

APRIL 2023

# THE LIBRARY LOOKOUT

OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE SKOWHEGAN FREE PUBLIC LIBRARY



## UPCOMING EVENTS

### CLOSURES

04/17 – Patriot's Day  
04/27 – Reading Roundup Conference  
4/28 – Staff Training Day  
5/22-5/23 – MLA Conference  
5/29 – Memorial Day

### PROGRAMMING

**Every Wednesday** – Storytime @ 10:30 - 11:30AM  
**Every Wednesday** – Patient Navigator for Substance Use Disorders @ 10AM-12PM  
**Every Thursday** – Career Center Consultant @ 1-4PM  
**Every Friday** – Sit & Knit @ 1-3PM

04/04 – 'Tween the Pages @ 4:00 - 5:30  
04/06 – Fairy Gardens Workshop (FULL) @ 10:30AM  
04/11 – Kids' Comic Club @ 3:45-4:15PM  
04/13 – Author Talk w/Karla Jordan @ 6PM  
04/18 – STEAM Lab (session 1, reg. required) @ 1PM  
04/18 – Coding Club (6-8 yr group, FULL) @ 3:30-5PM  
04/19 – STEAM Lab (session 2, reg. required) @ 1PM  
04/19 – Coding Club (group 3, FULL) @ 3:30-5PM  
04/20 – Mr. Sean Presents: Queen Jean @ 10:30-11:30AM  
04/20 – Coding Club (9-11 yr group, FULL) @ 3:30-5PM  
04/20 – Books & Brews @ 6:30-7:30PM  
04/25-26 – Library Week Bake Sale Fundraiser (all day)  
04/25 – Kids' Comic Club @ 3:45-4:15PM  
04/26 – LEGO Club @ 3:30-4:30PM

05/02 – 'Tween the Pages @ 4:00-5:30PM  
05/09 – Kids' Comic Club @ 3:45-4:15PM  
05/10 – RFGH Mental Health Awareness Talk @ 6PM  
05/11 – Basic Cake Decor. (Rescheduled, FULL) @ 10AM  
05/11 – Special Cake Decor. (Rescheduled, FULL) @ 1PM  
05/16 – Coding Club (6-8 yr group, FULL) @ 3:30-5PM  
05/17 – Coding Club (group 3, FULL) @ 3:30-5PM  
05/18 – Coding Club (9-11 yr group, FULL) @ 3:30-5PM  
05/18 – Books & Brews @ 6:30-7:30PM  
05/25 – LEGO Club @ 3:30-4:30PM  
05/25 – Author Talk w/Amy Calder @ 6PM  
05/30 – Windchimes Workshop (FULL) @ 12-2PM

## APRIL VACATION

We've got a LOT going on during April vacation this month! The library will be closed on Monday the 17th for Patriots' Day, but Tuesday through Friday of that week is filled with all sorts of fun for the whole family - STEAM programming, puppet shows, and Skowpendous to boot! We're about as excited as they come, as this week every year really feels like the start of making summer plans for us here at SFPL.



March's LEGO Club

We have two STEAM Lab sessions coming up, focused on the Spring season - Session 1 we'll be making paper circuit flowers and using fresh flowers to pound designs into our own tote bags that we'll then get to take home, and Session 2 we'll be making some DIY bird feeders and bird food ornaments to hang in our backyards! There's still room left in both of these sessions, so please give us a call if you'd like to sign your child up for either.

We also are lucky enough to have plenty of interest to fill THREE groups of Coding Club coming up. We'll be learning the basics of coding using the Blockly app and Dash robots, and then our groups will be using their thinking caps to work their way through monthly missions with their robots.

On the 20th, we'll have Mr. Sean and Rodney back for another interactive reading, puppet show, and short activity, this time featuring the book Queen Jean: The One-eyed Cat. It's sure to be a lot of fun that you don't want to miss!



## OUR FAVORITE PART OF SPRING - SKOWPENDOUS!

The annual Skowpendous event is coming right up - Friday, April 21st from 5:00-7:30PM - and it's an event that we can guarantee you don't want to miss! Not only will we be there (and who doesn't love visiting everyone's favorite local librarians *outside of the library*?) with all the info you need about our upcoming Summer Reading Program, as well as with some fun games and prizes, but it will also be host to a ton of other amazing local businesses and organizations offering their own great stuff!



Our librarians at last year's Skowpendous

## PLANNING FOR THE SUMMER READING PROGRAM

As it is every year when we start gearing up for our Summer Reading Program, we're looking to begin filling our prize box! Donations of new items to be used as summer reading incentives - like toys, games, lego minifigures, art supplies, accessories, earbuds, etc. - will be greatly appreciated over the next couple of months. These prizes are given to the 100+ 2-12 year old kids who sign up for our summer reading program every year as they meet their weekly reading goals.

We will also be collecting items again for another food drive this summer, so please keep an eye out for more details on what exactly we'll be collecting and where/when you can drop it off!



We're here for all of your telehealth needs

## VIRTUAL HEALTH APPOINTMENTS FOR ALL

We also want to remind people that we have a fantastic setup for any virtual telehealth appointments you may have. With a laptop, big screen, camera/microphone setup, ring light, and noise machine for privacy, our conference room is the perfect space to settle in for your doctor / therapy / or other health related appointments. Just give us a call to make sure the room is available and we'll get you all set up to use the equipment.



## THIS MONTH'S ADULT PROGRAMMING

Skowhegan Library is now host to a couple of recurring weekly drop-in programs. Every Wednesday from 10am-12pm we're lucky enough to have Cynthia Currier - a patient navigator for substance use disorder - from Somerset Public Health setting up at a table in our Memorial Reading Room to discuss any questions you may have for yourself or for loved ones about addiction, treatment options, and community resources for those struggling with substance use disorders. On Thursdays, from 1-4pm, we'll also have a consultant from the local career center set up shop in a similar fashion to help with information regarding job hunting, resumes, and any other employment-related questions you may have. No appointments are necessary for either of these resources, just drop in during the listed times.

April 13th at 6pm we will be host to another much-anticipated author talk, this time with Maine author Karla Jordan (author of *Cartwheels in the Dark*, which we know many of you have read and enjoyed!)

April's Books & Brews pick is *A Man Called Ove* by Fredrik Backman, so if you haven't had a chance to read it yet, make sure to stop by and grab a copy before this month's meeting on the 20th!



Last month's author talk with Tim Cotton



An example of the blessing bags we offer

## BLESSING BAGS

Over the past few years the library has occasionally received donations of "blessing bags" to hand out to individuals who may need them. These bags contain personal care items, hand warmers, snacks, tissues, etc, and we have been able to put a few at a time out by our front door for individuals to take as needed. Unfortunately, we have not received any donations for a while and we are out -- but the need is still there. We have people coming in specifically looking to see if we have any available.

If you have the desire to donate some bags (or some items) or know of an organization that might be willing to help us stock back up, we would appreciate it. Thank you!



# Staff Picks of the Month

Angie - *A Long Stretch of Bad Days* by Mindy McGinnis

Bree - *Dirty Laundry* by Disha Bose

Josie - *The Soulmate* by Sally Hepworth

Lyn - *The Beach at Painter's Cove* by Shelley Noble

We will be holding a bake sale on April 25th & 26th to help raise funds for the new HVAC system the library is in dire need of. We've got plenty of volunteers planning to bring in some amazing baked goods (think whoopie pies, cookies, fruit bars, rolls, pies!), so make sure to pop by on either of those two days and grab some goodies before they sell out!

## THE LIBRARY LOOKOUT 9 ELM STREET SKOWHEGAN, ME 04976

### LIBRARY STAFF

- Director: Angie Herrick
- Adult Circulation: Breanna Bussell-Fitzgerald
- Technology Librarian: Josie Pease
- Library Aide: Lydia Dore
- Volunteer: Lyn Demchak

### LIBRARY COMMITTEE TRUSTEES

- Karen Lewia
- Patrick Dore
- Debra Sterling
- Devin MacMichael
- Lynn Perry

### LIBRARY FRIENDS

- Chair: Debra Sterling
- Vice Chair: Karen Lewia
- Treasurer: Kirk Karkos
- Secretary: Lynda Quinn