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# The Library Lookout

March 2022

## NEWS FROM THE LIBRARY DESK

By Bree Bussell-Fitzgerald, Adult Circ Librarian

If March comes in like a lion, it'll go out like a lamb. I'm certainly ready for some gentle Spring weather – I think it's safe to say most everyone is. Spring is all about rejuvenation, change and regrowth. Plant something new in your garden, clear out some of that clutter you've been holding on to and take some time to take care of yourself. Books on all of those topics, and more, can be found at the library. A few that come to mind are: *Fresh from the Garden* by John Whittman, *Spark Joy* by Marie Kondo, and *The Comfort Book* by Matt Haig. Check one out today!

Recently, I have been adding books to my "To Read" list like crazy. I currently have 337 and it's still growing. Whenever I hear a patron raving about the latest book they've read, I typically add it to my own list! If you're like me and have tons of books you want to read, I'd suggest using the website Goodreads to keep track of everything. You can find similar books to ones you've enjoyed, new authors, and you can look up books by any genre or topic!



## NEW BOOKS

### FICTION

Bale, Leigh / *Her Amish Chaperone*  
Blay, Zeba / *Carefree Black Girls*  
Box, C.J. / *Shadows Reel*  
Brown, Jo Ann / *A Promise of Forgiveness*  
Brunstetter, Wanda / *The Sugarcreek Surprise*  
Clipston, Amy / *An Amish Barn Raising*  
Foley, Lucy / *The Paris Apartment*  
Fowler, Karen Joy / *Booth*  
Frost, Caroline / *Shadows of Pecan Hollow*  
Jance, J.A. / *Nothing to Lose*  
Kennedy, Elle / *Good Girl Complex*  
King, Stephen / *Gwendy's Final Task*  
Meltzer, Brad / *The Lightening Rod*  
Parton, Dolly: Patterson, James / *Run, Rose, Run*  
Preston, Douglas / *Diablo Mesa*  
Silver, Josie / *One Night on the Island*  
Solomon, Rachel Lynn / *Weather Girl*  
Zaleski, Laurie / *Funny Farm*

### NONFICTION

Gorey, Jon/ *Home Buying 101*  
Graff, Garrett/ *Watergate*  
Macwelch, Tim/ *The Ultimate Self Sufficiency Manual*  
Raskin, Jamie/ *Unthinkable*  
Sams, Tina/ *The Big Book of Herbal Medicine*  
Thompson, Neal/ *The First Kennedys*  
Walter, Barbara F./ *How Civil Wars Start*  
Zaleski, Laurie/ *Funny Farm*

## NEWS FROM YOUTH SERVICES

By Angie Herrick, Library Director

Although I am not technically the Children's Librarian anymore, I am still elbow deep in planning our 2022 Summer Reading Challenge! We are going back to in-person programming for this and the staff couldn't be more excited. This year's theme is "Ocean of Possibilities" and we will be reading and exploring all sorts of topics related to the ocean. So far, we already have a pirate puppet show planned at the Community Center, a program about tide pools that brings an actual touch tank type exhibit, and since this is my last chance to fully plan and run the summer programming a return visit by Maine author and illustrator, Chris Van Dusen is in the books! Just you wait and "sea" it will be a "whale" of a good time!

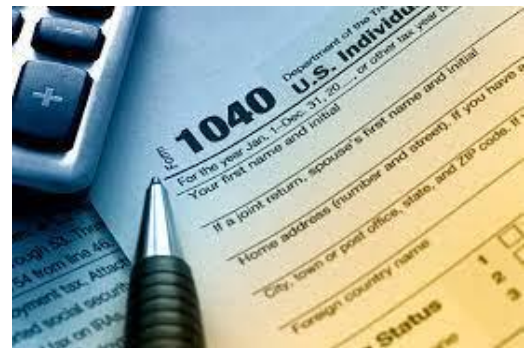
With the planning of the summer reading challenge comes the annual plea for the summer reading incentives. Last summer we handed out over 300 prizes and the kids logged over 30,000 minutes of reading. These prizes can be all sorts of things like balls, small art kits, silly putty, Lego mini figures, Matchbox cars, costume jewelry, water bottles, bubbles, kites, etc. Essentially anything you would find in an easter basket or at a little kid's birthday party as a favor. If shopping isn't your thing, we also accept monetary donations and we will purchase the incentives. Our community always does an amazing job filling our prize box and we are so grateful!



## NEWS FROM THE COMPUTER LAB

By Josie Pease, Technology Librarian

It is once again tax season, and you know what that means! Time for the hustle and bustle of filling out all those tax forms, a job I know most of us have probably been dreading. Thankfully, here at the library we carry free physical copies of the federal 1040 forms and instruction booklets, and are able to print off any other tax forms you might need for free, right here in the computer lab! We also have plenty of computers available if you're more of a file online kind of person.



And if you're looking for something to do during the tail end of this blustery winter, don't forget that we have a genealogy and local history collection that is a ton of fun to look through, even if you're not searching for anything in particular (though I do try to help with any specific requests for information as best I can!) We have books on many Maine towns, quite a few local family histories, vital records, old obituaries, and more, so please feel free to come browse and learn a bit more about the area.

## STAFF BOOK PICKS FOR FEBRUARY

**Bree:** -*Rock Paper Scissors* by Alice Feeney  
(psychological thriller)

-*The Paris Apartment* by Lucy Foley (a locked room mystery set in Paris)

-*Shadows Reel* by C.J. Box (a Wyoming Game Warden mystery)

**Miss Angie:** *Flight of Puffin* by Ann Braden (middle grade realistic fiction)

**Lyn Demchack:** *Winter Garden* by Kristin Hannah (historical fiction)

**Josie:** *Mala's Cat* by Mala Kacenberg (memoir, WWII)

## THE FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY SHOP

The Friends of the Library Shop on 61 Water Street in Skowhegan was created in early December 2020. Now, just a little over a year later, it has become a favorite place to purchase all types of household items (including books and furniture) both for your own home and for gifts.

Income from sales, (after paying expenses of rent, internet and insurance) has enabled the shop to deposit \$5,000 every three months into the Friends' account. This money has subsequently gone towards purchases for the library such as a 3D Printer, the Children's Reading program, and some of the new library flooring.

All items for sale are donated. Some do not remain in the store, but are occasionally transferred to Library Lawn Sales as new and different donations are received. In both July and December, mark-down sales are also held to tempt new and returning buyers. In addition, it must be mentioned that the excellent lighting along with attractive and clever displays in the shop have a great deal to do with successful sales. (Kudos to our wonderful staff!)

The shop's all-volunteer staff at this time includes mainly Karen Lewia, Lynda Quinn and Kirk Karkos. Additional volunteers who would like to consider helping on a regular basis of one- or one-half day each week are invited to contact Karen at the shop. (Telephone: 614 1011).

**Thanks** should go to the Friends of the Library who have initiated this successful project, to the people who have generously donated items to fill the shop's shelves and rooms with tempting items, to the capable staff members who donate their talent and time, and to the many shoppers who have discovered this well-stocked source for their purchases.

*Be sure to visit the Friends of the Library Shop, and support your library!*



*Karen, Kirk, and Lynda welcome shoppers at the Friends of the Library Shop*



*The "Book Room" at the Friends of the Library Shop*