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**Whitehall Township
 Public Library**
 3700 Mechanicsville Rd.
 Whitehall, PA 18052
 610-432-4339
 www.whitehallpl.org
 @WhitehallTPL

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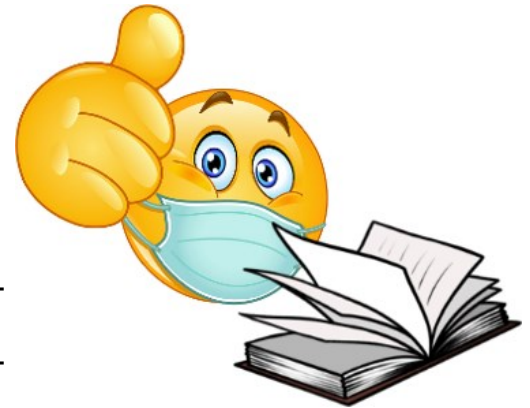
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Whitehall Township Public Library **Library Lines**

The New Normal

While we're firmly in the middle of **winter**, the library is celebrating the season with a few **virtual programs**. Our Adult Winter Reading Program is ongoing and will run through March 6 (see pg. 2). Kids can enjoy story times pre-recorded by our Teen Advisory Board (pg. 3) and interactive story times with our Children's Librarian, Ms. Santaluz (pg. 2).



Otherwise, the library continues to operate as it has been. We're **open** for you to come in on Monday and Wednesday from 9 am - 3 pm, Tuesday and Thursday from 9 am - 6 pm, and Friday from 9 am - 1 pm. We're open for **curbside pickup** only on Saturday from 9 am - 1 pm, though you can also get curbside pickup any time we're open.

We're still working to **keep you safe** by putting all item returns in quarantine for several days. That means you'll see them on your account for that time, but we won't charge you overdue fines for that period. We also ask that everyone who comes into the library wears a proper face covering, uses hand sanitizer at the door, and maintains social distancing as much as possible.

We're very grateful for all the help our patrons have been giving us. If you want to **support the library**, one of the easiest ways to do that is to donate items on our wishlist. Right now, we're asking for new disposable face masks, hand sanitizer, disinfecting wipes, copier paper (white or colored 8.5"x11"), bird seed, resealable plastic bags (any size, especially qt., 1 gal., & 2 gal.), stand-up sign holders (clear 8.5"x11"), picture frames (8.5"x11"), or gift cards (for any store, especially Walmart, Giant, & Redner's).

We can't hold any in-person events, but the **Programs & Events** section of our website (www.whitehallpl.org) has pages for Kids, Teens, and Adults. These pages all have a selection of virtual activities for you to enjoy, like coloring pages, crafts, and other projects. The Kids page even has some recordings of virtual story times and programs.

You can find other online resources on our **Research & Learn** page. Some of the databases we offer include Heritage Quest (genealogy), Law Depot (legal forms & resources), and Rosetta Stone (language learning). Our OverDrive database, which offers **eBooks** will soon be incorporating our **eMagazine** collection as well (pg. 3).

Whitehall Township



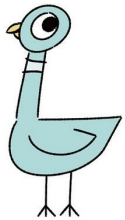
Public Library



Did You Know?

February 11 is the birthday of author/illustrator **Mo Willems**, who's known books like *Don't Let the Pigeon Drive the Bus!* and *Knuffle Bunny*.

During quarantine last year, he made a series of videos called **Lunch Doodles** that you can still find on YouTube. In these videos, he talks a little bit about his creation process and shows you how to draw some of his characters and more.



This year, **Chinese New Year** is on February 12, 2021, and we'll be moving from the Year of the Rat into the **Year of the Ox**. Happy New Year!

**Virtual Story Time**

We've begun a weekly interactive **Zoom story time** that will at least run through Tues., March 30. (At that time, we'll decide whether or not we should continue.) All are welcome to attend, though the stories will be geared towards toddlers – 2nd graders. We want to keep the wonderful world of songs and stories open to our patrons, and we look forward to seeing past story-timers as well as new ones!

Contact Ms. Santaliz (santaliz.l@whitehallpl.org) if you'd like to receive the **Zoom links**. These will be available every Thursday (i.e. 01/14/21) for the following Tuesday's story time.

At that time, we'll also post a link to the **weekly craft** with instructions and/or a template. We can't offer supplies for the story times due to budget cuts caused by the pandemic. Here are some items you might need for crafts: colored construction paper, blunt-tip scissors, glue sticks, a ruler, white basket coffee filters, toilet paper rolls, cotton balls, paper plates, yarn, stickers, and anything else to add finishing touches to your child's art work.

**There's Snow Better Time to Read!**

Even though we're not meeting in person, we're continuing to bring you as many programs as we can. Our **Adult Winter Reading Program** has been growing in size and popularity, so we're going to keep it going. It's open to anyone 18 years old or older, and you can register and log in your books in person or online any time from Mon., January 11 - Sat., March 6.

You can **register** for the program and **log your books online or in person** and return your logs any time through March 6. You can log in online if you go to our website (www.whitehallpl.org) and click on the "Reading Programs" page under "Programs & Events". If you want to do a paper log, you can print one off from our website, come into the library for one, or request one through curbside pickup.

We won't meet in person for a wrap up party, but if you want to get the group **reading list** to get some ideas or so you can ask people about specific titles, let us know. We can print out a copy for you after we've compiled it, and you can pick it up in the library or at our curbside pickup door.

As usual, we've made an additional **reading challenge** for those who want to push themselves a little. You can also find that in the library or online. If you want to share that with us, you can bring that in any time through March 6 as well. (This challenge is appropriate for both adults and kids, so you might want to make a game out of it with your family to see who can complete it first!)



Database Spotlight: Digital Magazine Update



The Whitehall Township Public Library will be moving our digital magazines from **RBdigital** to the **Libby** app (www.overdrive.com/apps/libby) as part of our OverDrive collection on January 28, 2021. You'll still be able to browse, borrow, and enjoy all the same great magazines from ZINIO you loved in the RBdigital app, now available in Libby from OverDrive.

If you're using RBdigital, your **user history** and currently checked out magazines will not transfer over to Libby, but you can continue to access RBdigital until March 31, 2021.

If you've already been enjoying the Libby app, there will be no change, other than you may notice even more great titles available for you to borrow.

For those who have not yet tried the Libby app, all you need to get started is your **library card number and PIN**. You'll need to use your purple LCLC card, and if you still have an old card, we'll be happy to change it out for you. We made these new cards when joining the Lehigh Carbon Library Cooperative, which is a group of eleven local libraries that share books and other resources. (It's good to get this new card even if you don't intend to use Libby, since you can use it for other things, too, like logging into our on-site computers.)

The Libby app is easy to use and will guide you through the setup process and get you connected to our library in just a few minutes. You can find in-app support, or visit the **help** site (help.libbyapp.com/en-us/index.htm) or Libby Academy within the app for assistance.



After the success of their last story time, the **Teen Advisory Board** will record more for our younger patrons. They'll record one every other month for the next few months, with the next **TAB Story Time** being posted on Mon., **February 15**.

If any teens are interested in **joining TAB**, our meetings are on Zoom on the 2nd Saturday of every month at 1:30 p.m. Contact us for the next Zoom link or for more info.

Basket Raffles



The library is planning **two more basket raffles** so far this year: one in February and one in March. Unlike the Winter Basket Raffle, which spanned three months, you'll need to buy separate tickets for these two raffles.

The first raffle will run from **February 8 - 19** and the second will go from **March 8 - 19**. Both will open on a Monday and close on a Friday, and we'll call the winners on Friday or Saturday.

Ticket prices are the same as before. You can buy a sheet of **25 tickets for \$5**, or you can buy **5 sheets for \$20**. That's 125 tickets, and that's a bargain!

As with our past raffles, you'll be able to find baskets with a variety of **themes** like cooking or kids' items. Of course, this being a library, you can expect to find some books, too!

Did You Know?

The first known news report about **Groundhog Day** was made by the *Punxsutawney Spirit* newspaper in 1886 in Punxsutawney, Pennsylvania. The holiday wasn't officially celebrated until the next year, though.



The library is continuing its ongoing **Book Sale**. If you want a little more “winter wonder”, you can also check out our **Brown Bag Book Sale**. Each brown bag costs \$5. The contents are a surprise, but each bag is labeled with a genre or theme.

Holiday Closings 2021

It’s hard to plan anything right now, and everything is subject to change, but these are the dates that we intend to close the library or have limited hours in the upcoming year:

- ♥ **Memorial Day:** Mon., May 31: Closed
- ♥ **Independence Day Commemorated:** Mon., July 5: Closed
- ♥ **Labor Day:** Mon., September 6: Closed
- ♥ **Thanksgiving Eve:** Wed., November 24: 9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.
- ♥ **Thanksgiving:** Thurs., November 25: Closed
- ♥ **Christmas Eve:** Fri., December 24: Closed
- ♥ **Christmas:** Sat., December 25: Closed
- ♥ **New Year’s Eve:** Fri., December 31: 9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.
- ♥ **(New Year’s Day 2022:** Sat., January 1, 2022: Closed)

Inclement Weather Closings

Decisions about closing the library for **inclement weather** don’t necessarily follow the Whitehall-Coplay School District’s direction. Library closings will be published on **WFMZ-TV** (Channel 69) and their online Storm Center.

If the library is closed or closes early due to any emergency situation, then **materials due** on the date(s) the library is closed will be due the next day that we’re open. Our parking lot book drop boxes are always available for returns 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

Book Nook: Spunky Old Broads

Yes, there is a month to honor just about everything, and February celebrates spunky old broads. I wouldn’t mind being remembered as spunky old broad, although Ann B. Ross’ Miss Julia might chafe at the description. In addition to Miss Julia, there are several book series that come to mind with spunky old broads. Perhaps the most beloved is Agatha Christie’s Miss Marple, who sleuthed through 13 books. There’s the Agatha Raisin series by M. C. Beaton, another amateur detective going strong through 32 books so far. Another mystery series to check out is Sister Jane Arnold by Rita Mae Brown, whose 13th installment just came out. Sarah Graves’s *Home Repair is Homicide* series features Jacobia “Jake” Tiptree, who stumbled on 16 mysteries doing house repairs, and is still finding them while running a bakery in the *Death by Chocolate* series. For non-mystery lovers, there is the feel-good *Elm Creek Quilts* series by Jennifer Chiaverini, and the laugh-out-loud *League of Pensioners* series by Catharina Ingelman-Sundberg. To wrap up this fiction paragraph, there are the numerous, humorous *There Was an Old Lady* series by Lucille Colandro in the children’s section.

For those of you who prefer the real deal, both the adult and children’s biography sections contain many real-life spunky old broads. Abigail Adams, Ruth Bader Ginsburg, and Laura Ingalls Wilder come to mind. If you’d like to learn about a living person, there’s Cicely Tyson’s new autobiography, *Just as I Am*, or you could listen to *Dolly Parton, Songteller*. How about Betty White, Carol Burnett, Tina Turner, Meryl Streep, Judi Dench, Julie Andrews, or Sally Field, just to name a few more? Don’t forget to sign up for our Adult Winter Reading Club (see pg. 2), because we like to share what everyone is reading.



~ Chris Andrews

February Fun

Coloring Page



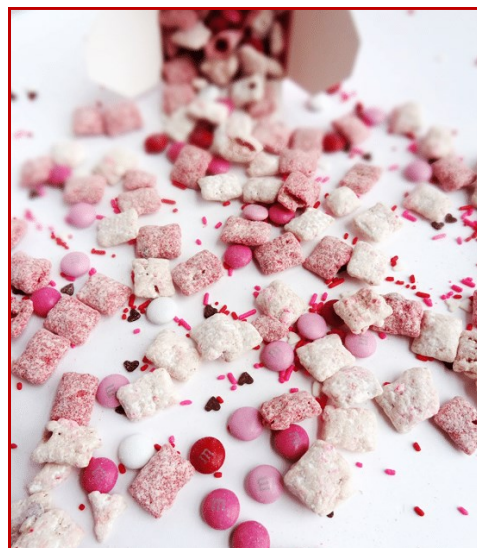
Recipe: Valentine's Day Strawberries and Cream Puppy Chow

Ingredients:

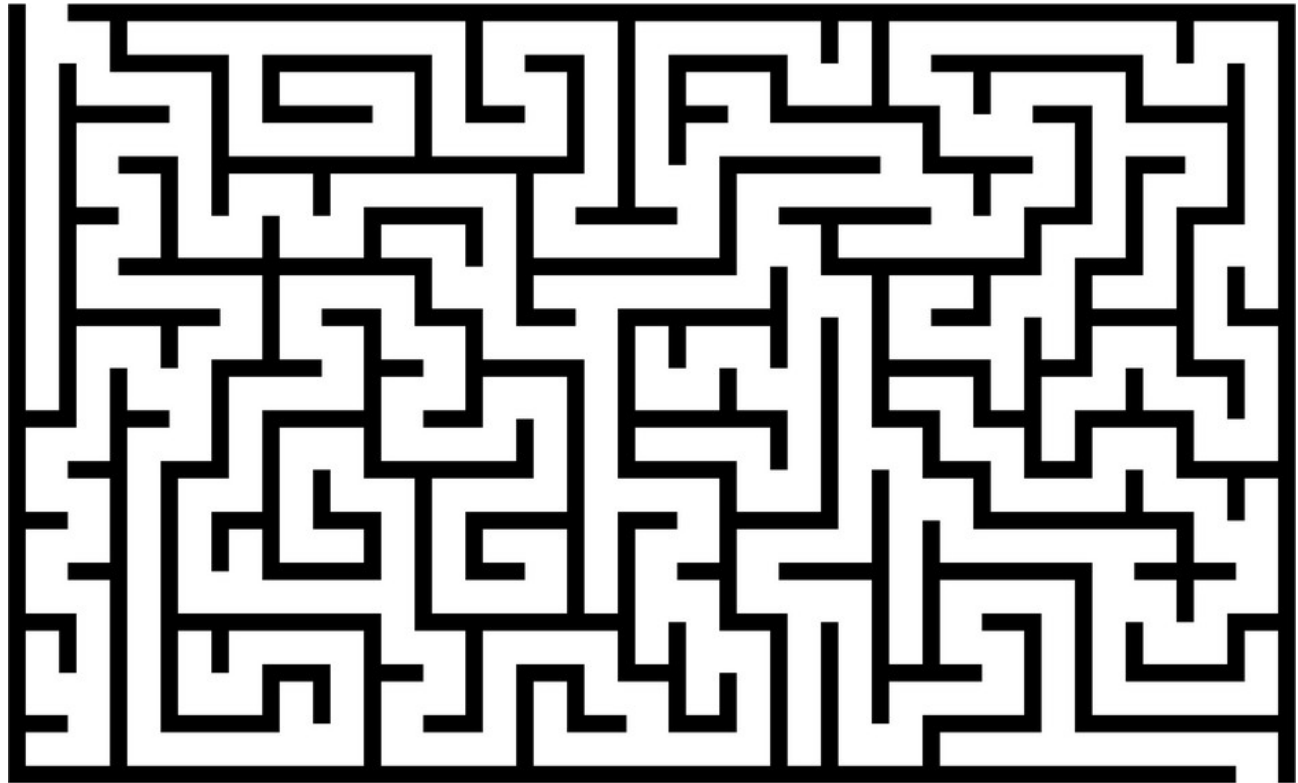
- ♥ 5 oz. white chocolate or white vanilla candy melts
- ♥ 5 oz. red candy melts
- ♥ 5 c. rice Chex cereal, divided in half
- ♥ 1/2 c. strawberry cake mix
- ♥ 1/2 c. powdered sugar
- ♥ M&M's (preferably Valentine's Day colors)

Directions:

1. Slowly melt white chocolate in the microwave, stopping it every 30 seconds or so to make sure it doesn't burn.
2. Add melted white chocolate to 2 1/2 cups of the Chex cereal and lightly stir to coat evenly. Be careful to not break the Chex cereal too much.
3. Add the powdered sugar to this cereal and lightly stir to coat evenly with powdered sugar. (You could also add the Chex cereal and powdered sugar to a ziplock bag, then shake.)
4. Repeat the same process with the other half of the cereal, using red candy melts and strawberry cake mix instead of white chocolate and powdered sugar.
5. Allow to dry completely and then combine the two kinds of puppy chow together and add M&M's.



Help the Groundhog Find His Shadow



Chinese New Year Trivia

Questions:

1. How many animals are in the Chinese zodiac?
2. What festival is held about 16 days after Chinese New Year?
3. What color are the envelopes that people give each other filled with money and good wishes?
4. What two creatures are often seen dancing in parades?
5. How do people usually prepare for the new year?
6. People these days celebrate with fireworks, but what did they used to burn?

Answers:

1. 12
2. The Lantern Festival
3. Red
4. Lions and dragons
5. Cleaning their houses
6. Bamboo