID-19 pandemic, when people were looking for low-contact outdoor activities. Although pickleball does not yet meet the standards to be included as an Olympic Sport, it continues to spread around the globe and may be considered in the next decade.

You don't have to go far to find a store selling pickleball equipment or a pickleball court in Whitehall. If you need books about the rules or how to play the sport, check out a book from section 796.348. Remember to duck when someone shouts “pickle” because like golf's “fore”, someone is about to serve the ball.