

JUNE 2024

# THE LIBRARY LOOKOUT

OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE SKOWHEGAN FREE PUBLIC LIBRARY

FREE PUBLIC LIBRARY 1889



Summer is finally here! We have so many exciting things happening at the library to get your season started off right.

May is a busy month for the librarians with two separate conferences to attend that help us keep up to date with new programs and learn about new and different ways to support the community.



We want to say a big thank you to the Friends of the Library for their support in attending the MLA conference in particular. Their support allowed us to stay overnight and attend both days' worth of events. We came away with some great inspiration for the coming year. We appreciate your patience during these closures as well.

We're happy to announce that we have passes to three popular Maine attractions available for check out. Lake George, The Botanical Gardens and the Children's Museum in Bangor. To take advantage of the passes, simply visit or call the library and let us know when you plan to use them! Dates and details on our Facebook page or at <https://www.skowhegan.lib.me.us/>

June also marks the beginning of the Summer Reading Program. We have two separate programs happening this month, one for children ages 2-12 and the other for adults or anyone aged 13 and older. Just like with past years, we'll have prizes for completing bingo or meeting your reading challenges and will have programs galore to inspire you along the way.

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### Summer Reading Recurring

**Every Wednesday** - Storytime @ 10:30AM  
**Every Wednesday 6/26-8/14**- Free lunch immediately following Storytime  
**Every Friday** - Sit & Knit @ 1 - 3PM  
**Last Thursday** - LEGO Club  
**Third Thursday** - Books & Brews

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6/04- Selectman Candidates Q&A at Joe's Flat Iron Cafe @ 4:30PM  
6/11 - YA Book Club @ 5PM  
6/13- Tim Caverly Author Talk @ 6PM  
6/17- Early Sign ups  
6/17- Jewelry w/ Sallyann @ 2PM  
6/20- Books & Brews at Unwined @ 6:30PM  
6/24- SRP Official start date  
6/27 - LEGO Club @ 3:30PM  
6/29- SRP Sign ups and Tie -dye @ 10:30AM at the Skowhegan Farmers' Market

### CLOSURES

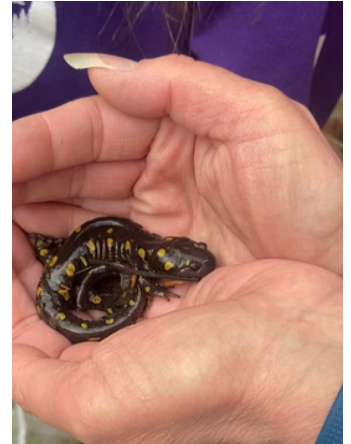
6/19- All day in observation of Juneteenth  
7/04- All day  
7/05- All day  
7/06- All day



# NEWS FROM YOUTH SERVICES BY GABRIELLE HUNTER, YOUTH SERVICES LIBRARIAN



"This month in the Children's Tower we got out of the library and into the woods for our collaborative Vernal Pool Hike with Somerset Woods Trustees. We found Fairy Shrimp, which are endangered. So it was so satisfying to see a healthy Vernal Pool environment.



In addition, we have a group of very savvy, young business owners during our weekly storytime that are making and selling homemade bookmarks and other creations. They are using stickers and paper money as currency and learning a lot of useful life skills, while making friends.



Finally our Warrior Cats Book Club came to an end this month. Each of the Warrior Cat readers made a diorama of their favorite Clan habitats complete with mini cat action figures. These turned out great. The kids used natural and found materials to make them realistic. I am sad to pause our Tween the Pages Book Club for the summer, but we do have so much action and adventure planned for Summer Reading this year. I hope to see everyone at our events."





# News from the Library Desk By Breanna Bussell-Fitzgerald, Adult Services Librarian

Much of May was spent preparing for the fun that is the Summer Reading Program. Our Bingo boards are ready and our programs are scheduled! We have something for everyone this year from Bigfoot to Body positive hiking and lots in between.

Just like last year, come to the library to pick up your BINGO board and then stop by when you get a BINGO for a prize! We'll have a limit of 3 BINGO's per person.

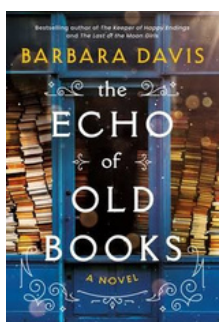
Also, I know nobody likes to be told what to read so I want to reassure you that our board doesn't require specific books. We want to inspire you to try something new BUT it's important that you enjoy what you're reading, otherwise, what's the point?

We look forward to seeing you and getting our summer started off right!

## Summer Reading Bingo

|                                       |                                      |                                     |                                     |                                    |
|---------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| READ A BOOK BY A MAINE AUTHOR         | GO TO A LIBRARY PROGRAM              | READ A BOOK WITH AT LEAST 1 PICTURE | TAKE A SELFIE ON A HIKE OR WALK     | READ AT A PARK                     |
| READ A BOOK WITH 300 PAGES            | READ A BOOK WITH TREES ON THE COVER  | TAKE A SELFIE WITH A LIBRARIAN      | READ A BOOK ABOUT MAINE             | GO TO A FARMERS MARKET             |
| EAT A CLASSIC "MAINE" DESSERT         | READ A NON FICTION                   | <b>FREE</b>                         | READ A GENRE YOU DON'T USUALLY READ | READ A MYSTERY                     |
| READ A BOOK WITH ANIMALS ON THE COVER | READ A BOOK THAT IS PART OF A SERIES | READ A BOOK WITH FOOD ON THE COVER  | READ A FRIEND'S FAVORITE BOOK       | READ A BOOK TAKING PLACE ON A FARM |
| MAKE A MEAL WITH LOCAL PRODUCE        | LISTEN TO AN AUDIO BOOK              | GET SOME ICE CREAM                  | READ A BOOK BY A FEMALE AUTHOR      | PLANT SOMETHING                    |

## Books & Brews



Books & Brews will be reading *The Echo of Old Books* by Barbara Davis so please grab a copy and join us! June's book was selected from the "losers" of previous book club votes. After June, Books & Brews will take a break until after the Summer Reading Program.



## Tech News by Nikki Hathaway, Technology Librarian

In addition to all of the wonderful activities happening for the Summer Reading Program, we're also working on new ways to increase our positive impact.

One way we're doing that is to take a closer look at our sustainability practices and to reduce our carbon footprint. Last month, we started the process of joining the Sustainable Libraries Initiative to get some guidance on our journey and to eventually become Sustainability Certified.

Some steps we've already taken include: Installing an updated HVAC system; using LED bulbs; recycling paper, cardboard, and bottles/ cans; and offering sustainability programming!

We'd love to hear your thoughts on what else we could do to reduce our footprint and inspire/ educate our community on ways to do so too! Give us a call or message if you have any ideas you'd like to see implemented!

## Staff Picks of the Month

**Angie** - *The Husbands* by  
Holly Gramazio

**Bree** - *Pitch Dark* by Paul  
Doiron

**Gabrielle** - *Ferdinand* by  
Munroe Leaf

**Lydia** - *Malibu Rising* by  
Taylor Jenkins Reid

**Nikki** - *The Last Cuentista* by  
Donna Barba Higuera

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

#### LIBRARY STAFF

Director: Angie Herrick  
Adult Circ: Breanna Bussell-Fitzgerald  
Youth Services: Gabrielle Hunter  
Technology Librarian: Nikki Hathaway  
Library Aide: Lydia Dore  
Volunteers: Lyn Demchak &  
Sam Galbraith

#### LIBRARY FRIENDS

Chair: Karen Lewia  
Treasurer: Kirk Karkos  
Secretary: Lynda Quinn  
Matt Dubois  
Gretchen Washburn  
Claire Theriault-Perkins

#### LIBRARY COMMITTEE TRUSTEES

Devin MacMichael  
Patrick Dore  
Debra Sterling  
Lynn Perry  
Lynda Quinn