## May Programs

### Special Events:
- **Great Decisions Discussion Group**: Monday, 5/2, 6 pm Main Library.
- **Check 'Em Out Book Discussion Group**: Saturday, 5/7, 9 am, Main Library.
- **Trustees Meeting**: Tuesday, 5/10, 4:30 pm, Main Library.
- **Friends of the Library**: Tuesday, 5/17, 5 pm, Main Library.
- **Social Justice Group**: Wednesday, 5/18, 6:30 pm, Main Library.

### On-Going Adult Programs:
- **Books & Friends**: Mondays 2-3 pm, North Walpole Branch.
- **Crafternoon**: Second Friday of the month 1:30 pm, Main Library.
- **Knitting Group**: Mondays 1-3 pm, Main Library.
- **Library Book Club**: Last Thursday of the month 12 noon, Main Library.

### On-Going Kids and Family Programs:
- **Story Walk**: Distant Hill Nature Trail, dawn to dusk every day. New stories monthly.
- **Code Club**: Tuesdays 3:30-4:30 pm, North Walpole Branch. Wednesdays 3:30-4:30 pm, Main Library.
- **Story Time**: Wednesdays 10 am and 5:30 pm. Out behind the Main Library, weather permitting. Bring a blanket to sit on. We’ll meet inside if the weather is bad.
- **Wiggle Time**: Mondays 10 am. Out behind the Main Library, weather permitting. Bring a blanket to sit on. We’ll meet inside if the weather is bad.

## Great Decisions at the Library

**Monday, May 2 at 6 pm, Main Library**
Great Decisions is an open forum; a time to express your opinions, to challenge and refine your own understanding of the issues before us. Changing Demographics: Topic for Discussion May 2, 6-8PM. The meeting will begin with the 30 minute Master Class DVD on Changing Demographics; Forum Follows until 8PM. The Great Decisions 2022 Handbook is available to borrow at the library.

## Check 'Em Out Book Discussion Group

**Saturday, May 7 at 9 am, Main Library**
We'll be reading about the Swedish concept of Hygge (pronounced hoo-ga). Read one or all three selections. Copies are available for check out at the Main Library. This months books are:
- The Little Book of Hygge: Danish Secrets to Happy Living by Meik Wiking
- The Little Book of Lykke: Secrets of the World’s Happiest People by Meik Wiking
- Lagom: Not Too Little, Not Too Much: The Swedish Art of Living a Balanced, Happy Life by Niki Brantmark

## Crafternoon

**Friday, May 13 at 1:30 pm, Main Library**
What is Crafternoon? A popular new program for adults at the Main Library. On the second Friday of each month join us for a craft. All supplies will be provided. Bring a friend or meet new friends! We'll be making felt daffodils this month!

## New Program at North Walpole Branch

### Books & Friends
**Mondays from 2-3 pm, North Walpole Branch**
Join us Monday afternoons from 2-3 pm. We'll share what we're reading, authors we like, chat and catch up. Bring a friend or make new friends!

### Summer Reading Preview

June 18 through July 30
This year's theme is Oceans of Possibilities and wow do we have a summer of exploration planned for adults, kids and families! Here's just a sneak peek some of the things we have planned:
- Raffle prizes for adults
- Brag tags for kids
- Tiny Creatures with Wildlife Encounters
- Geocaching
- And more.....stay tuned!

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*Libraries: The medicine chest of the soul. ~Library at Thebes, inscription over the door*
Get to Know Our Staff

Each month we'll ask a staff member these five questions to get to know them better.

Chris Burchstead, Assistant Director

1. What does your family look like?
   I live with my husband Peter. My sister and her family live in Westminster, VT. The rest of my family live in Canada, the UK, and Ireland.

2. What's the last book you read?
   The last book I read was Taking the Heat by Bonnie Schneider. It's about climate change.

3. What 3 things would you bring to a deserted island?
   On a practical level, I would bring food, water, and a flare gun. Otherwise, I would bring my husband, books and music.

4. If you could travel anywhere where would you go?
   Cornwall, Isle of Skye, Guernsey, Denmark, France, New Zealand, anywhere with a coastline really.

5. What was your first job?
   I picked strawberries in Maine when I was ten. I was an elf at Santa's Land, then I waitressed in high school and college. My first "grown-up" job was as a librarian.

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Fiction Book Spotlight

The Investigator by John Sanford

By age twenty-four, Letty Davenport has seen more action and uncovered more secrets than many law enforcement professionals. Now a recent Stanford grad with a master’s in economics, she’s restless and bored in a desk job for U.S. Senator Colles. Letty’s ready to quit, but her skills have impressed Colles, and he offers her a carrott: feet-on-the-ground investigative work, in conjunction with the Department of Homeland Security.

Several oil companies in Texas have reported thefts of crude, Colles tells her. He isn’t so much concerned with the oil as he is with the money: who is selling the oil, and what are they doing with the profits? Rumor has it that a fairly ugly militia group might be involved. Colles wants to know if the money is going to them, and if so, what they’re planning.

Letty is partnered with a DHS investigator, John Kaiser, and they head to Texas. When the case quickly turns deadly, they know they’re on the track of something bigger. The militia group has set in motion an explosive plan . . . and the clock is ticking down.

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Non-Fiction Book Spotlight

Family Matters by Gillian Laub

Gillian Laub’s photographs of her family from the past twenty years, now collected in one volume, explore the ways society’s biggest questions are revealed in our most intimate relationships. Family Matters zeroes in on the artist’s family as an example of the way Donald Trump’s knack for sowing discord and division has impacted communities, individuals, and households across the country. As Laub explains, “I began to unpack my relationship to my relatives—which turned out to be much more indicative of my relationship to the outside world than I had ever thought, and the key to exploring questions I had about the effects of wealth, vanity, childhood, aging, fragility, political conflict, religious traditions, and mortality.” These issues became tangible in 2016, when Laub and her parents found themselves on opposing sides of the most divisive presidential election in recent US history; and further exacerbated in the lead-up to the 2020 election, in the wake of a global pandemic and protests in support of Black Lives Matter.

Family Matters reveals Laub’s willingness to confront ideas of privilege and unity, and to expose the fault lines and vulnerabilities of her relatives and herself. Ultimately, Family Matters celebrates the resiliency and power of family—including the family we choose—in the face of divisive rhetoric. In doing so, it holds up a highly personalized mirror to the social and political divides in the United States today.

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