



May

AT KFL



May 2023 | Volume 30, Issue 5

Library News and Events

Friends of KFL Book Sale - May 6



The Friends May Day book sale is Saturday, May 6 from 9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m., rain or shine, with great books and bargains for everyone.... Friends will also join in the May Day parade, highlighting all the library has to offer. We hope to see you at the festivities!

KFL also has great museum and attraction passes available for a variety of Maine locations, all funded by the Friends. Find out more at our [website](#).



It's Annual Appeal Time!

Hello Spring! The longer days of sunshine and warmer temperatures mean that summer will make it to Maine eventually and that it's time to fundraise for all the creative programs and activities that are on the KFL calendar. Our dedicated volunteers and staff members have prepped the Annual Appeal mailing that will arrive soon if it hasn't already. As an independent nonprofit, your support is vital to making our mission "to inspire and enable our communities to discover, learn, and connect", come to life and for that we are truly grateful.

Please find more detailed information here:

[Link to AA letter 2023](#)

[Link to AA infographic 2023](#)

[Donate Here](#)

**26th Edition 5K Registration is now Open! -
Friday, July 14 at 6:00**

Our volunteer t-shirts have arrived, a sure sign that



summer is coming! Thank you to our volunteer sponsor Cole Harrison Insurance! To the left, KFL staff members Cynthia and Kat model the shirts that you'll be seeing on all of our event volunteers.

Goodie bags are going fast! Register now to ensure that you are among the 200 lucky participants to claim one, including a navy blue 5K t-shirt.

Our scenic course begins and ends in the library parking lot, winding through peaceful local neighborhoods and the beautiful and perfectly-maintained Hope Cemetery and Woods trails. USATF certification is pending.

Following the race, join us for a party on the library lawn, with live music, food, and a beer tent! The meal is free to all runners; a modest fee for everyone else.

Prizes will go to the top male and female finisher in each of nine age categories.

Though we are not offering a separate virtual race registration, if you are unable to join us in person, we encourage you to run your own course and send us photos. One winner, determined by KFL staff vote, will receive a prize.

**REGISTER
NOW**

THANK YOU TO OUR 5K EVENT SPONSOR!!



Adult Programs

Reader's Choice Book Club - May 1

Reader's Choice

Book Club

Monday,

May 1

at 2:00 p.m.

This month's theme...
A Book Set in Another Country



Reader's Choice Book Club will meet on Monday, May 1 at 2:00 p.m. in the Walker Room. This month's theme will be A Book Set in Another Country.

How does this book club work? You choose your own book to read based on the monthly theme, and then join us for a casual and fun conversation. Stop by the library for the bookmark with 2023's list of monthly themes. Everyone is welcome!

Spanish Language Conversation Group - May 1, 8, 15, 22



Stop by the Kennebunk Free Library from 5:30 to 6:30 on Monday evenings, for an opportunity to practice conversational Spanish with educator and native Spanish-speaker Eva Hernandez.

Eva was born in Madrid to a family of teachers. She writes, "I inherited this passion. Teaching is my vocation and learning is my attitude in life. I love education and relationships." Since she was a child, Eva has had an interest in languages. In addition to Spanish and English, she speaks French, German, Italian, and some Portuguese. She is an avid traveler, visiting countries around the globe. As a nature lover and fan of outdoor activities,

Eva says that Maine is "a paradise for my senses." She is looking forward to getting to know people in the community through this program.

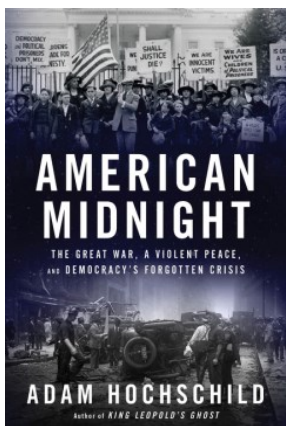
In Stitches - May 2, 9, 16, 23



Do you love to knit? Crochet? Sew? Have you always wanted to learn? Do you have an unfinished project hidden on the closet shelf? Then join us every Tuesday at 11:00 for "In Stitches", our weekly handicrafts group! Grab that half-finished project and enjoy the company of others while you work; all skill levels are welcome. Feel free to stop by for a few minutes or stay the whole hour.

On the first Tuesday of the month, In Stitches will take place on Zoom; see our events calendar for the link to the meeting. The rest of the month, the group will meet in-person inside the library. See our events calendar for more information.

Nonfiction Book Group - May 8



Join us on Monday, May 8 at 6:30 p.m. to discuss *American Midnight* by Adam Hochschild.

"President Woodrow Wilson's call for the U.S. to enter WWI to make the world 'safe for democracy' ironically set the stage for an unprecedented attack on Americans' civil liberties, according to this expert and eye-opening account. Historian Hochschild (Rebel Cinderella) notes that increasing numbers of immigrants from Italy, Eastern Europe, and Russia during the early 20th century provoked nativist resentments and violent attacks from Americans whose Protestant ancestors came from England and northwestern Europe. Even more common, however, was violence against coal miners, steel workers, and other laborers attempting to unionize. Hochschild documents how new laws

ostensibly passed to protect America's national security, including the Espionage and Sedition Acts, were weaponized against the foreign born, labor activists, and pacifists. Though few records remain, Hochschild cites claims by one lawyer that between 1917 and 1921, 462 men and women were jailed by the federal government for a year or longer for their written or spoken words. He also documents outbreaks of racial violence, anarchist bombings, and the 1919 Palmer raids, which targeted the Union of Russian Workers. Meticulously researched, fluidly written, and frequently engaging, this is a timely reminder of the 'vigilant respect for civil rights and Constitutional safeguards' needed to protect democracy and forestall authoritarianism." (Publishers Weekly, vol 269, issue 39, p)

Ukulele Group - May 10 (in-person) and 24 (Zoom)



This year we are making some changes in the Ukulele classes to make it more convenient and useful for you.

We'll continue to meet twice a month: the 2nd Wednesday at 3:30 and the 4th Wednesday at 5:30. We will be playing the same music at both sessions. But the focus, time and "venue" have changed. You have the choice of coming to both or either. Whatever works for you!

The 2nd Wednesday Group will meet in person at the library. That session will focus on the songs for the month in greater detail. It will provide an opportunity to answer any questions you may have from your practice and learn from each other.

The 4th Wednesday Group will meet via Zoom at 5:30 p.m. Here we'll just strum and pluck and yuck it up in the privacy of home — where no one else can hear you making ukulele fun and no one cares about bloopers & errors! Less talk and more play.

If you are not already on the music mailing list, please [email to register](#).

E-mail Basics Class - May 11



Kennebunk Free Library is partnering with the National Digital Equity Center to bring new opportunities for digital education to our community.

On Thursday, May 11, 2023, KFL will host "Email Basics." In this class, you will learn the basics of using email. We will look at navigating, composing, replying, working with attachments and more, with hands-on class participation.

Please bring your email address and password and a device that can access the internet (smartphone, tablet, or laptop are all fine). Register for the class through [NDEC](#). If you have trouble registering, email the library or call the adult circulation desk at 985-2173 x4.

The National Digital Equity Center, a 501c3 non-profit, is a nationally recognized organization with a mission to close the digital divide across the United States. They are advocates for Digital Literacy and Digital Inclusion.

The National Digital Equity Center provides Digital Skills classes that provide opportunities for professional growth, personal enrichment, the development of computer skills, and preparation for professional careers in a supportive environment. Customized training and consulting solutions are offered to businesses and industries, as well as community residents. Online classes are held in a live interactive form using a videoconference platform; in-person classes are at community locations in collaboration with partner organizations. NDEC provides all instruction in a small group interactive learning setting, whether it is online or in-person.

Flash Fiction Fest - May 16

Our first Flash Fiction Fest evening was so much fun for listeners and readers alike. We said we would schedule more of the same! On Tuesday, May 16 at 6:00, you are invited to read your original work of fiction, ideally 500 to 1,000 words. Bring in your short work and we are happy to listen. Please preregister



to read. Public welcomed to enjoy listening to local writers offerings.

Trivia Night - May 17



The third Wednesday of every month at 6:30 is trivia night at KFL! Bring a team, join one of our friendly teams of regulars, or take on the challenge solo. Light refreshments will be served.

House Plant, Seedling, and Seed Swap - May 20



We had so much fun at our first plant and seed swap that we've decided to do it again!

On Saturday, May 20, bring your house plants, seeds, and seedlings to the Kennebunk Free Library to share with other gardeners. We'll gather to talk about our gardens, both inside and out, and take home some new additions to our plant collection.

Set up will begin at 1:15 with swapping starting at 1:30. Please only bring healthy and pest free plants and seedlings. Seeds should ideally be no more than 3 years old.

Registration is highly encouraged.

Adult Book Discussion - May 23



Join us on Tuesday, May 23 at 1:00 p.m. to discuss *Birthday* by Meredith Russo.

"Inseparable childhood friends, transgender girl Morgan and cisgender boy Eric spend every birthday together. A September snowstorm brought their families together in the hospital on their shared day of birth. As they navigate puberty and high school, Morgan struggles to understand and love herself. Cancer took her mother away, and she fears rejection from Eric and her football coach dad if she tells them she's not a boy. On top of family tension and worries about his friendship with Morgan, Eric hides his own concerns about his sexuality and his future. In a narrative that follows Morgan and Eric from year to year on their

birthday, Stonewall Award Winner Russo (*If I Was Your Girl*, 2016) captures the intense longing of two teens who feel trapped in their small, football-obsessed Tennessee town. Morgan's self-acceptance is an intimate, honest journey with an ultimately hopeful resolution that acknowledges the diverse struggles and experiences of transgender people. While the story ends on a happy note, grief, economic struggle, abuse, discrimination, suicide, and divorce play significant roles in the narrative and the

characters' development. The slow-burn romance between Eric and Morgan is affirming and worth the wait." – Kirkus Reviews

Protect Your Assets With Estate Planning - May 23



On Tuesday, May 23 at 6:00, attorney Erin Sherman will be at KFL to present "Protect Your Assets with Estate Planning." Learn how to use estate planning strategies for your asset protection, including protection from costs associated with long-term medical care. We'll discuss what types of trusts can (and can't) be used for asset protection, gifting, and other strategies to help give you peace of mind.

May Take-and-Make Kit: Folk Art Felt Cat Kit



This month's kit includes all the materials you need to create your own felt cat. What personality will yours have?

Available Monday May 15, while they last

Teen Programs

Chill Gaming - May 4



Ready to chill, eat snacks, and play some games? Come hang out with friends, test out your gaming card decks, play on our Nintendo Switch, try out new RPG board games, or anything else in between for our event, Chill Gaming! Anything that relaxes you is welcome and encouraged! We will meet on the first Thursday of the month, May 4, from 3:30 -4:30 P.M. The library will provide games, but players are free to bring their own games, learn new games at their own

pace, or you can just come to hang out and have a good time listening to some Lo-fi beats! This event is free, wheelchair accessible, and open to Teens ages 10 and up. If you have any questions, see Miss Emmaline in the Children's Room, or call (207) 985-2173.

The Dragon Hunter and Treasure Seekers Guild - May 8

Welcome, young adventurers! Come and join in on an exciting quest in the world of Dungeons and Dragons. Open to new and experienced players alike. Miss Emmaline will be on vacation during the middle of May, so we will only meet on Monday, May 8 from 3:30 - 4:30 p.m. You're



welcome to bring in a character from a previous game, to make a new one, or to use one of the pre-made characters provided in the starter set. All other supplies will be provided, just bring your imagination! This event is free, wheelchair accessible, and open to Teens ages 10 and up. New players are encouraged to join in on the adventure. If you have any questions, see Miss Emmaline downstairs in the children's room, or call (207) 985-2173.

Dungeons and Dragons Side Quest Challenge



Welcome, young adventurers! Is your character looking to strengthen their skills, brew a potion, discover a mysterious trinket, travel to new lands, or gain new knowledge? Since we are only meeting once this month, now is the time to go on some side quests as a part of the Dungeons and Dragons Side Quest Challenge! What do you think you'll do as we wait on the freezing Shimmering Isles? Will you hunt Yetis, look for arctic animals to befriend, or maybe something more? Let's find out! Waiting for you

downstairs will be a mystery box of things to accomplish until our next meeting. Just reach your hand in, shuffle the cards around, and discover what your character will be doing next! Stop by anytime the library is open between May 13 -May 30 to pick up your challenge. Once you've done your challenge, you'll tell Miss Emmaline at our next meeting all about your character, and the information will be added as a bonus to the campaign. Happy adventuring!

Children's Programs

Faerie Festival - May 6



The days are getting longer and warmer, which can only mean one thing – it's time to welcome the faeries back to Kennebunk Free Library! Join us on Saturday, May 6, from 9:30 to 11:00 a.m. for faerie crafts and fun! Did you submit a faerie house to the library by Wednesday, May 2? Come find Miss Maria during Faerie Festival for your certificate! Wear your faerie finery!

Junior Science - May 1



It's slime time! Join us for Junior Science on May 1 at 3:45 p.m. for a slime-tastic time! We will be making all sorts of slimy substances including slime, oobleck and even some bouncy balls! For ages 6+, [registration required](#).



Beadcraft - May 3

It's time for Beadcraft! Perler Beads - tiny plastic beads that can melt - were first introduced as a craft in Sweden in the 1950's, and we still love them! Children ages 6 and up, or age 5 with a caregiver, are invited to join us for an afternoon of beading fun on Wednesday, May 3 at 1:00 p.m. What a great way to spend the afternoon on RSU 21's early release Wednesday! Design suggestions will be offered, but creativity is encouraged! All craft materials will be provided. [Registration](#) is recommended but not required.



Kindness Club - May 9

In a world where you can be anything, be kind! Join us for our next meeting of Kindness Club on Tuesday, May 9, at 3:45 p.m. Come hear a story about kindness and make a paper craft! This program is open to ages 6 and up; [registration is appreciated but not required!](#) Kindness has no age requirement – if a friend younger than 6 would like to join in, please reach out to Miss Maria at mrichardson@kennebunklibrary.org, or 985-2173 x 105. Parents are encouraged to join in! When your little sees you talking about and practicing kindness, they will want to join in even more!



Scaly Tales - May 12

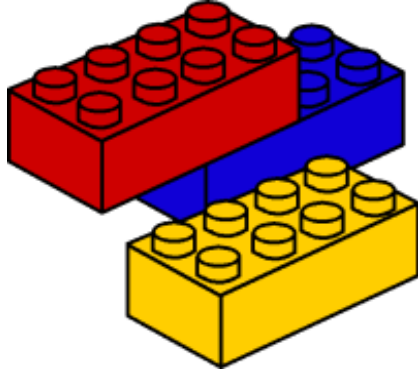
What's better than sharing stories? Sharing stories with a scaly friend! In May, Kennebunk Free Library's monthly Furry Tales Storytime with Animal Welfare Society becomes Scaly Tales Storytime! On Friday, May 12, at 11:30 a.m., Miss Amanda from AWS will share songs, stories, and fun with us. She'll even bring a snake for us to meet! All ages are welcome to attend. No registration required.



Rocks and Fossils with York County 4H - May 17

Come learn about some of the oldest objects on our planet: rocks and fossils! What are rocks made of? How are they formed? What types of fossils can be found in Maine? Explore the answers to these questions and more at an afternoon workshop hosted by York County 4-H on May 17 at 3:45 p.m. The workshop is geared towards youth ages 8 and up. Space is limited and [registration is required.](#)

Lego Club - May 25



Ready to get building? Kennebunk Free Library is offering a Lego Club for children ages 4 and older. Lego Club will meet on Thursday, May 25, from 3:45-4:30 p.m. Come and build new and imaginative creations or ask the librarian for a challenge to complete. All Lego blocks will be supplied; please leave yours at home. [Registration is appreciated.](#)



May Storytimes

It's time for Storytime! On Mondays at 10:00 a.m., join Miss Maria or Miss Aspen for songs, stories, rhymes, and fun! If we have a warm morning, Storytime will be outside the Children's Room. If it's chilly, we'll be inside the library in Hank's Room. Storytimes are designed for ages 2-5, but everyone is welcome! In May, we will be holding two Tuesday storytimes: **Tuesday, May 23**, and **Tuesday, May 30**. During these weeks, there will be no Storytime on Monday.

Upcoming storytime dates include:

- May 1
- May 8
- May 15
- **Tuesday, May 23**
- **Tuesday, May 30**

The results for this month's Would You Rather question are in! In March, we asked, "Would you rather have a dog or a cat?" In the Children's Room, 42 friends wanted a dog, while 41 friends would prefer a pet cat. 32 friends just couldn't decide and voted for both. At the adult circulation desk, 25 friends would like a dog, and 20 friends would rather have a cat. 22 would like to have both. In total, we had 67 votes for dog, 61 votes for cat, and 54 votes for both. It's a tough question, and the closest vote we've had in the Children's Room to date! Which would you choose? Keep an eye out for next month's question and vote for your choice upstairs or downstairs!



Speers Gallery

May Artist: Liz Roper

The Speers Gallery at the Kennebunk Free Library presents "Color, Mood and Time!", an exhibition of watercolors and acrylics by Kennebunk resident Liz Roper.

The exhibit runs May 1-31, and the public is invited to a reception on Tuesday, May 2 from 5-7 pm.



As an undergraduate liberal arts/education major, Ms. Roper squeezed as many studio art and art history electives into her schedule as possible. During her time teaching preschool and second grade, creating personalized greeting cards kept her painting. Within a year or two after her retirement in 2013, she started painting with Kennebunk watercolorist, Dennis Rafferty, and continues to do so today. She also frequently attends local workshops including some at the Barn Gallery in Ogunquit and participates in informal "plein air" gatherings. Travel has been a great source of inspiration and is reflected in this collection.

The collection of fourteen paintings in watercolor and acrylics on watercolor paper, spans half a dozen years and a variety of subjects. Ms. Roper says "Painting connects me to moments in time when I was struck by something that made me want to remember the mood evoked...whenever I view them, the feel of the light and the mood that I experienced at the first moment of being there returns to me. I hope that the viewer makes a similar connection with at least one or two of these paintings."

Ms. Roper has been a member of Maine Women in the Arts since 2013 and exhibits in all their annual shows. She has served as the MWA Exhibit Chair and received an Honorable Mention ribbon for her acrylic "Coffee Break on Congress Street" in the 2016 Awards Show.

Kennebunk Free Library is pleased to display the works of this talented artist.

The public is invited to view the exhibit in the library's Speers Gallery from May 1-31 at 112 Main St., Kennebunk, Maine during regular library hours when the gallery is not in use for library programs. Please check the library website for current hours and gallery access, www.kennebunklibrary.org.

New Books, Audio Books, and DVDs

Please note that the new items lists below are updated regularly, but through a quirk of the system, the newest items go to the end of the list. If you want to see the newest arrivals, start on the last page and work your way backward.

[Click here](#) for a look at books that arrived in the last month.

[Click here](#) for audio/video that arrived in the last month.

[Click here](#) for new children's items that arrived in the last month

[Click here](#) for new teen items that arrived in the last month

Want to know if we have this week's New York Times bestsellers available in our

various collections (print, large print, audio, ebook, eaudio)?

[Click here](#) to see the fiction and nonfiction best seller list.

Books on order for May:

May 2

[The Girl by the Bridge - Arnaldur Indridason](#)

[Bad, Bad Seymour Brown - Susan Isaacs](#)

[The 23rd Midnight - James Patterson](#)

[The Wedding Planner - Danielle Steel](#)

[The Bride Wore White - Amanda Quick](#)

[All the Days of Summer - Nancy Thayer](#)

May 9

[The Private Life of Spies and the Exquisite Art of Getting Even - Alexander McCall Smith](#)

[The Quantum Solution - Eric Lustbader](#)

[The Broken Light - Joanne Harris](#)

[Independence Square - Martin Cruz Smith](#)

May 16

[The Old Lion - Jeff Shaara](#)

[Blue Skies - T.C. Boyle](#)

[The Lie Maker - Linwood Barclay](#)

May 23

[Liar! - Fern Michaels](#)

[Identity - Nora Roberts](#)

May 30

[Weapons of Opportunity - Dale Brown](#)

[Killing Moon - Jo Nesbo](#)

A Message from the Library Director



As a nonprofit organization, KFL belongs to the Maine Association of Nonprofits (MANP). On Friday, April 21, MANP held their monthly Connect program highlighting Maine libraries. [You can check it out at this link.](#) KFL is also a member of the Maine Library Association (MLA). MLA's annual conference will be held in May, and they have a very special fundraiser to kick things off. Stephen and Tabitha King will be the keynote for this evening dinner event. The public is welcome to attend. [Find out more at this link.](#)

Pictured: My daughter reading to my son at bedtime. Spoiler alert: they typically only cooperate with each other when they want something...such as staying up later.

Staff Picks & Messages

Kat, Library Assistant

No Time Like the Future by Michael J. Fox

Getting a Parkinson's Diagnosis at the age of 27, newly married and with a promising acting career would be a huge blow to anyone. MJF lets us in on the highs and lows, challenges and triumphs, mental and personal struggles that made up his life in the past 30 years. The love and support of family and friends and his gift of determination leads to grateful, find the and joyful living. He even manages to find humor in his situation. The audio version is available on Cloud Library and read by the author. I recommend this version but slowed the speed to 90% to help understanding.

The Embroidered Closet Modern Hand-Stitching for Upgrading and Upcycling Your Wardrobe by Alexandra Stratkotter

I bought a beautiful cardigan by one of my favorite brands at a thrift shop and when I got it home noticed a small hole in the sleeve. This book provided me the pattern and the know how to repair it, materials are gathered, now I just need the time! Includes stitch guides, patterns and many ideas!

A Generous Meal Modern Recipes for Dinner by Christine Flynn

"Dinner can be equal parts impressive and simple any day of the week. Sometimes all you need is a little inspiration and a cabbage – and this book!"

I cannot wait to get garden veggies to try *Fresh Peas with Bacon, Mint, and Burrata*, and *Roasted Radishes with Horseradish*. Lots of yummy ideas for winter squash, potatoes, entrees, and desserts.

Ian, Library Assistant

Bullets into Bells: Poets and Citizens Respond to Gun Violence edited by Brian Clements, Alexandra Teague, and Dean Rader with an Introduction by Colum McCann.

Though National Poetry Month took place in April, this collection, unfortunately, is always timely.

