Library Lines

Volume 9, Issue 6
June 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

June Updates

This month, we have big things happening!

- **Book Sale:** We'll hold our first fundraiser of the year on June 26 & 27. Details below.
- **Renovations:** Renovations are still ongoing, as we work to make the library more accessible to all. We'll try to keep the building open for as much as possible, but there may be some schedule changes if necessary.
- **Summer Reading Program:** This runs from June 13 - August 1 and is open to all. Details inside.

Used Book Sale

We'll host a used book sale on Friday, **June 26** and Saturday, **June 27** from 9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. On Saturday only, we'll have a bag sale from noon - 3, when books will be $5 a bag!

Renewing Your Card Online

When your library card expires, you can still renew it person if you want, but now, you can also choose to renew it online. To do this, log into the **My Account** page on our website (www.whitehallpl.org). If your card has expired, a button will appear, which says "click here to renew your account". You will have the opportunity to **update your current information**. Then you can save those changes and hit "Renew." If your address has changed, you'll need to show your ID the next time you come in.

Summer Reading Program: Unearth a Story

The 2026 Summer Reading Program, “Unearth a Story,” is all about the things that we dig up from the earth. This program features dinosaurs, archaeology, and paleontology.

The program is open to all, and anyone can win prizes, but those prizes must be picked up in person.

Dates

- **Book Registration, Logging, & Small Prize Pickup:** Sat., June 13 – Sat., August 1
- **Kickoff Event:** Sat., June 13, 1 p.m. At this event (open to all), the Wildlife Conservancy will bring several live animals.
- **Adult Finale & Grand Prize Pickup:** Thurs., August 6, 1 – 2 p.m.
- **Kids’ Finale & Drawing Prize Pickup:** Sat., August 8, Noon

Youth (0 – 17 Years Old)

Each week of the Summer Reading Program has its own reading log page. Log all the books you read during the week and bring your log in for a prize during the week marked at the top of the page. Any amount read during the week gets one prize off the prize cart and one ticket towards a finale prize. Please pick up your Summer Reading prizes during the designated week, as prizes will no longer be available afterward.

Adults (18+ Years Old)

Every time you log a book, you’ll get an entry for the grand prize drawing. That’s one entry per book, with no limit on the number of books. You’re automatically entered when we get the logs (either online or on paper). We will draw names, and the grand prize will be ready starting at the Adult Finale on August 6. You don’t have to be present to win.

You can also pick up a reading challenge sheet from the front desk. Anyone who finishes will win a small prize. You’ll have until August 1 to log books and collect these prizes.

“Unearth a Story” Programs

- **Dinosaur Stencil Bags:** Tues., **June 16**, 1:30 p.m.: Gr. K-4 will paint dinosaurs onto bags by using stencils. Registration required.
- **Dinosaur Feet Dig:** Wed., **June 17**, 1:30 p.m.: Gr. PreK-2 will have a story & activity relating to dinosaur feet. Registration required.
- **Dinosaur Scavenger Hunt:** Thurs., **June 18**, 1:30 p.m.: Gr. 3-5 find hidden dinosaur eggs. Registration required.
- **Dig It!: Insects, Fossils & Secrets Beneath Our Feet:** Tues., **June 23**, 3:00 p.m.: The LV Conservation District presents a program about all sorts of things that you can find in the ground. This is for curious elementary-aged students up to 6th grade. Registration required.
- **Dinosaur Adventure Show:** Tues., **June 23**, 6 p.m.: Paleontologists Mike and Roberta Straka will present a show about dinosaurs; audience members will help dig up a real triceratops bone and help construct a dinosaur out of a large cut-out.
- **Movie Night: *Ice Age: Dawn of the Dinosaurs*:** Wed., **June 24**, 6 p.m.: Our free monthly movie night is usually on the 4th Wednesday of the month. This month’s takes place in the time of the dinosaurs!

Old Time True Crime

Local storyteller Ellen Flynn has had a number of presentations here on Edgar Allan Poe and on crime and other spooky topics. This month, she’ll return to share local true crime cases from the 1800s and early 1900s. Hear the stories and examine the evidence of real cases from around the Lehigh Valley. This program will be on Thurs., **June 18** at 6:30 p.m., and registration is requested.

Backyard Certified Wildlife Habitat

Wildlife habitat gardens are a haven for local birds, butterflies, and other wildlife. Does your yard have food, water, cover, and places for wildlife to raise young? In this program, you can learn what it takes to certify your yard as a wildlife habitat. You can also get information on the various programs available, plus the cost and the benefit. This program will be on **June 2** at 6:30 p.m., and registration is requested.

Regular Programs & Events

- **On the Same Page: *Master Slave Husband Wife* by Ilyon Woo:** Wed., **June 3**, 6:30 p.m.: Every other month, adult patrons read and discuss the same book. This month's book tells the true story of Ellen and William Craft, who escaped slavery in disguise, with Ellen passing as a wealthy, white man and William posing as her slave.
- **Adult Coloring Club:** Thurs., **June 4 & 18**, 11 a.m.- Noon: We have some supplies, but you're also welcome to bring your own.
- **Adult Book Talks:** Thurs., **June 4**, 1-2 p.m.: We'll talk about whatever you're reading now.
- **Board of Trustees Meeting:** Tues., **June 9**, 6:30 p.m.: Members of the public are welcome to attend.
- **Death Café:** Mon., **June 15**, 6:30 p.m.: is a group directed discussion of death with no agenda, objectives or themes, not grief support or a counselling session.
- **A Good Yarn:** Tues., **June 16**, 6 p.m.: Join us for knitting, crocheting, and other needlework.
- **Creation Station: Worm Farms:** Wed., **June 17**, 6 p.m.: Kids in Grades 3 – 6 can enjoy STEAM projects once a month. This month, we'll learn all about worms and their homes! Registration required.
- **Teen Advisory Board Meeting:** Sat., **June 20**, 1:30 p.m.: We're always looking for new members!

Story Times

Saturday Story Time

This story time, for ages 3-7 years, will be on Sat., **June 20** at 11 a.m.

Summer Story Time

- **Babies & Books:** Age 0 – 12 months. Tuesdays, June 30 – July 28, 11 a.m.
- **Toddler Story Time:** Age 1 – 3 years. Thursdays in July, 10 a.m.
- **Kids' Story Time:** Age 3 – 8 years. Tuesdays, June 30 – July 28, 1:30 p.m.

Registration is required for all Summer Story Times, but not the Saturday Story Time.

More For Kids

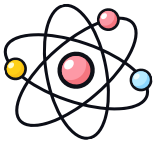
Grab & Go Crafts

This month, we'll have a few take-home crafts for kids. Crafts for **Flag Day & Father's Day** will be available on Sat., June 13, the same day as our Summer Reading Kickoff. On Fri., June 19, we'll have crafts for **Juneteenth**. Crafts will be available as supplies last.

Floor Puzzles

Thurs., **June 25**, 1:30 p.m.: This is for ages 3 and up.

New Museum Pass: Da Vinci Science Center



You can can check out a number of **museum passes** at the library! You can have one pass out per family, for one week with no renewals. It can only be checked out at inside this library and returned at the circulation desk. Overdue fees are $10.00 a day.

Our latest pass is to the **Da Vinci Science Center** in Allentown. Their mission is to bring science to life and lives to science. They have a number of kid-friendly exhibits to encourage a love of STEM.

Summer Library Passport

Like the last couple of years, the libraries in our district are banding together for a fun library-hopping challenge! If you visit any of our district libraries (listed below) from **June 1 - August 29**, you can pick up a Summer Library Passport with all the libraries on it and earn raffle tickets for prizes.

Prizes: You can get a sticker on your passport at each library. Most libraries (including ours) will have a ticket so that you can enter a small prize drawing at that library. When you get to 6 libraries and then 12 libraries, you can also enter the Grand Prize drawing. For the Grand Prize, first place is an iPad. Second and third place winners will get a Kindle.

Programs: Many of the participating libraries will also have passive programs that you can do on your own time when you visit. We'll have a new activity every month from June to August, which you can find by our front windows.

Library List: Allentown, Catasauqua, Coplay, Dimmick, Emmaus, Lehighton, Lower Macungie, Palmerton, Parkland, Penn-Kidder, Slatington, Southern Lehigh and Whitehall Township

Book Nook: Unearth a Story

This is the theme and focus of our Summer Reading Program is on dinosaurs, paleontology, and archaeology. This library is favoring dinosaurs because they are more fun! Over 1,000 non-avian dinosaur species and over 11,000 avian species have been discovered to date, with a new species discovered at least twice a month. However, only about 100 mostly-intact skeletons have been found. If you loved and memorized dinosaur names as a child, you might want to borrow a newer book and reacquaint yourself with the ones you remember and marvel at some of the more recently discovered species.

The Earth is about 4.5 billion years old, and life appeared about 4.2 billion years ago. There have been five mass extinctions caused by an ice age, climate change, volcanic activity, and an asteroid. Dinosaurs lived between the third and fifth extinctions, and this is the geological Mesozoic Era, divided into the Triassic Period (252-201 million years ago), the Jurassic Period (201-145 million years ago), and the Cretaceous Period (145-66 million). Because of their reptilian appearance, early paleontologists thought that all dinosaurs were cold-blooded, but as scientific tools improved, it was discovered that many warm-blooded dinosaurs evolved during the Jurassic Period. Contrary to the movie franchise, the Cretaceous Period is when the T. rex, velociraptor, triceratops, and feathered dinosaurs existed. Although this period ended with an asteroid impact on Earth that killed 75% of all species, just the non-avian dinosaurs were completely extinguished. Avian dinosaurs have evolved into birds and the present-day cassowary, and shoebill storks make it easy to see.

The surface of the Earth is constantly changing, so fossilization is a rare and complex process. However, some present-day countries had the right conditions. The northern mid-west United States, and the adjoining province of Alberta, Canada have yielded the most complete skeletons. Sue, the Tyrannosaurus rex, is the most complete skeleton at 90%, and was discovered in South Dakota. China's fossils were so well preserved that paleontologists could see the imprint of feathers, and that rocked the world of science, since it meant that some dinosaurs were warm-blooded. In fact, scientists now think that more than 50% of the dinosaurs had feathers. Argentina has yielded the most specimens of long-necked dinosaurs.

Join us and our reading program this summer and rediscover the animals that existed before mankind. Dinosaur books live in all our nonfiction collections at Dewey number 567.9.

~ Chris Andrews