Nutfield 300th Celebration at the FLOW Strawberry Festival and Book Fair

Rachel Deandrea,
FLOW Publicity

The Friends of the Library of Windham (FLOW) are excited to invite and welcome our neighbors and friends in the towns of Derry and Londonderry to the 36th Annual Strawberry Festival and Book Fair. The festival will be held on Saturday, June 1 from 11:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. at Windham High School – 64 London Bridge Road. This year’s festival will take on a 300th Nutfield Anniversary flair as we celebrate the arrival of the first settlers in the Nutfield Grant. The first settlers established a community which would become the towns of Derry, Londonderry, and Windham.

The Strawberry Festival is not only one of the largest community events in Windham each year, but it is also the primary fundraising event for the Nesmith Library. Thousands of citizens from Windham and surrounding towns come together to:

- purchase books
- play games
- bounce on inflatables
- listen to musicians
- watch performers
- visit demonstration booths
- have a bite to eat
- enter raffles to win fantastic prizes
- enjoy delicious homemade strawberry shortcakes
- and SO much more

You can also pick up a copy of the 1719 booklet, the book *Rural Oasis* researched and written by the Town History Committee, and local maps (while supplies last). The 300th Anniversary Medal will also be for sale.

Festival activities are planned for both inside Windham High School and on the school’s ground. In the event of rain, all activities will be moved inside the high school. Please visit [www.flowwindham.org](http://www.flowwindham.org) for more information.

We are berry excited to see you on June 1!

This year, we’ll also have activities to commemorate the Nutfield 300th. Be sure to stop by the 300th tent to:

- watch pottery being made
- roll a wax candle
- see wool being spun
- make your own 300th Nutfield kite
- or listen to local speakers talk about the history of our wonderful towns
May Adult Programming

Maria Schroeter, Reference Librarian

Cruising New Hampshire History: New Hampshire's Roadside Historical Markers

Have you ever driven past one of New Hampshire’s many roadside historical markers and wondered what they were commemorating? Come find out when Michael Bruno, author of Cruising New Hampshire History: A Guide to New Hampshire’s Roadside Historical Markers, joins us on Wednesday, May 1 at 6:30 p.m. Presented in conjunction with the Windham Historical Society, Michael will discuss how “the [255] New Hampshire roadside historical markers commemorate significant events and individuals from the first settlers arriving in 1623 to notable individuals who helped define what New Hampshire is today.”

Michael was born and raised in the Lakes Region of New Hampshire. After serving in the US Army for more than 23 years, he returned in 2009 to New Hampshire, where he has been a JROTC Army instructor at White Mountains Regional High School in Whitefield since his military retirement. He earned an Educational Specialist (Ed. S) degree in Curriculum and Instruction from Liberty University in Lynchburg, Virginia. Michael resides in the historic mountain community of Bethlehem where he is actively involved in town government. In 2017, he wrote and sponsored a historical marker commemorating Frances Glessner Lee, who made significant contributions to the study of forensics. Michael is also a certified New Hampshire Granite State Ambassador. As an author, he has been featured in the New Hampshire Union Leader and The Boston Globe, and he has also been featured on WMUR’s New Hampshire Chronicle and WCVB Channel 5 Boston’s Chronicle programs. In his spare time, Michael enjoys hiking in the White Mountains and riding his motorcycle with his wife, Kristin, along the country roads of New Hampshire. For more information about Michael Bruno and his book, visit his website at www.cruisingnewhampshirehistory.com.

This program is for ages 13 and up, free, and open to the public. Registration is required.

Craft – Painting Glass Vases

Just in time for Mother’s Day! Join us on Wednesday, May 8 at 6:00 p.m. when we will use matte paint to transform plain glass vases into on-trend decor. All supplies will be provided, and space is limited. Wear grubby clothes and dress for the weather, as we’ll be working outside.

This program is for ages 16 and up, free, and open to the public. Registration is required.

Guided Birdwalk on the Windham Rail Trail with Steve Hale

On Monday, May 13 at 9:00 a.m., Steve Hale from Open World Explorers will guide us on a one-hour bird watching walk on the Windham Rail Trail. We’ll meet at the parking lot at the Windham Depot and start promptly at 9:00 a.m., rain or shine. Since we’ll be looking for birds in their natural habitat, quiet is a must, so this is an adults-only program. Dress
appropriately for the weather, and don’t forget your binoculars and bird guides!

Steve Hale holds university degrees in marine biology, evolutionary biology, and ecology. He has lived in New Hampshire over 20 years and has explored most of the state. An avid hiker, birder, and experienced naturalist, Steve loves to share his experience and knowledge with others eager to learn. In April 2016, Steve formed Open World Explorers to more fully share his knowledge and experiences in ecology, ornithology, and Earth science, and to help others find personal value in the natural history and landscape of the area. [www.openworldexplorers.com](http://www.openworldexplorers.com)

This program is for ages 16 and up, free, and open to the public. Registration is required. Generously sponsored by the Friends of the Library of Windham.

**Backyard Chicken Basics with UNH Extension**

Join us on Tuesday, May 21 at 6:00 p.m., as we welcome University of New Hampshire Extension Field Specialist Elaina Enzien and learn about the practical tips and facts for raising egg-laying hens, or broilers, in your own backyard. This workshop is appropriate for those interested in obtaining chickens, or those who already own backyard chickens and want to learn more about their proper care.

Elaina joined the Food and Agriculture team as program assistant in October of 2015 and in May 2017 she was promoted to field specialist in Rockingham County. As a member of the Dairy, Livestock, and Forage Crops Team, Elaina works directly with livestock producers to help improve low-stress livestock handling techniques, facilities for efficiency, animal comfort and welfare, and pasture and grazing management. She also works to empower beginner and women farmers as they get started in their agriculture business through whole farm planning and her role as an Annie’s project facilitator. A New Hampshire native, Elaina spent most of her time working on farms raising a variety of crops and livestock. This work inspired her to pursue a BS in Sustainable Agriculture and Food Systems from UNH. This allowed her the opportunity to study in New Zealand, Ireland, and Panama where she deepened her knowledge in agriculture ecosystems and practices that encourage environmental conservation.

This event is free, open to the public of all ages, and registration is required.

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Visit with Author/Illustrator Marty Kelley

Meet author and illustrator Marty Kelley.

Mark your calendars for Tuesday, May 14 at 6:00 p.m. as the Nesmith Library hosts author/illustrator Marty Kelley! This program is sponsored by the Windham PTA and the Friends of the Library of Windham. The presentation is geared toward school aged children but will be enjoyed by adults and children of all ages. This program will include a book signing. Students are welcome to bring any Marty Kelley titles they already own from home. Marty has authored and illustrated many picture and chapter books, including Almost Everybody Farts (2017), The Rules (2000), Summer Stinks (1998), the Mollie Mac series, and many more. For more information on Marty Kelley please visit his author website at [http://www.martykelley.com](http://www.martykelley.com).

Don’t miss this chance to meet and greet children’s author and illustrator Marty Kelley. Registration is preferred but not required. Special thanks to the Friends of the Library of Windham and the Windham PTA for making this program possible.
April showers bring May flowers and those May flowers mean strawberries are not far behind. Even before the rains of April arrived, the Friends of the Library of Windham were actively planning this June’s Strawberry Festival and Book Fair. This year, the festival is scheduled for Saturday, June 1 at Windham High School.

This annual community event would not be possible without the time and talents of Windham’s citizens. FLOW needs volunteers to help on numerous fronts – bake biscuits, cut strawberries, paint children’s faces, help with games, and make dreams come true.

Each year hundreds of individuals from our community make the Strawberry Festival possible for the thousands who attend. Volunteers can help in advance of the festival or on the day of the festival. No contribution of your time or talent is too small, and we have roles for citizens of all ages! For students, volunteering is a great way to complete your community service hour requirements. To volunteer or for more information, please visit http://tinyurl.com/y3huhczg or the FLOW website at www.flowwindham.org to learn more about the festival!