



September 2024 | Volume 31, Issue 9

LIBRARY NEWS AND EVENTS



Ill Requesting is Back on September 3!

Thank you so much for your patience this summer as the state sorted out the new interlibrary loan van delivery contract. The good news is that van delivery is back up and running! They are currently clearing out the backlog of items that got stuck at other libraries when the service shut down. Minerva requesting will be available again beginning the afternoon of **Tuesday, September 3!** Service might be a little slower than we are accustomed to while the new vendor settles in, but things should be back to normal soon.



September is Library Card Sign-Up Month!

This month, Kennebunk Free Library is providing free library card replacements. If you've lost yours or your current card is falling apart, now's the time to get a new one!

Having your library card with you when you visit the library helps staff look you up more quickly and accurately, allows you to order books from home through our online catalog, and gives you access to our digital platforms.

Stop by the library with your photo ID for your free replacement card

all September long!

Thank You to All Our Wonderful Donors!

Your support of KFL is so very generous and we are full of gratitude for you! Funds raised are put right to work bringing books, crafts, programs, technology, expertise, entertainment and so much more to our community; enriching lives and deepening our connections to one another. Thank you again for your support. We can't do what we do without you!

[Click here for a list of our Fiscal Year 2024 \(July 1, 2023 – June 30, 2024\) donors!](#)



A Message from the Friends

It's Fall and the Friends of KFL have great things lined up. Please plan to join us at our next meeting, Monday, September 9, from 5:30 - 6:30 pm via Zoom. [Click here](#) for the link.

Our next event is the HarvestFest book sale on Saturday, October 19, and the Friends preview night sale is back! Current Friends will be able to shop Friday early evening for the best picks. Is your membership up to date? Renew or join us at <https://kennebunklibrary.org/Pages/Index/226348/friends-of-kfl>

Lastly, thank you from the Friends for your generous support this summer. Together we are helping KFL with wonderful patron programming, materials, and experiences. See you in September!

Window Restoration

Window restoration will begin on Tuesday, September 3. We don't know exactly how long it will take or exactly how much access we will have to the spaces being restored. The windows will be boarded up for most of September and October and access to the Walker and Reading Rooms, along with some staff offices, will be limited during that time. We will update you as we know more.



Now Accepting Artist Applications

The Kennebunk Free Library is currently accepting applications for artists to exhibit during the 2025 calendar year. Since its inception in 2001, Hank's Room Gallery - rechristened the Speers Gallery in 2010 - has offered exhibit opportunities to both amateur and professional artists. The gallery has hosted a variety of mediums including photography, textile arts and mixed media assemblages in addition to renditions in oil, pastel, enamel oil, encaustic, pen and ink, and watercolor.

The application process is open to either individual or group shows. Applications must be received by Friday, October 18, 2024.

In November 2024 an art committee consisting of members from the Library and art communities will convene to review the completed applications and set a monthly exhibit schedule for 2025. Upon completion of the review, applicants will be contacted regarding the Committee's decisions. Application

forms are available at the Library or [on the Library's website](#).

Offering monthly artist exhibits contributes to the Kennebunk Free Library's mission to inspire and enable our communities to discover, learn, and connect. The Library is very proud to have showcased the many talented artists who have previously exhibited and is looking forward to continuing this tradition with the 2025 exhibit schedule.



Monthly Phone Wallpaper

Looking to change up your phone background? Like our Newsletter Banner? [Download our monthly phone wallpaper](#) and match with us! New backgrounds every month! [E-mail Amelia for assistance](#).

To download to your phone, tap 'Download' as highlighted in the newsletter on your mobile device. Follow the link. Once you arrive at the download page from our calendar, tap and hold on the image, then select 'Save to Photos'. The image will be saved to your 'Photo Gallery' and you can change your wallpaper from there.

Public Notice of Annual Meeting of the Kennebunk Free Library Association

Public notice is hereby given to the public pursuant to the Kennebunk Free Library Association by-laws, that the annual meeting of the Association will be held on Tuesday, September 24, 2024, at 4:30 p.m. in person.

Board of Trustees' meetings are typically held on the last Tuesday of the month at 4:30 p.m. over Zoom or in Hank's Room, with the exception of July and December, and they are open to the public.

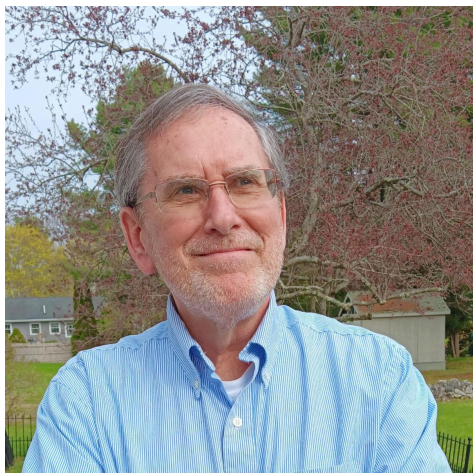
For more information or to receive the meeting link, contact Library Director, Michelle K. Conners, at 985-2173 or kfl@kennebunklibrary.org

ADULT PROGRAMS



In Stitches - September 3, 10, 17, 24

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.



Poet Richard Westley - September 7

On Saturday, September 7 at 12:00 p.m., the Kennebunk Free Library will host local poet and author Richard Westley as he discusses his new book *Life-in-Form: A Life in Poems*. Copies of the book will be available for purchase and signing at the event.

Richard Westley's new book of poetry, *Life-in-Form: A Life in Poems* appears under the Leder Press imprint. His poems have also appeared in *Cadence*, *riverrun*, *Tomorrow Magazine*, *Maine Sunday Telegram*, *Proverse*, *Fissured Tongue* and *The Poet's Corner*. His novel *B League Champs* (The Leder Press) appeared in 2006 and is available on Audible TM. His novella, *The Remarkable*

Conversion of Abdou Diouf (Running Wild Press), appeared in 2018. Rich teaches English at Scarborough High School and lives in Kennebunk, Maine. Please visit <https://richardwestley.com> for more information.

Reader's Choice

Book Club

Monday,
September 9th

2:00 - 3:00

This month's theme...

Peace



Reader's Choice Book Club - September 9

Reader's Choice Book Club will meet on Monday September 9 at 2:00 p.m. in the Walker Room at the library, and our theme will be: *Peace*.

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. Everyone is welcome!

Spanish Language

Conversation Group

Spanish Conversation Group - September 9, 16, 23, 30

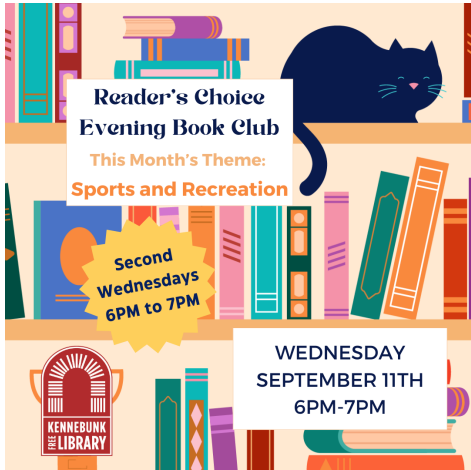
Stop by the library on Mondays from 5:30 to 6:30 for an opportunity to practice conversational Spanish. Whether you are fluent in the language or just learning, all are welcome!



Ukulele Group - September 11

Join us on the second Wednesday of every month at 3:30 to make some music in the library! Ukulele players of all skill levels are invited to stop in to play along.

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



Evening Readers Choice Book Club - September 11

Reader's Choice Book Club will meet on Wednesday, September 11 at 6:00 p.m. in the Walker Room at the library, and our theme will be: *Sports and Recreation*.

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. Everyone is welcome!



Writer's Group - September 17

Whether you are looking for feedback on your writing or encouragement to keep writing, join us on the third Tuesday of every month from 2:00 - 3:00 p.m. for a meeting of the new KFL Writers' Group! Bring a 500 - 1,000 word piece of work to share with the group. We hope to see you there!



Trivia Night - September 18

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.



Die Well Death Education - September 23

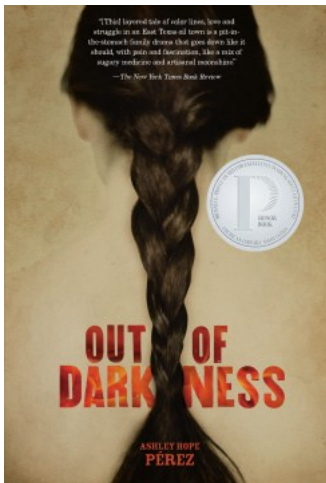
Join us at Kennebunk Free Library on Monday, September 23, 2024 from 6:00 - 7:30 p.m. for the fifth session in the Die Well Death Education Series with host Leona Oceania. You are welcome to attend one or all of the sessions - no registration is required.

Session Five is a film - *Letting Go: A Hospice Journey*.

For terminally ill patients and their families, hospice can provide an opportunity to find comfort, companionship, and peace in the weeks, days, hours, and moments before death. Taking an intimate look at three patients – an eight-year-old

boy with an incurable brain disease, a 46-year-old woman with lung cancer, and a 62-year-old man with an inoperable brain tumor – this program shows how hospice care helps them cope with fear and pain in the final stages of their lives and prepares loved ones for their imminent loss. In addition to extensive footage of the hospice patients and their families, the program sheds light on the decision-making process of the doctors, nurses, chaplains, social workers, and volunteers involved in hospice. An HBO production. (90 minutes)

*Individually wrapped, homemade skull cakelets will be provided.



Fiction Book Discussion - September 24

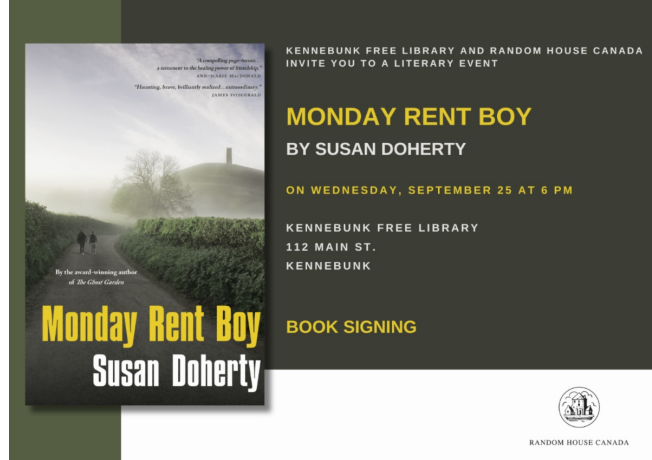
Join us on Tuesday, September 24 at 1:00 p.m. to discuss *Out of Darkness* by Ashley Hope Pérez.

"A Mexican-American girl and a black boy begin an ill-fated love in the months leading up to a catastrophic 1937 school explosion in East Texas. The powerful story opens with the legendary school explosion in New London and then rewinds to September 1936. Naomi has begrudgingly left behind her abuelitos in San Antonio for a new life with her younger half siblings, twins, and their long-absent white father, Henry. Now a born-again Christian, Henry struggles to atone for his sins. The siblings struggle to fit into the segregated oil town, where store signs boast "No Negroes, Mexicans, or dogs." The precocious twins read better than half the senior class, and dark-

skinned Naomi is guilty of not only being Mexican, but also of being "prettier than any girl in school." Their one friend is Wash, a brilliant African-American senior from the black part of town. Pérez deftly weaves multiple perspectives, "including Henry and "the Gang," the collective voice of the racist students, "into her unflinchingly intense narrative, but the story ultimately belongs to Naomi and Wash. Their beautifully detailed love story blossoms in the relative seclusion of the woods, where even stepfathers can't keep them apart. But as heartbreaking events unfold, the star-crossed lovers desperately hope that any light can penetrate the black smoke cloud of darkness spreading around them. A powerful, layered tale of forbidden love in times of unrelenting racism." -Kirkus Reviews, June 1, 2015

Author Susan Doherty - September 25

On Wednesday, September 25 at 6:00 p.m.,



the Kennebunk Free Library will host author Susan Doherty as she discusses her new book *Monday Rent Boy*. Copies of the book will be available for purchase and signing at the event.

Susan Doherty's award-winning debut novel, *A Secret Music* (2015), was followed four years later by award-winning *The Ghost Garden*, the biography of a woman living with schizophrenia. She has worked on staff for *Maclean's*, and freelanced for the *International Herald Tribune*, *La Tribune de Genève*, and the *Independent* in London; for eighteen years she ran her own

advertising production company. She has served on the boards of the Royal Conservatory of Music, the Quebec Writers' Federation and Nazareth House, a home for those afflicted by addiction and homelessness. Since 2009, she has volunteered at the Douglas Institute, a psychiatric hospital, working with people living with severe mental illness. She is married to the educator Hal Hannaford.



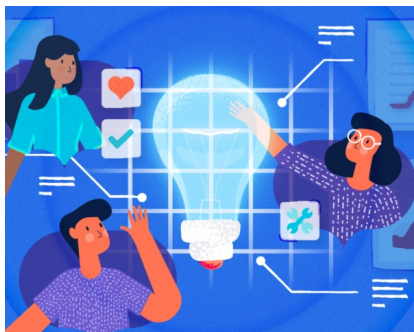
Mah Jongg - Mondays and Wednesdays

Everyone is invited to drop in on Mondays from 12:30 - 3:00 p.m. or Wednesdays from 5:30 - 7:30 p.m. to play Mah Jongg. The library has 3 sets available for use or you are welcome to bring your own. Don't know how to play? Members of our friendly group were all beginners themselves just a couple of months ago. You're welcome to watch and learn. We can also share some resources for learning on your own. Please [email the library](#) with any questions.



Improv - Saturdays

Improv is back this fall! Beginning September 14, sessions will be held every Saturday from 10:30-12:00.



Tech Time - Wednesdays & Thursdays

Are you stuck on a technology question that might need some extra help to be solved? Whether it be trying to use one of the library's digital services, making heads or tails of a new device, or just having a second pair of eyes help troubleshoot a piece of software, don't worry, the library is here to help!

To sign-up for one of our Tech Time appointments, please visit the front desk to be placed on our scheduling sheet.

Appointments to meet one-on-one with our Technology

Educator can be scheduled **Wednesdays** from 2:00 - 4:00

p.m., and **Thursdays** from 10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. Appointments are 45 minutes long, but there is always an opportunity to schedule a follow-up appointment if we run over our time limit. When setting up the appointment, help us to better assist you by describing the issue you want to discuss. If possible, also make sure to bring your charged device with you along with any needed usernames and passwords. If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to visit us at the desk, call (207) 985-2173, or email our technology educator at kfl@kennebunklibrary.org so we can help you further.



September Take and Make: Wooden Bead Key Ring

Did you know that September is library card sign up month? To celebrate, our Take and Make for this month is a wooden bead key ring! Use it to decorate your keys or as a fun way to keep track of your (new?) library key card! Kits will be available starting Tuesday, September 3 (while supplies last).

TEEN PROGRAMS



Dungeons and Dragons - September 9, 23, and 30

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, we will meet on the following Mondays:

September 9, 23, and 30 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, the space is wheelchair accessible, and it is open to Teens ages 10 and up. If you have any questions, see Miss Emmaline downstairs in the children's room, or call



Anime Club - September 19

Join us for Anime Club on the third Thursday of the month, **September 19**, downstairs in Hank's Room from 3:30-4:30 p.m. to talk about our favorite manga and graphic novels, eat snacks, and catch up on some reading with friends! This program is designed for dedicated and new fans interested in learning more about the fandom. This event is free, the space is wheelchair accessible, and it is open to Teens ages 10 and up. If you have any questions, see Miss Emmaline downstairs in the children's room, or

call (207) 985-2173. We look forward to seeing you there!



Teen Magic the Gathering - September 24

Looking to test out your new Magic the Gathering deck with friends? Join us to play on **September 24** from 5:30-6:30 p.m.! There will be cards available to make a deck, but if you have your own, we encourage you to bring them! This event is free, the space is wheelchair accessible, and it is open to Teens ages 10 and up. If you have any questions, see Miss Emmaline downstairs in the children's room, or call (207) 985-2173. We look forward to seeing you there!



Chill Gaming - September 26

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! Anything that relaxes you is welcome and encouraged! We will meet on the fourth Thursday of the month, **September 26**, 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, eat snacks, and have a good time listening to some Lo-fi beats! This event is free, the space is wheelchair accessible, and it is open to Teens ages 10 and up. If you have any questions, see Miss Emmaline downstairs in the children's room, or call (207) 985-2173. We look forward to seeing you there!

CHILDRENS PROGRAMS

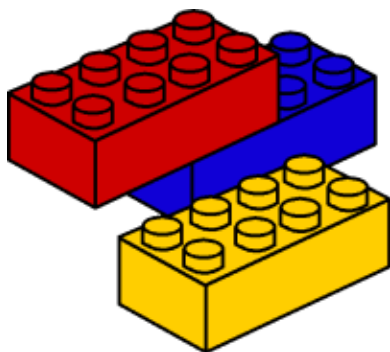


In the mood to get creative? Perler Beads - tiny plastic beads that can melt - were first introduced as a craft in Sweden in the 1950's, and we still love them! Children ages 6 and up, or age 5 with a caregiver, are invited to join us for an afternoon of beading fun on Wednesday, September 4, at 1:00 p.m. What a great way to spend an afternoon! Design suggestions will be offered, but creativity is encouraged! All craft materials will be provided. [Registration](#) is recommended but not required.



Kindness Crew - September 10

In a world where you can be anything, be kind! Join us for our next meeting of Kindness Crew on Tuesday, September 10, at 3:45 p.m. Come hear a story about kindness and make a craft! This program is open to ages 6 and up; registration is appreciated but not required! This month, we'll talk about being kind at school! 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. Caregivers are encouraged to join in! When your little sees you talking about and practicing kindness, they will want to join in even more!



Lego Club - September 12

Ready to get building? Kennebunk Free Library is offering a Lego Club for children ages 4 and older. Lego Club will meet on Thursday, September 12, 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. Ready to get building? Kennebunk Free Library is offering a Lego Club for children ages 4 and older. Lego Club will meet on Thursday, August 26th, 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.

Storytime - Mondays

It's time for Storytime! Come to the library for stories, songs, and fun with Miss Maria! We'll even get to say hello to our puppet friend, Ami the bunny. On most Mondays in September at 10:00 a.m., Storytimes will be held in the amphitheater outside the Children's Room at Kennebunk Free Library. Because of the holiday closure,



we will be having Storytime on **Tuesday, September 3**. Don't forget sunscreen, a blanket to sit on, and a drink to keep hydrated! In case of inclement weather, we will be in Hank's Room inside the library. We can't wait for you to join us! Upcoming Storytime dates include:

- **Tuesday, September 3**
- September 9
- September 16
- September 23
- September 30



Family Fun Play - Thursdays

Have a morning of play at the library! On Thursday mornings in September, Kennebunk Free Library will bring out the toys for a library play date. These toys are best enjoyed when the whole family plays together! Before we say goodbye until next time, Miss Maria will read a story. Come play and make new friends at the library! All programs will run from 10 am to 11:30 am. Thursday Family Fun Play is for children ages 0-5 and their grown-ups. No registration is required. Upcoming Thursday Family Fun Play dates:

- September 5
- September 12
- September 19
- September 26

Congratulations to the winners of our summer reading Lego and Duplo raffles!
Have fun building!



SPEERS GALLERY



September Artist: Kid Creations

The Speers Gallery at the Kennebunk Free Library presents the exhibit "Kid Creations", featuring art made by children during the library's Messy Art program. The exhibit will be shown during the months of September and October.

The Messy Art program invited kids to get dirty while creating art! Over 30 pieces were created by children ages 3-11 over the course of an afternoon in July, including stomp art done with bubble wrapped feet dipped in paint, watercolor with spray bottles, and painting with everyday items such as sponges, spoons and spatulas.

The children experimented with process art, with the goal being the experience itself instead of the result. Kennebunk

Free Library is excited to showcase the colorful, fun creations of these young artists!

The public is invited to view the exhibit in the library's Speers Gallery from September 1 - October 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 & 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.

Popular New Releases for September (ILL requesting available beginning September 3)

September 1

[Fatal Intrusion](#) – Jeffery Deaver

September 3

[Safe Enough and Other Stories](#) – Lee Child

[Passions in Death](#) – J. D. Robb

[Capture or Kill](#) – Vince Flynn

[On the Hunt](#) – Iris Johansen

[Death at the Sign of the Rook](#) – Kate Atkinson

September 10

[Here One Moment](#) – Liane Moriarty

Den of Iniquity – J.A. Jance
Tell Me Everything – Elizabeth Strout

September 24

Counting Miracles – Nicholas Sparks
Bad Liar – Tami Hoag
The Forest of Lost Souls – Dean Koontz
Santa's Secret – Fern Michaels
An Eye for an Eye – Jeffrey Archer
Legacy of Blood – Heather Graham
Fire on the Horizon – Wilbur Smith
Death by Misadventure – Tasha Alexander

September 30

Lies He Told Me – James Patterson

A MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTOR



I thought I'd use this opportunity to *very* briefly describe the role of each of our staff positions. I can't stress enough that these are quite simplified and generalized versions of much longer job descriptions. And, on top of that, everyone contributes well beyond their job descriptions.

Administrative Assistant: Processes income and expenses, prepares mailings, and provides general office support.

Assistant Director/Head of Adult Services: Adult programming and collection development, supervises adult staff, payroll, bookkeeping, and

HR.

Cataloger: Makes library materials findable. Organizes library and local history.

Circulation Services Manager: In charge of all materials going in and out of the library and between other libraries. Managers volunteers and creates the schedule.

Development Director: Manages fundraising efforts and cultivates relationships.

Executive Director: Oversees all library activities and staff. Works alongside the Board of Trustees to manage the facility, finances, policies, and public relations.

Head of Youth Services/Children's Librarian: Youth programming and collection development, supervises youth staff.

Library Assistant: Adult and Youth Services desk staff. They are constantly working hard on tasks when they are not serving the public.

Library Page: Shelves library materials and an on-the-floor person that helps with questions.

Maintenance Manager: Performs all janitorial tasks and general building and grounds upkeep. Coordinates with contractors on larger projects.

Technology Educator: Teaches technology to patrons and manages KFL's internal technology. Teen programming.

Pictured: Max doing some summer reading.

STAFF PICKS

Kat, Substitute Library Assistant

Hello Beautiful by Ann Napolitano

William was just a few days old when tragedy struck his family sending his parents into deep grief that they never recovered from. As children do, he figured out a way to survive in this sad environment and finally found solace in basketball. In High School he met a wonderful young woman, Julia who had three sisters. The four of them were extraordinarily close and imagined themselves in the roles of *Little Women* by Louisa May Alcott. The sister's father, Charlie was a loving, kind and connected parent but a great disappointment to his wife who carried the burdens of home and finances, often by herself. When Charlie suddenly dies the family is swept into turmoil and the stage is set for a heartbreaking and very believable story of a family struggling to deal with hard life events. Beautifully written, allowing the reader to care deeply for the characters as they grow through the decades. (Available from KFL as a book, Minerva in large print and audio cds)

A Beginner's Guide to American Mah Jongg by Elaine Sandburg

While camping in Naples, Maine last September, I was taught to play "Mahj" by a wonderful group at Naples Library. I was given a copy of this book to study and with their kind help, I was able to learn enough to play in three meetings. I was addicted. With the support of KFL, we formed our group of learners in January of this year and most of them successfully play and have fun. It is a great way to meet new friends and keep our brains working. If you are interested, consider checking out this book. The beginning of the book gives you history and background. The next part gives you exercises with the tiles to learn the suits and patterns. KFL has 3 Mah Jongg sets available for you to use at the library to do the exercises. This fall we are planning to start a new group of beginners. Watch the newsletter for details. (Book available from KFL)

Our Eleanor A Scrapbook Look at Eleanor Roosevelt's Remarkable Life by Candace Fleming

It has been a long time since I have taken out a biography from the Children's Library at KFL. For so many years my children and I enjoyed nonfiction as well as fiction. My Granddaughter Eleanor and I were talking about famous women named Eleanor and I was stumped to tell her exactly what Eleanor had accomplished. I had no idea of her lifelong involvement in charitable, national and international affairs. I enjoyed the format of photos, records, newspaper accounts and cartoons. This is an amazing book, and I look forward to sharing what I learned. I enjoy an in-depth biography available in the adult section but sometimes, a simpler format can be just what you are looking for. (Available at KFL Youth Services Department)

[Visit our Website](#)



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