

Submitted by Anna Bognolo, Director

February 2026

Message from the Director

I don't think many of us will disagree that this past month of February was a challenging one. Repeated snowstorms seemed to be the icing on the cake, making many of us feel like hibernation might be the best plan. As the old saying goes, "If February give much snow, a fine summer it doth foreshow." If that's the case, we may have a beautiful summer ahead of us!

Despite the winter weather, you never would have known it by looking at the activity inside the library. What a busy month we had! Between the city's Winter Carnival, February vacation week, our regular weekly and monthly programs, several special one-time events, and the ongoing activity in the Makerspace, the library was truly buzzing.

Our door count from January to February tells the story. Even though February has only 28 days compared to January's 31, and despite a few weather-related closures, so many of you still came through our doors. It's a wonderful reminder of just how important the library is as a community gathering place.

And speaking of community, I would like to highlight several of the library's weekly and monthly recurring programs that are led by Greenfield residents who generously volunteer their time and expertise. These programs, offered freely for the benefit of others, are a wonderful example of the spirit that makes our library so special.

Our volunteer-led offerings include foreign language classes in French and Italian; two book groups (Personal Growth and Themed Reads); two writing groups (Free Write and Writing Workshop); all-ages Chess and Scrabble; Community Conversations; a drop-in knitting and crocheting group; and a ukulele group. Month after month, these dedicated volunteers show up and share their knowledge and enthusiasm, even on evenings when only a few participants are able to attend. Their consistency, generosity, and commitment are a true gift to our community.

While it is a short-term project, I would also be remiss if I didn't mention the wonderful *Dear Neighbor: Letters of Light During Dark Times initiative*. Community Conversations and the Greenfield Public Library invited community members to participate in this collaborative art project by writing letters to someone who has brought light into their lives, a friend, family member, mentor, neighbor, or even a stranger, especially during moments of personal or political darkness. In a time often marked by division and tension, the project offers a space to celebrate everyday kindness, quiet acts of care, and the people who help sustain us. Letter-writing tables are available throughout the library, and participants can leave their letters to be displayed on our growing wall of positivity.

The library's greatest strength is the community it fosters. Whether through programs, shared learning, creative projects, or simply a welcoming place to gather, the library continues to be a space where our community connects - even in the middle of a snowy February!

Thank you to the Friends of Greenfield Public Library who generously support and fund all of the Library's programs.



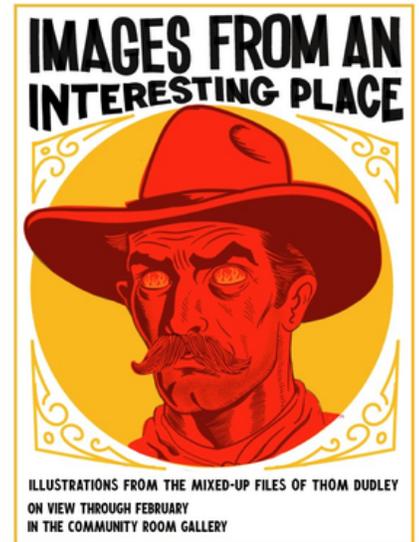
Professional Development:

In order to remain current and aware of happenings inside librarianship and adjacent professions, GPL staff participate in a variety of professional development opportunities. From monthly committee meetings to one-off training, staff are committed to ensuring they stay up-to-date and have the skills needed to fulfill their job duties and serve our community. We thank the Greenfield Public Library Foundation for their continued support of staff professional development.

Following are some of the professional development trainings that GPL staff have participated in the past month:

- **Library Freedom Institute (LFI):** (LFI) is a training program for library workers focused on privacy, intellectual freedom, and critical technology. It teaches librarians the skills necessary to support information democracy in the 21st Century, from educating community members to installing privacy software to influencing local policy. The program started in February and will continue for 12 weeks. (Jeremiah Rood has been selected for this program)
- **Zine Thesaurus Collective Editathon+Management Meeting** (Jesse Cole)
- **Core Connections: Supporting Aging Populations** (Pamela McBride)
- **EOHLC Franklin/ Hampshire County Fair Housing Listening Session** (Pamela McBride)
- **FCRN Network Meeting** (Pamela McBride)
- **Downtown Wayfinding Focus Group** (Anna Bognolo)
- **MA Board of Library Commissioners (MBLC) Focus Group** (Anna Bognolo)
- **MA Library Association (MLA) Listening Tour** (Anna Bognolo)
- **MA Department of Health: Extreme Heat webinar** (Anna Bognolo, Pamela McBride)
- **Frontline Staff: Balancing Challenges from Patrons to Workplace Expectations** (Anna Bognolo)

In Our Galleries:



IF I CAN PAINT, YOU CAN TOO



Landscapes by Fran Corriveau

"The world is ceaselessly beautiful in all its different aspects and I'm lucky enough to see it with my new artist's eyes."

Artist's Reception:
Wednesday, Feb 11
2:30-4:30pm

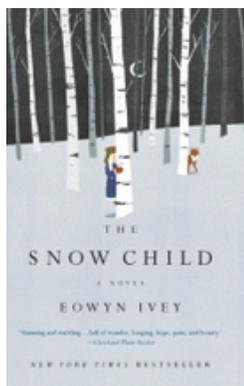
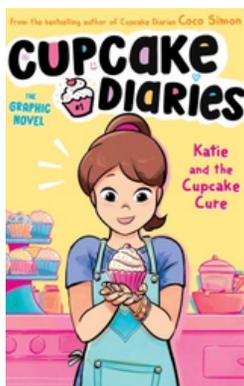
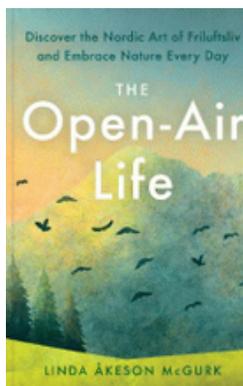
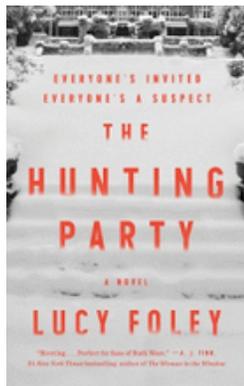
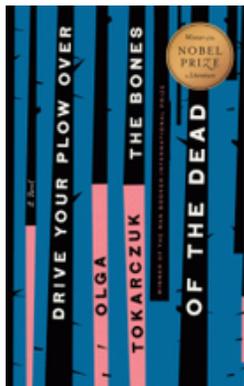
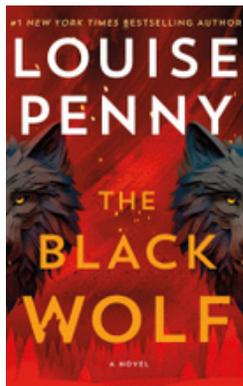
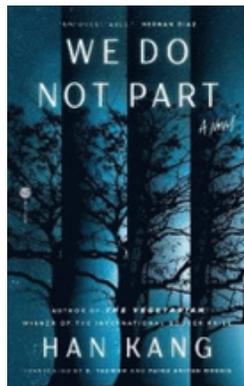
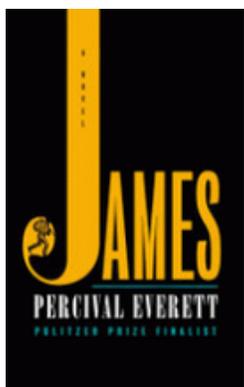
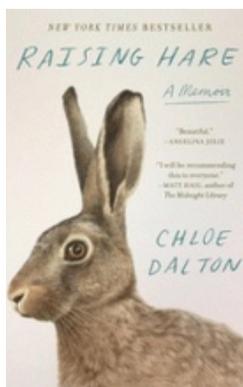
On exhibit through February in the Conference Room Gallery



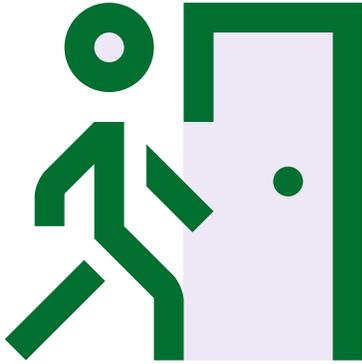
Some February Highlights

Circulation:

- Patron borrowing: 20,497
- Newly added materials: 335
- Top borrowed titles:



Statistical Highlights (library usage):



MONTHLY DOOR COUNT

Total: 12,723



MONTHLY STUDY ROOM USAGE COUNT

Total: 352



MONTHLY WIRELESS USAGE

Total: 2,779

- Number of library sponsored events: 24
- All non-library sponsored events: 17

New Faces in the Library: ≡Welcome≡

The library partners with several local organizations to provide opportunities for work experience while also supporting a variety of projects that help keep the library running smoothly. Current partnerships include MassHire (with an intern in our Teen Room), the Greenfield Council on Aging's Senior Tax Work-Off Program, the GCC Work-Study Program (one student), and Simmons University's School of Library and Information Science (one student internship in the Local History Room).

Since January, we have welcomed Mac, Irene, Kevin, and Nick to the library. While their time with us is temporary, we greatly appreciate the energy, skills, and contributions they bring to our work.

Team Library News:

Friend's Bingo Fundraiser!

The Friends' Bingo Fundraiser, held at the Moose Club on Saturday, February 1, was a huge success—and a lot of fun! Thank you to everyone who participated and supported the Friends' fundraising efforts. The funds raised will help sponsor library programs in FY2027.

The Friends of Greenfield Public Library present a



15	20	1	10	19	19	10	19
25	44	40	18	63	63	18	63
37	60	★	13	30	0	13	30
33	5	27	48	53	9	48	53
21	70	57	68	56	8	56	8

BINGO NIGHT FUNDRAISER

- HUGE BASKET RAFFLE!
- CASH PRIZES!
- CASH BAR!
- BYO SNACKS!
- NO OUTSIDE DRINKS

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 7
DOORS OPEN @ 5:30, BINGO @ 6:30
ELKS CLUB, 3 CHURCH ST



proceeds support the programming at Greenfield Public Library



In the News:

Photo Coloring Crew (Photo of two teens coloring in the Teen Room).

Greenfield Recorder, February 11, 2026

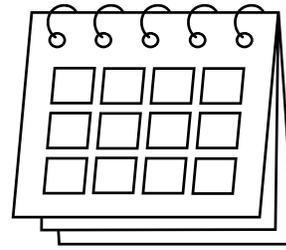
From neural pathways to digital play: Greenfield Public Library showcases work by two city residents: Fran Corriveau displays paintings; Thom Dudley offers graphic design portfolio Greenfield Recorder, February 20, 2026



McKenzie Webb, 13, and Kaidence Sullivan, 14, both of Greenfield, color in the Teen Room of the Greenfield Public Library on Wednesday.

Credit: HALEY BASTARACHE / For the Recorder

Upcoming Events of Note:



Here are some highlights for March

More details available on our calendar at greenfieldpubliclibrary.org

GREENFIELD PUBLIC LIBRARY PRESENTS

MAKE A ZINE WITH LOOKY HERE!

MONDAY MAR 2
6 PM
MAKERSPACE

Join Greenfield's Looky Here at the library for a colorful zine workshop!

All supplies provided. Ages 13+. Pre-register with the QR Code or at bit.ly/greenfieldzineclub.

What's a zine again?
A zine is a DIY print work, often on a subject that falls outside of traditional publishing.

SOMEWHERE OVER THE RAINBOW

a color theory class with the Kangaroo Dyer!

Calling all creatives, quilters, painters, illustrators, basically anyone who loves to create with color!

Spend a fun evening playing with a variety of art materials on paper. Along the way you will learn the basics of Color Theory

Wednesday March 11
5:30 - 7:00 pm

Pre-registration recommended:
greenfieldpl.libcal.com/event/16466798

Hot Glue Crew

Join us once a month for a dive into seasonal projects and hands-on crafts.

Carboard Insects

Whether you're a beginner or an experienced crafter, you'll enjoy learning new techniques, sharing ideas, and creating something unique to take home. Come for the crafts, stay for the community!

Monday March 23
6-7:30pm

Pre-registration recommended:
greenfieldpl.libcal.com/event/15049194

GELLI PLATE PRINTMAKING

Wednesday, March 25
5:30 to 7:00 pm

Gelli Printing is part skill and part serendipity. All skill levels welcome! You will learn the basics and leave with skills to experiment on your own. All materials will be supplied.

Seating is limited, pre-registration required:
greenfieldpl.libcal.com/event/16467056
or contact
librarian Francaia at 432-772-3544 x5120

LEARN TO PLAY DUNGEONS & DRAGONS WITH DAN

PLAY A MINI CAMPAIGN!
CAST SPELLS!
FIGHT MONSTERS!
LEARN HOW TO DM!

MEETS 4 WEEKS IN MARCH*
SPACE IS LIMITED. PICK A SESSION:

MONDAYS 4:30-6:30
3/2, 3/9, 3/16, 3/23
REGISTER HERE: greenfieldpl.libcal.com/event/16355566

FRIDAYS 2:30-4:30
3/6, 3/13, 3/27, 4/3
REGISTER HERE: greenfieldpl.libcal.com/event/16360272

PLAYERS MUST ATTEND EVERY SESSION

INTENDED FOR YOUTH AGES 10-12

MAKE A GIMP BRACELET

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 15
3:30-4:30PM
in the children's activity room

Great for ages 6-12!

GPL Children's Room presents:

LOCAL AUTHOR STORYTIME WITH SYLVIA WETHERBY

Listen to the author and illustrator read from her book *Oak Squirrels*.

Enjoy a craft afterward and a book sale and signing treat for ages 4-6

SATURDAY, MARCH 7
10:30AM

During the Winter Farmers' Market!

BABY WEARING MEETUPS

Peer-led support, education, and community for carrier-curious caregivers in Western MA.

Conversations of children aged 0-3, who won't fit you and your little ones! Jennifer Hynes and Daniela Williams will talk through off with a brief introduction, then work your way through the best of carrier use and OBA. You'll even get to try out a carrier before you buy! Everyone is welcome, no experience necessary!

Greenfield Public Library in the children's activity room from 10-11:30
Monday October 6th
Monday December 10th
Monday March 26th, 2024
Monday May 13th, 2024

Find our Facebook group: www.facebook.com/groups/WesternMABabyWearing

TEEN GRAPHIC NOVEL BOOK CLUB

FRIDAY, MAR 27
3:30-4:30

Copies of the book available to check out in the Teen Room!

CELEBRATE LOCAL AUTHORS

Tuesday, March 24
6:00pm

Read what your neighbors are writing!

Janet MacFayden, author of *Love Letters to the Wild*

"You grateful for this machine, this call to attention."
— Elizabeth Bradfield, author of *SOYAB*

Soil Blocking Workshop

Friday, March 20, 2-4 p.m., Makerspace

Thinking about starting some seeds indoors? Join us for a workshop with Paulina Borrego from UMass Mass Aggie Seed Library and learn about the benefits of soil blocking. All materials will be supplied to make a few soil blocks for you to take home and begin starting seeds indoors. Space is limited to 10 participants. Registration required. For more information, contact Nancy Little nancy.little@greenfield.ma.gov

Use the QR code to register!

Cook Book Club

Take a cook book on a test drive!

smitten kitchen EVERY DAY
A Cookbook for Everyone
by Deb Perelman

Check out a copy of "smitten kitchen EVERY DAY" by Deb Perelman
Choose a recipe you'd like to make
Bring it to our Cook Book Club Potluck on **Monday, March 16**
6:00 - 7:30 pm

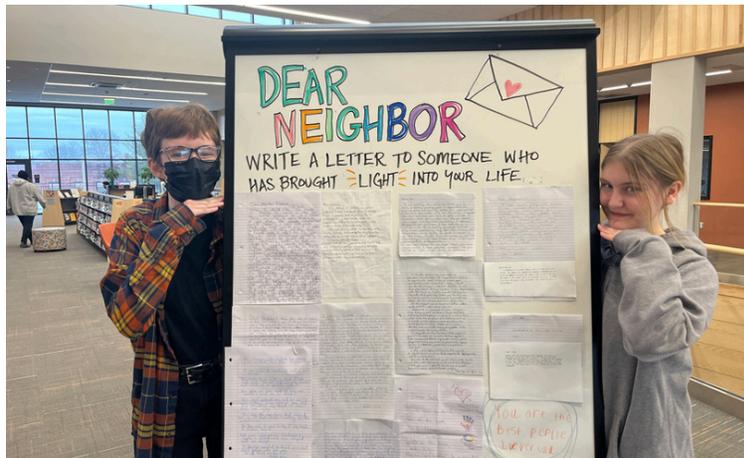
Space is limited! And we need to know what you'll be cooking. Pre-register here: greenfieldpl.libcal.com/event/15951762

Let's break bread together!

Library Snapshots:



Winter Carnival Weekend Craft Project in the Makerspace



Local Teens who created the Dear Neighbor Program



Needleworking with Danielle



Lego Fest during School vacation week!



Italian class with Monica



Therapy Dogs visit in the childrens room