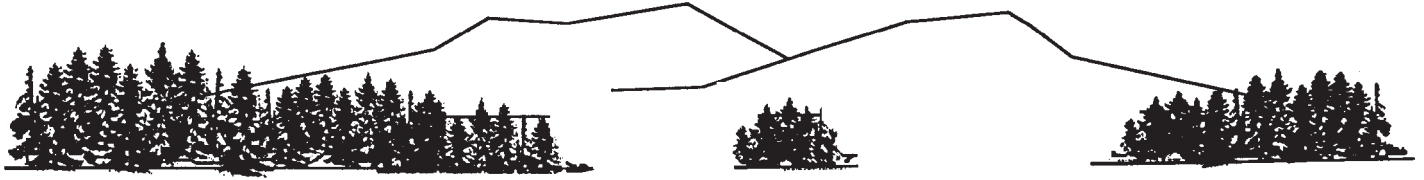


The Tuftonboro Times



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A Quarterly Newsletter Published by the Tuftonboro Association

Spring, 2026

Editor's Note: In the recently delivered 2026 Spring Edition of The Tuftonboro Times, the all-important Library article was inadvertently omitted. This special supplement to the Spring Edition is an attempt to correct that mistake, with our apologies.

Dan Barnard, Editor

"If you have a garden and a library, you have everything you need."

This well-known quote attributed to scholar and statesman Marcus Tullius Cicero, a leading figure of the late Roman Republic during the last century B.C., suggests that true contentment and fulfillment can be found within both books and nature. The quote is believed to have been derived from similar words penned by Cicero in a letter written to a friend in the year 46 B.C., and is often cited as a testament to the importance of learning, knowledge, and living a simple life in harmony with the natural world.

Whatever the source, springtime is the perfect opportunity to embrace this timeless sentiment. And what better way to celebrate the season than with a special display of books at the library about gardens! (You may be surprised at how many we have in our collection.)

While the display will feature choices from the extensive offerings in our non-fiction collection, it will primarily focus on fiction titles that feature plants and gardening in one form or another. From *The Garden of Small Beginnings* by Abbi Waxman and *The Last Garden in England* by Julia Kelly, to *The Mermaid Garden* by Santa Montefiore and *The Peculiar Garden of Harriet Hunt* by Chelsea Iverson, there are books available in nearly every genre featuring almost anything and everything green.

So, as spring settles in and your own gardens begin to take shape, be sure to stop by the library for a good book and an engaging tale that further connects you to the natural world. Learn about gardens or help solve a mystery about a body buried in one. If you don't find something that interests you at first glance, maybe just grab one at random and give it a chance. You never know; you might find something that *grows* on you...

In related news, Bedrock Gardens in Lee, NH opens for the season on May 13th. As in previous years, daily passes valid for free family admission will be available at the library. For those of you who don't know, Bedrock Gardens is a nonprofit public garden situated on 30 acres of a former historical farm located in the southern part of the state, and in recent years has transitioned into an inspiring mix of art and horticulture. If you've never been, be sure to include a visit sometime in the coming months. It's well worth the trip!

Other passes available from the library for either free or discounted admission to local museums and area attractions include: Castle in the Clouds, Currier Museum of Art, NH Boat Museum, NH Historical Society, Squam Lakes Natural Science Center, and (new this year) the Mount Washington Observatory. Some of these places are seasonal, and some have limits on what the library passes cover. Please be sure to verify hours of operation and pass availability before planning your visit. Passes are date specific, but can be issued and picked up in advance. All passes are generously provided by the Friends of the Tuftonboro Library.

Preschool Story Hour continues through the spring months on Friday mornings. Join us every week at 10:30 am for engaging stories, simple crafts, and lots of fun. Registration is not required, and new faces are always welcome.

A special Star Wars-themed scavenger hunt for kids will be held during school vacation week from Saturday April, 25 thru Sunday, May 3. It will be offered during regular open hours, and prizes will be awarded for participation.

May the 4th be with you!

The Readers' Choice Book Group meets on the third Thursday of the month at 10:00 am. They will discuss *Wild Dark Shore* by Charlotte McConaghy on May 21, *Mona's Eyes* by Thomas Schlessler on June 18, and *The Correspondent* by Virginia Evans on July 16.

The History Book Group meets on the last Wednesday of the month at 3:00 pm. They will

discuss *1929: Inside the Greatest Crash in Wall Street History and How It Shattered A Nation* by Andrew Ross Sorkin on April 29, *Wizard: The Life and Times of Nikola Tesla* by Marc J. Seifer on May 27, and *The Gates of Europe: A History of Ukraine* by Serhii Plokhy on June 24. Copies of books for both groups will be available in advance, and future titles will be posted as soon as they are selected.

This year's Summer Reading Program will run from Friday, June 26 thru Friday, August 14. Library visits by animal ambassadors from the Squam Lakes Natural Science Center and educators from the Children's Museum of New Hampshire are just two of the special programs that are scheduled. A full list of events and activities will be made available as we draw closer to the official start date.

Local artist displays will feature photos from the Lakes Region Photography Club in April, unique and whimsical creations from the students of Tuftonboro Central School in May, and abstract ink designs on paper by Kathleen Kingston in June. We are always on the lookout for new local talent, so if you are interested in displaying your work at the library, please do not hesitate to reach out.

Finally, SAVE THE DATE! The Friends of the Library have been hard at work and plans for this year's annual fundraising gala are well underway. Be ready to join them at the Todaro Center at North Woods Camp on Saturday, September 26 for a luncheon with author Michael J. Tougias as he talks about his new book *In Deep Water: A True Story of Sharks, Survival, and Courage*. Tougias is a New York Times bestselling author of more than 30 books for both adults and children. (His book *The Finest Hours: The True Story of the U.S. Coast Guard's Most Daring Sea Rescue* was made into a major motion picture by Walt Disney Studios in 2016.) Stay tuned for more information, and when tickets will be available for purchase. You definitely won't want to miss out on this special event!

Until then... Happy Reading!!!

Dennis R. Guilmette, Director
Tuftonboro Free Library

The Mission Statement of The Tuftonboro Association:

- To be aware of, concerned with, and interested in the welfare of the community
- To work towards the conservation and preservation of the natural beauty and resources of the community
- To support various projects of charitable and civic purpose in the community