

The Friends of the North Kingstown Free Library  
100 Boone Street  
North Kingstown, RI 02852

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# Among Friends

NEWS & NOTES FROM NORTH KINGSTOWN FREE LIBRARY

100 Boone Street, North Kingstown, RI (401) 294-3306 [www.nklibrary.org](http://www.nklibrary.org) March 2022

## EXCITING PROJECT COMING THIS SPRING! A FACELIFT FOR THE LIBRARY INTERIOR SPACE

The library will welcome Spring sometime in April as we begin a much-needed facelift for the library's interior space. With a generous grant from The Champlin Foundation, we will be able to replace the shabby, threadbare carpet; freshen up the walls and ceilings with a new coat of paint; and install new light filtering roller shades on many of the windows. The grant, which was awarded in the late Fall of 2019, has been on pause because of the pandemic. Now we are ready to begin!

The Trustees are committed to completing this project with as little disruption as possible to library hours and services. But, as you might imagine, there is going to be a complicated Balanchine-inspired choreography that will require packing and moving all of the collections and furniture—in phases—while the work is done. The staff is working now on nailing down the specifics of that plan.

We will keep all of you updated—on the library's web page—with up-to-the-minute information about what collections or services might be unavailable at any given moment.

Meeting room use will be paused from mid-March through the end of the project.

Library programming (except book groups) will be on pause from mid-March through the end of the project.

When it is all over, it will be as if a breath of spring blew through the building to make it look new and fresh and super clean. And we'll organize an Open House to welcome you all back to see how beautiful it looks.

Thank you in advance for your patience.

*Did you know.... For over 40 years, The Champlin Foundation has generously given over \$1.3 million dollars to the North Kingstown Free Library to fund new and enhanced technologies, building improvements—including renovations, expansions, repairs, and facelifts, and in the early days, even books for the library collection. They are deeply committed to public libraries in Rhode Island and their generosity and support has meant all the world to our library and has been such a gift to the townspeople of North Kingstown.*

### Sunday Hours

The library will be open from  
1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.  
on the following Sundays:

**March 6, 13, 20, and 27**



### Mondays from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Older adults may sign up for a 50 minute 1-on-1 tech help session with a student from URI's Human Development program. Bring your own device or use one of the library's computers. To make an appointment, please contact us at (401) 294-3306 or [nkiref@nklibrary.org](mailto:nkiref@nklibrary.org)

## Message from the Director (Emerita)

### "The More Things Change . . . The More They Stay the Same"

That was the subject header in an email response from one of the library's account representatives when I recently asked to have my user login reactivated. I chuckled when I saw it. But then I began to think a little more seriously about the idea of change. The North Kingstown Free Library today barely resembles the library I stepped into in December 1975 as a high school volunteer helping to unpack the books in the town's brand-new library building. This gorgeous, modern structure designed by The Architects Collaborative in Cambridge (MA) itself led to monumental changes for public library service in the Town of North Kingstown.

While these ideas of change were swirling in my head, I read an article in the February 2022 issue of *National Geographic* about the rebuilding of Notre Dame. I was struck by the questions that the author Robert Kunzig poses: "What part of the past is worth preserving and transmitting to posterity? What duty do we owe the creations of our ancestors, what strength and stability do we draw from their presence—and when, on the contrary, do they become a lead weight, preventing us from projecting ourselves into the future, from creating a world of our own?" Of course, he is talking about old buildings and how they touch our lives. But there is a direct connection here to our work and our life as we struggle "to decide what to hold on to and what to toss, which change to resist and which to embrace."

These are questions easily applied to public libraries in general and to our town's public library in particular and to many of us who need deep connections to the past. The staff and I will continue explore some of these weightier issues as we get the library in tip-top shape for the next director.

-Susan Aylward, March 2022



## Children's Programs

### 2022 Winter Story Time Schedule

**Please note there will be NO Story Times in April, May and possibly June due to the Redecoration Project.**

#### Mother Goose

- Monday at 10 a.m. March 7, 14, 21 or
- Thursday at 9:30 a.m. March 3, 10, 17, 24

#### Toddler Time

- Wednesday at 9:30 a.m. March 2, 9, 16, 23 or
- Thursday at 10:30 a.m. March 3, 10, 17, 24

#### 3-5's Year Olds

- Wednesday at 10:30 a.m. March 2, 9, 16, 23

### STEAM & Take Home Crafts

There will be a craft or STEAM activity each week in March in the Youth Services area for children to take home and complete. Please note there will be a limited number, on a first come, first served basis.



### What's a Playaway?

A Playaway is a small preloaded audiobook player that fits in your pocket. No changing discs, no downloading files, and no internet needed, it's that easy! Just grab one AAA battery, plug in your headphones, and go. Playaways can also be plugged into speakers or your car using an adaptor cable for more listening options. Best of all, Playaways for Adults, Teens, and Kids are available in fiction and non-fiction titles.

#### Notary Services

The library offers notary services but please call ahead to make sure a notary is available.

- Do not sign the document before you come in.
- Please bring a valid driver's license or photo ID with you.
- If multiple parties are required to sign, they must all be present including minors.

## TEEN PROGRAMS

### YouTube Happenings

Search on YouTube for the North Kingstown Free Library

#### Movie and Snack Pairings

##### Uncharted and Thieves Pasta:

Video game franchise comes to the big screen. Nathan Drake is recruited by treasure hunter Sully Sullivan to recover a lost treasure from 500 years ago. Paired with a pasta dish from the 4th episode of the game.



#### STEAM Challenges

**Rubber Eggs!** Take a normal egg and make it into a squishable rubber egg!



### We Are ALL Readers

APRIL 4-9, 2022



**We Are ALL Readers:**  
Celebrate Diverse Books in North Kingstown  
April 9 from 1 p.m. to 5 p.m.

Newbery Honor authors Kyle Lukoff (*Red White and Whole*) and Rajani LaRocca (*Too Bright to See*) will take the stage at North Kingstown High School as part of a week-long celebration of diversity in children's literature. Children and families from around Rhode Island are invited to attend.

We Are ALL Readers will offer a week of StoryWalks®, youth writing workshops, and school author visits from April 4-8, culminating in the celebration on April 9. The afternoon will feature storytimes and author talks, hands-on art and writing activities, and book signings with nine award-winning children's authors. Books and creators who are part of the event will represent a wide range of American life experiences.

We Are ALL Readers is a coalition of public and school libraries, community groups, and children's book authors and illustrators coming together to create a positive community alternative to book banning efforts.

Wakefield Books will host a pop-up bookstore at the festival April 9th. Attendees will be able to purchase the authors' books and get them signed in person.

For more information visit: [www.weareallreaders.org](http://www.weareallreaders.org)

## Adult Programs

### Book Groups

Registration preferred for all book groups. To register, go to the Programs menu at [nklibrary.org](http://nklibrary.org), click on the book group you are interested in and click on Begin Registration.

#### Monday Morning Book Group

Monday, March 7 at 11:00 a.m.

##### *Things You Save in a Fire* by Katherine Center

When a family emergency compels her move from Texas to Boston, a skilled firefighter becomes the only woman in her new firehouse and navigates discrimination, low funding and her private edicts about falling in love with another firefighter.

#### Science Fiction/Fantasy Book Group

Tuesday, March 8 at 6:30 p.m.

##### *How to Mars* by David Ebenbach

Six lucky scientists are selected by the Destination Mars! Corporation with a one-way ticket to Mars. But it turns out that after a while even scientists can get bored of science.

#### Book Bites Cookbook Group

Monday, March 14 at 6:30 p.m.

##### *Dinner Pies* by Ken Haedrich

Join this unique book group where the participants choose a recipe from that month's cookbook and prepare it to share with the group. *Must be registered to attend.*

#### Murder by the Book

Tuesday, March 22 at 6:30 p.m.

##### *The Thursday Murder Club* by Richard Osman

Meeting weekly in their retirement village's Jigsaw Room to exchange theories about unsolved crimes, four savvy septuagenarians propose a daring but unorthodox plan to help a woman rookie cop solve her first big murder case.

#### For All Time: YA Book Group for All Ages

Monday, March 28 at 6:30 p.m.

##### *We Ride Upon Sticks* by Quan Barry

Captain Abby Putnam and her co-captain Jen Fiorenza, the Falcons, prove to be wily, original, and bold, flaunting society's stale notions of femininity in order to find their glorious true selves through the crucible of team sport and, more importantly, friendship.

#### Truth Be Told: Non-Fiction Book Group

Tuesday, April 5 at 6:30 p.m.

*Beautiful Country: A Memoir* by Qian Julie Wang  
An incandescent and heartrending memoir about Qian Julie Wang's five years living undocumented after immigrating with her parents from China to New York City in 1994.

#### Gentle Yoga Class

March 4 at 9:30 a.m.

Gentle Yoga features seated, standing, and supine poses to work the whole body.



#### Flow Yoga Class

March 15 at 6:30 p.m.

Flow Yoga emphasizes transitioning slowly in and out of essential postures.



#### NKFL Seed Library Grab Bags are back!

Each Grab Bag will contain 3 packets of seeds for your garden. What will you grow this year? Available in Vegetable, Flower or Herb options. One bag per person please.  
*In cooperation with URI Master Gardeners and Ocean State Job Lot.*

#### Drop-In Genealogy

Monday, March 21

6:30 to 8:00 p.m.

Helen Smith from the Rhode Island Genealogical Society will be in the South County Room from 6:30 - 8:00 to help you with your family research. For those thinking about getting started, or who need help along the way. No registration required.

#### Fiber Arts Group

Wednesday, March 23

6:30 p.m.

A monthly social group for anyone interested in the fiber arts including knitting, crocheting, spinning, embroidery, etc. All levels of expertise are invited to join.