It’s the season for gift-giving. Unfortunately, as we wrap up another year of high unemployment, inflation and debt, many people are wondering if they’ll be able to put anything under the tree at all.

My family has decided to do a homemade Christmas this year. The library hosted a well-attended program on homemade gift giving during the last week of November and it seems this idea is on many people’s mind. Rather than expensive, flashy gifts, why not take some time to create gifts from the heart? Not sure where to start...well the library has many books to get your creative juices flowing...even for the inexperienced crafter!

**Gifts from the Kitchen** by Kristine Kidd 641.5 KID-Here are forty-five creative gift ideas that truly come from the heart: heavenly candies and confections, baked gifts, canned gifts and savories.

**Christmas Naturals** by Carol Taylor 745.59 TAY-Deck the halls with boughs of holly, trim the tree with potpourri, pile garlands of herbs on the mantel, hang wreaths wrapped in everything from pinecones to fresh apples.

**Two-Hour Christmas Crafts** by Michele Thompson 745.59 THO-Make quick, but charming gifts to give.

**Wreaths** by Taylor Hagerty 745.92 HAG-If you’re short on time but want to make a special gift for a friend, try making one of these simple wreaths.

**Christmas Traditions from the Heart** by Margaret Peters 745.594 PET-Make old-fashioned, homemade Christmas gifts.

**Christmas Candy** 641.8 CHR—Easy to follow candy recipes to share with friends and family.

**Martha Stewart’s Cookies** 641.86 MAR-175 delicious recipes to choose from. Bake a batch to keep and one to give!

**Martha Stewart’s Encyclopedia of Crafts** 745.5 MAR-More than 200 craft projects from Martha Stewart’s Living.

**1, 2, 3, Sew** by Ellen Baker 646.2 BAK-Simple sewing projects to give as gifts.

**Fantastic Flowerpots**-Bobbe Needham 745.5 NEE-50 ways to jazz up a flowerpot.

(Continued on Page 7)
Fridays @ 9:30am

**Tot Time** will be offered to all tots (siblings welcome!) ages 0-3. Miss Karen will have stories, crafts and puppets to teach the letter of the week. These thematic classes teach basic language skills, beginning listening comprehension, build vocabulary and encourage positive social skills.

Dec. 7th—Letter “J”
Dec. 14th—No Tot Time class today
Dec. 21st—Letter “K”
Dec. 28th—Letter “L”

**Wednesdays @ 10am & 1pm**

**ABC and ME** will be offered to all children ages 3-5. Mrs. Stevens will teach each class with stories, crafts, songs and games featuring one letter of the alphabet. Children are encouraged to bring an item from home that starts with the letter of the week. Classes teach letter recognition, listening comprehension, new vocabulary and encourage positive social skills.

Dec. 5th—Letter “K”
Dec. 12th—Letter “L”
Dec. 19th—Letter “M”
Dec. 26th—Letter “N”

**Tuesday, Dec. 11th @ 1pm**

**Reading with Rocky**

“Rocky”, a certified therapy dog and his mom, Carol Varney will join us for this special story time class. You will have a chance to meet “Rocky”, hear Mrs. Varney read some great stories and even get your picture taken, so don’t forget your camera!

**Anytime: age 6 or first grade**

**First Library Card**

Come by the library anytime for your first library card. All children age 6 or in the first grade are eligible for their very own card!

**Saturdays, from 10am-noon**

**Artsy Saturdays** A fun time for children and adults to enjoy together! Come create with us!

**Tuesday, December 18, 4pm-5pm**

**Gingerbread House Cookie Decorating**

Sign up in the children’s room for this festive, fun and yummy event! Miss LaShunda of OoLaLa Creative Cakes will bring cookies, icing and lots of fun decorations for your holiday treat and Miss Karen will read to us “Gingerbread Cowboy”.

**See you at the library!**
**Mystery Book Group**

Thursday, December 13, 10:30-12:00PM

*The Dog Who Knew Too Much* (A Chet and Bernie Mystery #4) by Spencer Quinn.

Please join this fun and relaxed group. Refreshments will be served. Pick up your copy of the book at the main desk.

Combining suspense and intrigue with a wonderfully humorous take on the link between man and beast, Spencer Quinn’s exceptional mystery series has captured widespread praise since its New York Times bestselling debut, Dog on It. *The Dog Who Knew Too Much* marks the duo’s triumphant return in a tale that’s full of surprises.

**Brown Bag Book Group**

Thursday, January 31, noon.

*The Tea Rose* by Jennifer Donnelly

Pick up your copy at the main desk. Feel free to bring your lunch. Dessert and beverages will be provided.

Her family and dreams shattered by her father's untimely death at the hands of a ruthless tea baron, Fiona Finnegan flees East London and eventually establishes herself at the head of the tea trade in New York.

*There is no Brown Bag book group in December. The Tea Rose will be available for pick up after Christmas.*

**Friends of the Library**

The Friends of the Library invite you to their annual Holiday Open House which will be Saturday, December 1 from 10AM to noon. Please pop in and introduce yourself to our hard-working Friends group. Their support has brought us amazing programs such as An Old-Fashioned Herbal Christmas, Teddy Roosevelt and the Nobel Prize, Teen and Adult Summer Reading and our Ancestry.com membership, just to name a few. Fresh, homemade goodies will be served in the library’s new books room.

Are you interested in volunteering at the library to help with an archiving and scanning project of old photos of Meredith and the library? Please contact Library Director Erin Apostolos at 279-4303 or erin@meredithlibrary.org
Pizza, Love, and Other Stuff That Made Me Famous
by Kathryn Williams

Sixteen-year-old Sophie Nicolaides was practically raised in the kitchen of her family’s Italian-Greek Taverna Ristorante. When her best friend, Alex, tries to persuade her to audition for a new reality show, Teen Test Kitchen, Sophie is reluctant—could chopping onions in her family’s super-traditional restaurant have prepared her to compete against young chefs from all over the country? On the other hand, she’d get to spend the summer in Napa, California, and the prize includes a full scholarship to an elite culinary school and even national fame.

Once she’s on the set, Sophie finds herself surrounded by drama—including a secret burn book, cutthroat celebrity judges, and a very cute French student. Sophie must figure out how to survive the heat and still stay true to herself. In this fresh, and hearty novel, food, friendship, and romance take center stage.

TIME FOR YOU AND A FRIEND!

Join us Thursday, December 27 between 1:30 and 2:30 for a fun-filled afternoon of building with legos, painting, and another fun activity (a surprise). Invite a friend, to meet you at the library during your holiday vacation, hang out and enjoy! See you at the library! This event is for all ages and snacks will be served. No sign-up required.

Many thanks to all the children who participated in making ornaments for The Festival of Trees. The ornaments are fun, whimsical and very glitzy! Again many thanks for helping your community!

~Karen Henchey, Assistant Youth Librarian
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
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<td>1</td>
<td>Friends Holiday Open House</td>
<td>10AM-12PM</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>Genealogy Club</td>
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<td>5</td>
<td>ABC &amp; ME</td>
<td>10-11AM &amp; 1-2PM</td>
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<td>Tot Time</td>
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<td>Tot Time</td>
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<td>12</td>
<td>ABC &amp; ME</td>
<td>10AM or 1PM Kids Writing Workshop 3:30-5PM</td>
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<td></td>
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<td>6-7:30PM</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>Mystery Book Group</td>
<td>10:30AM-12PM</td>
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<td>NO Tot Time</td>
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<td>Gingerbread House Cookie Decorating</td>
<td>4-5PM</td>
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<td>ABC &amp; ME</td>
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<td>21</td>
<td>Tot Time</td>
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<td>26</td>
<td>ABC &amp; ME</td>
<td>10-11AM &amp; 1-2PM</td>
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<td>27</td>
<td>Lego Buddies</td>
<td>1:30-2:30PM</td>
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# New Adult Items
(ask for the full list at the desk)

## Fiction
- Alexander - *What happens at Christmas*
- Baldacci - *The forgotten*
- Bowen - *The Twelve clues of Christmas*
- Brown - *Fox tracks*
- Child - *Nothing to lose*
- Cussler - *Poseidon’s arrow*
- Doss - *The old gray wolf*
- Evanovich - *Notorious 19*
- Flynn - *The last man*
- Gingrich - *Victory at Yorktown*
- Kinkade - *A season of angels*
- McCullough - *The prodigal son*
- McKinty - *The cold, cold ground*
- Muller - *Looking for yesterday*
- Munro - *Dear life*
- Patterson - *Merry Christmas, Alex Cross*
- Perry - *A Christmas garland*
- Roberts - *The perfect hope*
- Wouk - *The lawgiver*
- Wortham - *The rock hole*

## Nonfiction
- Beilock - *Choke*
- Casteel - *Underwater dogs*
- Colbert - *America again...*
- Crosby - *The great pearl heist*
- Davis - *Wheat belly*
- Gerstein - *Walt Disney’s Mickey & the gang*
- Plotnik - *The elements of expression*
- Rhyne - *The dog lived...*
- Schaller - *Tibet wild*
- Silverman - *Leonardo’s lost princess*
- Stanway - *The old Ringe house*
- Weltman - *JK Lasser’s 1001 deductions & tax breaks 2013*

## DVDs-Nonfiction
- *Jesus Christ Superstar*
- *Joseph & the amazing Technicolor dreamcoat*

## Fresh
- *Abraham Lincoln, vampire hunter*
- *The Campaign*
- *Dude, where’s my car*
- *Grumpy old men*
- *Noses off*
- *The Philadelphia Story*
- *Popeye*
- *Safety not guaranteed*
- *Wallis & Edward*

## DVDs-Feature Films
- *Abraham Lincoln, vampire hunter*
- *The Campaign*
- *Dude, where’s my car*
- *Grumpy old men*
- *Noses off*
- *The Philadelphia Story*
- *Popeye*
- *Safety not guaranteed*
- *Wallis & Edward*

## Series (Season)
- *Rumpole of the Bailey* (the complete series)
This and That

One-On-One Technology Training
Need private, one-on-one computer or device help with Chris? You can call us to register for a half hour or one hour session. Space fills quickly so be sure to give us a call.

Computer Club
Chris also hosts a monthly Computer Club which meets the second Tuesday of each month at 10:00AM. A computer related topic is discussed and then there is time for your own questions or issues. This month the Club meets on Tuesday, December 11. Come in with any computer question or problem. This is open to all experience levels and there is no need to register in advance. If you want to bring your laptop or tablet, you can, but it is not required.

Homemade Gift Giving
Continued form page 1

DVD
Martha’s Homemade Holidays-745.59 MAR-Candy making, baking and crafts. Has printable recipes and instructions.

Websites
Easy Christmas Crafts from Martha Stewart- http://www.marthastewart.com/856465/easy-christmas-crafts/@center/307034/christmas-workshop

100 Years Ago at the Library...
Library benefactor, Mr. Benjamin M. Smith, offered to give the library $10,000 if they were to change the name of the library to reflect his parents’ names. The trustees decided after receiving a legal opinion from Mr. Blaisdell that it was not in their power to change the name of the library. Such action would have to be taken through a vote at town meeting. The trustees sent a letter to Mr. Smith thanking him for his past generosity and alerting him to their decision.

A picture comprised of confederate money made by the G.A.R. was accepted by the trustees and hung in the library. The trustees discussed whether or not to accept books back from families who had had scarlet fever. The librarian’s salary was raised to $150 from $100 annually.

Holiday Closures
We will be closed Tuesday, December 25 and Tuesday, January 1.
**Library Mission Statement**
Meredith Public Library is the informational, educational, and cultural heart of the Meredith community. The library is a dependable source of reliable information and of challenging ideas that enlighten and enrich, and of materials in many formats that enhance leisure time and expand knowledge of current events. The library encourages the love of reading and the joy of learning, and offers the assistance people need to find, evaluate, and use electronic and print information resources that help them live successful and rewarding lives.

**Are You Talented?**
Do you have a special skill such as knitting, scrapbooking or model train building you’d be willing to share with others at the library? Are you an artist looking for a place to display your work? If so please contact the library. If displaying artwork please ask for Lorraine Martin. If you would like to present a program at the library please contact Erin Apostolos.

**Quilt Display**
**Purple Quilt**
This quilt was designed by Jinny Beyer, a very famous and talented quilt and fabric designer. It was all hand pieced and hand quilted by Louise Wadsworth in Coldwater, MI. She was well into her 80’s when she made it.

Interested in quilting?
CVQG Meetings are held at the Public Safety Building (Police/Fire Dept.) Route 25 east of blinker. Moultonborough, N.H. 03254

Every 1st and 3rd Wednesday of each month/Year round
Guests are always welcome!

**Genealogy Club**
**Family Tree Wreaths and Genealogy Club Pot Luck**
Tuesday, December 4, 4:00PM
Bring a wreath, scans of your favorite family photos, postcards, old recipe cards, buttons or anything else you might want to use to decorate your wreath. We will provide ribbons, small doo-dads and the materials to attach your items to the wreath. Karen Henchey will be here to show you how to turn your wreath into a snazzy family collectible. This is also our annual pot luck, so bring a covered dish or dessert if you like. Beverages will be provided. Sponsored by the Friends of the Meredith Library.

**Art Display**
Look all over the library for this month’s display! The Lakes Region Art Association has their Fifth Annual Art Show on display. Paintings using various mediums are on display in various rooms, up the stairway and even in the Children’s Room!