



# THE BOOKMARK

Monthly Newsletter of the Gale Free Library

## NEWS & FEATURES

Important News  
**PAGE 1**

Adult Programs  
**PAGE 2**

Staff Picks & Reviews  
**PAGE 3**

From the Local  
History Room  
**PAGE 4**

Children's Programs &  
Teen Happenings  
**PAGE 5**

Children's and YA  
Staff Picks & Book Review  
**PAGE 6**

**Contact us:**

508-210-5560

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## Important News

- The library will be closed on Memorial Day weekend: Sat, May 28th through Mon, May 30th. We will reopen on Tues, May 31st.
- The Book Cellar is open every Mon from 1-4 for donations only; Tues-Thurs, 1-4 for sales; and Sat, 10-3 for sales.
- We are pleased to offer Mobile Printing at the Gale Free Library. With this new service you can upload a document to be printed at the library from the comfort of your home, while on the road, or anywhere else! You can upload documents via our website or the PrinterOn app. If you need more info, brochures about this great new service are available in the Reference Department, or you can contact us via email ([galefreelibrary@gmail.com](mailto:galefreelibrary@gmail.com)) or by phone (508-210-5569).
- TELL YOUR FRIENDS – If they need a library card account, they can get a CWMARS ecard! Go to <https://catalog.cwmars.org/eg/opac/ecard/form>

# Adult Programs

## CRAFT NIGHT FOR ADULTS



Canning Jar Sun Catchers

**MAY 5TH AT 6:30 PM**

Second Floor Program Room

Registration is required.

Please stop by the Reference desk, email us at [galefreelibrary@gmail.com](mailto:galefreelibrary@gmail.com), or call 508-210-5569 if you would like to attend.

### The Craft of Writing

#### "Work"

Let's look at ways that writers address the role of work in our lives, from needing it, to needing less of it.

Thursday, May 12, 10:30AM-12:00PM  
Gale Free Library (Online via Zoom)

No prior experience needed. Open to all who enjoy reading and writing.  
You will NOT be required to write or share your work.

This class is free, but space is limited.  
To register, please call 508-210-5569, or email [galefreelibrary@gmail.com](mailto:galefreelibrary@gmail.com). You will be sent an invitation for the online Zoom meeting.

The Craft of Writing series looks at short published pieces to see what makes them "work". Each meeting focuses on a particular theme, and highlights techniques you might notice in your reading, or apply to any style of writing you like. You may attend as many or as few as you like.

Program lead by Holden writer and teacher Jennifer Freed.  
Please visit [jfreed.weebly.com](http://jfreed.weebly.com) to learn more.



Gale Free Library's  
Cooking Club

### Favorite Outdoor Picnic Dish



**Tuesday, May 10, 2022**  
**6:30 PM on the Library Lawn**

The time of year is coming to plan an outdoor picnic!  
Come and share with us your favorite picnic dish (along with your recipe) and we hope the weather will cooperate.

Please call 508-210-5569, email [galefreelibrary@gmail.com](mailto:galefreelibrary@gmail.com) or stop by at the Reference Desk to register.

**\*\* Program is limited to 15 participants. \*\***

The Gale Free Library presents

Author Alicia Bessette,  
in conversation with Matthew Quick



From author Alicia Bessette comes an all-new mystery series featuring Callie Padgett, a former reporter turned bookshop clerk on the Outer Banks who is pulled into a deadly web of secrets when a mysterious fall at a lighthouse echoes a tragedy from her past.

Before authoring the Outer Banks Bookshop mystery series, Alicia Bessette worked as a reporter in her home state of Massachusetts, where her writing won a first-place award from the New England Newspaper & Press Association. A pianist, published poet, and enthusiastic birdwatcher, she now lives in coastal North Carolina with her husband, novelist Matthew Quick.

Matthew Quick is the New York Times bestselling author of The Silver Linings Playbook—which was made into an Oscar-winning film—and eight other novels.

**Thursday, May 19, 6:00pm**  
**Gale Free Library Reading Room**

Registration required. Please contact the Library at (508)210-5569, or [galefreelibrary@gmail.com](mailto:galefreelibrary@gmail.com)

The Gale Free Library, in partnership with the  
Chelmsford Public Library, presents

### A Conversation with Ocean Vuong



Join us for a very special event with prize-winning poet, novelist and educator Ocean Vuong, in conversation with Professor Sandra Lim, Ph.D., prize-winning poet, and professor of English at the University of Massachusetts in Lowell.

**Thursday, May 26th, 7:00pm-8:00pm**

Please note this is a virtual event. To register, please contact the Gale Free Library at (508) 210-5569, or [galefreelibrary@gmail.com](mailto:galefreelibrary@gmail.com)

Ocean Vuong is the author of the critically acclaimed poetry collection *Night Sky with Exit Wounds* and the New York Times bestselling novel *On Earth We're Briefly Gorgeous*. A recipient of the 2019 MacArthur "Genius" Grant, he is also the winner of the Whiting Award and the T.S. Eliot Prize. His writings have been featured in *The Atlantic*, *Harpers Magazine*, *The Nation*, *The New Republic*, *The New Yorker*, and *The New York Times*. Born in Saigon, Vietnam, he currently lives in Northampton, Massachusetts. (Photo credit, Tom Hines)



## Classic Book Club

**\*Registration Required\***

**Thursday, May 26th**  
**6:30 PM**

**Slaughterhouse-Five**  
By Kurt Vonnegut

## Cooking Club

**\*Registration Required\***

**Tuesday, May 10th**  
**6:30 PM**

**May Theme: Outdoor Picnic**

## Movie Club

**\*Registration Required\***

**Wednesday, May 11th**  
**6:30 PM**

**Wall Street**  
**1987 (Rated R)**

## Wondr Read Ahead

**Theme 1: Director's Cuts — a curated list from our Director!**

**Theme 2: Debut Fiction**

**Theme 3: You're #1 — Books with a one word title or the word "one" in the title**



**Thursday, May 26, 2022**  
**6:30 PM**

Gale Free Library Program Room

To register or to obtain a copy of the book (including audio edition), email [galefreelibrary@gmail.com](mailto:galefreelibrary@gmail.com), stop by, or call the Reference Desk at (508) 210-5569.

### Gale Free Knitting Group



Come knit with us!!

Monday afternoons, 1-2:30 PM

We are offering two options for meeting:

In-person in the Program Room of the Library

or

Online via Zoom (If you would like to join the online meetings, please call the Reference desk at 508-210-5569)

All are welcome, from beginners to experienced (no instruction is given). See what others are knitting, just sit and knit!





## Book Review

BY KIRKUS REVIEWS. ISSUE: MARCH 25, 2022

### Passersthrough

By Peter Rock

An estranged father and daughter try to reconnect 25 years after she mysteriously disappeared for a week while they were camping in Mount Rainier National Park.

The heart of Rock's latest novel is the relationship between 76-year-old Benjamin Hanson and his 36-year-old daughter, Helen. When Helen was 11, she went missing for a week under mysterious circumstances while she and Benjamin were camping in the woods near Mount Rainier.

Attempting to reconnect, Helen visits Benjamin at his Portland, Oregon, home. She either can't or won't talk to her father in person about her disappearance. Instead, she installs a machine with custom software that records him as he's speaking, transcribes his words, and delivers them for her to process at her own pace. She responds by fax or phone. The incident and subsequent time apart have left them both unable to articulate details or emotions to one another.

While Helen can't even bring herself to speak of the camping trip, Benjamin suggests that they go camping again, and in his preparations for this ill-suggested outing, he encounters Melissa, a transient woman with questionable motivations. Something's off about Melissa, and her actions waver between altruistic and opportunistic, but as she learns of the history between Benjamin and Helen, she becomes a willing substitute in Benjamin's would-be plans to re-create whatever it was that happened to him and his daughter 25 years ago. As the novel progresses it becomes clear that it's never been about the reconciliation of Benjamin and Helen but rather the ongoing relationships both they and Melissa have with death, the deaths of loved ones closest to them, and the search for answers in trying to deal with their losses. Its best elements, like its supernatural overtures, are reminiscent of Stephen King's *The Girl Who Loved Tom Gordon* (1999).

A captivating page-turner that raises more questions than it answers.

## Staff Picks

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Amy

**MOVIE: DEATH ON THE NILE (2022)**  
**RATED PG-13**

**BOOK: PRACTICALLY VEGAN: QUICK, DELICIOUS DINNERS THAT EVERYONE WILL LOVE**  
**BY NISHA MELVANI**

Judy

**BOOK: THE GROWING SEASON: HOW I BUILT A NEW LIFE—AND SAVED AN AMERICAN FARM**  
**BY SARAH FREY**

Katy B.

**BOOK: THE CHALK MAN**  
**BY CJ TUDOR**

Magda

**MOVIE: THE DEPARTED (2006)**  
**RATED R**

Spencer

**BOOK: NEXUS ARCHIVES, VOL. 1**  
**BY MIKE BARON**  
**ILLUSTRATED BY STEVE RUDE**

Veronica

**BOOK: BEACH READ**  
**BY EMILY HENRY**

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# FROM THE LOCAL HISTORY ROOM

Each month we feature treasures from the collections of your library's Local History Room. As always, if you have any questions about anything you see here—or other questions concerning Holden history, the Library, or genealogy—please email Nancy Richards, Local History Librarian, at [nrichard@cwmars.org](mailto:nrichard@cwmars.org). Note that the “s” in Richards is omitted in the email address.

Not all of the items in the collection of the Library's Local History Room are photographs or publications or maps; a number of treasures are reel-to-reel and cassette audio recordings, 16mm film, 78 and 33 1/3 rpm (revolutions per minute) records, and videotapes. Still others are what are typically referred to as artifacts, including sculpture, textiles, and models.

Pictured to the right are several views of one of our models, a handmade replica of the Holden Town Hall. The little structure measures 5-inches wide from roof edge to roof edge, 7 ¾-inches long from bottom front step to the back of the building, and 6 ½-inches from the base of the foundation to the taller chimneys. The late Nancy Swenson, a Holden resident, “built Town Hall,” with some assistance from her husband, E. Alfred Swenson, who donated the model to the Local History Room for keeping.

Holden Town Hall was erected in 1836, almost 100 years after the town was recognized as a community separate from Worcester. The original structure was “sixty feet long including the plaza and thirty eight feet wide” (Estes's **History of Holden**, p. 43), and cost the Town \$3,869.58. Forty years later, and impelled in large measure by the Civil War, the Hall was rebuilt, with a full 26 feet added to its length to accommodate a Memorial Hall on the Second Floor in honor of the 30 sons of Holden who died in the War.

Nancy Swenson carefully copied many of the exterior details of the actual town hall, including the one short and three tall chimneys, the signage on the façade, and the pair of window boxes; and she simplified others, such as the fire escape on the west in an illusion that works. Nancy's homage to Holden is just one of the special artifacts that provide interest—and delight—to our collection.

Notes: The cost of constructing Town Hall in 1836—\$3,869.58—was approximately the equivalent of \$120,600 today. ♦ If you're so inclined, try to determine the scale the Swensons used to construct their model!



## Children's Programs

**LEGO Club registration opens May 2nd.**

### **LEGO Club**

Wednesdays, May 11th & 18th at 4:15-5:15pm,  
Program Room, ages 6-11.

Join us this month to help build a summer beach town. Kids will work together to create a display for the Children's Room to celebrate our summer reading theme: Oceans of Possibility.

**NOTE:** We have raised the age limit to 6. Please sign up each child separately; no more than two siblings per family. This is a two-session class. Please sign up only if your child can make both classes.

Registration opens May 2nd.

### **Tinker Time!**

Friday, May 13th at 10-11:30am,

Program Room, ages 2-6, registration required.

Come have fun and learn while creating! Children expand their problem-solving and fine motor skills by using a variety of materials, all while having fun and meeting other kids.

A STEM-related program hosted by our friends at Community Connections. Required registration opens May 2nd.

### **Milo Story Time!**

Saturday, May 14th at 10am,

Program Room, ages 3-8.

Milo, Mr. McDonough's poodle and certified therapy dog, will be joining us every other Saturday from 10-10:30 for a story time. You can sign your child up to privately read a book to Milo after story time! Four 15-minute appointments are available from 10:30-11:30; sign up when you get here or register online in advance, starting on May 2nd.

### **Tea Time Story Time!**

Saturday, May 21st at 10am,

Program Room, ages 4+.

Join Miss Kayla for Tea Time Story Time! We will read fun stories, sing some songs, play BINGO, and of course enjoy tea (or hot chocolate!). Don't forget to dress up :)

It is a tea party after all.

### **Crochet Club**

Every Tuesday, 5-6pm, ages 8+.

Would your child like to learn how to make their own hat, scarf, water-bottle holder and more? Join the kids crochet club! Come each week to keep working on this month's project or drop in to get started. We will provide the crochet hooks and yarn. No experience necessary.

## Teen Happenings

### **Crochet Club**

This club is currently FULL. Pick-up on May 10th.

If you have already registered, your registration is automatically carried over. Any questions, please email Miss Kayla at [galefreeteens@gmail.com](mailto:galefreeteens@gmail.com).

### **Baking Club**

Register by May 3rd. Pick-up on May 10th.

New recipe each month. We will provide the dry ingredients, recipe, and a QR code linked to our "how to" video. Registration is required each month. See website for more details and registration link.

### **Pay It Forward Club**

Register by May 3rd. Pick-up on May 10th.

Each month will be a different charity with a new project. You pick up the materials, which we provide, then create or collect the items and bring them back to the library by the drop-off date. The library will send them off to the cause, working together to pay it forward! See website for more details and registration link.

### **Young Adult Book of the Month Club**

Register by May 17th. Pick-up on May 24th.

Have you heard of all those young-adult subscription book boxes and wished you could join the fun? Now you can, with the Gale Free Library Young Adult Book of the Month Club! Each surprise book of the month comes in a tote bag, which will also include bookish goodies such as bookmarks, buttons, stickers, and more, all for you to keep! Supplies are limited and sign-up is REQUIRED. Visit our website for more details (find them under teen upcoming programs).

## Children's Department



## Story Times

### **BABY LAPSIT STORY TIME** Thursdays at 10:00am Program Room

Lapsit story time is for children ages 2 and under. Join Miss Kayla for songs, felt board stories, short picture book stories, and more.

This story time will focus on routine and repetition and early literacy skills like ABCs and 123s.

### **PRESCHOOL STORY TIME** Thursdays at 11:00am Program Room

Preschool story time is for children ages 3-6. Join Mr. Kevin for lots of laughs and fun stories! This story time will focus on picture book stories, and include some games or activities—and of course Mr. Kevin's great sense of humor!





## Children's Book Review

BY KIRKUS REVIEWS. ISSUE: FEBRUARY 15, 2022

### Alone Like Me

Written and Illustrated by Rebecca Owens  
Ages 3-7

A picture book set in China shows that loneliness can be overcome.

Liling, a young Chinese girl, and her parents have moved from the country to a busy city. Her mother and father work in a sewing factory and a can-making factory respectively. Without friends or school, Liling is lonely. The artwork's grayscale palette reflects that bleak reality. Even the marketplace, with its "tables of rainbow fabrics," is painted in muted blues and grays. The only bright spots in the illustrations are Liling's red coat and, eventually, the bright yellow coat of Qiqi, a smiling girl whom Liling must devise ingenious methods to befriend since they live in different buildings.

The motif of a Chinese dragon, a metaphor for courage, weaves in and out of the artwork and text. The hand-drawn pictures and handwritten notes that the two girls send each other are sparks of joy in Liling's otherwise dull life. The Chinese hukou system that traps Liling and her family in poverty is explained in a brief glossary and in the pronunciation guide at the beginning of the book, but it is not the focus of the story.

An author's note and a five-item resource list at the back provide details for parents and teachers seeking more information. Inspired by her visit to Shanghai to adopt a child, Evans' pencil and watercolor paintings of Chinese characters and scenes avoid insensitive stereotypes and respect Chinese culture.

A hopeful, universal story about the power of friendship to dramatically improve the quality of everyday life.

## Children's Department

### Staff Picks

Kayla

**BOOK (TEEN)**

**CARAVAN**

**WRITTEN BY STEPHANIE GARBER**

**BOOK (AGES 4+)**

**PERFECTLY PEGASUS**

**WRITTEN BY JESSIE SIMA**

**BOOK (AGES 4+)**

**I LOVE YOU LIKE YELLOW**

**WRITTEN BY ANDREA BEATY**

**ILLUSTRATED BY VASHTI HARRISON**

Stephanie

**BOOK (AGES 3+)**

**THE HAPPINESS OF A DOG WITH A BALL**

**IN ITS MOUTH**

**WRITTEN BY BRUCE HANDY**

**ILLUSTRATED BY HYEYON YUM**

Amy

**BOOK (AGES 2+)**

**YOUR WHOLE BODY**

**WRITTEN BY LIZZIE DEYOUNG**

**CHARBONNEAU**

**ILLUSTRATED BY MISHA IVER**

**BOOK (AGES 4+)**

**THE VELVETEEN RABBIT**

**WRITTEN BY MARGERY WILLIAMS**

