

NEW TECH

Staff and patrons have all happily noticed the improved speed and coverage of the Library's Wi-Fi system, the first stage in the Library's information technology upgrade. The next stage—new public computers and software—is in the works for later this fall.

NEW YOUNG ADULTS (YA) SPACE

New, comfortable furniture has been brought into the YA space upstairs, and the Library's YA collection has been moved to nearby shelves. Plugs and ports abound, and young adults have found it extremely congenial. It is always gratifying to make Library facilities better fit the needs of our community, and the Friends are delighted to have contributed the furniture.



The gorgeous art hanging on the wall is from this month's exhibit by Ruth Lieberherr. It will only be here until the end of the month, but it complements the color scheme beautifully!

NEW STAFF



Meghan



Kristin



Maria

Fresh people—and fresh ideas!—are always coming to the Library. In the last few months, we have acquired a new Head of Maintenance, a new Bibliographic Services Librarian, and a new

Head and Aide in Circulation, not to mention numerous new faces in part-time positions.

Meghan, our new Bibliographic Services Librarian, previously worked in public libraries in Wellesley, Natick, and Needham and also at CW MARS library consortium as a cataloger. Over the years she has worked as a circulation assistant, technical services assistant, and reference librarian. She sees her mission as understanding the needs of patrons, making the most of our resources to ensure lifelong learning and literacy. She is excited to learn from and share her knowledge of library work with her colleagues in Winchester.

Kristin is our new Head of Circulation. She began working in libraries in 2011 and was previously Head of Circulation at Acton Memorial Library. Prior to her career in libraries, she worked in marketing and public relations. Kristin is passionate about making the library a welcoming place for all. She is an avid reader and animal lover and enjoys spending time with her family. She will be running WPL's latest book club, Monday Night Mysteries, which will begin in November.

Maria is a Circulation Aide at WPL. Before joining the staff at WPL, she enjoyed 17 years teaching kindergarten in Medford. Maria brings her love of books, reading, and community to her role at the circulation desk.

After 27 years serving the Library, Linda Bohan stepped down from her position as Administrative Assistant, and staffer Michelle Carta stepped up. Stop by the office and say hello!

THE OPEN HOUSE: LOVE FOR THE LIBRARY

"Love Your Library" was certainly the perfect theme for the Friends' springtime Open House event, which was held March 25, 2023, as it was a day full of smiles, fun, and celebration of our Winchester Public Library.

After months of planning and working with the Library staff as well as with local businesses, the Friends, led by the Open House Special Events team, put together

Continued on on page 5

LIBRARY PROGRAMS

The Library's calendar (<https://winpublib.assabetinteractive.com/calendar/>) is astonishingly full and offers events and programs for every individual or group in the community. We highly recommend that you bookmark the site and visit it often.

ADULT PROGRAMS

MONDAY, OCTOBER 30, 7:00–8:00 PM

Friends Speaker Series: Dan Gagnon

Join author **Dan Gagnon** for a discussion of his book *A Salem Witch: The Trial, Execution, and Exoneration of Rebecca Nurse*. Gagnon will shine a spotlight on Nurse's life and the 1692 witch hunt in general. *A Salem Witch* reveals a remarkable woman whose legacy has transformed how the witch hunt has been remembered and memorialized.

LARGE MEETING ROOM

Registration is not required, but you may sign up if you'd like an email reminder.

<https://winpublib.assabetinteractive.com/calendar/dan-gagnon/>



WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 8, 7:00–8:00 PM

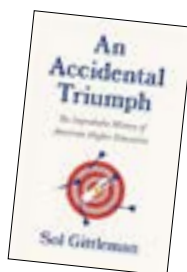
Friends Speaker Series: Sol Gittleman

Sol Gittleman, author and Professor Emeritus at Tufts University, will discuss his book *An Accidental Triumph: The Improbable History of American Higher Education*. Hardly a day passes without some reference to the decline of American colleges and universities. America has created, mostly by accident, a higher education enterprise unlike any in the world. In the years after WWII, American faculty have come to dominate the Nobel Prizes, while millions of international students seek a place on any American campus. So what are we: a higher education disaster, or the envy of the world? The answer is: both. How did this happen?

LARGE MEETING ROOM

Registration is not required.

<https://winpublib.assabetinteractive.com/calendar/sol-gittleman-author/>



MONDAY, NOVEMBER 6, 7:00–8:45 PM

Monday Night Mystery Book Club

Love mysteries? Join WPL's latest book group—*Monday Mysteries!*—starting in November, led by **Kristin**, our new **Head of Circulation**. This month's book is *The Postscript Murders* by Elly Griffiths. Check it out from the Library (book club books are on display in the Adult Reference Room) or download the ebook at digital.minlib.net.

SMALL MEETING ROOM. Capacity: 12

Questions?

Email Kristin at kmacleod@minlib.net for more information.

Registration is required for this event.

Register at <https://winpublib.assabetinteractive.com/calendar/monday-night-mystery-book-club/>

NOTE: Registering more attendees than spaces available will automatically place attendees on this event's wait list.

TEEN PROGRAMS

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 24, 6:30–8:30 PM

Tarot for Teens: Beyond Fortune Telling

Let's talk tarot! This program is for you if you've ever seen a tarot reader pulling cards on TikTok and thought to yourself, "I want to learn how to do that!" Just imagine what you could get out of the cards if you could ask highly personalized questions instead of just tuning in to the generic readings you see online.

This event is open to teens in grades 6–12 who want to learn more about how to read the cards for themselves and others, using the classic Smith-Rider-Waite deck as a guide. This program isn't about "fortune-telling," psychic predictions, or pinning down "what the cards mean." This is about empowering YOU to explore new ways to connect to your intuition.

Kate Sheridan, a.k.a. The Laundress, is a tarot reader and astrologer who believes that fortunes are created rather than told. Her approach is therapeutic rather than predictive, and her work is deeply informed by Jungian psychology.

LARGE MEETING ROOM

Capacity: 30

Registration is required.

<https://winpublib.assabetinteractive.com/calendar/tarot-for-teens/>

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 9, 2:00–4:00 PM

Off-Key Karaoke

This program is for students in grades 6–12. No adults! Can't carry a tune? No problem! Come belt out your favorite songs and appreciate all the warbles and screeches. The more off-key the better!

LARGE MEETING ROOM

Registration is required.

<https://winpublib.assabetinteractive.com/calendar/off-key-karaoke/>

Registration for this event opens Saturday, November 18, at 12:00 AM.

WINCHESTER PUBLIC LIBRARY DONOR LIST 2020–2023

With thanks and much appreciation to everyone who supported the Winchester Public Library during “the Covid years.”
Your generosity made it possible for the Library to continue and enhance its services to the community.

We salute you!

(If there are omissions or errors in the list, please accept our apologies!)

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TEEN READERS' CORNER

Reading Beyond the Page

Written by Georgia Keeler

While we still read the classics, students at Winchester High School and McCall Middle School are fortunate to have an ever-changing curriculum in our English Department. And although I may lament about the readings assigned for homework, each book is intentionally chosen to craft four years in the English Department that give students an excellent understanding and analysis skills for classic and modern literature. But where do these books come from?

With the guidance of WHS English Department Head **Carolyn Plosky**, a group called **Diversity Book Club** provides students' perspectives on books for each course, specifically focused on bringing representation and diversity in authors, stories, and characters to our classrooms. Students across grades are invited to join the club, drawing kids with different interests and from different backgrounds and classes. The one thing they all have in common is a commitment to practicing justice in our school and a love for reading.

Every year, Diversity Book Club sets their reading list, accounting for as many underrepresented identities, diverse opinions, and experiences as possible. To cover the most ground, the Book Club splits into smaller reading groups led by upperclassmen. After reading each book, reading groups and the overall club come together to make a final recommendation. Books are evaluated with a rubric and discussed at meetings to decide whether a book should be recommended for a course, recommended for summer reading, be available in the library or teachers' bookshelves, suggested for the Middle School, or altogether scrapped.

Past books have included *Notes of a Crocodile* by Qiu Miaojin, *Nella Larsen's Passing*, *Aristotle and Dante Discover the Secrets of the Universe* by Benjamin Alire Sàenz, and *Poet X* by Elizabeth Acevedo, which is now a book read by CP sophomore classes!

In an effort to combine teacher expertise, student recommendations, and our student body's commitment to justice, Diversity Book Club was created so that kids can have a say in how they learn to appreciate literature and see themselves and their peers represented in the works that they read. It is essential for successful learning that every student can feel accepted in their classroom and learn through a variety of authors, genres, histories, and perspectives.

Continued from page 1. **THE OPEN HOUSE LOVE FOR THE LIBRARY**

a fun-filled event for all ages. The day included a scavenger hunt that was a big hit for the kids and a wonderful opportunity for them to explore more of the Library as they took part in the "hunt." Additionally, the Open House featured a bake sale, an information table, raffles, crafts for the kids, a table of special products for sale from the Library, and a silent auction filled with amazing gift baskets and gift cards donated by local businesses and individual donors. Overall, Open House 2023 was a great success and the Friends would like to express their gratitude to all the local businesses and donors who contributed—and to all of the staff for their assistance, and especially to all who stopped by to enjoy the day.

Heartfelt Thanks to These Wonderful Donors to "Love Your Library":

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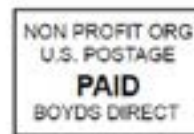
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LIBRARY HOURS

Monday–Thursday, 9:30 am–9:00 pm*

Friday–Saturday, 9:30 am–5:30 pm

Sunday, 2:00–5:00 pm

*Children’s Room closes at 8:00 pm

Mon–Thu.

Speaking Volumes is published by the Friends of the Winchester Public Library, a volunteer organization that supports your Library’s continuing excellence.

We raise funds for publications, equipment, and services that are not included in the Town’s budget but enhance the Library’s mission of improving the quality of life for Winchester residents.

Editors

Robert Rosenberg

Debbie Catalano, Assistant Editor

Library Liaison

Christine Amatrudo, Assistant Director

CHILDREN’S PROGRAMS

The Children’s Programs are supported by the Friends of the Winchester Public Library.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 4, 11:00 AM–NOON

Kids Creative Drama with Little Spark Theater

Kids ages 2–5 sign up to join Little Spark Theater for a high-energy, imaginative, zany, silly, super fun theater experience focused on senses, feelings, and movement through fun, energetic, and imaginative play! Parent/caregiver participation is encouraged.

LARGE MEETING ROOM. **Registration is required.**

Questions? Email winchild@minlib.net,

call (781) 721-7171 x326,

or visit the Children’s Room for more information.

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 13, 4:30–5:30 PM

Scratch in the Sandbox

Want to do more with coding? Kids in grades 3–5 join us to experiment coding with Scratch, and learn how to interface it with Lego Mindstorms EV3 and WeDo.

STORYTIME ROOM. **Registration is required.**

Questions? Email winchester@minlib.net.

Children younger than 9 years old must have an adult present on Library property during the event.

Questions? Email winchester@minlib.net.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 2, 10:30–11:30 AM

Hexbug Mazes

Join us to build a Lego maze and let your Hexbug find its way through! Materials will be supplied. For kids in grades 2–5.

STORYTIME ROOM. **Registration is required,**

which opens Saturday, November 11, at 9:00 AM.

Questions? Email winchester@minlib.net.

Children younger than 9 years old must have an adult present on Library property during the event.

Questions? Email winchester@minlib.net.

MONDAY, DECEMBER 18, 5:30–6:30 PM

In the Kitchen for Kids @ WLF

Let’s get cooking with Ms. B and Chef Kelcy at **Wright-Locke Farm!!** Sign up to learn how to make some tasty sweet and savory bites! This program is open to kids in grades 2–5 only and registration is required! We’ll be using the kitchen in the **All Seasons Barn at Wright-Locke Farm**, located at 82 Ridge Street in Winchester.

Registration for this event opens Monday, November 27, at 9:00 AM.

Questions? Email winchester@minlib.net.