



Library Lines

Volume 9, Issue 5

**May
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

May Updates

Memorial Day

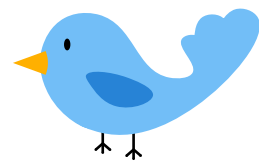


The library will be **closed for Memorial Day** from **Saturday, May 23 - Monday, May 25**. We'll be open regular hours starting May 26. In the meantime, you'll still be able to access our online resources or return items in our parking lot dropbox.

Renovations

In April, our community room area and back bathroom area underwent some renovations for accessibility and functionality. This month, we're having work done on our front desk and door areas for similar reasons. We may be **closed for part of the month** to accommodate that and/or reschedule certain programs. Please watch for updates.

Spring Collections



As you're getting out this spring, the library has a number of collections and resources that can help you enjoy your time outdoors. For instance, you can check out a **Birding Backpack** that's complete with maps, binoculars, and more to help you uncover more of the world around you.

We also have a number of books in our **nonfiction collection** that can guide you on your outdoor adventures. For instance, if you want more books about birdwatching, you can look under the number 598. If you go to 796, you can find hiking guides plus information on biking and other sports. 635 can help you with your gardening.

Grant Update

We are thrilled to announce that we have received a grant from the **PPL Foundation!** This grant will go towards our Summer Reading Program "Unearth a Story" for kids and teens. Keep an eye out this Summer for some great programs including a visit from paleontologists to lead us in a dino dig. Thank you PPL Electric Utilities & PPL Corporation!

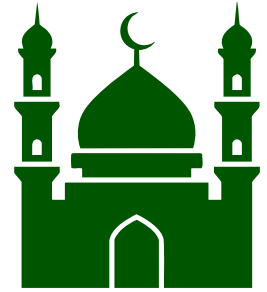
May the Fourth Be With You!

Did you know that the library has more for **Star Wars** fans than just movies? We also have books for all ages in our collection, including novels, guides to the universe, and even cookbooks!

Story Times

Eid to Eid Story Time

This Eid is celebrated in the 12th month of the Islamic lunar calendar. The holiday is celebrated as millions of Muslims complete their pilgrimage. Those at home consider the historical and spiritual significance it has by showing acts of kindness, giving charity, and spending time in reflection.



Our Eid-centered storytime will be on Sat., **May 9** at 2 p.m., and it's for ages 5 - 9. Registration is required and is open through May 3.

Sensory Friendly Storytime & Movement

This is an inclusive family story time followed by movement activities presented by CLIU 21. This story time will be on Sat., **May 20** at 10 a.m. It's for ages 3-6, and registration is required.

Regular Events

- **Adult Coloring Club:** Thurs., May 7 & 21, 11 a.m. - 1 p.m.
- **Adult Book Talks:** Thurs., May 7, 1 - 2 p.m. Talk about whatever you're reading now.
- **Board of Trustees Meeting:** Thurs., May 14, 6:30 p.m. Members of the public are welcome to attend.
- **A Good Yarn:** Tues., May 19, 6 - 7:45 p.m. All needlecraft is welcome.
- **Movie Night: *Secondhand Lions*:** Wed., May 27, 6 p.m.
- **On the Same Page:** This adult reading group meets every other month, and it would have met in May. However, due to renovations, the next meeting has been moved back to Wed., **June 3** at 6:30 p.m. Then, we'll talk about ***Master Slave Husband Wife*** by Ilyon Woo, a remarkable true story about a couple making their way to freedom from slavery.



Washington & His Crossing

In the winter of 1776, General George Washington and his army, worn down from a string of failures, retreated to Trenton. From there, they crossed the Delaware River to attack a Hessian outpost. This attack, on the morning of December 26, brought them a much-needed victory. If you're interested in learning more about this historic battle, we have a couple avenues for you.



The Talk

Historian Michael Jesberger joins us to celebrate the 250th anniversary of our country. He's held a number of well-received talks at our library over the past few years. This time, his topic will be on **Washington's Crossing of the Delaware & the Battle of Trenton**, and he'll speak on Mon., **May 11** at 6:30 p.m.

We have **other upcoming talks** on this same time period from various presenters, all at 6 p.m.: "The Declaration of Independence: Birth of a Nation" (Zoom) on July 6, "Local Tales of the Revolution" on August 11, & "Journey of the Liberty Bell" on October 1. Registration is required for the Zoom program and requested for all others in this series.

The Park

The library has a number of passes to museums and other sites that you can check out (one per family, loaned for one week). One of our most recent is a pass to **Washington Crossing Historic Park**, good for up to four guests. Some of the park highlights include the visitor center, historic village, and gardens. There are also a number of walking trails that range across this 500 acre park, plus plenty of spots to enjoy a view of the Delaware River.

Works on Washington

Want to read more about Washington? Here are some highlights from our collection.: *Bill O'Reilly's Legends & Lies: The Patriots* by David Fisher; *The First Conspiracy* by Brad Meltzer; *In the Hurricane's Eye*, *Valiant Ambition*, & *Travels with George* by Nathaniel Philbrick; *The Indian World of George Washington* by Colin Calloway; & *Valley Forge* by Bob Drury.

Book Nook: Date Your Mate Month

There is comfort in having routines, as they allow you and your family members to make those small daily accomplishments to get tasks done. It's easy to take them for granted after a while. It is important to stop and show appreciation for them. If you have children, you see how quickly they grow up, and soon they prefer to be with their friends for fun. All along, your spouse has been in the background helping to keep things running smoothly. You likely had a marriage before you had a family, and statistics show that couples who "date" at least once a month are over 80% happier in their marriages. Unfortunately, only about 48% of married couples do so.



Most people probably think a date is going out for dinner. There are many restaurants that provide live entertainment, too, so now you can make that dinner out extra special – just check the restaurant's website for information. Not just restaurants, but many local wineries and breweries feature professional entertainers, too. A date doesn't need to be a meal; it can also be an adventure. Want a movie? Shankweiler's in Orefield is the oldest operating drive-in theater in the world!

May weather is so nice, and many outdoor events are starting to occur, so think outside the box. Our local newspapers have many event listings. If you don't get the newspaper, our library does. Just about every municipality has online calendars of events, as well as many organizations and clubs. We are lucky to live in an area with many walking trails, and historic sites. Our library also buys museum passes for you to borrow and go to these places free of charge from the Poconos to Philadelphia, from Easton to Reading, at sites that cover many areas of interest. We also have a collection of travel books for states, and many countries of the world. One of my favorite resources is the Pocono Television Network (PTN), which showcases many places in those counties not only in its broadcasts, but also online, and provides many links. For example, did you know you can arrange to drive a NASCAR car on the Pocono Raceway? Or how about drifting down the Delaware River with a quick stop on shore for lunch and some shopping? Maybe a spa day together? Glamping? There are many seasonal special events and year-round opportunities all around us to plan a great date. So, make a date with your mate and start making some fun memories together.

~ Chris Andrews