

TEMPORARY HOURS

CONSTRUCTION UPDATE

WEEK 1: July 20 – 25

7/20: Closed All Day

7/21 – 7/23: Curbside 9 – 5:30 & Programs

7/24: Curbside 9 – 3:30

7/25: Closed All Day

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WEEK 2: July 27 – August 1

7/27 – 7:30: Curbside 9 – 7 & Programs

7/31: Curbside 9 – 3:30

8/1: Curbside 10 – 2 & Programs





Library Lines

Volume 9, Issue 7
**July
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

America's 250th Birthday

Closings

The library will be **closed all day on July 4** in honor of Independence Day. We might have **additional closings or event schedule** changes due to our ongoing construction.

Declaration of Independence: Birth of a Nation

Step back to 1776 and explore the bold ideas, powerful words, and daring actions that shaped America's founding. Historian Jim Ward will examine the events leading to the Declaration of Independence, the document's revolutionary principles, and its lasting impact on history. This program will be held on Zoom on Mon., **July 6** at 6 p.m. Registration is required.

Summer Reading Program

This year's Summer Reading Program features dinosaurs, archaeology, and paleontology, and it runs **through Sat., August 1**. The program is open to all, and anyone can win prizes, but those prizes must be picked up in person.



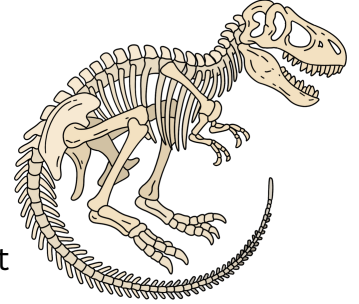
Adults can log books all summer for grand prize raffle entries, and they can complete an extra reading challenge for a small prize. Their finale is on Thurs., August 6 from 1 - 2 p.m. Kids turn in weekly logs for a small prize and drawing prize raffle ticket. Their finale program is on Sat., August 8 from Noon - 2 p.m.

Adults

Dinosaurs

Bone Wars

The Bone Wars, or Great Dinosaur Rush, was a period during America's Gilded Age, where fossil hunting was ruthlessly competitive. Learn about two leading paleontologists from this period that went from being best friends to worst of enemies, and learn how science transformed from their competition. This program, is on Tues., **July 28** at 6 p.m., and registration is requested.



Dinosaur 13

Join us for a screening of the documentary *Dinosaur 13* on Thurs., July 30 at 6 p.m.. Learn about the discovery of the largest T. Rex fossil ever found and the controversy that ensued.

Reducing Stress

Both of these programs have required registration and limited seats. If you miss these sessions, you can keep an eye out for sessions in August.

Chair Yoga

Our Adult Stretch and Soothe Chair Class is a wellness class that combines gentle chair-based stretching, mindful movement, and breathwork. Participants will move at a comfortable pace to release tension and support mobility. This session is on Wed., **July 1**, from 10:30 - 11:15 a.m.



Mindful Breathing

The Art of Mindful Breathing offers simple, accessible tools for adults to reduce stress, improve focus, and support emotional regulation. Participants will leave with practical breathing techniques they can return to anytime they need to reset, reflect, restore, or renew. This session is on Tues., **July 14** at 6:30 p.m.

Regular Events

- **Adult Coloring Club:** *Thurs., July 2 & 16, 11 a.m. - 1 p.m.* Coloring is a creative activity that can help improve mindfulness and reduce stress
- **Adult Book Talks:** *Thurs., July 2, 1 - 2 p.m.* We have two adult book groups at the library. In *On the Same Page* (below), we all read the same book. However, in our monthly Adult Book Talks, we discuss anything that we're reading now or recently finished.
- **Death Café:** *Mon., July 20, 6:30 p.m.* Join us for snacks as we discuss death. A Death Café is a group directed discussion of death with no agenda, objectives or themes. It is a discussion group rather than a grief support or counselling session.
- **A Good Yarn:** *Tues., July 21, 6 - 7:45 p.m.* In this club, members work with yarn and string in a number of forms, including knitting, crocheting, and embroidery.

On the Same Page: *Hidden Pictures*

Every other month, adult patrons read and discuss the same book. This month, we're meeting on Thurs., **July 16** at 6:30 p.m. to discuss *Hidden Pictures* by Jason Rekulak. This supernatural thriller is about a woman working as a nanny for a young boy with strange and disturbing secrets.



We'll meet twice more this year, and our last books will be *They Called Us Enemy* by George Takei on September 17 and *Long Bright River* by Liz Moore on November 19.

Online Career Courses

The Whitehall library has a number of online databases available to patrons. (See the Research & Learn page on our website for a full list.)

Brainfuse JobNow is one of our databases, which has a lot of useful tools for working adults. It can help you with resume writing, interview skills, and job searching.



Their SkillSurfer section also has a number of lessons in a variety of fields. Some can help you prepare for professional tests, and some can teach you about life skills like financial planning, home maintenance, media literacy, and time management.

Teens

Teen Night

Teen Night is on Fri., **July 10**, from 4 - 7 p.m. Our teenaged patrons can stay late after the library closes to the public to enjoy food, games, and fun! Registration is required.



Teen Door Prizes

Teens! Attend a teen program and be entered to win a gift card door prize. Every teen program you attend also counts as an entry toward our Grand Prize Basket.

Everyday Skills

Thanks to a generous grant from IronPigs Charities, we're able to provide a series of life skills classes for teenagers. All of them will be at 1:30 p.m., and registration is required.

- **Stress Management:** *July 1.* LVHN shares stress & mindfulness tools for teenagers as they navigate school, jobs, and more.
- **Nutrition:** *July 8.* Valley Nutrition & Wellness teaches healthy eating for busy teenage lifestyles.
- **Finances:** *July 29.* Neffs teaches teens about the financial skills they'll need as they set out into the world.
- **Simple Fixes:** *August 5.* Teens can learn how to do some simple repairs around the home.

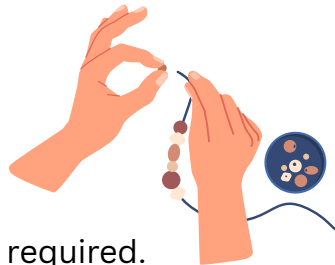
Teen Book Boxes

Not sure what to read next? Sign up for this quarterly subscription! Each box will have two library books that are checked out to you, plus fun extras like snacks and crafts.

Crafting

Jewelry Making

Teens in grades 6-12 can make jewelry in this fun craft on Wed., **July 15** at 1:30 p.m. Registration is required.



Quilt Making

Help create a piece of library décor celebrating our Summer Reading Programs throughout the years. Teens in grades 6-12 will make a quilt together on Thurs., **July 23** at 2 p.m. Registration is required.

Boxes are available in March, June, September, & December for teens in Grades 6-12. Supplies are limited & registration is required.

Kids

Books

Registration is required for all of the following programs.

Summer Story Time

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

Book Discussion: *Dinosaurs Before Dark*

Kids in Grades 3 - 6 can join us as we discuss *Dinosaurs Before Dark* by Mary Pope Osborne on Wed., **July 8** at 6 p.m. The first 12 kids who register will get a free copy of the book. Snacks are provided at the book discussion!

This is Jack and Annie's very first fantasy adventure in the bestselling middle-grade series: *The Magic Tree House*! Where did this mysterious tree house come from? Before Jack and Annie can find out, the mysterious tree house whisks them to the prehistoric past. Now they have to figure out how to get home. Can they do it before dark, or will they become a dinosaur's dinner?

Storytime Yoga

These sessions combine story time and movement for fun, active sessions.

- **Youth:** Mon., July 13, 4:30 p.m. Ages 6 - 10.
- **Tots:** Mon., July 20, 10 a.m. Ages 2 - 5.

Did You Know?

Not everything we think of as dinosaurs really are dinosaurs.

Flying reptiles like Pterodactyls have a different skeletal structure (specifically in the hip bone), so they're in a group called Pterosaurs.

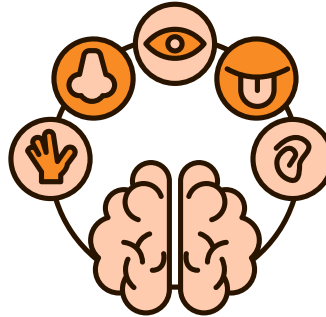
Other things that aren't dinosaurs but often get lumped in with them are some marine animals like the Plesiosaur (which has a long neck), the Mosasaurus (which has a lizard-like head), and the Ichthyosaurus (which looks like a dolphin).



Science

Creation Station: Explore Your Senses

Kids in Grades 3 – 6 can enjoy STEAM projects once a month. This month, join us on Wed., **July 15** at 6 p.m. and see what you can learn about your senses. Registration is required.



Diggin' Dinos

Super Science & Amazing Art has a fun, hands-on dino show that teaches while it entertains. This will be on Tues., **July 21** at 6 p.m.

And More!

Dino-rarium

Kids in grades 4 - 6 can sign up for this craft, where they'll make a dinosaur terrarium. This program is on Wed., **July 1** at 6 p.m., and registration is required.



Little Food Explorers

Valley Nutrition and Wellness will make a dino-themed snack with kids age 3 - 6. This program is on Tues., **July 14** at 3:30 p.m., and registration is required.

Snack Attack

Beginner chefs will learn to make a healthy snack with Valley Nutrition and Wellness. Kids age 7 - 11 will make dinosaur dirt cups. This program is on Wed., **July 22** at 2 p.m., and registration is required.

Did You Know?

Everything we know about non-avian dinosaurs comes from fossils. These are the preserved remains of any once-living thing.

It's rare to find nearly-intact skeletons. The ones we have include Sue the T. Rex, an Ankylosaur named Borealopelta, and a Titanosaur called Dreadnoughtus. Scientists get most of their information from smaller fossils.

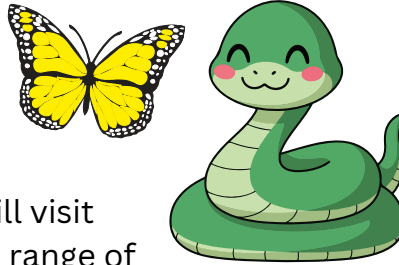
These fossils include more than just bones and teeth. Eggs, skin impressions, and tracks give us more information. Those tracks can be footprints, drag marks, and anything else that show where a dinosaur passed.

All Ages

Live Animals

Reptile Show

Christina's Reptile & Animal Sanctuary will visit with live animals and tell us about a wide range of reptiles including snakes, alligators, tortoises, and lizards. This program is on Sat., **July 18** at 12:30 p.m.



Butterflies

Folk's Butterfly Farm returns with a collection of butterflies in different stages of their life cycles. They can look incredibly different from the egg to the caterpillar to the chrysalis to the adult butterfly. Witness these wonderful winged creatures on Wed., **July 29** at 6 p.m.

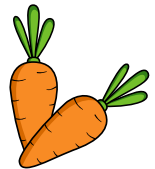
Movie Night: *Mickey's Twice Upon a Christmas*

Our monthly movie night is the 4th Wednesday of the month at 6 p.m. This month, on **July 22**, we're celebrating Christmas in July with this film pick. *Mickey's Twice Upon a Christmas* is a Disney Christmas anthology that features Mickey, Minnie Donald, Goofy and their friends in some heartwarming holiday tales.

Plant a Row

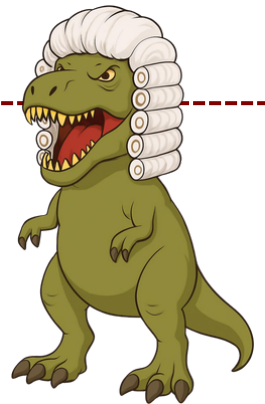
On Mondays from June 8 – October 5, from 9 a.m. – 4 p.m., we'll accept fresh produce donations for local families in need. You can bring one or two items or bags full - whatever you have available.

We're working with Plant a Row Lehigh Valley, who will pick up the produce so it can go to good homes.



Dino-Rama

This month, come see our diorama, which combines our Summer Reading theme with America's 250th anniversary. We've used dinosaur figures to recreate John Trumbull's *Declaration of Independence* painting (made in 1818), and you can see our work near our front desk.

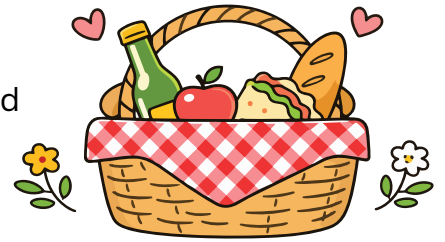


Board of Trustees Meeting

Members of the public are welcome to attend our board meetings. They usually meet at 6:30 p.m. on the second Thursday of the month, this month on July 9. We post our board minutes from the past year along with our most recent agenda on our website's Publications page.

Book Nook: National Picnic Month

What better way to start the month than a July 4th picnic? The word derives from the 17th century French *pique-nique*, which roughly means "to pick at nothing" and generally meant that all invited would bring a dish to share at a casual outdoor setting. Today, the meaning is more synonymous with words such as cookout, barbeque, tailgate, clambake, or outdoor dining. Each of these imply the setting and even the garb one should wear.



A picnic away from home involves a lot of planning because you can't run back into the house for something you forgot to pack, so it's very handy to make lists. Is there a special occasion or theme for the picnic? Where will it be? Do you need a permit? How many guests, and do you want them to bring something? What will you do during the picnic, such as play games? What's the plan if the weather is bad? What is the menu and what do you need for serving? What do you need for clean up?

If you plan a picnic away from your home, you should do a preliminary check of the setting you have in mind. Are parking and restrooms nearby? Is the ground level for blankets, chairs and tables? Do you see insects or poison ivy? Will a lifeguard be on duty if you are at a shore? Keep in mind that whatever you bring to a site must also be brought out, and that includes garbage.

There are library books to borrow that provide ideas to get you started. Of course, food is usually the focus of picnics, and it can be easy or elaborate, but it must be portable. There are several books specifically for picnics (641.578 and 642.3), but there are many general cookbooks with separate sections for picnics. You may also use the library catalog to find specific foods such as salads, bread, vegetarian, etc. Take advantage of our local parks and enjoy a day in the outdoors, or an evening watching fireworks.

~ Chris Andrews