

# Wilbraham Library News

Fall 2023

## Strategic Planning Committee Seeks Representatives

The library is beginning our next strategic planning process and is inviting members of the community to join the Library Strategic Planning Committee. We are looking to find representatives from several areas of the community – such as parents of young children, retirees, and members of the business community as examples. Please contact Library Director, Karen Ball at [kball@wilbraham-ma.gov](mailto:kball@wilbraham-ma.gov) by October 1 if you are interested in serving on this committee that will likely meet up to three times from November through March. The library's current Strategic Plan runs through FY2024 and is [available to read on the library website](#).



## Genealogy Programs Return: Introduction to Ancestry and More

*Introduction to Ancestry Library Edition, Thursday, October 12 at 5:30 - 7:30 p.m*

Assistant Library Director Mary Bell will give a brief presentation in the Brooks Room showing how to search for census records, military records, and more in Ancestry Library Edition. Participants will then move into the library, accessing computers after hours, to search for their own family history. Everyone attending will get a packet reminding them of the tips learned at the session, and including a list of even more free websites with which to continue their research. Ancestry Library Edition is made

available by Proquest and is available for all to use in-library through our computers or Wi-Fi connection. Appropriate for beginners to experienced genealogists. [Sign up is required as space is limited.](#)

Ancestry isn't the only product we have available for searching historic records. Some familiarity with Ancestry.com is best for the following three programs, lectures that can be attended separately or as a series.

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## Friends to Display Creativity at Annual Art Show

The Annual WFOL Art Exhibit is scheduled for the Brooks Room from Oct. 2 to 30, during regular library hours.

The event is free and open to the public and features the work of area artists, all of whom are members of the WFOL. Many media are represented including oil, pastel, pen and ink, basketry, watercolor, photography, jewelry, and combinations thereof.

A reception for artists, Friends, and the public will be held on Saturday, Oct.

14 from 11 a.m. - 1 p.m. Artists will be able to sell additional unframed pieces at the reception. The public is encouraged to stop by and enjoy the artwork and some refreshments during this time or any normal library hours.

The show is open for various art media, and Chairman Mary Bandouveres is now welcoming artists' applications. Email [wplartshow@gmail.com](mailto:wplartshow@gmail.com) to ensure your spot. Entry deadline is Sep. 22.

Wilbraham  
**WPL**  
Public Library

**Mon to Wed 9-8**  
**Thurs & Fri 9-5**  
**Sat 9-2**  
**Closed Sundays & Holidays**

# Wilbraham Friends

## Wilbraham Friends of the Library Inc.

[friends@wilbrahamlibrary.org](mailto:friends@wilbrahamlibrary.org)

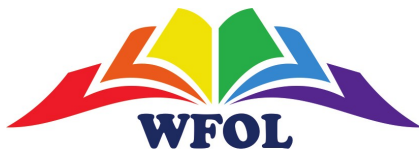
### Board Members

Jo Ayers  
Mary Bandouveres  
Jennifer Banker  
Karen Ball  
Karen Grycel  
Martha Lyman  
Susan Magee  
Molly Olsen  
Tanja Olson  
Jay Taylor

### Officers

Mary Bandouveres, President  
Susan Magee, Clerk  
Jo Ayers, Treasurer

*Wilbraham Library News is  
produced by library staff and the  
Wilbraham Friends of the Library.*



## Clear Your Closets for Textile Drive

The WFOL is once again holding a fall textile and clothing drive on Saturday, Oct. 14 from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. and Sunday, Oct. 15 from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.

With millions of pounds of clothing and household textiles ending up in U.S. landfills each year, the Friends are working to raise awareness of waste and inspire consumers to take responsible action through donations and upcycling.

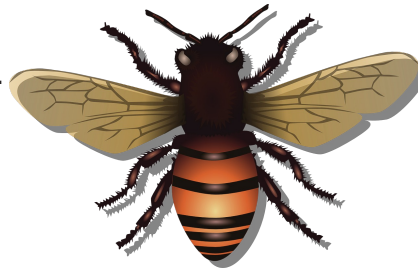
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## Pollinator Plant Sale

The WFOL is holding a pollinator plant sale on Saturday, Oct. 7 from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. with a rain date of Sunday, Oct. 8 at the Library.

There will be a variety of pollinator-friendly biennials, perennials, shrubs and vines available for sale. Early October is an excellent time to plant; the ground is warm enough to support root growth and there is plenty of time for plants to get established before winter sets in.

According to the USDA, "Three-fourths of the world's flowering plants and about 35 percent of the world's food crops depend on animal



pollinators to reproduce. That's one out of every three bites of food you eat. More than 3,500 species of native bees help increase crop yields. Some scientists estimate that one out of every three bites of food we eat exists because of animal pollinators like bees, butterflies and moths, birds and bats, and beetles and other insects."

Help keep these important pollinators fed by planting their favorite food sources in your garden. Proceeds from the sale will benefit both the Wilbraham Public Library and Wistariahurst Museum in Holyoke.

## Genealogy: Beyond Ancestry

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### Fold 3, Newspapers.com Northeast, and HeritageQuest

*Tuesday, November 7 at 6 p.m.*

Fold 3 has a wide variety of military records, including combined military service records of Massachusetts Civil War veterans, and 1812 pension records. If you're looking for historic obituaries and articles, Newspapers.com Northeast is the place to go. Finally, HeritageQuest is a product similar to Ancestry that can be used from home.

### FamilySearch

*Tuesday, November 14 at 6 p.m.*

Learn how to use the free website sponsored by The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints to find a

wealth of resources related to your family history. FamilySearch can be accessed from home with a free personal account. The Wilbraham Public Library is an affiliate library, which means that even more content can be accessed in-library. This lecture will cover searching, browsing images, and using the Research Wiki.

### AmericanAncestors

*Tuesday, November 21 at 6 p.m.*

The New England Historical and Genealogical Society databases can be accessed in-library only, and includes vital records, Mayflower society applications, probate records, and more. Learn how to search the databases for your ancestors, create a free account, and make a family tree.

# Adult Programs

Most programs are funded by the Wilbraham Friends of the Library. All programs meet in the Brooks Room unless otherwise noted.

## Fall Concerts

### **Pamela Means: The Power of the Protest Song (Our Shared History and Present Day)**

Wednesday, September 13 at 6:00 p.m.

Singer-songwriter and jazz musician Pamela Means will present her political music, which will both entertain and inform. Superstar Neil Young has sung her praises, so come find out what makes her so unique! This event is made possible by a grant from the Wilbraham Cultural Council



### **Too Human: A Celebration of Song - The Great American Songbook and Beyond**

Saturday, September 23 at 11:00 a.m.

Ellen Schwartz and Roger Bruno of Too Human will be performing an eclectic collection of their original compositions. Their various styles will appeal to many listeners. This event is made possible by a grant from the Wilbraham Cultural Council.



### **Peter Biedermann Guitar Extraordinaire**

Tuesday, October 10 at 6:30 p.m.

Guitar artist Peter Biedermann will be returning to the library to amaze patrons with his extraordinary playing. Don't miss out on this great performance!

## In-Person Programs

### **Plant Guy Eric: Harvesting Time with Plant Guy Eric**

Saturday, September 30 at 9:30 a.m.

Plant Guy Eric is returning to the library to continue his work on educating the public on growing cannabis. The last time he was here, he talked about how to legally grow cannabis, and now he will talk about how to harvest it properly.

### **Janet Crosier Author Talk: Shadows on the Heath**

Wednesday, October 4 at 6 p.m.

Fans of Wuthering Heights will certainly be interested in reading *Shadows on the Heath*. Author Janet Crosier will talk about what it was like writing about the spooky landscape. Copies of her book will be available for purchase.

### **Martin Gitlin: A Funny Program About Funny Programs**

Monday, October 2 at 6 p.m.

What is considered the funniest show on television? Come find out from author and pop-culture historian Martin Gitlin. Everyone will have an opinion, but it will be fun to debate the choices!

### **George Baker as John Adams: John Adams & Thomas Jefferson, Their Historic 50 Year Friendship**

Monday, October 23 at 6 p.m.

The second president, John Adams (played by George Baker) will be talking about his famous relationship with former best friend and enemy, Thomas Jefferson.

## Virtual Presentations

### **Mallory Moltillaro: How to Steal a Masterpiece**

Wednesday, September 6 at 6 p.m.

Enter the underworld of stolen art as we examine the little-known stories of some of history's greatest art heists.

### **Ryan Bernsten: 50 States of Mind**

Wednesday, October 18 at 6 p.m.

Ryan Bernsten, author of *50 States of Mind: A Journey to Rediscover American Democracy*, took a 23,000 mile journey through all 50 states to find the answer to this question: is America as divided as it seems? He will share his experiences searching for the answer.

# Children's Services

Dates and times are subject to change due to unexpected circumstances. All programs will have online sign ups when required.

## Story Time, Yoga, Crafts for Kids

**Story Time**, Wednesdays, Oct. 4 - Nov. 8 at 10:00 - 10:45 a.m.

Story time with Assistant Children's Librarian, Rachel Smythe, runs for 6 weeks in the Brooks Room for kids ages 3-5. Kids must come in independently and parents/caretakers must wait in the library. Sign-ups start Sep. 8

**Craft and Play**, Saturdays, Sep. 9, Oct. 21, Nov. 25, & Dec. 30 at 10:00 - 10:45 a.m.

Stop by the library to make a special craft with Ms. Rachel Smythe. KEVA planks will be available for free play, along with coloring pages. This is a family event. Parents and caregivers, please remain in the room with your child during this program. No registration is required. Sponsored by the W.F.O.L.

**Story Yoga**, Thursdays, Oct. 5, 12, 19, & 26 at 10:00 - 10:45 a.m. 4 week session.

This unique, inclusive workshop is for children ages 2-5 and an adult. Yoga poses and stories are woven together to create an interactive process. Kids will learn animal poses and deep breathing for healthy habits. Sponsored by the W.F.O.L. Online sign ups start Sep. 8th.

**Kids Gingerbread Houses**, Tuesday, Dec. 5 at 4 - 5 p.m.

This workshop is more advanced and for kids in grades 3, 4, and 5 only. Create your own gingerbread house using cones of various frosting, fondant, and candy! This workshop uses handmade gingerbread for houses. All supplies are included. Online sign ups start Nov. 7 for Wilbraham residents. Non-resident sign-ups start Nov. 14. Sponsored by the W.F.O.L & the Wilbraham Cultural Council Happy Fall!!

-- Children's Librarian Heidi Kane and Assistant Children's Librarian Rachel Smythe

## Pathways for Parents

*Online sign-ups are required and begin August 16.*

**Yoga Story Time with Lisa Katz**,

Thursdays Sept. 21 and/or 28 at 10 a.m.

Sign up for each class separately. For kids ages 2-5 with an adult. This class will include fun stretches and yoga poses along with deep breathing skills.

**Music and Movement with Ms.**

**Jennifer**, Fridays, Sept. 15, 22, & 29 at 10:30 a.m. 3 week session.

Children ages 2-5 and their families are invited to participate in this upbeat group. This group will incorporate moving your body while using songs that focus following directions, using the five senses, and exploring your body in relaxation to the space around it.

**Story Art with Ms. Jennifer**, Oct. 6, Dec.

1, 8, & 15 at 10:30 a.m.

Sign up separately for these individual programs. This group will support learners of ages 4-6 and their families in a multi-sensory format. We will engage with a storybook, then facilitate hands-on creative activities, while using art as a way to contribute to successful learning. This group is perfect for homeschoolers and families who are not engaged with preschool.

**S.T.E.A.M with Ms. Jennifer**, Fridays, Nov. 3 and/or 17 at 10:30 a.m.

Sign up for each of these separate classes. For children ages 3-6 with their

## 600+ Participate in Summer Reading

The 2023 Summer Reading Program "Find Your Voice" has ended with over 600 kids and teens signing up. Great job to the kids & teens who finished their reading challenge! We had some awesome prizes for finishers, including a new free book of their choice! I would like to thank everyone who helped us make this important literacy program a success and encouraged kids & teens to read during the summer months.

**A BIG THANK YOU to:** The Wilbraham Friends of the Library, the Wilbraham Cultural Council, iREAD, the MLS, and the Boston Bruins, Pathways for Parents, LUSO Federal Credit Union, Rice Fruit Farm, Fenway Golf East Longmeadow, One Book One Community, Wilbraham Pafumi's To Go, InterSkate 91, Springfield Texas Roadhouse, the Hampden Wilbraham Times, The Junior Library Guild, teachers, parents, and the Wilbraham staff. This important program would not be possible without the collective effort of the community and donations/memberships made to the Wilbraham Friends of the Library.

-- Children's Librarian Heidi Kane

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# Teen Services

Unless otherwise noted, programs are for Grades 6-12, supported by the Wilbraham Friends of the Library, and require online registration.

## Congrats To Our Teen Readers

We had a successful year of teen summer reading with 115 teens signing up, 377 books read and reviewed, and 75 finishers. It was great to see all the teens come into the library to choose their teen book and prizes. Thank you to the teen readers and the community for all your support with our summer reading!

## 'Teens Who Code' Returns Oct. 25

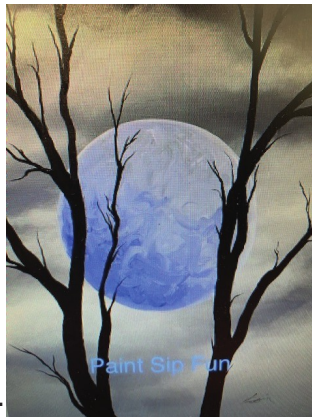
Teens Who Code will have their first meeting of the school year on Wednesday, Oct. 25 at 3:30 p.m. Facilitated by Mrs. Christine Goonan and held in the Brooks Room, this club is looking for new members. Grades 6-12 can explore project-based coding in a fun and friendly environment. All attendees need a laptop to join in.

## Teen Watercolor, Candle, Escape Room Workshops

**Teen Watercolor Crayons Painting Workshop** will take place on Tuesday, Sep. 5 from 5 - 6 p.m. Teens will choose from either a blank piece of watercolor paper to draw their own image, or choose one of our pre-drawn images. Teens will color the image with watercolor crayons, then paint with water and paintbrush and watch the paint come to life and fill in their piece of art work.

Back by popular demand but on a new theme, **Teen CLUE Escape Room** will be on Tuesday, Oct. 3. Sign up for one time slot: 4, 5, or 6 p.m.

On Wednesday, Oct. 4 (an HWRSD in-service day for middle school), **Teen Paint Sip Fun** will be held from 2 - 3:30 p.m. Teens can sign up for some painting fun! We will be painting Blue Moon.



**Teen Spooky Candle Workshop**, taught by Kulina Folk Art, will take place on Tuesday, Oct. 24 from 5 - 6 p.m. Join us to make a spooky candle of your very own!

The Teen Department is excited to welcome back Heather Beck for a **Teen Copper Workshop** on Tuesday, Nov. 28. In the past, the teens made copper bookmarks and copper ornaments with Heather. For this workshop, our Teen Advisory Board will choose what we will make that night: bookmarks, ornaments, or key chains. Stay tuned to our website for details.



**Gingerbread House Workshop** for Teens, with Mandy from Wicked Good Henna, will be held on Tuesday, Dec. 5 at 5:30 p.m. Space will be limited, so watch for signups on our website.

--Teen Librarian Rachel Hapgood

## TAB is Back!

We will be kicking off another year of the Teen Advisory Board (TAB) on Monday, Sep. 18 at 4 p.m. If you know someone in grades 6 - 12 that would like to help the teen librarian plan teen programs, talk about books and more, please let them know about TAB. Oh, and there are always snacks. Sign up, join us, and let your teen voice be heard!

## Dine Out to Support the Friends

The WFOL's dine out fundraiser at Pizzeria Uno in April was so successful we are doing it again! It was one of those win-win events that make everyone happy. Attendees got to skip cooking for a night, Uno's saw an increase in traffic that day and the WFOL raised funds for the library. Keep an eye out for more information!

Wilbraham Friends of the Library  
25 Crane Park Drive  
Wilbraham, MA 01095

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## Library News Fall 2023

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## Pathways for Parents Continued from page 4

caregiver. Children and families will explore the concepts of Science, Technology, Engineering, Art and Math.

*Pathways for Parents is administered by Ludlow Public Schools and is funded by the Coordinated Family and Community Engagement Grant through the MA Department of Early Education and Care.*

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## New & Renewing Friends, May to July

Marjorie Agerton, Sue & Bill Agnew, Gordon & Lynda Allen, Clare Ashe, Michele Axtmann, Jo Ayers, John & Margaret Bagge, Jeannette Bond, Len & Judy Borsari, Raymond & Susan Burk, Joe & Janet Calabrese, Tess Cambo, Richard Carver, Barbara Christie, Felice Coffey, Edna Colcord, Virginia Collins-English, Sara Dean, Patricia Dennis, Susan Deputy, Candy & Rick Erickson, Dawn Fitzgerald, Becky Fleming, Geraldine French, Ruth Giroux, Sandy Swain & Jim Gosselin, Peter & Rosemarie Groza, Ron Haislip-Hansberry, Susan & Chris Hall, Philip Halon, Ron Dearden & Carol Hansen, Larry & Sandy Harris, Kristen Harvey, Sally Hawley, Susan Hintze, Jim & Catherine Jurgens, Ruth Karlson, Virginia Kasten, Virginia Lasonde, Susan Magee, Linda & Stephen Mandolesi, Mary Manning, Barbara & Dick McFarland, Ginny McKeon, Sharon Meaney, Deborah Montgomery, Louise Phelan, Susan Jane Post, Jennifer Powell, Pauline Pytko, Connie & Edward Robinson, Debra Searles, Bill Siebert, Jeanne & Larry Smith, Pamela & David Sonnefeld, Karen Spargo, Walter & Laurel Stachura, Scott Taylor, Jay & Kathy Taylor, Jane Tencza, Gerald Urlage, Tony Vecchio, John & Cheryl Wesolowski. Six members wish to remain anonymous.

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## WFOL Textile Drive

Continued from page 2

The Friends will receive a per pound payment for these items which will go directly to the library for programs, museum passes, equipment and other needed items. The donated items will be given a second life with new owners - at an affordable price - instead of adding to the already overwhelming landfills.

Use this QR code to read the newsletter online, with active, clickable links.

