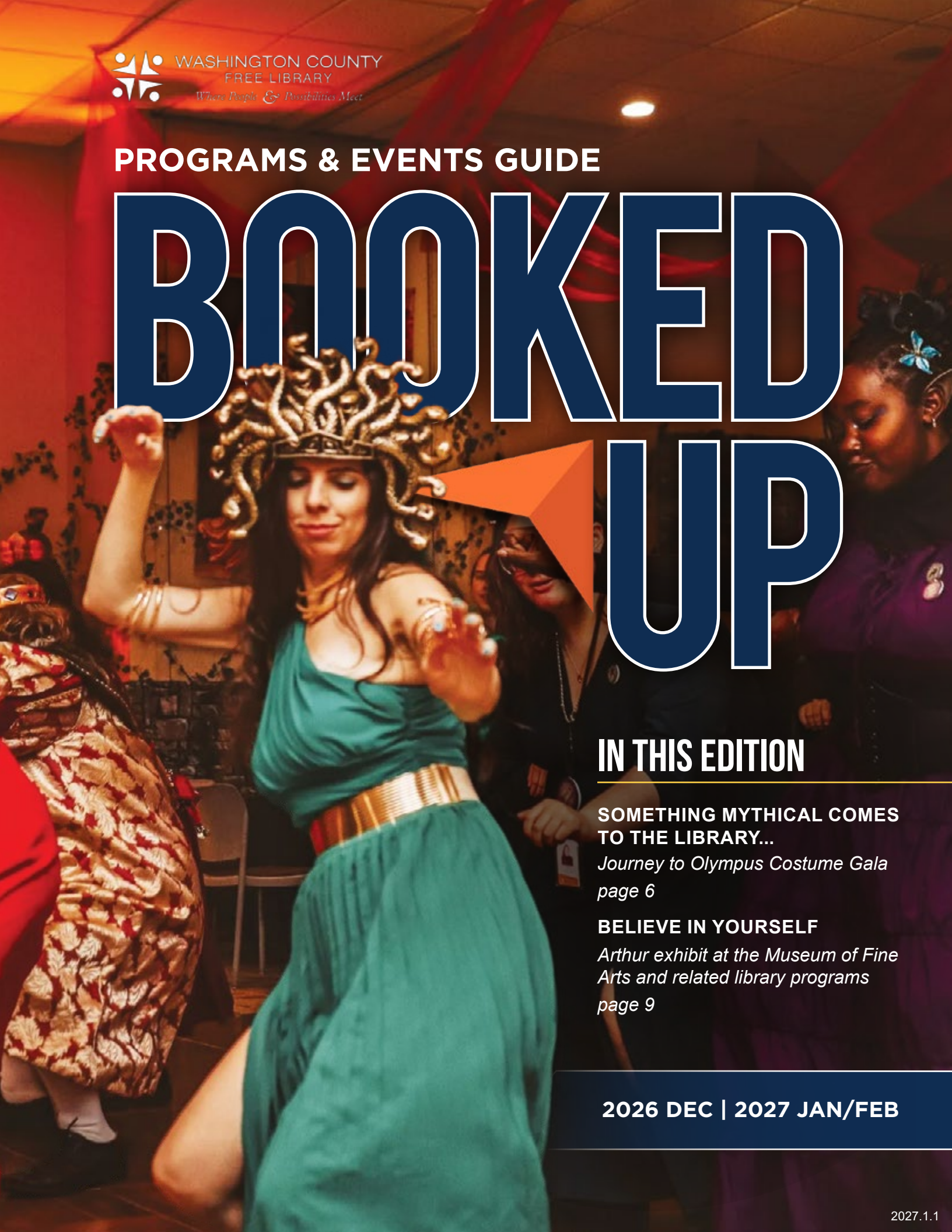
WASHINGTON COUNTY FREE LIBRARY
Where People & Possibilities Meet

PROGRAMS & EVENTS GUIDE

BOOKED UP



IN THIS EDITION

SOMETHING MYTHICAL COMES TO THE LIBRARY...
Journey to Olympus Costume Gala
page 6

BELIEVE IN YOURSELF
Arthur exhibit at the Museum of Fine Arts and related library programs
page 9

2026 DEC | 2027 JAN/FEB

WASHINGTON COUNTY FREE LIBRARY

Where People & Possibilities Meet

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

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MISSION

The Washington County Free Library is committed to building a strong, inter-connected, diverse community by bringing people, information, and ideas together.

VISION

Washington County will be a vibrant, collaborative, educated, and diverse community.

CONNECT

@mywcfl

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PLEASE NOTE:

WCFL strives to make all programs accessible. Please inform us of needed accommodations two weeks prior to the program. Programs, events and classes may be photographed or videotaped for library promotional purposes. Your participation in programs signifies your permission for us to use any photos that we take of you. Please speak to a librarian at the event if you would prefer your photo not be taken. The content of WCFL publications, classes, and events does not necessarily reflect the views held by WCFL, nor does mention of companies or organizations imply endorsement.

Cover image: Alpha Centauri Photography- Washington County Free Library's Fairytale Costume Gala

A MESSAGE FROM *Our Director*



We are excited to invite you to experience ***Journey to Olympus: A Mythical Costume Gala***, on Saturday, March 6, 2027, at the Fletcher Library. This extraordinary evening will bring the magic and wonder of ancient mythology to life through immersive experiences with enchanting décor and entertainment. More than a night of celebration, the gala will support the Washington County Free Library's mission by raising funds for children's reading programs, technology access, and community outreach services. Tickets go on sale January 1, 2027!

As you browse this quarter's edition of *Booked Up*, you'll notice our partnerships with organizations such as the State Library Resource Center, the Washington County Museum of Fine Arts (WCMFA), the Maryland Symphony Orchestra, and many local historical societies which help us to bring storytelling, arts, history, and cultural experiences to our community. These partnerships enrich our region, create opportunities for discovery, and demonstrate the power of collaboration in making Washington County an even more vibrant and connected place to live.

Be sure to keep your schedules open for programs like ***Antiques and Collectibles: Just the Basics, Please*** (page 4) where you can get collection tips from the experts, ***Symphony Storytime*** (page 4) featuring MSO Guest Tuba Player Jesse Lightner, and the many library programs happening across our branches related to the ***Believe in Yourself: What we Learned from Arthur*** exhibit happening now through February 28, at the WCMFA.

We can't wait to see you at the library!

Jenny Bakos
Executive Director
Washington County Free Library



FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY

Stay Connected with Us!

The Friends of the Library had a wonderful time volunteering at the DIY Fair in November! We were excited to share the ***Beyond Books: A Library of Things*** *collection, where 98 people learned about the many unique tools and items available for checkout at the Fletcher Library. From practical tools to fun seasonal items, you can borrow more than just books! Check out the ad on page 8 and discover how the Library of Things can brighten your season without stretching your budget.*

The Friends gave out 400 "ghostly" lollipops and bookmarks to all of the spooky, but smiling, faces at the Downtown Trick or Treat in Hagerstown, and also found time for an evening meet-up at Cushwa Brewery to reach out to more potential members. Keep an eye on our Facebook page @ WCFLFriends for future meet-ups!

Join the Friends of the Library and show your support by volunteering at our next event! For just $10 a year, you can become a Friend of the Washington County Free Library. It's a great way to stay connected to everything by receiving updates about library news, programs, events, and opportunities to get involved. Every Friend makes a difference!

Follow us on Facebook @ WCFLFriends or scan the QR code to learn more and join today!



EVERYONE

ANTIQUES AND COLLECTIBLES: JUST THE BASICS, PLEASE

Wednesday, December 2 | 1-2 PM
Community Room 308/309

Collecting is a popular and fascinating hobby. In this presentation we'll look at aspects of collecting that anyone new to the field will want to know, including a bit about the history of collecting in the U.S., basic terminology, common types of evaluation for antiques and collectible items, and criteria that are commonly used to assess their value. Get collecting tips from the experts and find out about valuable resources for your collecting education, both online and through the collections of the State Library Resource Center. R

Regular Storytimes

TODDLER TIME

Mondays, January-March
10 & 11 AM | 18-36 months R

INFANT STORYTIME

Wednesdays, January-March
10 & 11 AM | 6-18 months R

FAMILY STORY NIGHT

Thursdays | 6:30 PM | All ages
1st Thursdays: Therapy Dog Storytime
12/10: Gingerbread Man Storytime R

PRESCHOOL STORYTIME

Fridays | 11 AM | Ages 3-5
1/8: Snow Storytime
1/22: Arthur Storytime
(in conjunction with WCMFA exhibit)

WRITERS AND POETS CONTEST

December 15 – February 16 | Library hours

2nd graders through adults, submit your best poetry and short stories for our annual writing contest. Visit our website for complete details.

MR. JON UGLY SWEATER DAY HOLIDAY CONCERT

Friday, December 18 | 11 AM
Community Room 308/309

Celebrate the holiday season with music, dancing, and fun brought to you by Mr. Jon & Friends! This concert is for all ages, but especially kids in preschool. It's also National Ugly Sweater Day, so don't forget to wear your favorite ugly sweater!!

HOLIDAY OPEN HOUSE

Saturday, December 26 | 2 PM

Enjoy music with Shaw Strings, a holiday train display by The Roundhouse Museum, festive refreshments, and crafts for kids. Immediately preceding the Historic Houses of Worship Tour downtown.

MAKE A VALENTINE FOR MEALS ON WHEELS

January 11 – February 3 | Library hours

The Children's Department is collecting Valentines for participants in the Meals on Wheels program. Supplies available upon request or bring in Valentines from home!

SYMPHONY STORYTIME

Friday, January 15 | 11 AM
Community Room 308/309

Join Miss Abigail and MSO Guest Tuba Player Jess Lightner for a musical reading of *Tacky the Penguin*. This event will replace Preschool Storytime. All ages

WRITE-IN

Saturday, January 30 | 12-4 PM
Community Room 308/309

Ready, set, WRITE! This all-ages program invites writers to ask questions, collaborate, and socialize with other creatives. Writers of all stages are welcome. Whether you're adding the finishing touches to your manuscript or developing an idea for the first time, this is a space where art meets community through peer and professional support. R

FINANCIAL FITNESS IN FEBRUARY

Saturday, February 6 | 10 AM - 2 PM
Community Room 308/309

Come build financial confidence in advance of Financial Literacy Month in April! Local financial services share information about budgeting, financial aid, loans, and more.

COZY VALENTINE MAKING

Saturday, February 13 | 2 PM

Cozy up with a cup of tea and some scrapbooking materials to make beautiful and heartfelt valentines for the ones you love (or yourself!) Hear about techniques for unique vintage valentines, and learn about Esther Howland, the first manufacturer of Valentines in the USA.

CAMP JOURNAL

Friday, February 26 | 3:30–5:30 PM
Quiet Room 213

Learn new techniques for journaling. This session we will be focusing on collaging journal covers and entries! Supplies for collaging will be available, but feel free to bring any items you'd like to use! A limited supply of notebooks will be available if you do not bring your own. R

Young Children and **Kids & Tweens** programs are held in **Storytime Room 227** unless noted.



FLETCHER LIBRARY

HAGERSTOWN

Scan code to view calendar and register

YOUNG CHILDREN

SANTA VISIT

Thursday, December 17 | 6-7:30 PM

Join us for Santa's annual visit to the library!

KIDS & TWEENS

READ WITH A PET

1st Saturdays 12/5, 1/2, 2/6 | 1 PM

Children can read with Gimli, the dwelf cat. First come, first served.

LITTLE EXPLORERS AND KIDS DISCOVER STEM

1st and 3rd Saturdays | 11 AM

For ages 3-10 R

12/5: Create peppermint-scented play dough and enjoy free hot chocolate from Cannon Coffee.

12/19: Decorate a holiday snowman in a bottle using cotton balls and colorful art supplies.

1/2: Make popsicle stick snowflakes with recycled materials- celebrate the New Year.

1/16: Learn all about Honeybees with special guest Little Bear Apiary.

2/6: Design your own Valentine's Day luminary jar using tissue paper and flameless tea light candles

2/20: Make a blizzard in a bottle and decorate styrofoam cup snowmen.

LEGO CLUB

3rd Saturdays | 2 PM

Come build with LEGOs! Materials stay at the library. Ages 4+

TWEEN HANGOUT & ADVISORY BOARD

Wednesdays (EX 1/6/27) | 5 PM

Hang out, play games, eat snacks, and let us know what fun things you want to see at the library! Stay tuned this winter for *Bingo, Comic Book Night*, *Life-Sized Board Game*, and more! Ages 9-12

MAGIC THE GATHERING

1st Wednesdays | 6 PM

Calling new players and seasoned players alike. Come learn and play Magic the Gathering. Ages 9-18

HOMESCHOOL ENRICHMENT

2nd & 4th Mondays | 2 PM

Community Room 308/309 unless noted

For grades 1-8 R

12/14: Media Literacy Part 3 - To Share Or Not to Share: Learn how to stay safe online and know what online sources to trust.

12/28: Be a Shark Biologist: Do you have what it takes to be a shark biologist? Test your shark knowledge, and enjoy interactive exhibits about these fascinating creatures.

1/11: Media Literacy Part 4 - Whose Story Gets Told? Learn how to stay safe online and know what online sources to trust.

1/25: Fun with Finances: Budgets, banking, and bills, oh my! Learn the basics of good financial habits with interactive activities.

2/8: Media Literacy Part 5 - Escape the Fake: Learn how to stay safe online and know what online sources to trust. (Storytime Room 227)

2/22: Offsite Field Trip to the Planetarium: Take a journey through the stars and planets on this free fieldtrip to the William Brish Planetarium, brought to you by the Friends of the Library.



Homeschool Enrichment

TAKE & MAKE

Celebrate the winter season with themed take home craft kits that incorporate STEAM principles. Register and pick up a kit at the branch of your choice during the designated week. For ages 6-12 R

12/14-18: Oatmeal Canister Snowman

1/19-22: Foil Relief Valentine Hearts

2/16-19: Dress Up Polar Bear

KIDS & TWEEN STEAM

3rd Thursdays | 3:30 PM

Fun and educational STEAM projects during the school year. Ages 6-12 R requested

12/17: Will it Float?

1/21: Will it Fly?

2/18: Will it Change Color?

NOON YEAR'S EVE PARTY

Thursday, December 31 | 11 AM

Community Room 308/309

Can't stay awake to celebrate the New Year at midnight? Join us for a celebration at 11:00 AM (noon!). We'll have activities, snacks, storytime, and a countdown to the noon-year. For families with children of all ages. R requested

TAKE YOUR CHILD TO THE LIBRARY DAY

Saturday, February 6 | All day

Come celebrate children and libraries while exploring everything we have to offer. Activities and a craft will be available in the Children's Department. You can also attend Kids Discover and Little Explorers Science at 11:00 AM (registration required) and read with Gimli the dwelf cat at 1:00 PM!

KIDS VALENTINE'S DAY PARTY

Wednesday, February 10 | 3:30 PM

Celebrate Valentine's Day with stories, games, snacks, and more. Ages 3-12 R requested


WASHINGTON COUNTY FREE LIBRARY PRESENTS:
JOURNEY
to
OLYMPUS
A Mythical Costume Gala
Saturday
MARCH 6
2027
FLETCHER LIBRARY
6:30-10:30 PM
21+ Fundraiser
Tickets on sale in January
washcolibrary.org



FLETCHER LIBRARY

HAGERSTOWN

Scan code to view calendar and register

TEENS

TEEN CHEF

1st Mondays | 5 PM

Make delicious seasonal recipes. R

12/7: Gingerbread cookies with icing!

1/4: Loaded Baked Potato Soup for National Soup Month

2/8: Southern style corn bread for African-American Heritage Month

WRITER'S WORKSHOP

1st and 3rd Thursdays | 5 PM

Teens can share their writing, get feedback, and learn new techniques. Developed using college-level writing resources, this workshop gives teens a preview into various kinds of writing while supporting their personal growth as a writer.

HOLIDAY PARTY

Friday, December 18 | 2:30-6 PM

Celebrate the winter season with all things cozy! We'll have hot chocolate, games, and crafts.

GAME NIGHT

2nd and 4thThursdays | 5 PM

Join us on Thursdays for Game Night! Every 2nd & 4th Thursday we'll be playing board games, card games, and video games!

CREATIVE CORNER

1st and 3rd Tuesdays | 5-6 PM
YA Meeting Room 212

Come make get creative with Miss Bonnie! All materials provided.

12/1: Make friendship bracelets

12/15: Collage a vision board of goals and dreams for the upcoming New Year!

1/5: Create a trinket dish out of air clay!

1/19: Paint a light switch!

2/2: Decorate a canvas tote bag!

2/16: Decorate a Picture Frame!

THERAPY RABBIT VISIT

Select Mondays, 12/14, 1/25, 2/22 | 6-7 PM
YA Meeting Room 212

Certified therapy rabbits, Bleu and Cheddar, will be hanging out! Come pet, hold, or simply visit with these adorable lionhead bunnies!

SIP, SHARE, AND SELF CARE

Saturday, January 23 | 2-3 PM
YA Meeting Room 212

Teens are invited to enjoy a cup of hot cocoa while engaging in supportive conversation about seasonal depression and winter wellness. Participants will create snowflake-shaped affirmation cards filled with positive messages, encouragement, and self-care reminders to help brighten the colder months. This program is designed to promote resilience, self-reflection, and emotional well-being. The event will be facilitated by the Psychiatry Student Interest Group from the Meritus School of Osteopathic Medicine.

TOBACCO & NICOTINE PREVENTION

Tuesday, February 9 | 5-6 PM
YA Meeting Room 212

Washington County Health Department will be visiting for American Heart Month with snacks, prizes, and a Valentine's Day themed craft.

TEENS & ADULTS

ART CLUB FOR ADULTS & TEENS

1st Wednesdays | 5:30-7 PM
Community Room 308/309

Welcome to Art Club for adults and teens, a monthly group for all art lovers. Art supplies will be provided, but you are also welcome to bring your own! Here you will be able to get your creative juices flowing, learn new techniques, and we'll even cover DIY art supplies such as making a homemade canvas! Join us and get creative! R

KNITS, SNIPS, & FLICKS

Mondays, Dec. 21, Jan. 11, Feb. 8
5:30-7:30 PM
Community Room 308/309 (for Jan. & Feb.)
Quiet Room 213 (for Feb.)

Bring your favorite fiber arts or paper crafts and enjoy a film while you work alongside other crafters! Light refreshments provided, as well as supplementary supplies such as scissors, markers, etc.

RESTORATIVE YOGA & SOUND BATH

Last Sundays Jan. 31, Feb. 28 | 2-3:30 PM
Community Room 308/309

This class is designed for all levels, making it perfect for beginners. It will conclude with a soothing, full body, guided relaxation followed by a sound bath featuring crystal bowls from Shores of Avalon Sound Healing. Embrace the tranquility of the season with us! Ages 13+ R

ADULTS

BOOK CLUB 250

Now through December 21 | Library hours
3rd Floor Reference Desk

December is the last month to celebrate America and Washington County's 250th anniversary by joining this book club.Read five books set in Colonial North America or the American Revolution to receive a button. Read 10+ books and win a prize (while supplies last). Celebrate freedom to read!

STORYTIME FOR ADULTS WITH ALL ABILITIES

1st and 3rd Thursdays | 10:30 AM – 12 PM
(NOTE: New day of the week)
Community Room 308/309

Read books, sing along to music, dance, play games, make crafts, and more! R

12/3: Magic Show | 12/17: Trains with the Roundhouse Museum

1/7: Library Lovers Month | 1/21: Tea Party

2/4: American Heart Month | 2/18: Financial Wellness

FLETCHER LIBRARY
HAGERSTOWN

100 South Potomac Street | Hagerstown, MD 21740 | 301-739-3250



WALK-IN TECH HELP & MEMORY LAB

Tues, Dec. 8, Jan. 12, Feb. 9 | 4-6 PM
Thurs, Dec. 10, Jan. 14, Feb. 11 | 4-6 PM
Sat, Dec. 12, Jan. 16, Feb. 13 | 9-11 AM
Classroom 315

Have tech questions? Information Services staff is available to help walk you through troubleshooting device issues, completing tech-related tasks, and learning new skills. The Memory Lab is a new self-service personal archival service available during Tech Help hours by appointment only.

¡CONVERSEMOS! SPANISH/ ENGLISH CHAT GROUP

2nd and last Thursdays | 9 AM
El segundo y el último jueves del mes
Conference Room 334

This informal group for speakers of both English and Spanish is the perfect opportunity to learn in a fun, no-pressure environment.

Este grupo informal para hablantes de inglés y español es la oportunidad perfecta para aprender en un ambiente divertido y sin presiones.

50 BOOKS CAFE

Wednesday, January 13 | 6-7:30 PM
Western Maryland Room

The start of a new year is a great time to set reading goals! Join us for a group book chat! Whether you're reading 50 books or just want to chat about what you're reading, we'll be happy to see you!

HAGERSTOWN HOMESTEADERS

3rd Fridays, Jan. & Feb. | 2-3:30 PM
3rd Saturdays, Jan. & Feb. | 11 AM-12:30 PM
Conference Room 334 (in January)
Quiet Room 213 (in February)

Welcome to the Hagerstown Homesteaders, a monthly gardening club! Learn how to grow food from scratch, harvest and preserve what you grow, lay out garden plots, start indoor seedlings, and much more throughout the year. R

1/15 & 1/16: Seed catalogs, know your why, winter sowing, and growing sprouts

2/19 & 2/20: Seed starting, garden layouts, and seed distribution

NEW! WASTE FREE LIVING

4th Mondays, Jan. & Feb. | 2-3 PM
Conference Room 334 (Jan. 25)
Quiet Room (Feb. 24)

Join the Hagerstown Homesteaders for a new series, Waste Free Living! This practical program provides you a blueprint to shrink your environmental impact without upending your life. Learn to audit your personal carbon footprint, redesign your consumer habits, and master zero-waste principles. By the end, you will have an action plan to live intentionally, reduce household waste, and lower your emissions. R

1/25: Waste audit and mindful buying

2/24: Kitchen waste, food storage, and meal prep

MAD HATTER'S TEA PARTY

Friday, January 29 | 1-2:30 PM
Community Room 308/209

Venture through the looking-glass to join us for the Mad Hatter's Tea Party! Sample various teas and refreshments. Seats are limited, so please sign up today. And don't forget your hats! R ■



BEYOND BOOKS — A LIBRARY OF THINGS —

Believe in Yourself:

What We Learned from Arthur, The Art of Marc Brown

Discover the original artwork behind this beloved character!

Arthur at the library

Washington County Museum of Fine Arts

presents the imagination and creative process of Marc Brown who brought Arthur to life. This exhibition features original illustrations, preliminary drawings, thumbnail layouts & character designs throughout Brown's career.



See what the **Washington County Free Library** has planned for Arthur fans like you...

Scan code for WCMFA details.

Scan for WCFL calendar

Marc Brown (American b. 1946) Arthur Promotional Art for PBS Series Launch, 1998. Pen and watercolor. Collection of the artist.

October 24, 2026 - February 28, 2027

Washington County Museum of Fine Arts
401 Museum Drive,
Hagerstown, MD 21740

MFA Museum of Fine Arts Washington County

WASHINGTON COUNTY FREE LIBRARY

Washington County Free Library
Programs vary by location
wcfl.librarymarket.com

BOONSBORO

401 Potomac Street | Boonsboro, MD 21713 | 301-432-5723



Regular Storytimes

TODDLER TIME

Tuesdays | 11 AM

Learn numbers, shapes, and colors! Ages 18-36 months

PRESCHOOL STORYTIME

Wednesdays | **3:30 PM** NEW TIME!

Have fun and develop a love of reading and learning. Ages 3+

INFANT LAP-SIT

Fridays | 11 AM

Enjoy books with your baby in a fun, interactive setting. Ages 0-18 months

FAMILY STORYTIME

Saturdays | 11 AM

Seasonally themed stories and craft! All ages

EVERYONE

FAMILY MOVIE MATINEE

Friday, January 15 | 2 PM

Super Mario Movie (PG)

Friday, February 12 | 2 PM

Hoppers (PG)

YOUNG CHILDREN

CRAFT A SNOW BUDDY

Wednesday, December 9 | 4 PM

Make a snow buddy out of a sock (image below). Enjoy each other's company with some refreshments. Ages: 4-12



HOLIDAY COOKIE DECORATING

Saturday, December 12 | 11AM

After reading some holiday stories, we'll decorate holiday cookies! R

EVENING ARTHUR STORYTIME

Tuesday, January 19 | 6 PM

Wear your pjs and join Ms. Alyssa by the fireplace for an evening storytime featuring Arthur books! Perfect for children ages 5 -8

STORYTIME AROUND TOWN: STONE WERKS COFFEE + SWEETS

Wednesday, January 20 | 3 PM

Meet us at our favorite local shop, Stone Werks, for stories, songs, and activities on baking.

SENSORY PLAY

Tuesday, January 26 | 11 AM

Participants will engage in different activities to enhance their senses and experience interaction through sensory play. For ages 0-5 and persons of different abilities.

DIY VALENTINE CARDS

January 26 - February 13 | Library hours

Drop in and make a card for your Valentines! Supplies will be provided for your creative spirit.

HAPPY VALENTINE'S DAY!

Saturday, February 13 | 11 AM

Join us for Valentine's Day books, songs and craft stations!

TWILIGHT STORYTIME

Thursday, February 25 | 6 PM

Spend a cozy evening in your pajamas by the fireplace for delightful children's stories and songs. Ages 3-7

KIDS & TWEENS

STEM EXPLORATIONS: LEGO CLUB

Select Wednesdays, 12/16, 1/27, 2/24 | 4 PM

Join us for some hands-on fun as we try some Lego engineering challenges and discover what we can make together.

PAPER ROLLER COASTER

Thursday, January 21 | 4 PM

Get ready for some outrageous engineering as we work together to finish our roller coaster for marbles from paper, then race marbles down the track. Ages 8-14

R for your spot!

TEENS

TWEEN/TEEN ROLEPLAYING GAME GUILD

Thursdays, Dec. 10, Jan. 14 & 28, Feb. 11 & 18 | 5:30 PM

Join our party of adventurers as we make our own magic through role playing games. New members should register online and let us know whether you will bring your own character sheet or want us to pre-roll a character for you. For grades 6-12. R

TWEEN/TEEN AFTERNOON: CANDY SUSHI MAKING

Friday, February 19 | 4 PM

Let's make some candy into fun and tasty sushi look-alikes. For grades 6-12. R



BOONSBORO

Scan code to view calendar and register

ADULT

BOONSBORO HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Select Tuesdays | 6:30 PM

If you are interested in the fascinating history of our area, join us each month to hear from speakers who know intriguing details we bet you haven't heard before.

12/1: Rho Kappa, from the National Social Studies Honor Society of Boonsboro High School, will present a "news broadcast" from the Boonsboro Times Newspaper of the 1800's and 1900's.

2/23: Speaker TBA

MONDAY MAHJONG GROUP

Mondays | 1 PM

A casual and social gathering for playing mahjong. Beginners may observe so they can learn how to play.

MOVIE NIGHT FOR GROWN-UPS

2nd Tuesdays | 6 PM

12/8: *Love the Coopers* (PG-13)

1/12: *Bob Trevino Likes It* (PG-13)

2/9: *Just Mercy* (PG-13)

ABC (AFTERNOON BOOK CLUB)

3rd Tuesdays | 3 PM

All are welcome to join the discussion.

12/15: *The Story of Arthur Trulov* by Elizabeth Berg

1/19: TBA

2/16: TBA ■



CLEAR SPRING

12624 Broadfording Road | Clear Spring, MD 21722 | 301-842-2730

EVERYONE

MYSTERY BOOK AND CHERRY PIE

In Memory of Arnita Ernst, who would like all to read mysteries and bake cherry pies, each month we raffle off a mystery novel. Don't forget her award-winning pie recipe!

KIDS & TWEENS

HOMESCHOOL AT THE LIBRARY: STEAM

3rd Thursdays | 1 PM

12/17: Constellations

1/21: Construction/Engineering

2/18: Math Games

HOMESCHOOL: PHYSICS WITH LEGOS

4th Tuesdays | 1 PM

Learn the basic principles of physics using LEGO kits that promote team work and fun!

ADULTS

ADULT BOOK DISCUSSION

1st Wednesdays | 11:30 AM

Join a lively discussion. Please contact the library for a copy of the book.

NEW! STORYTIME FOR ADULTS WITH ALL ABILITIES

1st Thursdays | 1:30 PM

A brand-new storytime for adults of all abilities has come to Clear Spring! Join us as we read books, sing along to music, dance, play games, make crafts, and more.

ADULT / TEEN CRAFT

3rd Saturdays | 11 AM

Crafts that are enjoyable to make and useful too. Ages 13+ R

12/19: Christmas ornaments

1/16: Beaded bracelets and earrings

2/20: Fairy garden waterfall ■

Regular Storytime

PRESCHOOL STORYTIME

1st and 3rd Tuesdays | 11:30 AM

30 minutes of stories, songs, movement, and more.* R

FRIDAY STORYTIME

Fridays | 11:30 AM

30 minutes of stories, songs, movement, and more, followed by a craft.* Ages 2-5 with adult.

*See library staff for themes.

HANCOCK

231 Hancock Veterans Pkwy | Hancock, MD 21750 | 301-678-5300





Thank you, Pam

We would like to extend our heartfelt thanks to Pam Mann *for her 10 years of dedicated service to WCFL as Branch Manager of the Hancock Memorial Library. Throughout her time, Pam was instrumental in bringing the community together through engaging family programs, creative crafts, entertaining puppet shows, and countless opportunities for families to connect. Her warmth, creativity, and commitment have made a lasting impact on the library and the people it serves. We are grateful for all she has contributed and for the memories she has helped create over the years!* ■



SCAN QR CODE ABOVE TO VIEW HANCOCK PROGRAMS COMING SOON.

KEEDYSVILLE

22 Taylor Drive | Keedysville, MD 21756 | 301-432-6641



Regular Storytimes

PRESCHOOL STORYTIME

1st Wednesdays | 11 AM

Have fun and develop a love of reading and learning.

Ages 3+

GALE

AVOID THE WINTER BLUES

Access 24/7 car repair, service, and maintenance info.

CHILTON LIBRARY

FREE WITH YOUR LIBRARY CARD!

Library POWER USERS!

An Independent Reader Emerges

BY DAKOTA VAUGHN



Evelyn Nutwell, age 6, is an aspiring violinist, an American Girl Doll enthusiast, and now? An independent reader!

On June 2, 2026, Evelyn attended Fletcher Library's "Historical Doll Tea Party" in the Children's Department. It was a fanciful afternoon of parlor games and petit fours, highlighting dolls from the colonial era to the present day in honor of America's 250th birthday.

At the end of the party, a basket of books and goodies was raffled off, and Evelyn was the lucky winner. Among the contents were four copies of American Girl's *WellieWishers* collection, a juvenile transitional fiction series featuring five girls who go on backyard adventures and learn how to be good friends.

Later in the summer, Evelyn and her mom, Renee, dropped by the library, and gave us some exciting news: Evelyn loved the *WellieWishers* books so much that she started reading them all on her own—the first time she'd read a book fully independently. "I could read all four of the books in one day," Evelyn said. She now has a growing collection of *WellieWishers* books and is always on the lookout for more.

Some of Evelyn's favorites in the series include *The Princess and the Dragon* and *The Clippity-Cloppity Carnival*. She excitedly shared the plot of *The Clippity-Cloppity Carnival* and admitted "I read it every night!" Evelyn has been reading *The Little House on the Prairie* series with help from her mom, and loves library books about volcanoes and archaeology. But when it comes to reading on her own, Renee said "*WellieWishers* was the thing that made it click."

Out & About WITH THE BOOKMOBILE

YOUNG CHILDREN

STORYTIME ON THE FARM

Monday, December 14 | 10:30 AM
Ivy Hill Farm: 13840 Smithsburg Pike
Smithsburg, MD 21783

Join us in the farm shop as we celebrate the holiday season with stories, songs and fun! Family friendly.

KIDS & TWEENS

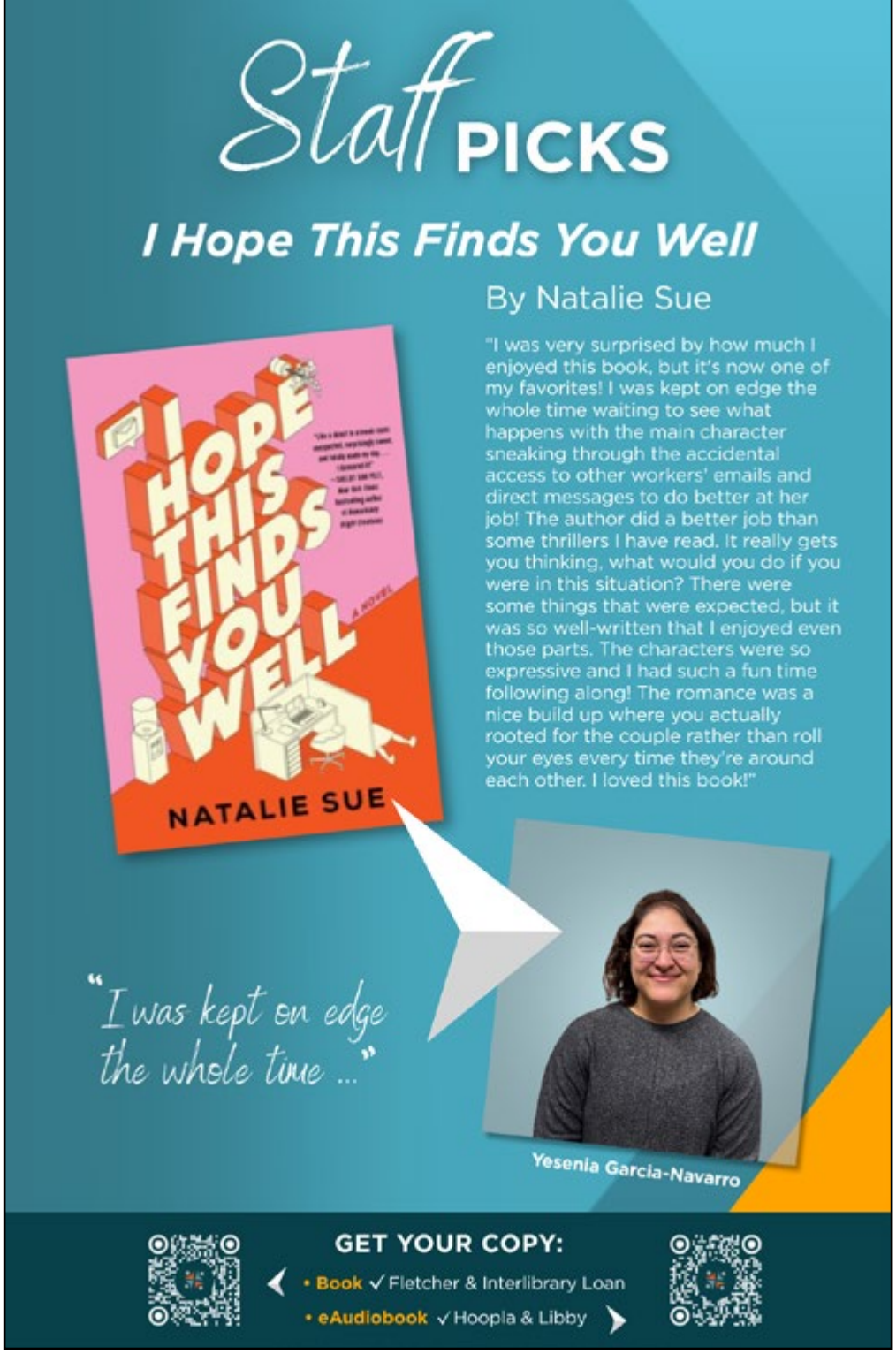
CREATION STATION

4th Tuesdays | 3 PM
McCleary Hill Community Center:
12150 Granite Dr, Hagerstown

Explore different art materials, learn new techniques, and let your imagination shine in this crafty program perfect for elementary schoolers. Each month will feature a different process-based seasonal craft to enjoy!

FIND US *wherever* WE MAY ROAM









SHARPSBURG

106 East Main Street | Sharpsburg, MD 21782 | 301-432-8825

EVERYONE

PUZZLE SWAP

January 12,13,14 | Library Hours

Enjoy jigsaw puzzles? Bring some puzzles and take some. We have a great selection.

MOVIE NIGHT AND POPCORN

Wednesday, January 13 | 5:30 PM

The Sheep Detectives (PG)

Tuesday, February 16 | 5:30 PM

Freakier Friday (PG)

YOUNG CHILDREN

STORYTIME AROUND TOWN: BURKHOLDER'S BAKED GOODS

Thursday, December 3 | *3:30 PM*

106 High Street, Sharpsburg

Story and decorate cookies!

SANTA'S COMING!

December 17 | 3:30 PM

Bring your camera and join Santa for a story. Take home a balloon animal made by Santa himself.

KIDS & TWEENS

LEGO CLUB

1st Saturdays | 10 AM

Build the Lego challenge or make your own creation.

MAKERSPACE

Wednesday, December 2 | 5:30-6:45 PM

Get into the holiday spirit by using greens to create in our makerspace. Ages 11+

2nd Tuesdays, Jan. & Feb. | 5:30-6:45 PM

1/12: Winter Makerspace, come create while enjoying our hot chocolate bar.

2/9: Create with candies in our makerspace.

HOMESCHOOL BOOK CLUB

Select Tuesday or Wednesdays | 2:30 PM

Enjoy book-related discussion and activities

12/22: We will discuss *The Best Christmas Pageant Ever* by Barbara Robinson. After we will watch the movie (PG) with popcorn!

1/20: Discussion and activities about *Holes* by Louis Sachar.

2/17: *Heidi* by Johanna Spyri

ADULTS

ADULT BOOK SHARE

1st Wednesdays | 2:30 PM

What is your favorite current read?

DIAMOND DOT ORNAMENTS

Tuesday, December 1 | 5-6:45 PM

Join us and make an ornament to keep or share. Teens are also welcome.

ANNUAL HOLIDAY JAZZ CONCERT

Tuesday, December 8 | 7 PM

Join Anita, Bob and Scott for their annual holiday concert. A favorite local tradition! Cookies and hot chocolate will be served.

WINTER SPICE CLUB

January-March | Library hours

Each month pick up your sample of the spice of the month (while supplies last), information about the spice, and a recipe including the spice.

January: Chervil

February: Epazote

March: Savory

"SIMON" OF THE ANTIETAM NATIONAL CEMETERY

February 18 \ 7pm

Join author and historian Timothy Snyder and learn about "Old Simon" the statue in the middle of Antietam National Cemetery, how he got here in 1880, and the stories surrounding his name. ■

Regular Storytime

THEMED STORYTIME

Thursdays | 3:30 PM

Join us for stories, activities, and a craft with Ms. Susan!

Ages 3+



Activities Sharpsburg Library

SMITHSBURG

66 West Water Street | Smithsburg, MD 21783 | 301-824-7722



EVERYONE

TREE CRAFT KIT

December- all month | Library hours

Stop by the library to pick up a kit to create a holiday tree with thick yarn and a styrofoam cone. All supplies provided except for a glue gun. While supplies last.

LIBRARY HOLIDAY OPEN HOUSE

Friday, December 4 | 6:30-8:30 PM

Enjoy refreshments at the library after Smithsburg's tree-lighting ceremony in Veterans Park. Tour our building, stop at the craft stations, check out the used book sale, and Santa should be here! At 7:30 PM, children of all ages are welcome to enjoy "Storytime by the Fire."

NATIONAL PUZZLE DAY

Friday, January 29 | All day

Enjoy National Puzzle Day throughout the library with jigsaw puzzles, sudoku, search a word, crosswords, and more.

MAKE A VALENTINE FOR MEALS ON WHEELS

January 12 – February 3

The Smithsburg Branch is collecting Valentines for participants in the Meals on Wheels program. Supplies will be available upon request or bring in Valentines from home!

YOUNG CHILDREN

STORYTIME AROUND TOWN: *STORYTIME WITH SANTA*

Saturday, December 19 | 11:30 AM

Fort Ritchie Community Center

14421 Lake Royer Dr, Fort Ritchie, MD

After breakfast with Santa, keep the holiday magic going and join us for storytime with Santa, featuring festive stories and plenty of Christmas cheer for the whole family!

FURRY, FUZZY FOREST FRIENDS

Saturday, January 16 | 11:30 AM

Come explore the wild side of storytime with *Furry, Fuzzy Forest Friends* as we share fun stories about raccoons, skunks, foxes, and more, followed by a hands-on touch table!

EXPERIENCE ARTHUR STORYTIME

January 28-30 | See our Regularly Scheduled Storytime Hours

Come say "Hey!" to Arthur during our special three-part storytime series as we enjoy Marc Brown's beloved stories and celebrate the fun, friendship, and life lessons that have made Arthur a family favorite.

A BEARY SPECIAL STORYTIME

Saturday, February 6 | 11:30 AM

Bring your little cubs for bear-filled stories, crafts, hands-on discoveries, and an up-close look at the Maryland DNR bear kit!

KIDS & TWEENS

SIMPLE STEM CHALLENGE KITS

December: LED holiday card

January: Volcanic eruption

February: Jumping frogs

TAKE & MAKE CRAFT KITS

December: Peanuts chenille tree

January: Snowman paper suncatcher

February: Heart wind chime

LEGO NIGHT

1st Monday | 5 PM

Try the LEGO Challenge or free build.

12/7: Make an ornament for the library tree

1/4: Build your name

2/1: Build a cabin

HOMESCHOOL PROGRAM

3rd Wednesdays in Jan. & Feb. | 4 PM

Join us to learn about an inventor and a scientist. Each session will include hands-on activities. Ages 6-12.

1/20: Galileo

2/17: Alexander Graham Bell

TEENS

"WE WHISK YOU A MERRY CHRISTMAS"

Wednesday, December 16 | 4 PM

Create a holiday gift from a whisk for your friends or family. You will also create an ornament.

TEEN TISSUE PAPER-STAINED GLASS ART

Wednesday, January 6 | 4 PM

Hang out, get crafty, and create something awesome at the library, where colorful tissue paper becomes a one-of-a-kind work of art!

Regular Storytimes

INFANT STORYTIME

2nd & 4th Wednesdays | 11 AM

Children's Room

Ages 6-18 months

TODDLER TIME

Thursdays (EX 12/24) | 11 AM

Community Room

Ages 18-36 months

PRESCHOOL STORYTIME

Fridays (EX 12/25, 1/1) | 11 AM

Community Room

Ages 3-5

SATURDAY STORYTIME

Saturdays | 11:30 AM

Children's Room

All ages



SMITHSBURG

Scan code to view calendar and register

MOVIE AND A BOOK: *TWILIGHT*

Wednesday, February 24 | 4 PM

Fall in love with this movie and book in February as we watch *Twilight* on the big screen. Then keep the romance going by checking out the book that inspired the movie! R

ADULTS

MOVIE NIGHT

Select Tuesdays | See times below

Join us for a free showing of great movies.

12/15 | 6 PM: *National Lampoon's Christmas Vacation* (1989) (PG-13)

1/12 | 4 PM: *Toy Story 5* (2026) (PG)

2/9 | 6 PM: *Disclosure Day* (2026) (PG-13)

KNITTING, CROCHETING, AND CRAFT GROUP

Fridays (EX 12/25 and 1/1) | 10:30 AM

Bring your project and join this group.

IT'S GAME NIGHT!

2nd & 4th Tuesdays | 6-8 PM

Board games are available. Ages 12+

WRITERS GROUP

2nd and 4th Saturdays | 10:15 AM

Join this fun and informal group of fellow writers to share writing, feedback, and ideas.

ADULT BOOK CLUB

4th Tuesdays | 5 PM

12/22: No meeting

1/26: *Theo of Golden* by Allen Levi

2/23: TBD

ANNUAL ORNAMENT MAKING

Tuesday, December 1 | 6 PM

Join us for our annual ornament making event. We hope to make four ornaments this year including a gumball machine ornament and a beaded ornament. Registration is limited to ages 8+ and is required by calling or online. Space is limited. R

COULD BUDGETING BE YOUR SUPERPOWER?

Tuesday, January 5 | 7 PM

During this Edward Jones Financial Fitness interactive seminar, we will explore the power of budgeting, examine wants and needs, and talk about personal spending and saving goals. Many think budgeting equals constraints, but a budget can help put you in control. It is the foundation on which a financial strategy is built. Are you ready to give budgeting a try? Presented by Emily Bivona, Financial Advisor of Edward Jones. R

IN THE VALLEY OF THE SHADOW AUTHOR TALK

Tuesday, January 12 | 7 PM

Join Barbara Ann Deal Gardenhour, as she tells the reasons why she wrote a book about a woman very few people know about. A gripping story of how the western areas of the United States were so cruel to people who traveled there. Author-signed books will be available for purchase. R

HERSTORY: STRATEGIES FOR RESEARCHING YOUR FEMALE ANCESTORS – PART 2

Tuesday, January 19 | 6 PM

This is part two of the series. Until the mid 20th century, most women were under-represented in records making building their family trees challenging. In this presentation, professional genealogist Susan Fabian will discuss creative strategies to overcome the brick walls of researching our female ancestors. In this session we will discuss how to use DNA and genetic genealogy to discover ancestral surnames and find matches to help discover our female family lines. Several case studies will be presented. R

SOUTH MOUNTAIN SUPERSTITIONS, TOKENS, & SPOOKS

Tuesday, January 26 | 6:45 PM

Join us for an evening of tales by the fireside looking at local customs and stories, passed down over the years. They deal with good and bad luck, superstition, and "tokens"—forewarnings of tragic events—as well as tales of odd occurrences on the slopes of South Mountain. Presented by Jefferson Boyer, Smithsburg Historical Society. Refreshments will be served. R

LIVING WITH BLACK BEARS

Tuesday, February 2 | 6:30 PM

Join us in the community room as Jeff McAfee from the Maryland Department of Natural Resources presents on the topic. Learn of the rising bear population, their habits, and how we can live peaceably with them. R

HEALTHY HEART AMBASSADOR PROGRAM

Thursday, February 4 | 5:30 PM

Learn about living a healthy lifestyle and find out if you are eligible to join the 4-week Healthy Heart Program provided by the Washington County Health Department.

WHAT'S NEW AT ANCESTRY.COM: RESEARCH & UPDATED TOOLS

Tuesday, February 16 | 6 PM

Ancestry continues to release new research and DNA tools to help genealogists get more from their family history searches. In this presentation, professional genealogist Susan Fabian will discuss the updated features including full-text search, AI powered transcription, tree analyzer tool, and improved ethnicity estimates. She'll go over DNA tools that most researchers don't know about and discuss how they help research and break down barriers. R

BUD VASE SNOWMAN

Tuesday, February 23 | 6:30 PM

Using paint and some accessories, turn a bud vase into a snowman! R ■

WILLIAMSPORT

104 East Potomac Street | Williamsport, MD 21795 | 301-223-7027



EVERYONE

ARTHUR SCAVENGER HUNT IN THE LIBRARY

Now through February | Library hours

Posters of your favorite Arthur characters are hidden around the branch for you to find. Each month we will add 3 more around the library. Will you be able to find them all? Pick up a list at the desk.

COZY TIME WITH HOT TEA AND COCOA

Every weekday afternoon

December - February | 3 PM - Close

The weather outside might be frightful, cozy tea or cocoa in the library is delightful! Join us near our faux fireplace, get cozy, and have a warm beverage.

Regular Storytimes

TODDLER STORYTIME

Mondays (EX 1/18, 2/15) | 11 AM

Stories, songs, felt stories, music, and more. Ages 18-36 months

PRESCHOOL STORYTIME

Wednesdays | 11 AM

Stories, music, educational activities, and fun! Ages 2-6

EVENING STORYTIME

Thursdays (EX 12/24, 12/31) | 6 PM

A great, alternative time to enjoy stories, music, and educational activities.

12/3, 1/7, 2/4 with Bleu the Rabbit! All ages

EVENING STORYTIME GUEST: BLEU THE RABBIT

1st Thursdays | 6 PM

Join us for a special visit to our Evening Storytime from Bleu (like the cheese), the friendly therapy rabbit. Bleu loves to visit and bring smiles to everyone she meets. Her calm hops and cuddly nature help children relax and learn the power of kindness, care, and comfort - one bunny hug at a time! Bleu will visit just before and during Storytime.

WHAT'S AN ANALOG BAG?

Tuesday, January 19 | 5:30 PM

Analog bags are portable activities to keep you from "doom scrolling" on your phone or device. We're thinking: writing or doodling journals, word searches, books, and more. This multi-generational program welcomes all ages to come make your own Analog Bag. Let's start 2027 off our devices!

AUDIO BOOKS FOR BEGINNERS

2nd Fridays | 4 PM

Have you wanted to try Audio books, but weren't sure if they were for you? Stop by and check out samples of Hoopla, Libby, and Books on CD. When you listen to audiobooks, it's like storytime, anytime, anywhere!

YOUNG CHILDREN

WIGGLE & GIGGLE: FREE PLAY TIME

Mondays & Wednesdays | 11:30 AM

Join us after storytime to wiggle, socialize, and play in our storytime area. Organized activities provided from time to time.

STORYTIME AROUND TOWN

Wednesday, January 6 | 11 AM

4 Star Athletic Center in Williamsport: 30 Milestone Terrace, Williamsport, MD

Join us for books, music, and fun!

STORYTIME AROUND TOWN WITH THE BOOKMOBILE!

Wednesday, February 10 | 11 AM

Washington County Museum of Fine Arts: 401 Museum Dr. Hagerstown Md

Together with the Bookmobile, we celebrate the art of Marc Brown and his book series *Arthur*, with this special storytime at the museum. Visit the Bookmobile and check out books after your visit.

KIDS & TWEENS

MAKERSPACE TABLETOP CHALLENGE

Every week | Library hours

Stop by the Makerspace to try new tabletop challenges/activities each week! Topics include science, engineering, math, nature, and building. Grades K-5

PUZZLE SHARE AND SWAP

January & February | Library hours

Free event all month long. Take or share your gently used puzzles. Missing a piece or two? No problem, all puzzles are welcome.

TWEENS & TEENS

NEW! IT'S GAME TIME

Tuesdays | 3:30-5 PM

Come play a Nintendo Switch game with a friend at the library! Each week we will have a preselected game for you to play. Join us in our Teen/YA area.

NEW! TWEEN & TEEN CRAFT TIME

Thursdays | 4-5 PM

Stop by to make a craft! All supplies will be provided. Bring a friend.



WILLIAMSPORT

Scan code to view calendar and register

ADULTS

WILLIAMSPORT BOOK CLUB

1st Thursdays | 1:30 PM and 5 PM

Our Book Club is a small group, with a very lively and engaging book discussion.

12/3: *The Whalebone Theatre*, a novel by Joanna Quinn

1/7: *Tom Lake*, a novel by Ann Patchett

2/4: *Klara and the Sun*, a novel by Kazuo Ishiguro

NEW! ROMANTASY BOOK CLUB

2nd Tuesdays | 5:30 PM

Romance & Fantasy book genres blended become Romantasy. Love talking about your favorite of these reads? Join us for this new Book Club specifically designed for those who are fans of Romantasy and authors like Maas, Yarros, and more. All are welcome.

LONG STORY SHORT BOOK CLUB

3rd Wednesdays | 12:15 PM

Don't have time to read long novels? All are welcome to our bite-sized Book Club. Each month we will discuss a short book, poetry, and/or short story.

12/16: *Five Tuesdays in Winter*, stories by Lily King

1/20: *Keep Moving* by Maggie Smith

2/17: *Nothing to See Here* by Kevin Wilson

NEW! CLASSICS BOOK CLUB: *MINI WINTER SESSIONS*

Tuesdays, 1/26, 2/2, 2/9, and 2/16 | 2 PM

Catch up on classic books with our mini Book Club. In this 4-week session, we will read and discuss a classic book, breaking it into smaller pieces. Our book selection is *The Age of Innocence* by Edith Wharton. Read it before the Netflix adaptation in 2027!

CRAFTY COMPANIONS

*2nd Mondays | 2 PM *NEW TIME**

Craft time for adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities. Join us monthly for an engaging craft and social time at our center table. Craft with your companion. Seasonal crafts and all supplies provided.

ADULT CRAFTY HOUR

2nd Wednesdays | 5:30 PM

Crafting can be relaxing and help improve your mood. Join us for an enjoyable hour. Supplies provided. For teens & adults, ages 13+. R

12/9: Winter wreath

1/13: Kinusaiga Art– a no-sew Japanese fabric art

2/10: Paint a pair of taper candles

TALKS WITH THE WASHINGTON COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT

Mondays, Dec. 7, Jan. 4, Feb. 22
Wednesdays, Dec. 2, Jan. 20, Feb. 10
Thursdays, Jan. 28, Feb. 25
Preceding 11 AM Storytime

The Washington County Health Department (WCHD) visits to share tips about safe kids.

GET A HEALTHY START IN 2027 WITH WCHD

Monday, January 11 | 5:45-6:30 PM

Join us for a healthy start in 2027! We will discuss healthy living with Lindsay Ridenour from the WCHD. Get tips about how to maintain healthy blood pressure, nutrition, and more to help you enter 2027 healthier.

NEW SENIOR AFTERNOON OUT

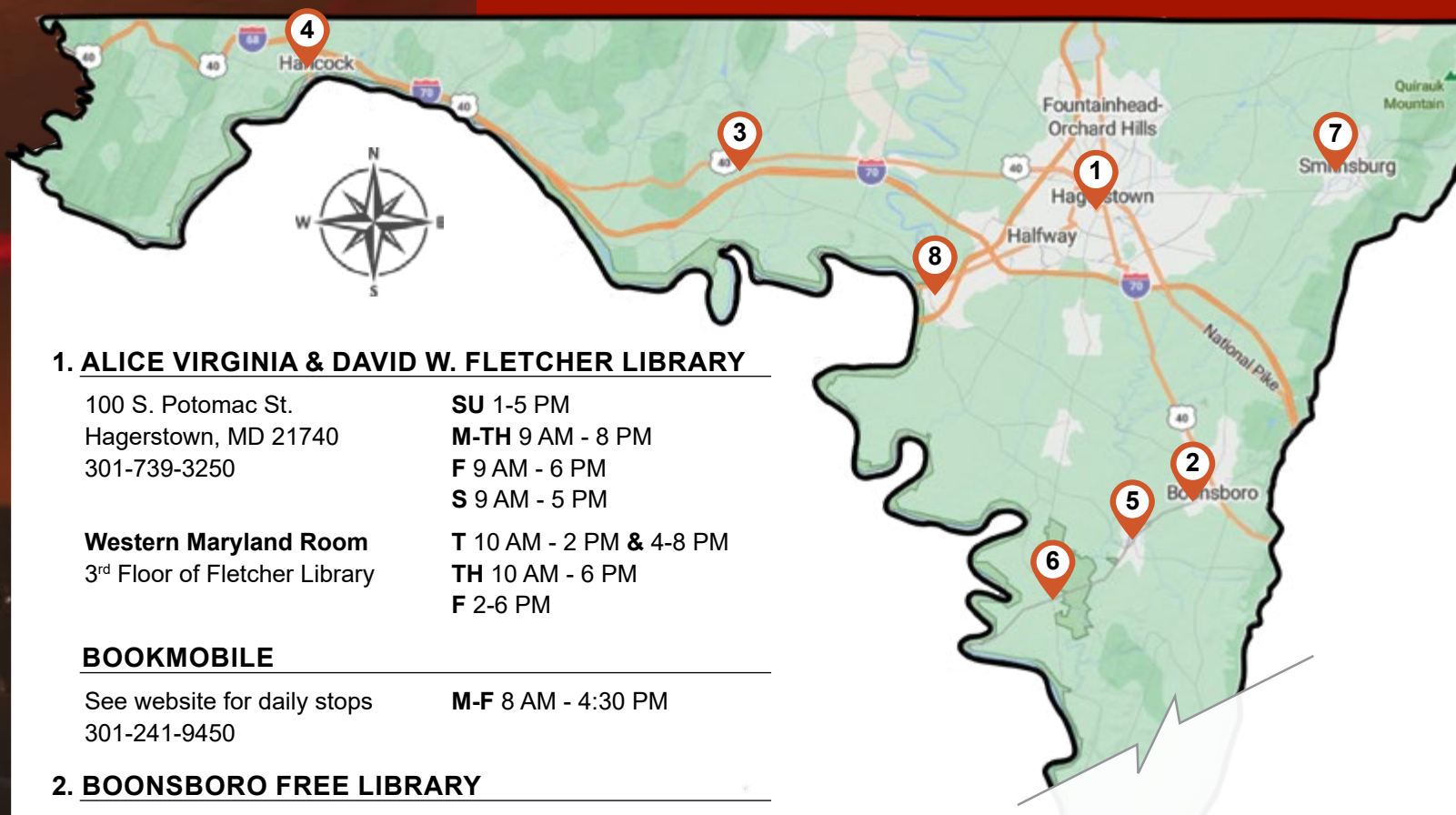
4th Wednesdays | 12:30-2:00 PM

Let's gather, socialize, and meet new people. We will offer board games, cards, puzzles, and crafts. Bring a snack. ■



WASHINGTON COUNTY FREE LIBRARY
Where People & Possibilities Meet

BRANCH INFORMATION



1. ALICE VIRGINIA & DAVID W. FLETCHER LIBRARY

100 S. Potomac St.
Hagerstown, MD 21740
301-739-3250

SU 1-5 PM
M-TH 9 AM - 8 PM
F 9 AM - 6 PM
S 9 AM - 5 PM

Western Maryland Room
3rd Floor of Fletcher Library

T 10 AM - 2 PM **&** 4-8 PM
TH 10 AM - 6 PM
F 2-6 PM

BOOKMOBILE

See website for daily stops
301-241-9450

M-F 8 AM - 4:30 PM

2. BOONSBORO FREE LIBRARY

401 Potomac St.
Boonsboro, MD 21713
301-432-5723

M-TH 10:30 AM - 7 PM
F 10:30 AM - 6 PM
S 10:15 AM - 3 PM

3. CLEAR SPRING MEMORIAL LIBRARY

12624 Broadfording Rd.
Clear Spring, MD 21722
301-842-2730

T-TH 11:30 AM - 7 PM
F 11:30 AM - 6 PM
S 10:15 AM - 2 PM

4. HANCOCK VETERANS MEMORIAL LIBRARY

231 Hancock Veteran's Pkwy.
Hancock, MD 21750
301-678-5300

T-TH 11:30 AM - 7 PM
F 11:30 AM - 6 PM
S 10:15 AM - 2 PM

5. KEEDYSVILLE BRANCH LIBRARY

22 Taylor Drive
Keedysville, MD 21756
301-432-6641

T 2:15 - 6 PM
W 10:15 AM - 2 PM
S 10:15 AM - 2 PM

6. SHARPSBURG BRANCH LIBRARY

106 E. Main St.
Sharpsburg, MD 21782
301-432-8825

T-TH 1:30 - 7 PM
S 9:15 AM - 1 PM

7. SMITHSBURG BRANCH LIBRARY

95 Officer Nicholson Way
Smithsburg, MD 21783
301-824-7722

M,W,TH 10:30 AM - 7 PM
T 11:30 AM - 8 PM
F 10:30 AM - 6 PM
S 10:15 AM - 3 PM

8. WILLIAMSPORT MEMORIAL LIBRARY

104 E. Potomac St.
Williamsport, MD 21795
301-223-7027

M-TH 10:30 AM - 7 PM
F 10:30 AM - 6 PM
S 10:15 AM - 3 PM

WASHCOLIBRARY.ORG
@mywcfl

HOLIDAY CLOSINGS

Christmas
Thursday, December 24, 2026
Friday, December 25, 2026

New Year's Eve
Thursday, December 31, 2026
(Close at 5 PM)

New Year's Day
Friday, January 1, 2027

Martin Luther King Jr. Day
Monday, January 18, 2027

Presidents' Day
Monday, February 15, 2027

Scan to view Branch information online