

AN OCCASIONAL PUBLICATION OF THE WHITEHALL TOWNSHIP PUBLIC LIBRARY  
 3700 MECHANICSVILLE ROAD  
 WHITEHALL, PA 18052  
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 WEB: www.whitehallpl.org

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**Inside this issue**

**Bits & Pieces ...** "Know where to find the information and how to use it. That's the secret of success."

— **Albert Einstein**, physicist who developed the theory of relativity and won the Nobel Prize in physics in 1921

Anne L. Morris, writer/editor, & library staffers Chris Andrews, Jim Gilbert, Andrea Hargrove, Lorraine Santaliz, & Patty Vahey produced this issue.

# Whitehall Township Public Library

## I<sup>r</sup>EgulaR

### From the director's desk



Welcome to 2017!

As 2016 ended, we were getting ready for our adult winter reading program. Now, we're ready! Registration and the program begins on Monday, January 16, and ends on Saturday, March 25. Program wrap-ups will be on Tuesday, March 27, at 1 and 6 p.m. (Pick one!)

The theme for 2017 is "Reading in Paradise," and this year's program is a little different from its predecessors. There will be points given to participants for completing a game board that includes reading challenges, some of which are related to the theme of "paradise." (See the explanatory handout available at the circulation desk when you register.) Think "warm tropical islands" this winter - in Pennsylvania!

I'm proud to announce that the library now has a new, closed-circuit television (CCTV), the **Optelec Clear-View+Speech**, for our visually impaired patrons. This was purchased with funds raised and donated by the **Whitehall Lions** and other generous community sponsors. (A complete list of all donors is available at the library.) The CCTV unit is open to the public and free to use by folks with visual problems. The library board, staff, and patrons would like to thank the Lions and other community supporters for helping with the purchase of the Optelec Clear-View+Speech.

Please stop in and see this unique machine!

Even on snow days, you can access our databases from your home or workplace computer. Just have an updated, active Whitehall Township Public Library card, a PIN and Whitehall as your home library and you can use the databases on the right side of our website ([www.whitehallpl.org](http://www.whitehallpl.org)). The sites listed there are authoritative - the library pays for them so that patrons do not have to search for answers that could be wrong. These databases cover a range of topics, including car repairs, countries, foreign languages, genealogy, law, and the ZINIO magazine collection. Need help? Ask the staff soon, before our next snow day!

Do you have a hobby or display you would like to share with other library patrons? We have three glass display cases and each month we ask folks to take one of the cases and place something for display in it. We have had toys, Boy Scout items, jewelry, painted dishes, and more, and we are always looking for neat, fun things to display. The cases are locked, and we ask that you leave your displayed items for one month. If you have an idea for a display, please call the library (610-432-4339) and we'll get you on our schedule.

Even though the holidays may be over, the Whitehall Food Pantry

still needs your help - hunger has no season. The pantry is still in need of canned and boxed food (such as soup, coffee, tea, jelly, peanut butter, Hamburger Helper, and cereal), canned pet food, and paper products (such as paper towels, toilet paper, and tissues). The library will continue collecting donated unexpired, nonperishable products, all of which will be given to the Whitehall Food Pantry. You may drop off contributions during regular library hours. Thank you, everyone, for helping.

The library has digitized Whitehall High School yearbooks from 1922-2016. We are able to provide copies on DVDs that can be displayed on a computer. Complete an order form (found on our website and at our circulation desk). Once payment to received, we will make your copy! If you pick it up at the library, it will be \$8 per DVD; if we need to mail it, the cost is \$10. Call the library for more information. Ask for Patty or Jim.

— *Patty Vahey*



## WHAT HAPPENS AT THE LIBRARY WHEN IT SNOWS?

Sometimes — absolutely nothing! (How much snow are we talking about here???)

Changes to the library’s regular schedule (due to weather conditions or other compelling reasons) will be announced on the library’s telephone greeting (either open or closed), reached by phoning us at **610/432-4339**. Changes can also be heard on these local radio stations: **WAEB (790)**, **WLEV (100.7)**, **B104 (104.1)**, and **WZZO (95.1)**.

You can also check **WFMZ-TV (Channel 69)** closing are listed at the bottom of the TV screen, or go to **WFMZ.com**, select “WFMZ Stormcenter,” and then click on “School and Business Closings” to check our delays and closings (if any). There is also a direct link to the StormCenter page from the policies page on our website (**www.whitehallpl.org/policies.html**).



In the event of an emergency closure, the following policy will be in effect:

- \* Materials due on dates we are closed will be due the next day we are open.
  - \* Materials due prior to the closure date will be considered overdue upon return.
  - \* Materials due on the date we are closed and returned after the library has reopened one day will be overdue.
- Fines will be applied as if we had been open.

### CLOSED?! But I need ...

... to do research for a report due next Tuesday ... to find something to read until I can get out of my driveway again ... to come up with a way to occupy the kids while they recuperate from what’s going around.

Whether we’re closed because of a snow day or a holiday, we’re not cutting you off without a lifeline. As explained on page one, if you have Internet access and a valid WTPL card, you have access to us.

Our online resources include, but are not limited to:

- \* **A to Z the World** — covers 121 topics for each of 175 countries
- \* **AudioBookCloud: Your Online Audio Library** — described as “an audio book library collection of streaming audio books”
- \* **Chilton Library** — data for specific vehicles, details of repairs and services, and more

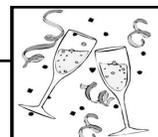
\* **LawDepot** — offers state-specific personal and business legal documents that can be personalized for your needs

\* **LibGuides** — compiled by WTPL librarian Jim Gilbert, these provide access to tax forms, museum information (including local and regional), and other useful material

\* **OneClickDigital** — provides downloads of eAudios and eBooks  
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### Holiday closing

The Whitehall Township Public Library will close at 1 p.m. on Saturday, December 31 (New Year’s Eve), and will remain closed through Monday, January 2. We will reopen at 9:30 a.m. on Tuesday, January 3, 2017!



**Bits & Pieces** ... Most of us are familiar with the major holidays of our own culture(s). As it happens, every single day of the year has been designated a special day (or part of a special week or month) by some person or group, and chances are good that most of us haven’t heard of most of them. For example, you probably didn’t know that January 3 of each year is **National Fruitcake Toss Day**, did you? According to **www.nationaldaycalendar.com**, the day should be marked with a fruitcake tossing contest, where friends and strangers compete to throw a fruitcake the farthest. (The first such event was held in Manitou Springs, Colorado, in 1996, and Manitou Springs is still the site of the annual toss.) Apparently, there’s no information available as to whether or not all contestants toss the same fruitcake and, if not, if all registered fruitcakes must be of the same size and from the same recipe.

### Family Movie Night

Please join us at the library at 6:15 p.m. on Tuesday, January 17, for our **Family Movie Night**. We’ll be enjoying the PG-rated movie “**Middle School: The Worst Years of My Life.**” Then plan to join us again at 6:15 p.m. on Tuesday, February 21, when we’ll be showing “**Maximum Ride**,” rated PG-13. Both showings are free.

The library reserves the right to substitute one movie for another of the same or lesser rating, if doing so becomes necessary for any reason.



## Tell me a story!

Story times officially ended before Thanksgiving 2016, but have patience — they resume in February and March 2017!

-  **Preschool story times:** Tuesdays, February 28–April 25, 10:30 a.m.  
Wednesdays, March 1–April 26, 1 p.m.  
**Note:** No story time will be held on April 11 or April 12.
-  **Family story times:** Wednesdays, March 1–April 26, 7 p.m.  
**Note:** No story time will be held on April 12.
-  **Toddler story times:** Thursdays, March 9–April 20, 10:30 a.m.  
**Note:** No story time will be held on April 13.



Preschool story times, for ages 37 months–6 years, and toddler story times, for ages 18–36 months, require advance registration. (As of Tuesday, February 7, you can register online at <http://www.whitehallpl.org>, phone the library at 610/432-4339, or register in person at our front desk.) For family story times at 7 p.m. on Wednesdays, no registration is necessary — just walk in!

## 3<sup>RD</sup> MONDAY OPEN MIC/JAM NIGHT

Are you a performer who needs to keep your skills sharp? Or are you, perhaps, a fledgling entertainer who's looking for a safe space where you can spread your wings and fly? Then please — share your talent



with the rest of us! On Monday, January 16, and Monday, February 20, **Earl Andrews** will again host our **3<sup>rd</sup> Monday Open Mic/Jam**

**Night** from 6:30–8:30 p.m. and we expect that **Stephen Christopher**, host of audio podcast “Rocking the

**Valley,”** will broadcast the JAM Live! Performer signup runs from 6:15–6:30 p.m., with slots available on a first-come, first-served basis. There are no age restrictions and almost any type of entertainment, done at almost any level of expertise, is acceptable. There are just four rules for would-be participants: (1) Your act must be family-friendly, (2) it must be limited to three songs or 15 minutes, (3) you must be ready to perform when called (i.e., tune up before the show) and, because this show is podcast as live audio, (4) your act needs to be audibly interest-

ing (for both our in-house and podcast audiences).

Come for the fun, then encourage yourself to sharpen your own talents and appear here as a performer!

Not quite ready to transition from spectator to artiste? Well, every performer needs an audience. Come and be a part of ours! Meanwhile, you can get a feel for what's going on by searching online for the “**Rocking the Valley**” blog and archives at **www.rockingthevalley.com**.



## BE AN ANGEL!

The Whitehall Township Public Library is once again participating in **The Morning Call's “Be an Angel”** campaign.

Nonprofit organizations were each invited to submit a wish list of the three things it most wanted. The library asked for:

1. Gift cards for any store, to use for buying items needed by the library or to use as prizes — please mark envelope “‘Be an Angel’ donation.”
2. Large bottles of hand sanitizer or disinfecting wipes
3. Swiffer hand dusters and refills

Questions? Please contact **Chris Andrews**, assistant director, at 610/432-4339 or [andrews.c@whitehallpl.org](mailto:andrews.c@whitehallpl.org) — and earn your “wings”!



## Beading classes



Do you enjoy wearing beaded jewelry, or know someone who does? Would you be interested in making pieces yourself?

If you've ever wanted to try your hand at the craft, now's the time! Beading expert **Marty Beaton**, who taught beading classes at the library in September, will be offering lessons again every Monday at 6:30 p.m., beginning January 9.

You don't have to come every Monday - just come when you wish. And because Marty is generously donating the needed materials, the classes are free!

## Notes

Some of our children's programs require prior registration; some are limited by age; and all of them require participating young children to be accompanied by a parent or another responsible caregiver. We suggest that you phone us at 610/432-4339, speak with a staff member in person, or visit our website (<http://www.whitehallpl.org>), if you wish to learn what limits, if any, exist for whatever program interests you.

This newsletter may not reflect all of our programs for January and February. Consult the calendar insert, call us, or check our website periodically to see what else might be happening at your library.

## Reading in Paradise

Is the weather outside frightful? Instead of sulking, how about mentally retreating - even just momentarily - into your own personal paradise - a lush island surrounded by blue ocean? Whenever you choose to visit, relax - and don't forget to bring a good book!

We're getting ready for "**Reading in Paradise**," our 2017 adult winter reading program, which will run from 9:30 a.m. on Monday, January 16, through 5 p.m. on Saturday, March 25. Registration will also begin on January 16, and patrons ages 18 and up can register then, either in person at our front desk or online at our website (<http://www.whitehallpl.org>).

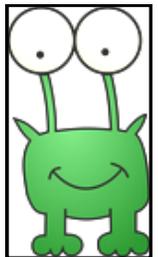


There will be small prizes awarded to those who read and log in a minimum of one book (print or audio) and additional prizes for those who take part in the reading challenge described in the handout available at our circulation desk. Participants will have two wrap-up sessions to choose from on Tuesday, March 28, one from 1-2 p.m. and the other from 6-7 p.m. Come to the one that's most convenient for you.



## Looking ahead

The library's **Teen Advisory Board (TAB)** will meet on Saturday, January 7, and Saturday, February 11, from 1:30-3 p.m. ... The **Lehigh Valley Knitting Guild** will meet at 6 p.m. on Thursday, January 5 and 19, and on Thursday, February 2 and 16 ... and despite its name, it's open to all needleworkers, not just knitters! ... The **Board of Trustees** is scheduled to meet on the second Thursday of each month. January's meeting will be on January 12; February's will be on February 9. Each meeting starts at 7 p.m. All board meetings are open to the public. ... Our **Friends of the Library** group will meet at 10 a.m. on Friday, January 13, and Friday, February 10. Will you be our next BFF ("best friend forever")? ... The **Adult Coloring Club** will meet at 11 a.m. on Tuesday, January 24, and Tuesday, February 28. Materials will be provided, and you certainly may bring your own. ... **What Are You Reading Now?** is an adult book group in which participants discuss what they are currently reading - what they like and what they don't. The group will meet at 1 p.m. on Tuesday, January 24, and Tuesday, February 28.



"Closed?!" Continued from page 2

\* **OverDrive** — use it to borrow audiobooks and eBooks

\* **Power Library** — provides reference resources (many with full text) for perk, elementary, middle school, and college students, as well as adults

\* **TumbleBookCloud** and **TumbleBookCloud Junior** — each provides a collection of books in various forms

\* **Zinio** — a collection of magazines in digital form — and you need never, ever, return them!

### ROSETTA STONE: OUR NEWEST DATABASE

Are you looking for new ways to expand your mind this year? If you've ever thought about learning a new language, our new database, **Rosetta Stone** (Library Solution), is an easy way to get started. With 30 languages to choose from, Rosetta

Stone uses images, text, and sound to teach you. You can start with the core lessons to build your reading, writing, speaking, and listening skills and, if you wish to go on, you can use focused activities to refine your grammar, vocabulary, pronunciation, and more.



**IT OUT!  
IT OUT!  
IT OUT!**

If you have a personal computer, chances are good that it uses Windows as its operating system. If it uses an early version, you may be planning to upgrade — but then again, you may not. You may be a Win 95 aficionado, or believe that Win 98 or Windows 7 will do anything you'll ever need an operating system to do, or just be unwilling or unable to come up with the necessary bucks. Sooner

or later, though, you may want to download a free basic program — graphics, maybe, or a multimedia or utility program — and you're going to discover that your operating system can't handle the program versions meant for Win 2000 or XP. Hey! where are the earlier versions???

This is the moment when you're going to be glad that you know about **OldVersion** (<http://www.oldversion.com>). Remember how your mom saved everything in the attic that someone might need someday? OldVersion offers free downloads of 1,107 older version of 107 programs. Think of it as the computer version of your mom.

Update: Since this was written, OldVersion.com has added program versions for MAC, Android, and Linux operating systems

(Want to check the reviews for yourself? Plug "OldVersion.com reviews" into your favorite search engine and check it out!) (pav1-17)