

FEBRUARY 2023

THE LIBRARY LOOKOUT

OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE SKOWHEGAN FREE PUBLIC LIBRARY



UPCOMING EVENTS

CLOSURES

01/30 to 02/03 – Library Inventory
02/20 – President's Day

PROGRAMMING

02/06 – Safely Creating Online Accounts @ 12:30
02/07 – Tween the Pages @ 4:00 - 5:30
02/08 – Storytime @ 10:30 - 11:30
02/10 – Sit & Knit @ 1:00 - 3:00
02/15 – Storytime @ 10:30 - 11:30
02/16 – Stained Glass Workshop @ 10:30
02/16 – Books & Brews @ 6:30 - 7:30
02/17 – Sit & Knit @ 1:00 - 3:00
02/21 – Coding Club (ages 6-8) @ 3:30 - 5:00
02/22 – Storytime @ 10:30 - 11:30
02/23 – LEGO Club @ 3:30 - 4:30
02/24 – Sit & Knit @ 1:00 - 3:00
02/27 – Learn to Crochet @ 1:00 - 3:00
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03/01 – Storytime @ 10:30 - 11:30  
03/02 – Basic Cake Decorating @ 10:30  
03/03 – Sit & Knit @ 1:00 - 3:00  
03/06 – Learn to Crochet @ 1:00 - 3:00  
03/07 – Tween the Pages @ 4:00 - 5:30  
03/08 – Storytime @ 10:30 - 11:30  
03/10 – Sit & Knit @ 1:00 - 3:00  
03/15 – Storytime @ 10:30 - 11:30  
03/16 – Special Event Cake Decorating @ 10:30  
03/17 – Sit & Knit @ 1:00 - 3:00  
03/20 – iPhone Basics (Part 1) @ 1:30 - 2:30  
03/21 – iPhone Basics (Part 2) @ 1:30 - 2:30  
03/21 – Coding Club (ages 6-8) @ 3:30 - 5:00  
03/22 – Storytime @ 10:30 - 11:30  
03/22 – iPhone Basics (Part 3) @ 1:30 - 2:30  
03/23 – Books & Brews @ 6:30 - 7:30  
03/24 – Sit & Knit @ 1:00 - 3:00  
03/27 – Email Basics (Part 1) @ 11:30 - 12:30  
03/28 – Email Basics (Part 2) @ 11:30 - 12:30  
03/29 – Storytime @ 10:30 - 11:30  
03/30 – Crocheting w/ GFWC @ 11:30  
03/30 – LEGO Club @ 3:30 - 4:30  
03/31 – Sit & Knit @ 1:00 - 3:00

## NEXT GENERATION FOUNDATION HONORS CORRILLA HASTINGS & STEVE DIONNE

I don't think anyone who has been to the library since the initial major renovations began in the early 2000's, a long process known to us here as Project 2012, could argue what a huge change in environment and demeanor those updates gave this old, historic building. And anyone who knows the hard work that went into getting us there, knows that Corrilla Hastings was one of the major reasons for Project 2012's success. Through the writing of numerous grants and the hosting of many fundraisers, she spearheaded the efforts to bring this library into the 21st century. And none of those renovations would have been physically possible without the massive amount of work put into them by Steve Dionne, who has handled nearly every renovation project the library has seen since this process began.

In large part because of these two, the library was able to get to where it is today. And we're not the only ones who recognize this... The Next Generation Foundation, host to one of the initial grants we received for the renovations, is closing down their foundation, and in an effort to distribute remaining funds have come up with the Evie Award to recognize "exceptional nonprofits". **And in honor of Corrilla Hastings and Steve Dionne, recognizing the hard work they put into this process, they have donated \$5,000 to the library to be used however we need.** We wholeheartedly agree that these two deserve the honor, and we're so glad to see others recognize that this library is where it is because of some truly dedicated people.





## FUNDRAISING

The next big project that the library is working towards is the installation of a new HVAC (heating, ventilation, and air conditioning) system. This is an enormous project, costing in excess of \$230,000, but the current units we have are old and have begun to cost more in regular repairs than they are worth. It's long past due for them to be replaced, and so we are looking to do so with a new set of units that are energy efficient and will last us a good, long time. So far we've raised \$8,300 via our annual appeal, \$1,800 via other fundraisers, and \$5,000 via gift from the Next Generation Foundation.

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The Christmas Basket Raffle was once again a great success! \$1,400 was raised from this fundraiser, along with another \$400 from the sales of bags and cups that were sold and delivered to customers. A special thank you to all who sold and bought tickets, as well as those who donated items for the basket. We will be doing another basket raffle in the fall and the proceeds will go to the upcoming HVAC project! We'd love it if you plan to help support that fundraiser as well.

Thank you,  
Pat Dickey, Corrilla Hastings, & Judy Bowzer

## WE'RE HIRING!

With our new fiscal year upon us this month, we are once again taking applications for a new Youth Services Librarian! This position is well suited for someone who is passionate about serving the community and creating a welcoming environment where youth of all ages can explore, discover, create, learn, and have fun. The ideal candidate has a passion for being of service to the community by supporting young people, their families, caregivers, and educators. They want to create a safe environment that fosters exploration, discovery, lifelong learning, and a love of reading. And most importantly, they share the library's service values of equity, knowledge, respect, and empathy and they work with a spirit of inclusive collaboration.

Applications will be accepted for this position until March 1st, 2023. For more information on the job, requirements, and salary, as well as on how to apply for this position, please visit our website at <https://www.skowhegan.lib.me.us/employment-opportunities> or stop by the library and ask us for more details and an application. We're looking forward to meeting any prospective new SFPL librarians!

**GOAL: \$230,000**



## VALENTINE'S DAY CRAFT

We've got a fun kids' Valentine's Day craft kit ready to go and available for pickup on the 6th! Given to us by Corilla Hastings, Pat Dickey, and Judy Bowzer, they put together a ton of exciting grab bags full of fun stuff for kids to make Valentine's Day cards that they can give to all their friends and family.



*Valentine's Day Card Kits*

## Staff Picks of the Month

Angie - *Call Me Mrs. Brown* by Brendan O'Carroll

Bree - *How to Sell a Haunted House* by Grady Hendrix

Josie - *What Lies in the Woods* by Kate Alice Marshall

Lydia - *The Hobbit* by J.R.R. Tolkien

Lyn - *Beach Colors* by Shelley Noble

**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