



## WHITING LIBRARY

Chester, Vermont · [whitinglibrary.org](http://whitinglibrary.org)

Dear Friend,

June, 2023

As a resident of, or visitor to the towns of Chester and Andover, you are invited to join us in the recognition that the Whiting Library, our library, is a cherished resource that plays a vital role in fostering education, promoting literacy, and creating a space for community engagement in our community.

We are excited to share the good news of the activities of Whiting Library, including the arrival of our new Library Director, Pamela Johnson-Spurlock, our offering of a variety of new programs for our community and the planning for improvements and upgrades to our library functions.

Pamela Johnson-Spurlock comes to our town library with an extensive background in library administration and the energy to present library activities for a broad range of interests in our extended community of new and current library users. Formerly the librarian at Green Mountain Union High School, her broad experience in working with kids and readers of all ages in libraries of all sizes has resulted in the creation of new program offerings and increased library usage.

New programs being offered at Whiting Library this year include Morning Playgroups for ages 0-5 twice a week, tech help assistance, Penny University social coffee hours with special guests like WOOL FM and Chester Conservation Commission, Art Exhibits by local schools and art guilds, new community Gaming and Pokémon clubs and beginning this summer, Saturday Gentle Yoga.

The community has embraced the new program offerings as our library visits have increased 60%. 105 new library cards have been issued since January and the numbers of books checked out have increased thanks to new digital access tools like the Palace Project app.

Your Whiting Library Board of Trustees, with the help of the Director and her staff, have formulated plans to improve the ease of use and functionality of the library by the upgrade of our technical and library administrative operations. Within this year, Whiting Library will be adding new computer workstations with receipt printing to go along with the library joining Vermont Organization of Koha Automated Libraries and upgrading the library management system for greater patron ease and access.

As a community library, Whiting Library relies on its annual support from the towns of Chester and Andover. However, providing exceptional library services requires on-going financial support from our residents and visitors as well. In order to provide exceptional staff, diverse program offerings and up to date technology offering greater accessibility to books and information, we need your help and financial support to ensure that our library remains a vibrant hub for lifelong learning.

Please consider a donation to Whiting Library in any amount that you can afford. To make a donation, please use the enclosed a pre-addressed envelope for your convenience. Or, you can go to our website at [www.whitinglibrary.org](http://www.whitinglibrary.org) to donate securely online.

We are grateful for your financial support and continued visits to Whiting Library.

Sincerely,

Whiting Library Board of Trustees

Matthew A. Gorsky, Chair