



# The BOOKMARK

The monthly newsletter of the Gale Free Library

## March Library News

The Next Chapter of the Children's Room



*The newly renovated Children's Room opened February 24.*

### Contents

Library News  
Page 1

Art at the Library,  
Adult Programs  
Page 2

Children's &  
Teens' Programs  
Page 3

Community Art Show,  
Seed Library  
Programs  
Page 4

Staff Picks,  
Seasonal Reading  
Reviews  
Page 5

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

### Seed Library Launches!

We are excited to announce the start of the Gale Free Seed Library on Monday, March 23! **See page 4 for more information about the Seed Library along with two Seed Library associated programs.**

#### A Call for Art – Community Art Show in April

The Gale Free Library Community Art Show returns in April with a spin on a common saying: "April showers bring May flowers." What do showers and flowers speak to? Abundance! **See page 4 for further information on how to participate.**



#### A Call for Photos

The Library's Local History Room is interested in adding to our collection of Children's Room and Story Time photographs. Please share your black-and-white or full-color photographs by dropping them off at the Reference Desk so they can be scanned and returned to you. All digital images can be sent to [nrichard@cwmares.org](mailto:nrichard@cwmares.org).

**Please make certain that your name and contact information are on all of your submissions.**

# Adult Programs

## March Art at the Library

### *Photographs from the Early Space Age*

Collected by Richard Maurer  
Author and Gale Free Library Trustee  
Richard Maurer will be presenting a curated collection entitled "Photographs from the Early Space Age." Starting with a collection of archived photographs, maps, and planning documents from the early Apollo lunar missions, Richard went on to curate a Smithsonian Institution Traveling Exhibit that toured the United States from 1978 to 1981. A more expansive exhibition of planetary photography followed with shows in New York City and London.

The images presented in the March exhibit date from that formative period. They mark the beginning of what became for Richard a serendipitous career devoted to exhibitions, books, and other media—many centered on the Moon, the planets, and the wider universe beyond.

**On Tuesday, March 24 at 6pm, Richard Maurer will present a program on his collection, including how he assembled it.**



*The Apollo 17 landing site near  
the Moon's Sea of Serenity, 1972*

*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.*

## **See Page 4 for Seed Library Programs**

### *Adult Take-Home Craft Begins Tuesday, 3/3*

Our take-home craft is back! This month's craft is Aromatherapy Pouches for the bath or shower. Stop by the Reference Desk for your craft. As supplies are limited, crafts are one per person.

### *Ukulele Group*

Wednesdays, 3/4 & 3/18, 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! If you are new to the group, please contact the Reference Desk to let us know you'll be attending.

### *Cooking Club*

#### *Let's Bake!*

*Luscious Pies to Celebrate "Pi Day"*  
Tuesday, 3/10, 6:30pm

#### **Registration required**

It's a perfect excuse to indulge in a flaky, golden crust filled with something delicious. Whether you're craving something sweet or leaning towards savory, preheat your oven, grab your rolling pin, and get ready to celebrate Pi Day the most delicious way we know how—with a pie, tart, pot pie, quiche, handheld pie, slab pie, you name it! Bring your creation and the recipe to share!

### *Classics Book Group*

Tuesday, 3/17, 1pm

#### **Registration required**

The Classics Book Group is back, at a new day and time! This month the group will be discussing *The Remains of the Day* by Kazuo Ishiguro. Copies of the book can be picked up at the Reference Desk.

### *The Craft of Writing Workshop "Haibun"*

Thursday, 3/19, 10:30am-12pm  
Online via Zoom

#### **Registration required**

Originally from Japan, Haibun has become more visible in English-language journals and books. Join us as we explore a genre that combines elements of prose and poetry.

### *Mornings with Maggie*

Wednesday, 3/25, 10:30-11:30am

Our friend Maggie will be back to spend some time with us and brighten our day! Maggie and her person, Kelly, are a therapy team certified through the Alliance of Therapy Dogs. No registration required.

### *Art Club*

Wednesday, 3/25, 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 quotation or a book or an image available to inspire a(n optional) response. This program is intended for patrons of all abilities.

### *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!

### *Hygge Bingo*

Our celebration of Hygge continues! We're in the second month of exploring Hygge with our bingo activity sheet. We hope it's provided you with many opportunities to get cozy and relax, whether at home or at the Library. We're now offering an additional prize for a second completed row. Once you have finished the entire sheet, stop by the Reference Desk for a bigger prize!

*Read, Build, Play with  
Community Connections*

Friday, 3/13, 10 AM

Ages 2-5

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



*Pokémon Club*

Wednesday, 3/18, 4:20 PM

Ages 4+

**Registration opens 3/11**

Hang out with other Pokémon trainers and make some Pokémon-inspired crafts!

*Graphic Novel Book Club*

Thursday, 3/19, 4:20 PM

Grades 4+

**Registration opens 3/5**

Come read and discuss *Tidesong* by Wendy Xu! We will also discuss art and how graphic novels are made. Once you register, visit the Children's Room to borrow your copy of the graphic novel.

*Kidding Around Yoga with  
Miss Nicole*

Friday, 3/27, 10 AM

Ages 2-5

**To register, please email  
[communityconnections@  
wachusettcfc.com](mailto:communityconnections@wachusettcfc.com)**

This is not your typical yoga class! Little ones learn some basic poses, with lots of music, movement, and literacy incorporated. Yoga helps children manage anxiety and improve emotional regulation, all while developing strength and flexibility!

# Children's & Teens' Programs

*LEGO Club*

Wednesday, 3/4 and 3/11

4:20 PM

Ages 6+

**Registration opens  
2/25 and 3/4**

Come build apartments for fantasy creatures for this month's Rainbow Acres LEGO display! This is Mr. Kevin's favorite engineering challenge!

*LEGO Jr.*

Thursday, 3/5

4:20 PM

Ages 4-5

**Registration opens 2/26**

Come help build fantasy vehicles for this month's Rainbow Acres LEGO display!



*All-Ages-Free-Play Friday*

Friday, 3/27

3:30-5 PM

Hang out in the Program Room for some board games and Nintendo Switch fun! Children under the age of 6 must be accompanied by an adult. Parents are welcome to join in the fun!



*Dungeons and Dragons One-Shot*

Tuesday, 3/31, 3:30-5:30 PM

Grades 6+

**Registration opens 3/24**

Join the party for a second-level adventure! This session is ideal for new and experienced players alike. You can come with your own first-level character or choose from a premade sheet.

*Lapsit Story Time*

Ages 2 and under

Thursdays at 10 AM

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*

Ages 3-6

Thursdays at 11 AM

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, along with Mr. Kevin's great sense of humor!



Want info about all the goings-on in the Children's Room sent right to your inbox? Sign up for our email list at [bit.ly/gflkidsemail](http://bit.ly/gflkidsemail).

You can also keep up with us on the

Gale Free Kids Facebook page at [galefreelibrary.org](http://galefreelibrary.org).

*April  
Community Art Show  
Call for Art*

---

April's Community Art Show theme is abundance. What does abundance mean to you? Cambridge Dictionary defines it as: "the quality of having what you want in life." Merriam Webster says: "an ample quantity; relative degree of plentifulness." What would you like to celebrate or recognize as abundant? What would you like to develop more of?

All ages and abilities welcome. Any 2D form of art is eligible: painting, poetry, photography. Unframed preferred; matted okay. Drop off artwork at the Reference Desk between April 1 and 7. Contact the Reference Desk with questions at 508-210-5569 or [galefreelibrary@gmail.com](mailto:galefreelibrary@gmail.com).



Many thanks to the Friends of Gale Free Library for sponsoring art in the Library.

---

# Seed Library

---

Did you know that, in addition to books, you can now check out seeds from the library? We are excited to announce the start of the Gale Free Seed Library on Monday, March 23! We will have packaged seeds, with accompanying information and growing instructions, that patrons can check out, take home, and enjoy. We'll have a variety of non-GMO vegetable, flower, and herb seeds to choose from (and we'll be adding new ones throughout the year, so stay tuned!). To help celebrate the launch of the Seed Library, we will also be offering programs to help participants learn more about gardening, as well as what can be done with your bounty. We can't wait to share this new service with you and learn more alongside you! To find out more, please stop by the Reference Desk (where the Seed Library will be located).

*Seed Saving Workshop*  
Saturday, 3/21  
11am-12:30pm

**Registration required**

"Saving Your Own Seeds" with Christie Higginbottom is a workshop for home gardeners in which she teaches botany and practical skills that will enable them to save the seeds of open-pollinated varieties of common garden vegetables. Topics to be covered will include selecting vegetables for seed saving, understanding pollination and isolation techniques, determining seed ripeness, and harvesting and preserving seeds. Christie has worked as a costumed interpreter at Old Sturbridge Village since 1981. From 1984 to 2004 she coordinated the historic horticulture program, researching, planning, and planting the re-created kitchen and flower gardens at the museum's historic households. Christie writes and consults on historic gardens and their interpretation, antique plants, and herb use. She also lectures at museums and historic sites, garden clubs, historical societies, colleges, and libraries.

*Landscaping and Gardening  
for Wildlife*  
with Mass Audubon  
Thursday, 3/26  
6-7pm

**Registration required**

Learn why landscaping and gardening for local wildlife are so important along with some simple, sustainable practices that help support wildlife.



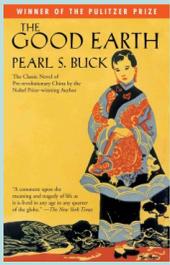
**GALE FREE  
SEED  
LIBRARY**

**we grow together**



---

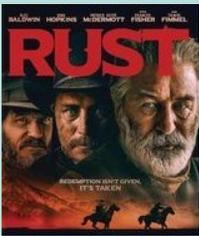
*For more information or to register for a program, please contact the Reference Desk at 508-210-5569 or email us at [galefreelibrary@gmail.com](mailto:galefreelibrary@gmail.com).*



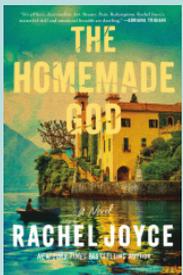
*The Good Earth*  
By Pearl S. Buck



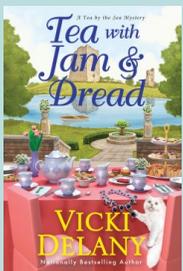
*Once a Midwife*  
By Patricia Harman



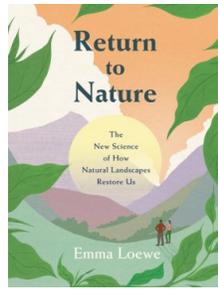
*Rust*  
DVD-2025



*The Homemade God*  
By Rachel Joyce



*Tea with Jam  
and Dread*  
By Vicki Delany



## *Return to Nature: The New Science of How Natural Landscapes Restore Us*

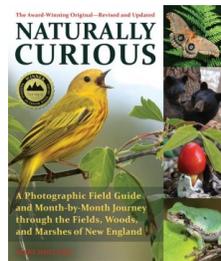
by Emma Loewe

*Return to Nature* by Emma Loewe is a practical guide to exploring the science-backed health benefits of interacting with different natural landscapes. The author believes that raising our awareness, reconnecting, and interacting with the natural environment reduce stress and improve our mental health.

There are eight chapters, each focusing on a different landscape--beaches, parks, mountains, rivers, cities, and so on. Loewe explains how nature improves physical and mental health. Science has known for many years that getting outside is good for us, but we have increasingly become disconnected from the earth, with approximately 87% of us spending most of our time indoors.

Each chapter offers specific, actionable ways to engage with the environment. Loewe also offers ideas for environmental stewardship to protect our landscape for future generations.

Emma Loewe is a freelance environmental journalist based in New York City. She covers the intersection of nature, climate, and human health. Her work has appeared in *National Geographic*, *Grist* (climate and environmental news), and *Outside* magazine. She received her B.A. in Environmental Science from Duke University.



## *Naturally Curious: A Photographic Field Guide and Month-by-Month Journey through the Fields, Woods, and Marshes of New England*

By Mary Holland

*Naturally Curious* by Mary Holland is a photographic field guide and month-by-month journey through the fields, woods, and marshes of New England. This book was first published in 2010, and

revised and updated in 2019 with over 100 new photos. In it, the author shares her abundance of natural-history knowledge.

The book is broken into monthly segments that give the reader a guided tour through the seasons. Holland provides nature notes about each month. She gives information about amphibians, reptiles, birds, mammals, invertebrates, plants, and fungi. The text is illustrated with beautiful color photos. The reader is given a closer look at species' actions in a particular month. This book is packed with information about courting, breeding, singing, burrowing, migrating, and catching food. Holland gets up close and personal with New England plant and animal life.

Mary Holland is a Vermont-based author, naturalist, and photographer. She is the author of numerous books for children and adults. She has developed nature programs for schools and organizations, including Massachusetts Audubon Society. She also writes and shares her photographs through her blog, <https://naturallycuriouswithmaryholland.wordpress.com>, which celebrated its 10th anniversary in 2025. The author also contributes a "Naturally Curious" page to each issue of *Northern Woodlands* magazine.

This book is well written with beautiful photographs. It will be referred to many times throughout the year, always with a curious interest in the natural world.