



Volume 1, Issue 10
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**Whitehall Township
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Whitehall Township Public Library **Library Lines**

From the Director's Desk!

The Whitehall Township Public Library is a “community” library and it is important to remember that libraries are still needed to help patrons. We have the 18 NEW Dell computers and they get used a lot by patrons who do not have computers or internet at home. Yes, NOT everyone has access to a home computer! We have folks looking for employment and almost all companies require an online application and resumes. Patrons need to do resumes, check emails, set-up interviews, etc. We have “non-traditional” students - folks who are over 30 years old and attending college for the first time. They need computers to do research, study, and write reports. If your home computer or printer “dies,” you can come in and use the computer for free, and it’s only \$.10 a page to print off items. Yes, we still have books and programs, but we also offer a lot more for the **COMMUNITY!** Some of the services provided by the WTPL include high speed internet connection, Wi-Fi availability, informative and entertaining programs for both adults and children (see calendar online or pick one up), assistance with resume writing and employment applications, recorded and downloadable books, CDs, and DVDs, homework and research resources, reading programs for all ages, story times and other family events, and of course books, books in Braille, magazines, newspapers and large print books. The WTPL has the distinction of being the only library in the Lehigh Valley to have a low vision reading device with audio for the visually impaired.

We are happy to announce that the WTPL will be part of the **NEW Lehigh-Carbon Library Cooperative**. This will mean more resources and services for patrons to use and share among other libraries. We will be creating a one-card system by February 2019. Watch for more information in January newsletter and flyers at the library. The SPARK libraries for LCLC include: Whitehall Township Public Library, Emmaus Public Library, Coplay Public Library, Dimmick Memorial Public Library, Lehigh Area Memorial Library, Southern Lehigh Public Library, Palmerton Area Library, Parkland Community Library, Slatington Library, and Lower Macungie Public Library.

Beginning Wed., January 2, 2019, the library will have **NEW hours!** Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday we will be open from 9 a.m. - 9 p.m.; Friday and Saturday we’ll be open 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Need an **ICE SCRAPER!?!** You can buy a heavy duty scraper for \$1 at the front desk! They come in black, red and blue and make great stocking stuffers!

If the library is closed for any reason, you still have access to resources. If you have a current WTPL card and in good standing, you may use any of the databases located on the right side of our website. You can do everything from learning a new

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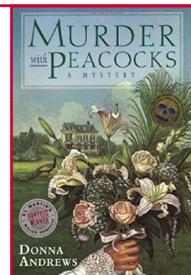
At the Movies: *Incredibles 2*

On the **3rd Tuesday** of every month, we have a Family Movie Night at **6 p.m.** This is a chance for you and your kids to unwind with a fun flick without the expense or inconvenience of going to a theater. If you want, you can even bring blankets and pillows to get comfy! On **December 18**, our movie will be Disney-Pixar's ***Incredibles 2***. This story shows the continuing adventures of the superhero family that debuted in *Incredibles*. This time around, Mr. Incredible is left to care for his three kids while his wife, Elastigirl, is out saving the world. Whether you saw this movie in the theaters or it's your first time, come get in on all of the fun and action, and we will have a super time!

Book Nook: A Literary Spotlight**Meg Langslow series by Donna Andrews**

One of the pleasures of using a public library is discovering things new to you. I recently got hooked on the Meg Langslow mystery series by Donna Andrews and have found it hard to put down. Meg is a female blacksmith in Virginia, living near her retired parents, single brother, married sister and her family, and numerous extended family members. Meg is the one who usually finds murder victims, and circumstances or events in her life put her in position to make connections between the murders and seemingly unrelated activities. Unlike many sleuths in the cozy mystery genre, Meg provides the information to the police and cooperates with them instead of trying to solve the cases on her own, but of course she does. Meg's family, especially her father, is always involved in something that eventually involves Meg, sometimes reluctantly, so the stories are humorous as well. The characters are all so likeable, that I wish I could meet them at one of the many, many meals they have together.

~ Chris Andrews

**Holiday Hits****ffourtissimo**

If you've been a patron of the Whitehall library for a while, you may recognize the name "**ffourtissimo**" as the name of a barbershop quartet that has performed here a few times. On **Thurs., December 6** at **7 p.m.**, they're returning for a special Christmas performance full of old and new holiday tunes. Whether you've seen them before or this is your first time, come out for all the fun!

**Barbershop Quartets**

A barbershop quartet is a group of four people who sing a cappella (without music) in tight harmony. An all-female barbershop is sometimes called a Sweet Adelines quartet, after the song "Sweet Adeline," but barbershop quartets get their name from their historical roots. Barbers kept their customers entertained by singing simple tunes as far back as the 1600s in England. This trend carried over to America, and by the mid-1800s, when barbershops were becoming common gathering places for the middle class, patrons would join in the music. The barbershop style gained popularity in the late 1800s and early 1900s, though it faded as jazz took off in the '20s. Barbershop quartet costumes (stripes, straw hats, and giant mustaches) were influenced by Vaudeville, where performers wore loud costumes on stage as they entertained the masses.

A Visit from St. Nicholas

'Twas a time before Christmas (**DECEMBER THE FIRST**).
All the children were stirring and ready to burst,
And in the library, they waited and knew
That **ST. NICK** would be there **ELEVEN TO TWO**.
They could **GET PICTURES WITH HIM** and sit on his lap
As he sat there smiling in his red cap.
The parents who brought them (for they were no fools)
Slowly and carefully read out the rules:



* Whether one person or for a big group,
Pics are **FIVE DOLLARS** to get your whole troupe.



* We also welcome your well-behaved **PETS**
As long as they get the "okay" from the vet.
With all vaccinations and kept on a leash,
Pics with your pets are still five dollars each.



* Pictures are **PUBLIC**. They go to the "cloud."
You'll find them **ONLINE** – all these pics of your crowd.
We'll put them on **SMUGMUG** and give you a **LINK**,
And you can download them in less than a wink.
(If the thought of computers makes you want to yelp,
Please come to us, and we're happy to help.)



* You can **PRINT OUT** or **DOWNLOAD** the pictures or **SEND**
All of them out to show off to your friends.

The parents then waited so that they could get
Their pictures with Santa (with kids and with pets).
Then it turned eleven. They heard the bells chime.
They heard a deep laugh. At last, it was time!
They heard Santa exclaim with a jolly old look –
"Merry Christmas to all, and to all, read some books!"



December Library Closings



December 7:
Closed at 5 p.m.

December 24:
Closed All Day

December 25:
Closed All Day

December 31:
Closed at 1 p.m.

Did You Know?

Many people in America and around the world with African roots celebrate their heritage during **Kwanzaa (December 26 - January 1)**. Each of the seven days is dedicated to a different principle:

1. **Umoja:** Unity
2. **Kujichagulia:** Self-Determination:
3. **Ujima:** Collective Work and Responsibility
4. **Ujamaa:** Cooperative Economics
5. **Nia:** Purpose
6. **Kuumba:** Creativity
7. **Imani:** Faith

Joyous Kwanzaa!

Christmas Cheer

At the same time as we have our Pictures with Santa (**Sat., December 1 from 11 a.m. - 2 p.m.**), we will also be making **Holiday Cards** for local senior homes. If you want a way to spread holiday cheer to those who need it, think about coming in to make a card or two to brighten someone's day. This is a great opportunity for adults and kids of all ages, and it costs you no money - only a little bit of time. Come in any time from 11 - 2 and make as many cards as you want. We'll have all kinds of craft supplies here for you to use; all you need to bring is your holiday spirit!



Director's Desk (cont'd)

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language to listening to a book, doing genealogy research, looking at recipes from other countries, and reading newspapers online. So before the snow flies, stop by, and we'll update your card and show you how to use these resources!

Wishing all of our patrons a very Blessed and Happy Holiday Season! A Merry Christmas, Happy Hanukkah, and Joyous Kwanzaa!

~ Patty Vahey

Toys for Tots

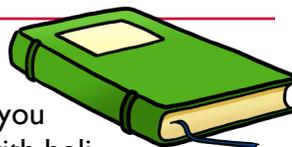
Do you want to spread some Christmas joy to kids who need it? **Toys for Tots**, a program run by the **US Marine Corps Reserve**, gives presents to children whose parents can't afford them. In the past decade, they've given out about 7 million gifts per year, and you can be a part of that!



The Whitehall library will accept Toys for Tots donations through Sat., **December 15**. Please donate new, unopened, unwrapped toys. Toys for Tots won't distribute any gifts that look like realistic weapons or any food. If you want to donate cash, see their website (www.toysfortots.org) for more information. *Thank you!*

Last Month

In November, we had our **Annual Used Book Sale** to bring you new and gently used books at low prices. We also had tables with holiday items and baked goods to round out the event. This sale raised \$355 for the library, and we look forward to using that money to bring you more events in the upcoming year. We'd like to thank everyone who shopped at the sale and everyone who donated books, food, and other items.



Did You Know?

Hanukkah (or Chanukah) is a Jewish holiday commemorating the rededication of the 2nd Temple in Jerusalem during the Maccabean Revolt (a Jewish rebellion against the ancient Seleucid Empire).

Legend tells that at this time, there was only enough oil to light the candles in the temple for one night, but thanks to a miracle, it lasted for eight - long enough to get more! That's why the holiday lasts eight nights, too. (This year it goes from **December 2 - 10**.)

Happy Hanukkah!
Chanukah Sameach!

חנוכה שמח!

Database Spotlight: NewsBank

Do you struggle with finding reliable news sources? If you want to learn about what's going on in the world around you, check out the NewsBank database and its collection of vetted sources.

NewsBank

To use NewsBank, find the icon on the right-hand side of our website (www.whitehallpl.org). You can either search for a specific person, topic, or event, or you can browse popular topics such as business, the environment, leisure activities, and international issues. You can even narrow down your results by source type (newspaper, journal, etc.), by publication date, and more. You can even look for a specific source.

Morning Call

Since the *Morning Call* is such a popular information source in our area, we have a quick link on our homepage right above the NewsBank button that will lead you directly to the *Morning Call* section of NewsBank. Here you can either search for topics or browse articles from recent issues by selecting a date.

