



The Library Lookout

July 2020

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NEWS FROM THE LIBRARY DESK

By Bree Bussell, Adult Circulation Librarian

Oh happy day! We will be opening our doors to the public on Monday, July 20th! Our typical hours won't be resumed quite yet however; we'll continue to follow our current Curbside Pick-up hours. **Mondays and Wednesday** we're here from **2:00pm-6:00pm** and on **Fridays** from **10:00am-2:00pm**. We will allow patrons to browse the shelves and to use computers to some extent.

The library will be running a little bit differently than normal, and we do have some guidelines for use of the library in the coming months after re-opening. We encourage everyone to wear masks inside the building. We have disposable masks available, and if you are unable to wear a mask, remember - we will still be offering curbside pickup for books, DVDs, audiobooks, etc.

Unfortunately, at this time there will be no seating or use of the conference room, and **computer usage** will be strictly **limited to 30 minutes per person**. The **children's floor** will be open, but will be **restricted to one family at a time**. We will only be allowed a limited capacity at this time, and so we will be asking all families and individuals to make their trip to the library as brief as possible so that we can make sure everyone has the opportunity to come into the library during our limited hours. We realize that there are a lot of new rules to take into consideration, but we are thrilled to know we'll be seeing all of our patrons very soon!

With all that being said, Steve Dionne has absolutely outdone himself with his exquisitely designed circulation desk! We are so excited for everyone to see his work. It is such a grand statement piece to the library; it blends the old architecture of the building beautifully with the modern needs of the patrons today. Stop in to check some books out and take a peek!

In the coming months we will be participating in a statewide summer reading experience! Read ME is a statewide community read that gets Maine adults all reading two books recommended by a well-known Maine author. This year Maine Humanity Council's recommending author, Lily King, has chosen **Roughhouse Friday** by **Jaed Coffin** and **The Vigilance of Stars** by **Patricia O'Donnell**. The summer reading season will culminate at the end of August with a special episode of Maine Calling. All you have to do is read both books before the end of August and then you'll be entered for some great prizes! This is a great way to read a genre or an author you otherwise wouldn't have picked out.

Overall, we are just so happy to have some normalcy coming back into our lives. We want to thank everyone for making curbside such a success in these difficult times. We will see you all very soon! Happy reading.



Curbside Delivery

News from Angie Herrick Head Librarian & Youth Services

The summer reading program "Imagine Your Story" has started. It will run from June 29th – August 7th and is geared towards kids ages 2-12. Things are very different this year from years past. Due to COVID, everything will be done remotely. You can register your children online:

<https://skowhegan.beanstack.com/reader365>.

Once they are registered, there are two challenges to take part in: a reading challenge and an activity challenge. The reading challenge is simple. We are asking that the kids read or listen 20 minutes a day for five days a week. Each day they log their reading on the Beanstack website/app, and when they get their full 100 minutes a week, they will earn a badge. If they earn all six badges, they will get to come to the library to pick a prize! The second challenge is the activity challenge. Each Monday from between 2:00 – 6:00 during the six week program, we will have Take-Home Storytime Kits available to pick up at the library (while supplies last). These activity kits contain everything you need to do a weekly project that goes along with the Storytime theme of the week. Week 1 is all about dragons, so kids came to pick up dragon crafts on Monday and on Wednesday, I will read two dragon stories on Facebook at 10:15. Each week their child does the project, they can earn the activity badge for the week on the Beanstack website/app. If all six activity badges are earned kids will be awarded a Bankery coupon good for one Bookie Cookie.

We know that this is a little confusing and not like previous years, so please call or email us if you have any questions. We want to encourage kids to read and engage with us, even if it has to be from home and socially distant.

We want to thank the Friends of the Skowhegan Library for continuing to support our summer reading program. For many years, they have sponsored all of the weekly programming that goes along with summer reading. This year, since we are not able to do programming, they have instead donated all of the materials that went into the Take-Home Storytime kits and also donated incentives for readers who finish their challenges.

Though we will be opening in a few weeks, we do encourage parents to take advantage of our curbside service. There is a

Google form:

<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSfU4R0SM67gLPKfHERaCQLn30VQvI3pJjNvMs8YcK0YuN6Ipw/viewform>) where you can simply let us know what books you are interested in and we pull them and check them out to you then put them in a bag in our entry way for you when you get here. If you don't know exactly what you or your children want to read, we can select some for you! We have been offering this service for just over a month and have checked out just less than 1000 items to you all! Keep requesting and keep reading!

New Books for Adults

FICTION

Castillo, Linda/ *Outsider*
Clemmons, Francois S./ *Officer Clemmons*
Doiron, Paul/ *One Last Lie*
Higgins, Kristan/ *Always the Last to Know*
Hilderbrand, Elin/ *28 Summers*
Hurston, Zora Neale/ *Barracoon*
Hyde, Catherine Ryan/ *Brave Girl, Quiet Girl*
Jance, J.A./ *Credible Threat*
Kingsbury, Karen/ *Someone Like You*
Michaelides, Alex/ *The Silent Patient*
Oates, Joyce Carol/ *Night. Sleep. Death.*
The Stars
Oke, Janette/ *Unyielding Hope*
Sanford, John/ *Masked Prey*
Steel, Danielle/ *The Numbers Game*
Thayne, RaeAnne/ *Summer at Lake Haven*
Wingate, Lia/ *The Book of Lost Friends*
Wittenborn, Dirk/ *The Stone Girl*

NONFICTION

Achterberg, Cara Sue/ *One Hundred Dogs & Counting*
Oluo, Ijeoma/ *So You Want to Talk About Race*
Sherman, Casey/ *Hunting Whitey*





*** The new and beautiful Circ Desk!***

Comments from Library Patrons during the Covid19 quarantine

From Lynn Perry - **During this quarantine, I have been busy sewing masks for family and friends, scanning and archiving a historical photo collection, and going out to photograph birds and wildlife. I have really enjoyed using CloudLibrary to listen to audiobooks while sewing and scanning at home or listening in the car as I drive through some of the backroads of Maine looking for subjects to photograph. So far during the pandemic, I have listened to *Where the Crawdads Sing* by Delia Owens, *Beneath a Scarlet Sky* by Mark Sullivan, and I'm currently listening to *All the Light We Cannot See* by Anthony Doerr. I am really looking forward to hearing *One Last Lie* by Paul Doiron coming out on June 30th!**

From Pat Dickey - **I have been knitting and reading whatever books I have on hand. I just finished *Silent Patient* by Alex Michaelides and it held my interest - I could not put it down. I have been sorting thru pictures and have really enjoyed being home. Life is good.**

From Tasha Raymond - **Unfortunately, as a homeschooling and stay-at-home-parent, my “free time” hasn’t increased at all during the pandemic, if anything it has become more hectic. Lack of being able to take the kids to any type of gathering (Lego club, robotics club, etc.) has left a gap to fill. They are both too young to reap the benefit of virtual meet-ups with friends, so more activities at home has become a must. The SFPL’s curbside pickup program has been a life saver! The kids (8 and 4) were getting exceedingly bored re-reading our books at home over the past three months. Now that we can get new books from the library, they’ve dived right back into reading. Curbside pickup has also allowed us to get back on track with our homeschool studies. There is only so much you can do with a computer – it is no replacement for real books.**