



# THE BOOKMARK

Monthly Newsletter of the Gale Free Library

## NEWS & FEATURES

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### Important News

- The library will be closed on December 24th and 26th in observance of Christmas, and on December 31st for New Year's Eve.
- Our Program Room is being transformed into a Gingerbread Cottage. Come check out all of our festive Holiday decor!
- Do you love attending our programs for adults? Now you can sign up to receive weekly adult program updates by clicking on the link on our website homepage ([galefreelibrary.org](http://galefreelibrary.org)) or by contacting us at 508-210-5569.
- Coming in January: The Massachusetts Library Collaborative's 50+ Job Seekers Group.

# Adult Programs

Registration for programs is required. Please email [galefreelibrary@gmail.com](mailto:galefreelibrary@gmail.com) or call 508-210-5569.

## Nutcrackers: A Colorful History

**Thursday, December 1st**

**11:00 am (virtual)**

You may never have given those funny painted statues much thought, but the history of nutcrackers involves the development of tools from the Stone Age to the Industrial Age. Their story encompasses the political changes of Communist-era Germany, a Russian ballet, and American G.I.s. These are all elements in the history of the charming, colorful creations we enjoy today.

This program will be led by art historian Mary Woodward, who serves as a guide at several Historic New England properties, and who has previously served as Public Programs Coordinator and Educator at the Concord Museum.

"Nutcrackers: A Colorful History" is presented in partnership with the Tewksbury Public Library.

## Craft Night for Adults

### DIY Sequin Ball Ornaments

**Thursday, December 1st**

**6:30 pm (Program Room)**

Join us as we make a sparkly sequin ornament that you can hang on your tree or use as other holiday decor!

## Local Authors Present

**Thursday, December 8th**

**6:30 pm (Program Room)**

The Gale Free library welcomes Jennifer Freed, Therese Gleason, and Carolyn Oliver, each of whose recent books were recognized in the 2022 New England Poetry Club Annual Book contests. Join us for an Informal reading, followed by Q&A, and book signing.



## Classic Book Club

**\*Registration Required\***

No meeting in December

## Cooking Club

**\*Registration Required\***

Tuesday, December 13th

6:30 pm

Holiday Cookie Swap

## Movie Discussion

**\*Registration Required\***

Wednesday, December 14th

6:30 pm

It Happened on 5th Avenue (1947)  
and

Casablanca (1942)

## Wondrous Read Ahead

Theme 1: Celebrity Book Club Picks

Theme 2: Gale Free Book Club  
Selections

Theme 3: Legal Thrillers

Theme 4: Holiday Books





## Book Review

BY KIRKUS REVIEWS. ISSUE: OCTOBER 1, 2022

### Death on a Winter Stroll

By Francine Mathews

Christmas and death come to Nantucket.

U.S. Secretary of State Janet Brimhold McKay; her husband, Ron; and his unsatisfactory, artistic son, Ansel, are in Nantucket for Christmas Stroll, a beloved island tradition. Also on the island is a film crew that's staying at the compound of wealthy tech genius Mike Struna, an old friend of ambitious director Carly Simpson-Sonnenfeld and her much older husband, Vic, a womanizer who runs a powerful talent agency. The two disparate groups are linked by a talented nature photographer squatting in a falling-down house.

Ansel McKay and Winter Candler, daughter of movie star Chris Candler, strike up a friendship after a chance meeting in town. Both have serious problems, and both are often shadowed by their parents' security teams. Ansel, who had long believed his father's story that his cocaine-addicted mother left him and later died, has now identified her as Mary Alice Fillmore, a celebrated photographer who's squatting in her family home, which Ron McKay vengefully left to rot. When Mary Alice is murdered, Police Chief Merry Folger and her staff have their hands full since many of the suspects are powerful people who don't take kindly to her questions. Then Vic Sonnenfeld goes missing. Once his shotgunned body is found in a nature reserve, Merry has no dearth of suspects in a challenging case of powerful people and tangled love/hate relationships.

Plenty of fascinating characters and myriad motives make for an exciting read.

## Staff Picks



Amy

**MOVIE: IT HAPPENED ON 5TH AVENUE**  
(1947) NOT RATED

Danielle

**BOOK: SWEETS & TREATS WITH SIX SISTERS' STUFF: 100+ DESSERTS, GIFT IDEAS, AND TRADITIONS FOR THE WHOLE FAMILY**  
BY SIX SISTERS' STUFF

Katy

**BOOK: FOUR THOUSAND WEEKS: TIME MANAGEMENT FOR MORTALS**  
BY OLIVER BURKEMAN

Nancy M.C.

**BOOK: HOME SWEET CHRISTMAS**  
BY SUSAN MALLERY

Nancy R.

**MOVIE: CHRISTMAS IN CONNECTICUT**  
(1945) NOT RATED

Spencer

**BOOK: BECOMING HUMAN**  
BY GENE BREWER

Susan

**MOVIE: HOME FOR THE HOLIDAYS**  
(1995) RATED PG-13

Veronica

**BOOK: BELLADONNA**  
BY ADALYN GRACE

Wendy

**MOVIE: FALL**  
(2022) RATED PG-13



# Children's Programs

## Books and Blankies

**Friday, December 2nd at 10:00am**

**Ages birth to 2**

**Program Room**

Join Miss Jessica for loads of finger plays, short stories, and music. This program is ideal for developing language and fine and gross motor skills, all while connecting with your little one sitting on your lap!  
Registration required.

## Mrs. Claus

**Saturday, December 10th at 12:00 and 12:30pm**

**All Ages**

**Program Room**

Visit with Mrs. Claus and enjoy a cup of hot chocolate!

## Snowflake Ornament Craft

**Tuesday, December 13th at 4:15pm**

**Ages 4 and up**

**Program Room**

Create some shimmering snowflakes to decorate your house.  
Registration required.

## Holiday Candles Craft

**Wednesday, December 14th at 4:15pm**

**Ages 6 and up**

**Program Room**

Create a festive decoration or gift out of all-natural beeswax sheets! Adults are encouraged to participate in the craft with their child!  
Registration required.

## LEGO Holiday Village

**Wednesday, December 14th**

**Children's Room**

See our winter wonderland, complete with creations by the LEGO Club and a running train!

## Music and Me

**Friday, December 16th at 10:00am**

**Ages 2 to 6**

**Program Room**

Join Miss Jessica from Community Connections and get your little ones moving, dancing, and singing.  
Music builds strong brains!  
Registration required.

# Children's Department



## Story Times

### **BABY LAPSIT STORY TIME**

**Thursdays at 10:00am**

No Story Time 12/22 or 12/29

Lapsit story time is for children ages 2 and under.

Join our new librarian, Miss Rachel, for songs, movement, and stories for our littlest patrons and their caregivers.  
In the Program Room.



### **PRESCHOOL STORY CLUB**

**Thursdays at 11:00am**

No Story Club 12/22 or 12/29

Preschool Story Club is for children ages 2½ to 6, with caregivers.

Mr. Kevin presents a new year of favorite picture books and songs, with plenty of funny stories and silly games.  
In the Program Room.