

The BOOKMARK

Newsletter of the Gale Free Library

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Library Hours

Monday 9:30 am-5:30 pm

Tuesday 9:30 am-8 pm

Wednesday 9:30 am-8 pm

Thursday 9:30 am-8 pm

Friday 9:30 am-5:30 pm

Saturday 9 am-4 pm

Contact Us:

508-210-5560

galefreelibrary@gmail.com

Library News

- This month, the Library features two art exhibits. For further information about the exhibits, and about the "Collage Workshop" led by one of our featured artists, Dena Hengst, please see page 2.
- Join Leeza Masia for a workshop on Thursday, March 21 on how to incorporate the healing energies of the crystal kingdom into your life. See page 2 for further information.
- A master herpetologist visits the Children's Room on Thursday, March 14. See page 3 for registration information.
- Board games will be available on winter nights when there isn't a program in the Program Room. Grab some friends or family and try a new game or play an old favorite this winter.

Windows of Opportunity GALA EVENT

Val's Restaurant
Saturday, April 27, 2024
6-9 PM

Put on your fancy clothes and come to Val's for a fun night of music by the the Carlos Odria Trio, cocktails, food, and fun, all for the benefit of the Window Restoration project for the Library. See our website at galefreelibrary.org for a clickable link to buy tickets or visit the Reference Desk for assistance.

Art Exhibits, Adult Programs

Art at the Library



Artist Dena Hengst

We will feature two Art Exhibits in March. In the Program Room, Dena Hengst will be exhibiting her pieces in a show entitled *Harmony in Duality*, and also leading a collage workshop. (See details on the workshop at bottom of page.)

Dena paints both realistically and abstractly. Her exhibit focuses on how nature, mostly water and rocks, can be expressed using both styles. A reception for Dena's show will be held on Thursday, March 7th, at 6:30pm.

In the Lobby, a photography exhibit entitled "Here and There" by John Gaumond will be featured. John's photographs highlight patterns and angles, as well as colors, contrasting shapes, and textures, from all over the world. He often tries to find unusual views of subjects to make them more interesting.



Here and There
Photography by John Gaumond



**Collage Workshop
with Dena Hengst**
Tuesday, 3/26
6pm
Registration required.

Using collage as your medium, you will learn specific techniques as well as a few key principles of design. We will explore various ways artists respond abstractly to realistic paintings. If you want to learn a little bit about collage or creating abstract work, or both, this workshop is for you.

Adult Take-Home Craft

Starts Monday, 3/4

Please visit the Reference Desk
for your kit.

Drop by the Library to pick up this month's DIY craft kit! For March we will be offering a "Shamrock in a Pot." Every bag will contain free supplies and instructions. We hope you will have a good time making this craft at home! Please note that because of limited supplies, the crafts are one per person. No registration required.

Learn to Crochet

Thursdays, starting 3/7, 2-3pm

Registration required.

An introduction to basic crochet will be offered at the Library for approximately four sessions. We will cover the basics of crochet and progress to an easy, yet pretty winter scarf.

Cooking Club

Tuesday, 3/12, 6:30pm

Registration required.

Because a predicted snowstorm cancelled, we're giving "Appetizers" another shot! Appetizers are the perfect starter for any type of party--and the perfect excuse to throw one! Which is your favorite? Let us try it! Please bring in one of your favorite appetizers, along with the recipe.

"Mornings with Maggie!"

Wednesday, 3/13

10:30-11:30am

Come meet our new friend, Maggie! Patrons of all ages are invited to spend time with Maggie, a certified therapy dog. She is so friendly, and loves to be petted, talked to, and even read to! Stop by anytime; no registration needed.

The Craft of Writing Workshop with Jennifer Freed "Art"

Thursday, 3/14

10:30am-12pm

Online via Zoom.

Registration required.

Join us as we examine ways writers can use artworks to spur their own writing. Open to all who enjoy reading and writing.

Crystal Healing for Beginners Workshop

Thursday, 3/21, 6pm

Registration required.

Leeza Masia joins us with an exciting and colorful collection of crystals! After focusing on the informational backgrounds on some of the minerals, she will guide us through the process of setting up a personal crystal grid. Join in the fun and come rock out with us!

Classics Book Group

Thursday, 3/28, 6:30pm

Registration required.

Join us as we discuss *The Red Badge of Courage* by Stephen Crane. Copies of the book can be picked up at the Reference Desk.

Weekly Knitting & Crocheting Group

Mondays, 1-2:30pm

We offer an in-person meeting, as well as a virtual meeting. (No registration is needed for the in-person meeting. For the virtual meeting, please contact the Library for an invitation.) All are welcome, from beginners to experienced!

*For more information or to register for a program,
please contact the Reference Desk at 508-210-5569 or
email us at galefreelibrary@gmail.com.*

Children's & Teens' Programs



Story Times

Lapsit Story Time
Every Thursday
10 AM

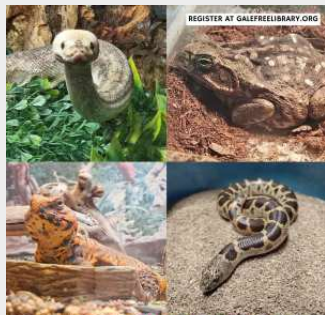
In the Program Room
Ages 2 and under

Join Miss Rachel for songs, short picture-book stories, and more. This story time will focus on routine, repetition, and early literacy skills like ABCs and 123s.

Preschool Story Time
Every Thursday
11 AM

In the Program Room
Ages 3-6

Join Mr. Kevin for lots of laughs and fun stories! This story time will focus on picture-book stories and include games or activities and of course Mr. Kevin's great sense of humor!



Reptile Nook

Thursday, 3/14
4:20 PM
Grades K-5

Lizards and snakes and toads, oh my! Get up close and personal with some scaly friends and learn all about them from a master herpetologist.

Registration opens 3/7.

Children

LEGO Club
(Ages 6+)

Wednesday, 3/6 and
Wednesday, 3/13
at 4:20 PM

Registration opens 2/28 & 3/6.

Strap on your space suits and join in creating a LEGO space colony for this month's display.

LEGO Jr.
(Ages 4-5)

Thursday, 3/7 at 4:20 PM
Registration opens 2/29.

3...2..... BLAST OFF! Create space ships for this month's LEGO display.

Kidding Around Yoga
with Miss Nicole
(Ages 2-5)

Friday, 3/8 at 10 AM

Registration opens 3/1.

Little ones learn basic poses incorporating music and literacy. Yoga helps children improve emotional regulation while developing strength and flexibility!

Fine Art Flowers
(Grades K-5)

Thursday, 3/21 at 4:20 PM

Registration opens 3/14.

Join Jenna Bailey of Burlap Bee to create some floral springtime artwork.

Read, Build, Play
with Community
Connections
(Ages 2-5)

Friday, 3/22 at 10 AM
Registration opens 3/15.

Join us to read, build, and play! Children expand their problem-solving skills, and develop social skills as they build.

Graphic Novel
Book Club
(Grades 4+)

Thursday, 3/28
at 4:20 PM

Register online.

Read and discuss a graphic novel (to be announced online and in the Children's Room soon!) and practice making comics!

Teens

Dungeons and Dragons
(Grades 6+)

Tuesday, 3/19
from 3:45 to 5:45 PM

Registration opens 3/12.

Join the party for a 4th level one-shot! This session is ideal for players who have some experience. Interested in an introductory program? Please email rburton@cwmmars.org so we can gauge interest!

All programs take place in the Program Room unless noted otherwise.



Museum Passes, Local History

Museum Moments

Celtic Celebration Old Sturbridge Village March 16-17, 2024

Included with standard daytime admission.
Join us as we celebrate cultural heritage through music, dance, storytelling, and poetry. Special daytime Celtic Celebration themed activities include

- Irish dance performances from two different local dance schools
- live musical performances by renowned Celtic harpist Cate Mahoney, in addition to fiddle and bagpipe music presentations
- Irish stories and poetry reading

We will also be showcasing the entire maple sugar-making process as this weekend is also Maple Days.

Poetry at Fruitlands

A Trustees of
Reservations Property
March 17, 2024

Featured Poets: Jane Attanucci,
Gary Duehr, and A. M. Juster

Join the New England Poetry Club at Fruitlands Museum for monthly poetry readings this winter. Sponsoring poetry in New England since 1915, the NEPC presents readings by poets with ties to the New England states and annual poetry contests. Members of the NEPC benefit from being part of a community of poets, gathering for readings by members with new books, and participating in monthly writing workshops. Please visit thetrustees.org for further information. Information provided courtesy of the Trustees of Reservations website.

Old Sturbridge Village and The Trustees of Reservations are members of the Gale Free Library Museum pass program. Contact the Reference Desk at 508-210-5569 or galefreelibrary@gmail.com for further information.

Local History

Travelling Back to 1944



Following Librarian M. Addie Holden's retirement from the Gale Free Library in 1943, the Damon Memorial Board of Trustees elected to have a representative of the State Division of Public Libraries, a part of the Massachusetts Department of Education, survey the Library for the

benefit of the Town, Trustees, and new Librarian, Amy L. Snow. What follows, and will continue to be presented in future issues of the "Bookmark" until complete, is the submitted report, written by Library Adviser E. Louise Jones and dated April 13, 1944. Note that the format of the report has been altered slightly to improve readability, and a few non-essential lines, omitted.

...

The survey is in no sense a reflection on any past management. Every library has to consider changes to meet the varied trends in the development of library service throughout the country. We wish to express our appreciation of the excellent work accomplished by your former librarian, Mrs. Holden, during her many years of faithful service. The recommendations are given as an aid in constructive plans for future development of the library. The extension of the activities of the library is dependent largely on the command of more liberal financial resources. There are, however, improvements that may be carried out with little expense that will add materially to the efficiency of the service. The recommendations in this survey are made both for definite immediate and future needs.

The standards set by the Massachusetts Division of Public Libraries, the Massachusetts Library Association, and the American Library Association are standards to be considered in developing library service. Also comparisons made with records of the past and with statistics of other libraries of similar size and conditions are of value in showing whether or not the library has improved or remained static. The minimum standard income per capita recommended by the above is \$1.50 per capita for towns the size of Holden (income per capita for Holden in 1943 was 67¢). The minimum standard for circulation of books is 10 per capita (Holden 3.2 per capita). The minimum standard for hours open per week is 24 (Holden 15).

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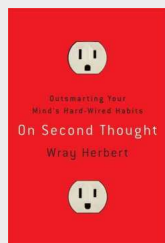
Many ideas have developed in library procedure since the library was re-cataloged thirty-seven years ago, and our recommendations include some of the shortcuts and modern methods, especially in connection with cataloging, classification, and methods of keeping records.

To be continued in next month's "Bookmark"

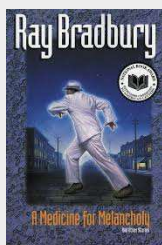
Local History content is provided by our Local History Librarian, Nancy Richards.

Be on the Lookout for...

Spencer Suggests...



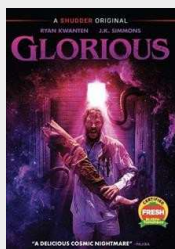
"On Second
Thought:
Outsmarting
Your Mind's
Hard-Wired
Habits"
by Wray Herbert



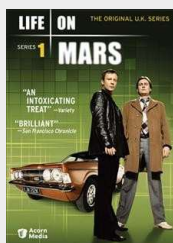
"Fever Dream"
from
"Medicine for
Melancholy
and Other Stories"
by Ray Bradbury



"No Offence"
2018
DVD



"Glorious"
2023
DVD



"Life on Mars"
2009
DVD



"Peacemaker"
2022
DVD

Spencer is a member of our Circulation team and is best known for knowing where every book in the library is shelved.



Author Spotlight



Martha Hall Kelly was born in Milton, MA and resides in Connecticut and Florida. She is a *New York Times* bestselling author of historical fiction, with a passion for well-researched WWII stories. You can learn more at www.marthahallkelly.com.

Kelly's three "Caroline Ferriday" novels can be read as a series or as stand-alone titles.

Lilac Girls

Published 2016

Kelly's debut novel is rich with detail and inspired by true events. This story of three women during WWII reveals bravery, cowardice, and cruelty that should never be forgotten. The story takes place in Ravensbruck, which was an all-women concentration camp in Northern Germany. Most of the prisoners were Polish women, who endured horrific medical experiments conducted by Herta Oberheuser, the only female doctor brought to trial for war crimes after WWII.

Lost Roses

Published 2019

The second book in the series features Caroline Ferriday's mother, Eliza, a New York socialite, Sofya, a Russian aristocrat, and Varinka, a Russian peasant. Set a generation earlier (the novel is a prequel to *Lilac Girls*), *Lost Roses* follows three interesting, strong, and yet very different women from St. Petersburg, Russia to Paris under the shadow of WWI. It is a journey through privilege and poverty in which all three women are willing to take risks to ensure their survival.

Sunflower Sisters

Published 2021

The third book in the series (a prequel to *Lost Roses*) is about Ferriday's ancestor Georgeanna Woolsey, a union nurse during the Civil War. She crosses paths with a young enslaved girl, Jemma, on the Peeler Plantation, and Anne-May who is forced to run the Peeler Plantation when her husband enlists in the Union Army and her brother joins the Confederates. Inspired by true events, it's a story of a country on the verge of collapse that deals with nationalism and racial cruelty.

Kelly's latest book, ***The Golden Doves***, published in 2023, is the riveting story of two brave women, American Josie Anderson and Parisian Arlette LaRue, who are working in the French resistance and stealing so many Nazi secrets they become known as the Golden Doves. Eventually they are arrested and imprisoned in Ravensbruck, a concentration camp that housed only female prisoners. The Nazi doctors at the prison performed unspeakable medical experiments on the prisoners. A decade later Josie Anderson is working for U.S. Army Intelligence. Once again she and Arlette LaRue embark together on a journey across Europe and to French Guiana, discovering a web of terrible secrets. This is the unforgettable story about the fates of Nazi fugitives after WWII.

This "Author Spotlight" was written by Judy from the Circulation Department.