

# Wilbraham Library News

Spring 2024



## WFOL Book Sale Returns in Spring

The Wilbraham Friends of the Library Annual Book Sale is a major library fundraiser providing funds for programs for children, teens, and adults as well as museum passes, furnishings, and other library equipment. We know many folks in our community are avid readers and have been accumulating books throughout the year. We are happy to offer the ideal opportunity to recycle these books, stock up on new ones, and fund library programs.

A preview reception will be held on Tuesday, Apr. 30 from 5:00 -7:00 p.m. This reception will only be open to Friends members. WFOL board members will be available to accept renewals or new memberships. The Book Sale will be held Wednesday, May 1 through Saturday, May 4 in the Brooks Room. It will include gently-used books, CDs, and DVDs for all ages and genres. Please save your good used books and materials for our sale. Children and adult books, fiction or non-fiction, hobby books, etc. are all welcome. Due to space restrictions, we cannot accept encyclopedias, magazines, or Readers Digest condensed novels.

As a thank you for their support, donors will receive a coupon for two free books of their choice from the sale when donations are dropped off. Donations of books and materials will be accepted at the library Friday, Apr. 26, Saturday, Apr. 27, and Monday, Apr. 29 during regular library hours. The library will be closed Apr. 28, a Sunday. For more information or questions about the sale, contact [friends@wilbrahamlibrary.org](mailto:friends@wilbrahamlibrary.org). For more information on the Wilbraham Friends of the Library, visit them at [wilbrahamlibrary.org](http://wilbrahamlibrary.org) or on [Facebook](https://www.facebook.com/wilbrahamlibrary.org).

-- WFOL President Mary Bandouveres

Wilbraham  
**WPL**  
Public Library

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

**Closed Sundays & Holidays**

## Memory Kits Added to Collection

Memory kits are coming to the Wilbraham Public Library to serve patrons dealing with memory loss. Memory kits are bags filled with themed items and activities for our patrons dealing with Alzheimers, dementia, and other cognitive impairments. These items incorporate visual, audio, and hands-on activities. They can be used to as a tool to promote conversation and reminiscence with caregivers, family, and friends. Kits are checked out for 6 weeks.

We currently have three themed kits with three more in development. Our first kit is "US Travel," which is themed around both travel and the United States. The items included in this kit are a CD of travel music, a book of American facts, a state matching game, and an expression matching game. The next kit is "In the Kitchen," which is themed around baking and cooking.



*Continued on page 5*

## Wilbraham Friends of the Library Inc.

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

### Board Members

Jo Ayers  
Karen Ball  
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Karen Grycel  
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Susan Magee  
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Tanja Olson

### 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.*

## Virtual Programs

The following virtual programs are presented in partnership with the Ashland Public Library, Tewksbury Public Library, and Watertown Free Public Library. Registration is required.

**Monster Romance Panel**, Thursday, Mar. 14 at 7:00 p.m.

Join authors Ashley Bennett, Kate Prior, and Colette Rhodes as they talk about the similarities and differences between Paranormal/Alien romances, their publishing journeys, and experience with Romancelandia.

**Democracy Talk: Child Removal in the U.S.**, Tuesday, Mar. 19 at 7:00 p.m.

Learn from experts about two current realities of child removal in the United States: the separation of migrant families at U.S. borders and the racial biases within the U.S. foster care and adoption systems.

**Q&A with Jennifer McCord:**

**Romance in Publishing & Thoughts on Where It's Been**, Monday Mar. 25 at 7:00 p.m.

How is it possible that the romance genre continues to be judged so harshly even though it is a multi-billion dollar industry, often supporting bookstores so they can also sell other genres? Join editor and publisher Jennifer McCord in this discussion of her 30 years in the industry— the trends she's seen, the writers she's supported, and her thoughts on Romancelandia.

**Minimizing (or Eliminating!) Food Wastage For Families**, Thursday, Apr. 11 at 7:00 p.m.

Sarah Robertson-Barnes, founder of the Sustainable in the Suburbs blog, will discuss how to minimize or eliminate food wastage in your family, especially with kids. Sarah will have ideas to save, use, or compost food scraps so none (or little) goes into landfills!

**A Brief History of the Coast Guard with Captain Greg Ketchen**, Tuesday, Apr. 16 at 1:00 p.m.

Massachusetts is the birthplace of the Coast Guard. Retired U.S. Coast Guard Captain Greg Ketchen will discuss America's oldest seagoing service whose exceptionally rich history has made significant contributions to American history.

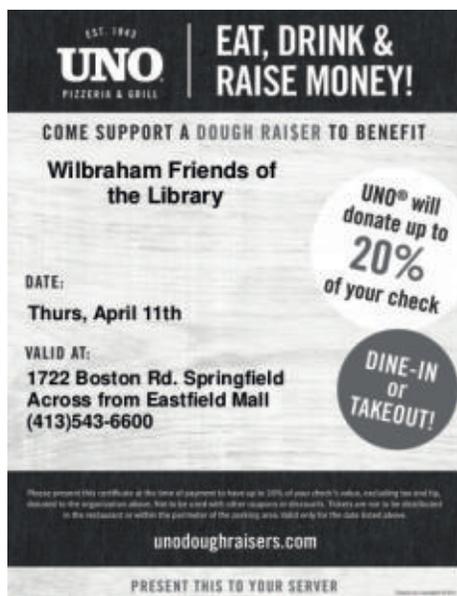
**Find More Birds: 111 Surprising Ways to Spot Birds Wherever You Are**, Wednesday, Apr. 24 at 7:00 p.m.

Author Heather Wolf will be discussing her book, *Find More Birds: 111 Surprising Ways to Spot Birds Wherever You Are*. Join this fascinating conversation about enjoying the moment and noticing the wonderful and varied birds around us.

## Dough Raiser to Support WFOL

Work, sports, meetings, and everyday life can make for a hectic day. The Wilbraham Friends of the Library want to help you out! Take a break and eat at the Pizzeria Uno on Boston Rd. in Springfield any time between 11:00 a.m. - 11:00 p.m. on Thursday, Apr. 11 and up to 20% of your check will go to the Wilbraham Friends of the Library.

Eat-in, take-out, drinks, and catering will all count towards the total donation. You must bring either a printed or digital version of the coupon available on the library's website or the [WFOL Facebook page](#).



# Adult Services

Most programs are sponsored by the Wilbraham Friends of the Library.  
Unless otherwise noted, online registration is required.

## Lectures & Hands-On Workshops

**Gentle Flow Yoga**, Saturday, Mar. 9 at 10:00 a.m. and Monday, May 13 at 6:00 p.m.

Certified instructor Michelle Bouchard will lead this light and rejuvenating class. Adults of all skill levels are welcome. Participants will explore breathing practices, mindfulness & meditation techniques, and a physical approach to sustainable exercise. Please bring your own yoga mat and dress comfortably. Sponsored by WFOL.

**Seascapes Pastel Workshop**, Monday, Mar. 18 from 5:30 - 7:30 p.m.

Award-winning pastel artist Gregory Maichack will return to the library to present his new adult workshop, Seascapes inspired by Winslow Homer. This pastel painting workshop is designed for patrons from beginners to experienced artists. All materials will be provided, and everyone who attends will get to take home their artwork. This program is supported in part by a grant from the Wilbraham Cultural Council, a local agency which is supported by the Massachusetts Cultural Council, a state agency. Funding is also provided by the Wilbraham Friends of the Library.



**They're Irish, They're Catholic, & They're Guilty**, Monday, Apr. 8 from 6:00 - 7:00 p.m.

In 1805, Marcus Lyon was murdered on the Springfield-Boston Road in Wilbraham. In 1806, despite a lack of evidence, Irish Catholics Dominic Daley and James Halligan were unjustly accused and hung for the killing. It was not until St. Patrick's Day 1984 that Governor Michael Dukakis issued a proclamation exonerating them. Join Bill O'Riordan, W. Michael Ryan, Tony Ryan, & David Sullivan as they discuss the Daley & Halligan trial and the longstanding effects of anti-Irish discrimination.

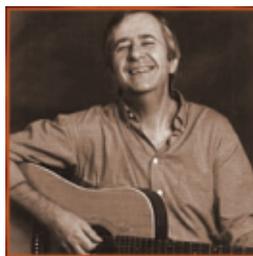
**Introduction to Ancestry Library Edition**, Thursday, Apr. 18 from 5:30 - 7:30 p.m.

Assistant Library Director Mary Bell will show you how to search for census records, military records and more to add information to your family tree. 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, 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.

## Spring Concerts

**From Tribe to Nation: A Musical Journey through the History of Ireland**, Monday, Mar. 4 at 6:00 p.m.

Folk singer Tom O'Carroll will trace the history of the Irish people from the Stone Age to the present. Drawing on archaeological data and historical records, he will explore the broad social and cultural themes of conflict and identity that occur through the island's history. Throughout his presentation, Tom will perform various songs, tunes and little known anecdotes that bring to life the story of the Irish. Sponsored by WFOL.



**StarCats**, Saturday, April 6 from 10:00 - 11:30 a.m.

The StarCats is an eclectic jazz trio that perform throughout New England. Their repertoire intertwines jazz standards, Latin jazz, and pop songs from the likes of Soundgarden, Sara Bareilles, Joni Mitchell, Oregon, Electric Light Orchestra, and Stevie Wonder.

**Great Songs From Great Movies**, Monday, May 20 at 6:00 p.m.

Join us for an evening of popular soundtracks with David Polansky. Spanning several decades of film history, he will cover everything from *Singin' in the Rain* to *Breakfast at Tiffany's* and *Star Wars*. Sponsored by WFOL.

HOLIDAY CLOSINGS: 4/15 Patriots Day, 5/27 Memorial Day

# Children's Services

All programs are free and have online sign ups when required.

These programs are funded by the Wilbraham Friends of the Library.

## Spring Storytime, Crafts & More

**Storytime**, Thursdays, Mar. 7 - Apr. 11 from 10:00 - 10:45 a.m.

Storytime with Assistant Children's Librarian, Rachel Smythe. Each week kids come in independently to explore a different theme through stories, songs, and crafts. This session runs for 6 weeks and is for kids ages 3 1/2 - 5yrs. Parents/caretakers must wait in the library. Sign up online on the Mar. 7 session.

**Craft and Play**, Saturdays, Mar. 23, Apr. 20 & May 18 from 10:00 - 11:45 a.m.

Stop by the library to make a special craft with Ms. Rachel, Assistant Children's Librarian. KEVA planks will be available for free play, along with plenty of 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.

### Take and Makes

Special take-home crafts will be offered throughout the year in the Children's Department while supplies last. No registration is needed. Craft is packaged with instructions and ready to bring home!

### Story Time Chess!

Check out our NEW award-winning "Learn to Play Chess" kits for young kids! Kids learn how each piece moves through a story that helps them remember. Cards included to initiate playing scenarios and board for playing chess.

## Pathways for Parents

Online registration is required on the dates listed.

**Grow, Play, and Learn with Nicole Landry**, Tuesdays, Apr. 2 - June 25 from 9:30 -10:30 a.m. No class Apr. 16.

Play group meets for 11 weeks in the Brooks Room. Learn how to increase your child's attention span with ways to support sensory play. This program is for kids ages 18 mo. - 4 yrs. with an adult. Online sign-up starts Mar. 1 on the Apr. 2 session.

**You Me & We with Ms. Jennifer**, Fridays, Mar. 1 - Apr. 12 from 10:30 - 11:30 a.m.

This 6-week session is for children ages 3 - 5 and their families. This play group focuses on practicing social & emotional skills. Each week a different concept will be introduced. Sign up on the Mar. 1 session.

*These FREE programs are made possible by a partnership with the WPL and Pathways for Parents. Pathways for Parents is administered by Ludlow Public Schools which is funded by the Coordinated Family and Community Engagement Grant through the Massachusetts Department of Early Education and Care.*

## Children's Librarian Retires

Children's Librarian Heidi Kane is retiring after 24 years of service at the Wilbraham Public Library. Heidi has been an integral part of the library, encouraging generations of children to become avid readers and lifelong learners.

A staunch advocate for early literacy, she developed and carefully maintained a children's collection that inspired young readers and supported them as they continued their reading journeys. Deeply committed to both the community and its children, Heidi did it all—from leading storytimes and school visits, to arranging roller skating parties, to dressing up as the Cat in the Hat for Halloween and organizing prize-packed summer reading programs.

Her organizational skills, artistic eye, and steady, encouraging presence made her a beloved member of the staff, and she will be deeply missed by both her coworkers and the library's many patrons. We wish Heidi all the best in whatever she chooses to tackle next—whether it's painting beautiful art in her lovely home studio or simply lying on the beach on Cape Cod.



Heidi Kane

# Teen Services

All teen programs are for grades 6-12 and sponsored by the Wilbraham Friends of the Library.  
Online registration is required unless otherwise noted and all supplies are provided.

## Teen Advisory Board



Teen Advisory Board (TAB) members at their January 8th meeting pictured with their "TAB Book Picks" and no-sew fleece blankets that they made and donated to the Ronald McDonald House in Springfield.

Our **Teen Advisory Board (TAB)** continues to meet monthly during the school year on Mondays from 4:00 - 5:00 p.m. Teens can join TAB to voice their opinions about teen programs, the Teen Loft, books, and more. Our next meeting is Monday, Mar. 11, and new members are always welcome!

## Memory Kits

*Continued from page 1*

The items included in this kit are a cookbook, a vanilla scented sachet and a magnetic baking puzzle. It also includes a set of silicone baking items which can be handled and played with to simulate baking and connect with muscle memory. The last memory kit that is available is "The Senses," which incorporates items that connect with the different senses. These include a visual game called Ouisi, a fidget blanket, scented sachets, and a CD of easy listening music. Each kit also includes a selection of coloring pages for the theme and a supply of coloring utensils. Future themes for kits are animals, the 1950s, and the 1960s.

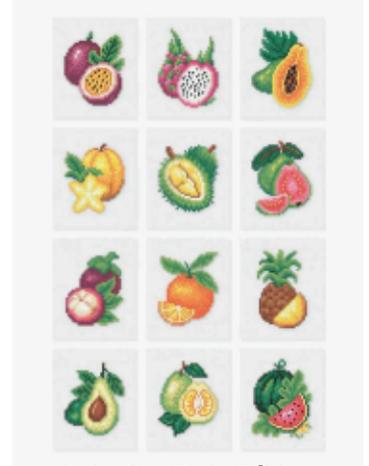
-- Asst. Adult Services Librarian Maddy O'Connor

## Teen Crafts, Murder Mystery

On Tuesday, Mar. 26 at 5:00 p.m., teens can join us for **Teen Makers: Diamond Painting**. Relax through creativity and feel the stress just melt away as you craft beautiful shiny wall art. Each teen will choose one design from PaintGem's "Ocean Edition" or "Fruits Edition" to make their very own masterpiece.

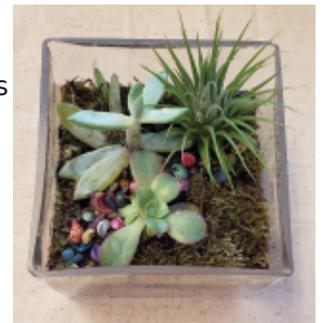


Paint Gem Ocean Edition



Paint Gem Fruits Edition

For **Teen Terrariums** on Tuesday, Apr. 23 at 5:00 p.m., the Burncoat Center for Arts & Wellness will teach teens how to create a terrarium. After choosing a vessel, teens will use live moss and plants, soil, upcycled/repurposed trinkets, shells, and rocks to make their own personalized terrarium.



After many teen requests for escape rooms and mysteries, we are happy to announce a **Teen Murder Mystery** on Tuesday, May 7 at 5:30 p.m. Online registration will start on Tuesday, Apr. 9 at 9:00 a.m. Check our website for more details.

The **Teens Who Code** group is full this year with 12 teens, and continues to meet monthly through May on the last Wednesday of the month.

-- Teen Services Librarian Rachel Haggood

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

## Library News Spring 2024

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## Virtual Author Talk Schedule

Register for these upcoming talks from bestselling authors and thought leaders. Each talk features the opportunity to participate in Q&A. Learn more and register online at [libraryc.org/wilbrahamlibrary](http://libraryc.org/wilbrahamlibrary).

- **Wednesday, Mar. 6 at 4:00 p.m.**

**Nina Totenberg**, author of *Dinners With Ruth: A Memoir on the Power of Friendships*.

- **Thursday, Mar. 14 at 4:00 p.m.**

**Christopher Paolini**, author of *Murtagh* and *The Inheritance Cycle*.

- **Thursday, Mar. 21 at 7:00 p.m.**

**Madeline Miller**, author of *The Song of Achilles* and *Circe*.

- **Tuesday, Apr. 2 at 2:00 p.m.**

**Paula J. Johnson**, presenting *Smithsonian American Table: The Foods, People, and Innovations That Feed Us*.

- **Tuesday, Apr. 9th at 2:00 p.m.**

**Colum McCann**, author of *American Mother*.

- **Wednesday, Apr. 17 at 8:00 p.m.**

**Xochitl Gonzalez**, author of *Anita de Monte Laughs Last*.

- **Wednesday, May 1 at 3:00 p.m.**

**Douglas Brunt**, author of *The Mysterious Case of Rudolf Diesel*.

- **Wednesday, May 8 at 7:00 p.m.**

**Nina Simon**, author of *Mother-Daughter Murder Night*.

- **Tuesday, May 21 at 7:00 p.m.**

- **Rebecca F. Kuang**, author of *Yellowface* & *Babel*.

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## New & Renewing Friends, November 2023 to January 2024

Norma Bandarra, Catherine & John Callaghan, Paul & Nancy Carlson, Virginia Carlson, Claire Cloutier, Judy Cmero, Bernard Davidow, Pat & Maria DeAngelis, Susan Dominick, Eileen Duffy, Phyllis & David Ervin, Shirley Facey, Carol Fountain, Joan & Robert Heyman, Donna Hick, Judy & Rich Hoffman, Elaine & Robert Holdsworth, Martha & Greg Lyman, Tom & Ann Mango, Carol Marchesseault, Philip Pers, Elin Gaynor, Patricia Pio, Sarah Rowe, Shannon Senft & Family, Elizabeth Setian, Claire & Ted Stevenson, Patricia Tessier, Kathleen & Lewis Timpson, Barbara Wheeler. Four members wish to remain anonymous.

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

