

# 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-1 pm

Contact Us:

508-210-5560

[galefreelibrary@gmail.com](mailto:galefreelibrary@gmail.com)



## Summer Reading is Wrapping Up!

Children's Librarians Kevin McDonough and Rachel Burton read to the crowd at a special Story-Time Show on July 17. See page 3 for more details on the last weeks of Kids' Summer Reading.

## Library News

- The Library will be closed Saturday, August 30 through Monday, September 1 for the Labor Day holiday. We will reopen Tuesday, September 2 at 9:30am.
- The Library will return to its typical Saturday hours, 9am-4pm, beginning Saturday, September 6.
- Saturday, August 23 is Holden Days! Join our therapy dog, Maggie, for a special appearance, or shop the Book Cellar. See page 2 for details.
- Tanglewood Marionettes presents *Sleeping Beauty* on August 5. See page 3 for more information.
- Looking for timely Library news? Sign up to receive updates on our weekly Adult Programs by clicking on the link on our website's "Adult Programs and Events" page and by following us on Facebook and Instagram!



# Adult Programs, Art at the Library

## Holden Days

Mornings with Maggie

Saturday, 8/23, 10:30-11:30am

We will have a special guest visiting us during Holden Days--our friend Maggie! Weather permitting, we will be out greeting people on the front lawn. Maggie and her person Kelly are a certified therapy team through the Alliance of Therapy Dogs, and stop by the library once a month to spend some time with us, and brighten our day! Drop by anytime!

## The Book Cellar

Saturday, 8/23

The Book Cellar will be open for business during Holden Days!

## Art at the Library

In the Program Room

Visit the world of Stephen and Donna Perkins! Donna shares her photography and Stephen shares his fine art. See how their creative expression complements and inspires each other's work. **Join us for an Artist Reception on Thursday, August 7 at 6pm in the Program Room.** Light refreshments will be served. Many thanks to the Friends of the Gale Free Library for sponsoring Art at the Library. The Program Room is located on the second floor and is elevator accessible.



In the Upstairs Lobby

Susan Sedgwick Retrospective  
Photography Exhibit



## 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!

## Adult Take-Home Craft

Starts Tuesday, 8/5

Please visit the Reference Desk for your kit.

This month's take-home craft is an Easy Air-Dry Clay Flower Frog! Pick up your DIY craft kit at the Reference Desk (while supplies last).

## Ukulele Group

Wednesdays, 8/6 and 8/20, 6-7pm

Ages 16+

Join us for our Ukulele Group! Whether you are new to the ukulele or more advanced, we welcome you to join this group where you can play together, learn from each other, and have fun! Each month, we'll offer two Wednesday night sessions--come to either or both! If you are new to the group, please contact the Reference Desk to let us know you're attending.

## The Craft of Writing Workshop with Jennifer Freed "Expansion"

Thursday, 8/7, 10:30am-12pm

Online via Zoom.

**Registration required.**

What interesting things can happen if, instead of "saying a lot in few words," a writer looks at a small thing and makes it big, and then even bigger?

## Cooking Club "Carrots"

Tuesday, 8/12, 6:30pm

**Registration required.**

Let's celebrate the versatile carrot! Often pulped, mashed, boiled, puréed, grated, fried, steamed, stewed, baked, juiced or eaten raw, they can be served in both sweet and savory dishes. What is your favorite carrot dish? Let us try it! Please bring your carrot dish along with the recipe.

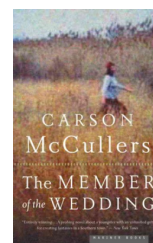
## Art Club

Wednesday, 8/27, 6-7:30pm

Ages 16+

**Registration required.**

Join us for our monthly Art Club! Bring your own supplies or use ours. We have watercolor paints and paper, brushes, pastels, colored pencils, graphite, pens, collage materials, and more! There will be no specific project. Each month, we'll have a quote or a book or an image available to inspire a(n optional) response. This program is intended for patrons of all abilities.



Classics  
Book Group  
Thursday, 8/28  
6:30pm

Join us as we discuss *The Member of the Wedding* by Carson McCullers. Copies of the book can be picked up at the Reference Desk.

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](mailto:galefreelibrary@gmail.com).



# Children's & Teens' Programs

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## Tanglewood Marionettes Presents

### *Sleeping Beauty*

Tuesday, 8/5

4-5 PM

In the Senior Center.

See the Tanglewood Marionettes take on the story of *Sleeping Beauty*. All of the staging, scenery, and marionettes are handcrafted and together represent over a year of construction time! Thank you to the Holden Cultural Council for sponsoring this event.



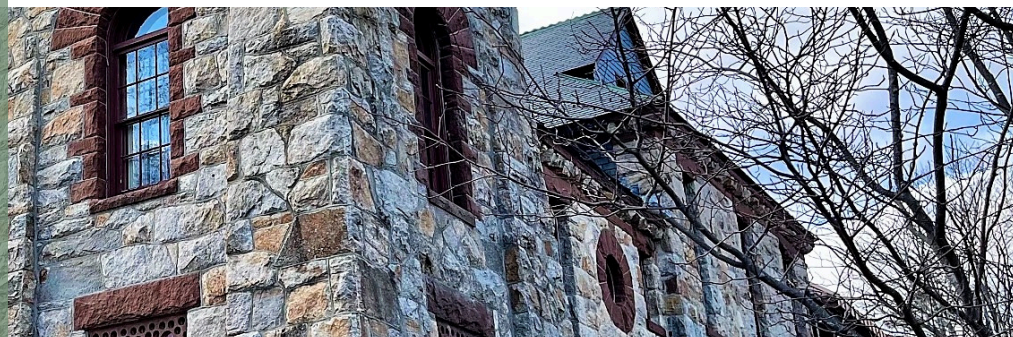
## Principal Story Times!

Join us for special Story Times with the principals from our local elementary schools. This will be a great opportunity to meet new classmates and reconnect with old friends after a long summer away! All Principal Story Times will take place on the Library Lawn or in the Program Room if it's raining.

Dawson Principal Story Time  
with Joy Wilde  
Monday, 8/11, 2-3 PM

Davis Hill Principal Story Time  
with Jay Norton  
Tuesday, 8/12, 10:30-11:30 AM

Mayo Principal Story Time  
with Kristin Moffat  
Wednesday, 8/13, 10:30-11:30 AM



## Last Day to Check in for Summer Reading!

Saturday, 8/16

This will be your last day to check in for Summer Reading. If you can't make it to the Children's Room, you can always put those last few minutes in on the Beanstack app! Remember that the library closes at 1 PM on Saturdays during the summer.

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### LEGO Club

Friday 8/1, 3-4:30 PM

Ages 4+

In the Program Room.

Come join us for summer LEGO club! We will be building pieces for our end-of-summer Big G Amusement Park. Come with your family, grab a bin of LEGOS and build with us, no registration necessary!

### Free Play Fridays

Fridays, 8/8, 8/15, 2-3:30 PM

Ages 7+

In the Program Room.

Cool off on hot Friday afternoons with some gaming in the Program Room. Board games and a Nintendo Switch will be available!

### School Folder Decorating

Tuesday, 8/12, 3-4 PM

Ages 5+

In the Program Room.

Get ready to go back to school by decorating a colorful folder using all our craft supplies!

### DIY Zines Craft

Wednesday, 8/6, 3-4:30 PM

Entering Grades 4+

In the Program Room.

Got something to say? Say it in style! Learn how to make your own zine about anything you'd like using our art materials to help.

### Community Connection Fairy Tale Scavenger Hunt

Monday, 8/11

10-11 AM

Ages 2-5

On the Library lawn.

Join Community Connections for a fairy-tale themed scavenger hunt. This program helps increase social, fine and gross motor and problem solving skills, and is a fun way to build vocabulary!



## Story Times



### Summer Lapsit Story Time

Ages 2 and under

Thursdays at 10 AM

(Through 8/14)

On the Library lawn.

(In the Program Room if raining.)

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.

### Summer Preschool Story Time

Ages 3-6

Thursdays at 11 AM

(Through 8/14)

On the Library lawn.

(In the Program Room if raining.)

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!

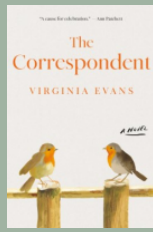


# Staff Picks, Local History

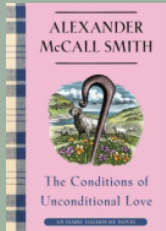
## Staff Picks



*Fallout*  
DVD series  
Spencer



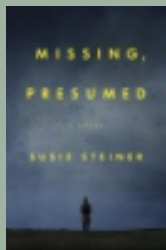
*The Correspondent*  
by Virginia Evans  
Danielle



*The Conditions of Unconditional Love*  
by Alexander McCall Smith  
Wendy



*The Book Club for Troublesome Women*  
by Marie Bostwick  
Nancy C.



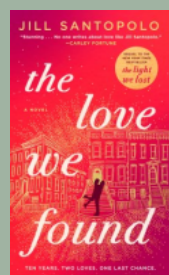
*Missing, Presumed*  
by Susie Steiner  
Katy



*Cabrin!*  
DVD  
Wendy



*The Light We Lost*  
#1 in series  
by Jill Santopolo  
Judy



*The Love We Found*  
#2 in series  
by Jill Santopolo  
Judy



## Local History

Did you know that five different histories of the Town of Holden have been published thus far, beginning in 1841? To introduce our patrons to these histories, Local History plans to present excerpts from each book in the current and several subsequent issues of "The Bookmark." Copies of all five histories can be checked out from the Library.

As with the Damon and Estes histories of Holden, the third town history was written at the request of the committee that organized an anniversary celebration-- Holden's 200th year or Bicentennial.

Excerpts from Florence Newell Prouty's  
*History of the Town of Holden, Massachusetts, 1667-1941*

### "CARE OF THE POOR Poor Farm Association

The care of paupers was long a problem. In 1794 it had been voted that the Selectmen provide a house for the town's poor, but at the same meeting it was afterward voted that the Selectmen should use their discretion in the matter, and no house seems to have been procured.

In 1797, we find it voted 'to dispose of the town's poor to the lowest bidder—voted also that the Selectmen appoint a time and put up an advertisement for a Vendue for that purpose.' This method of arranging for their care, however repellent to the sentiment of today, was common at that time, and we may fairly presume that it was continued until the establishment of a town Poor Farm. After repeated discussions, in 1830, the 'James Davis' place containing about 280 acres was bought for \$3,000, and a house was soon fitted up for the reception of the paupers, of whom, in 1837, there were no less than twenty.

The cost of their support in 1838 was \$557.39. In 1879 the net amount drawn from the Treasury for the support of the poor was \$1,411.32. [\$1,000 in 1879 is currently worth \$32,146.50.]

November 5, 1889 the town voted to authorize the co-operative care of the poor, and on April 1, 1890 the Poor Farm Association was organized, after a committee from Holden, consisting of Charles E. Parker, Edward W. Merrick and William J. Prendergast had conferred several times with committees from Hubbardston and Paxton, and a committee from Princeton, chosen to investigate the matter more fully.

The Association was at first formed for a period of three years, and by-laws stated, 'it shall be managed by one person from each board of Overseers of the Poor of the towns forming the Association.'

*This history will be continued in next month's Bookmark.*

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



# Federal Funding

## FEDERAL FUNDING CUTS TO LIBRARIES STATEWIDE

On Friday, March 14, President Trump signed executive order 14238, which targets federal funding to libraries and museums through the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS).

IMLS is the single largest source of critical federal funding for libraries. IMLS' entire program of service costs 87 cents per person (US population July 2024).

The **Massachusetts Board of Library Commissioners (MBLC)** receives Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS) funds to administer to libraries throughout the Commonwealth.

## THE MBLC USES FEDERAL IMLS FUNDS TO PROVIDE STATE LIBRARY SERVICES FOR EVERYONE.

### Funding supports:

- Online Research
- Commonwealth Catalog
- eBooks and audiobooks
- Summer Reading
- Local Grants for Libraries
- and so much more

## HOW CAN I SUPPORT MY LIBRARY?

Details of funding cuts and links to "how can I support..."



Or pick up our brochure at the Library!

## ONLINE RESEARCH

The Statewide Database Program provides critical access to reliable online research that no community or school system could afford to purchase on its own. 60% of database usage comes from Massachusetts schools alone. Last year, there were over 9 million full text downloads of magazines, journal articles, scholarly papers and more.

Starting on **July 1, 2025**, statewide research database offerings will be significantly reduced.

### FY2026 Discontinued Products

Boston Globe Article Archive  
Britannica Moderna  
Gale Academic OneFile Select  
Gale General OneFile  
Gale Health and Wellness  
Gale in Context: Biography  
Gale in Context: Elementary  
Gale in Context: Environmental Studies  
Gale in Context: Global Issues  
Gale in Context: Middle School  
Gale in Context: Science  
Gale in Context: US History  
Gale in Context: World History  
Gale Interactive Science  
Gale LegalForms  
Gale Literature Resource Center  
HeritageQuest Online  
Peterson's Career Prep  
Peterson's Test Prep  
Science Database (ProQuest)  
Transparent Language Online

However, the MBLC and the Massachusetts Library System (MLS), will maintain several of the most heavily used databases.

## EBOOKS AND AUDIOBOOKS

Federal funding pays for the platform (Libby) used to access all of the 685,000 titles available through the statewide Library eBook and Audiobook (LEA) program. The amount of **funding available to purchase eBooks and Audiobooks has been reduced**. It may be more difficult to borrow titles through Libby. Wait times on Libby will likely increase, and the selection of available eBooks and audiobooks will likely decrease.

## LOCAL GRANTS FOR LIBRARIES

The MBLC uses federal funds to provide grants that local libraries can use to address community needs ranging from early literacy, preserving local history collections, workforce development, and STEM/STEAM programming to name just a few. Due to federal funding uncertainty, **the Local Grants for Libraries program has been eliminated**.

## GETTING ITEMS FROM OTHER LIBRARIES

The Commonwealth Catalog (ComCat) is an online unified catalog search of 59 million Massachusetts library holdings where you can request an item from across the state and pick it up at your local library in a matter of days. **The MBLC was able to maintain Commonwealth Catalog** amidst federal funding uncertainty, but other services were cut.