

The Library Lookout

Official newsletter of the Skowhegan Free Public Library

If you ask us, August might just be the busiest month of the year at the library. We're still up to our eyeballs in the Summer Reading Challenge while also planning fall programs, preparing for a new school year, and weeding the collection in anticipation of one of our favorite annual traditions—our 6th Annual Free Book Giveaway!

During Skowhegan Fair week, Monday, August 17 through Friday, August 21, we'll once again line the library walkway with tables overflowing with free books. These books come from donated materials that weren't added to our collection, along with library items that have been withdrawn to make room for new titles.

Every year we hear someone say, "I didn't know you did this!" So, we're spreading the word early—mark your calendars!

There will be hundreds of books available, completely free of charge.

A few things to keep in mind:

- Please, no early birds.
- We cannot hold books for anyone.
- We have no way of knowing whether a particular title has been donated, so you'll have to stop by and browse for yourself.

Other than that, have fun! Take as many books as you'd like. Every book that finds a new home is one less that has to be recycled at the end of the week.

To make the week even sweeter, we'll also be hosting our annual Bookworm Bake Sale on Monday and Tuesday, August 17–18. All proceeds will go toward restoring and re-patching the library's historic granite foundation.

Come for the books, stay for the bake sale, and leave with a smile.

(to the right) Miss Emily celebrated her one year workiversary at the library! Here's to another great year Miss Emily! Congrats!



Upcoming Events

Recurring

Every Wednesday - Storytime
@ 10:30AM

Every Friday - Sit & Knit @ 1 -
3PM

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8/4 - Within the Whale at  
Margaret Chase Smith Library  
@ 10AM

8/5 - BooOooks in the  
Basement @ 6:15PM

8/6 -Matt Cost Author Talk @  
6PM

8/14 - Dino-rama Showcase

8/14 -Last day of Summer  
Reading Program

8/17-8/21 - Annual Book  
Giveaway

8/17 & 8/18 -Bookworm Bake  
Sale

8/20 - Northern Stars  
Planetarium at Margaret Chace  
Smith Library @ 10:30AM

8/20 - Connelly Connections  
Storytime @ 3PM

8/27 - DIY Bag Stamp Adult  
Craft @ 12:30PM

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Closures

8/24- Closing at 2PM for staff
training

Library Updates

Emily Ecker, Children's Librarian

We're in the Summer Reading home stretch! In July, kiddos learned how to excavate artifacts of both the fossil and cookie variety, and they were able to meet TWO authors! Josh Funk read his picture books at Coburn Park, and Betty Culley (and her husband) led an insightful discussion here at the library about the environmental impacts of landfills that inspired her most recent middle grade novel.



In August, we'll be finishing things off with our two program collaborations with the Margaret Chase Smith Library (Within the Whale on the 4th and the Northern Stars Planetarium on the 20th), and our Dino-rama showcase on the 14th! We can't wait to see the dioramas everyone creates based on their favorite reads of the summer!

News from Bree Bussell-Fitzgerald, Adult Services

Summer Reading is going strong! August 31st is the last day to collect bingo prizes so be sure to stop by and grab a gift card for all your hard work. Don't forget we have local author Matt Cost stopping by on the 6th at 6pm so be sure to come hear the latest on his newest books! Our latest crafting events have been wildly popular and I'm always looking for new ideas so if there's something specific you'd like to create, let me know and I'll try my best to make it happen! August also means that Books & Brews is coming up next month so be on the lookout for September's read!



(Right) Elsie and family meet children's author Josh Funk!

News from Nikki Hathaway, Tech Services Librarian

The cabinets are all set up in the basement preparing for Library of Things! One step closer to being able to lend more than books, movies and games! BooOOooks in the Basement will be reading 'The Spite House' by Johnny Compton for our September 2nd meeting.

Fundraising Updates

For August, our fundraising partnership is with Lakewood Theater! See below for details!

Lakewood Theater wedding event of the season with the Skowhegan Free Public Library!

Sunday, August 30th
4:00pm performance
Lakewood Theater
76 Theater Road
Madison, Maine

Tickets: \$75 per person
includes admission to the show,
'Meet & Greet' of the actors,
hors d'oeuvres, desserts,
one glass of wine or beer
after the conclusion of the show!
Opportunity drawings, cash bar,
and accepting of donations!



Limited tickets available and need to be purchased by August 10th
Tickets can be purchased at the Skowhegan Free Public Library, Friends of the Library Shop or
Contact Maureen Provencal: mrprovencal81@gmail.com



THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSOR



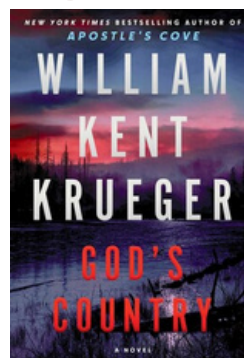
Staff Book Picks for August



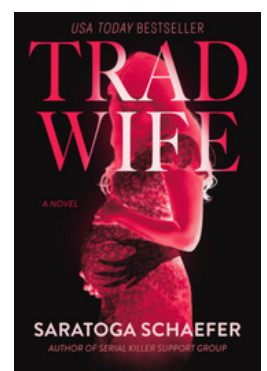
Nikki -
A Witch's Guide to
Magical Innkeeping
by Sangu Mandanna



Emily -
Verity Fox and the
Curse of Foxfire
by Don Martin



Bree -
God's Country
by William Kent Krueger



Angie -
Trad Wife
by Saratoga Schaefer

LIBRARY STAFF

Director: Angie Herrick
Adult Circ: Breanna Bussell-Fitzgerald
Youth Services: Emily Ecker
Technology Librarian: Nikki Hathaway
Volunteer: Janet Mayhew

BLOOMFIELD ACADEMY TRUSTEES

President: Lynda Quinn	Maureen Provencal
Devin MacMichael	Noella DesPres
Debra Sterling	Robert Washburn
Lynn Perry	Kristina Canon
	Patricia Horine

Our Mission

At the Skowhegan Free Public Library, our mission is to foster a community where the freedom to read and access information is paramount. We are dedicated to providing a well-rounded and diverse collection of resources that cater to the educational, recreational, and cultural needs of all our patrons. Our library serves as a welcoming space for every community member, promoting inclusivity and accessibility. We are committed to sustainable practices, ensuring that our operations and services contribute positively to the environment and the well-being of future generations. Together, we empower minds, inspire lifelong learning, and build a brighter, more informed world.



Supporting the library year-round is essential to maintaining the programs, resources, and services our community relies on. Please consider making a donation today to help ensure we can continue offering these valuable resources all year long.

Names _____

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No Thank You

Checks should be made payable to the Skowhegan Free Public Library

Send completed form to: The Skowhegan Free Public Library

9 Elm Street, Skowhegan, ME 04976

Gift is tax deductible as allowed by law.

You can also donate online using Paypal by scanning the QR code
with your phone's camera.

(You will be directed to the TRUSTEES OF BLOOMFIELD
ACADEMY

– this is correct and gifts will go to the Skowhegan Public Library.)

