



The Library Lookout

May 2021

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NEWS FROM THE LIBRARY DESK

By Bree Bussell, Adult Circulation Librarian

I always look forward to the coming of spring after a long winter, this year especially. I love seeing the pops of color from all the flowers, the blossoms on the trees, and listening to all the birds! The one thing that I don't love about spring is the need for spring cleaning. Do you have some dish sets or glassware you just don't use any more? What about jewelry that isn't your style? Or décor pieces that don't match your home? Instead of throwing them away or keeping them boxed up in your home you can donate them to the Friends of the Library Shop! All proceeds go to the library so what better way to declutter your home while supporting the library!

The adult summer reading program, ReadME, begins in June and I am so happy to be able to offer this to my patrons once again! Well known Maine author, Gerry Boyle, has chosen this summer's books and I really think readers will enjoy them. The first is *Mill Town* by Kerri Arsenault. This powerful memoir is about family, life in a small town, the mill that employed many folks and the effect that mill has had on the environment. The second book is *Mainely Power* by Matt Cost. This mystery is about a Private Investigator living in Brunswick who has to clear his name after being framed for two murders, all while running his bookshop on the side. These sound like great books to start your summer off, and every patron who reads both will be entered to win a gift card from a local business!

Josie, our technology librarian, has been helping so many patrons with a variety of computer-based tasks and now she has another thing to offer; help with registering online for your vaccination! We know it can be overwhelming to have to do important things online but we are here to guide you so you feel more confident with your tasks!

Easter Basket Raffle

The winning ticket for the Easter Basket Raffle was drawn at the Library Store on April 2nd. This project netted \$192.00 to be used towards expenses of the summer 2021 Children's Reading program at the library.



Harlee MacMichael was the lucky winner of the Easter Basket Raffle!



A young visitor stopped to admire the pansies recently on his way into the Library

News from Angie Herrick

Head Librarian & Youth Services

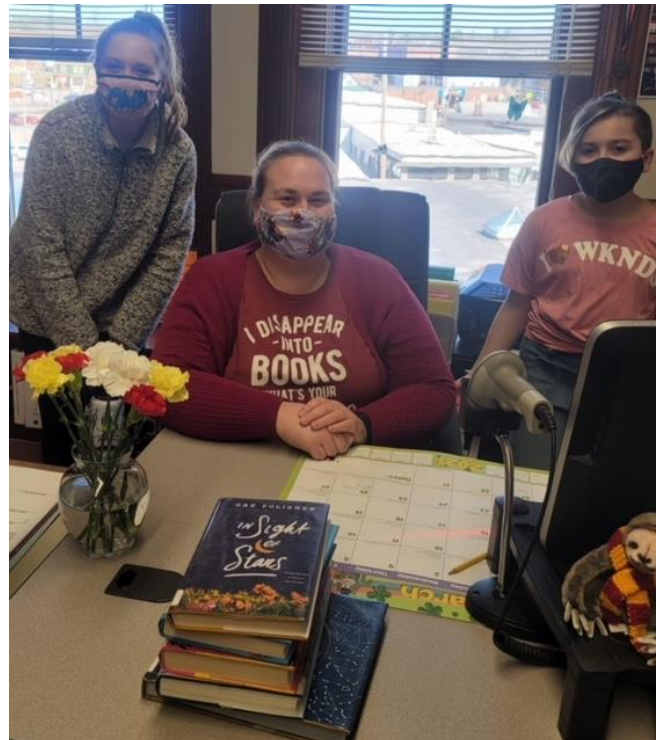
Every spring a committee of Maine teachers, librarians, and literacy specialists release three new lists of books that they think are the previous year's best of the best. These lists are the Chickadee Award Books (which are for students in grades K-4) Maine Student Book Award Books (for students in grades 4-8) and the North Star YA Award Books (for young adult readers). Each school year students are encouraged to read as many books from these lists as they can and then participate in a statewide vote, where they select the year's winning titles. Winners are usually announced in May (so you will have to check our website and Facebook list soon to see 2021 winners.)

We are excited for the first time this year to be able to add EVERY book off all three 2021 lists to our collection. All of them have been ordered and many of them have already made their way to the shelves. If you have students interested in reading books from the Chickadee, Maine Student Book Award, or North Star collections, you can check out the full lists right on our website: <https://www.skowhegan.lib.me.us/maine-book-award-lists>

We are also excited to have been able to add a third Nature Explorer Backpack into our circulation. We now have Birds, Wildlife, and Plants available to checkout. All three of these backpacks contain a user guide, as well as fun activities, games, props, books, craft

ideas, and even ways to use your smartphone to connect with the natural world. We are already seeing the first two go out frequently and hope the newest backpack all about plants is just as popular. We are hoping in the future to add some other backpacks and kits to our collection as this is a great way to share resources with families and to help encourage learning and curiosity! Let us know if you have any ideas you would like us to consider adding to our growing backpack collection.

Please don't forget that we are only a few weeks away from starting our summer reading program: Tails and Tales. This year we are offering a mostly remote program with reading and projects all being done at home. We will have an end of summer program outside at Coburn Park. Details will be coming soon, so be on the lookout. We are still requesting and collecting prizes for our readers. Popular prizes include: Lego minifigures, Pokémon cards, Matchbox cars, balls, beach toys, silly putty, slime, bubbles, chalk, kites, jump ropes, small art kits, etc. We basically will take any new, non-food items that you think kids would enjoy. In years past we have given out up to 600 prizes. Please call (207) 474-9072 if you have any questions about our upcoming summer reading program.



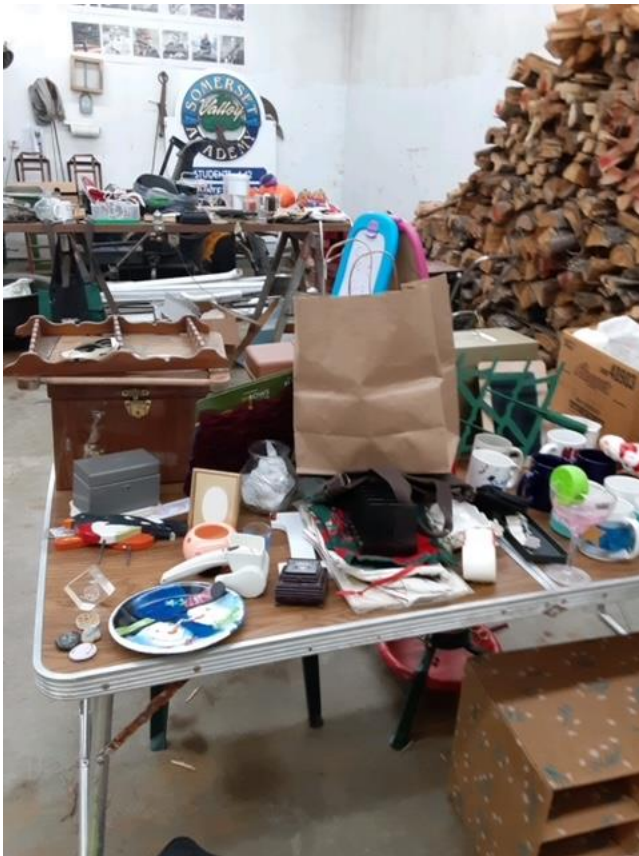
Evelyn and Lucia brought Miss Angie flowers to celebrate National Librarian Day!

LAWN SALE

A very successful yard sale was held at Lynda Quinn's property on the East River Road on Saturday, April 24. All items sold were from the overflow of donated objects to the Friends of the Library Store. Each buyer was given a paper grocery bag to fill for the price of \$5. The resulting total was \$510 and has been added to the store's receipts.

This occasion was so successful that another sale will be scheduled in the near future. Watch for the date and details, and keep donating to the Friends of the Library Store. Any items are welcome with the exception of clothes, toys and electronics.

THANK YOU to everyone who is helping to make these sales so successful!



The tables were full of small treasures at the recent Lawn Sale

NEW BOOKS

FICTION

Archer, Jeffrey/ *Turn a Blind Eye*
Baldacci, David/ *A Gambling Mangrove*
Beck, Kristin/ *Courage, My Love*
Biden, Hunter/ *Beautiful Things*
Bohjalian, Christopher A./ *Hour of the Witch*
Dray, Stephanie/ *The Women of Chateau Lafayette*
Grisham, John/ *Sooley*
Jance, Judith A./ *Missing and Endangered*
Kinsbury, Karen/ *A Distant Shore*
Parker, Robert B./ *Payback*
Mbue, Imbolo/ *How Beautiful We Were*
McCracken, Elizabeth/ *The Souvenir Museum*
Morse, Eleanor/ *Margreete's Harbor*
Patterson, James/ *21st Birthday*
Quinn, Kate/ *The Rose Code*
Rosen, Renee/ *The Social Graces*
Sandford, John/ *Ocean Prey*
Smith, Wilbur A./ *Legacy of War*
Steel, Danielle/ *Finding Ashley*
Thayne, RaeAnne/ *The Sea Glass Cottage*
Tompkins, Joanne/ *What Comes After*
Williams, Pip/ *The Dictionary of Lost Words*

NON-FICTION

Behr, Gregg/ *When You Wonder, You're Learning*
Biden, Hunter/ *Beautiful Things*
French, Erin/ *Finding Freedom*



April 14, 2021

Dear Friends,

The Friends of the Skowhegan Free Public Library is forgoing the annual membership drive for 2021. Due to the Covid-19 pandemic we have not held fundraisers this past year.

We have donated money for the 2020 summer reading program and the book drive.

We look forward to planning fund-raising activities in the future and resuming the membership drive in 2022.

Thank you for your support in past years.

Sincerely,
FOL membership committee



Josie is helping a college student sign up for a Covid vaccine through one of our public access computers



Bree checks out a book for a patron



Karen holds a cup and saucer for sale at the Friends of the Library Store



The staff takes time to celebrate two recent birthdays during their lunch hour

Watch for more information soon!
A "Library Tea Party" is being planned for later in the Spring, to be held at the store!

Happy Spring to one and all!

