

Submitted by Anna Bognolo, Director

July & August 2025

Message from the Director

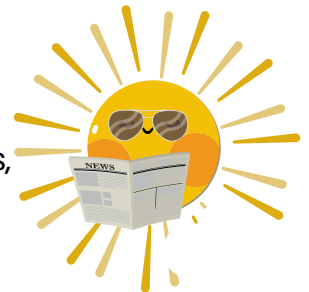
As summer winds down and the school year begins, we're embracing the changing seasons and the start of a new fiscal year with excitement and gratitude. This summer was filled with energy, learning, and community, and we were thrilled by the incredible participation in our Summer Reading Program and many other events.

In this report, you'll find highlights from a season full of activity—we hope you enjoyed it as much as we did! Looking ahead, we're eager to see what the new year will bring.

We're also beginning the process of developing a new strategic plan to guide the future of the library. We hope you'll join us in shaping what's next, stay tuned for opportunities to get involved!

SUMMER READING 2025 Wrap UP!

The Summer 2025 Reading Program was a great success across all age groups, with strong participation and enthusiastic engagement from the community.



ADULT SUMMER READING

Over 1,000 adults participated in this year's program in various ways—by reading our weekly Camp Readmore Notes, attending the Drone Summer event, or engaging with us online. The high level of involvement showed just how valuable these offerings are to our community during the **summer months**.

TEEN SUMMER READING

This was a record-breaking year for teen participation. Many teens signed up at our kickoff party on the last day of school, June 13. Over the summer, teens logged their reading 481 times. We recognized six "Readers of the Week" and one Grand Prize Winner, who received a Franklin County Fair prize pack, always a popular and effective incentive.

The teen room became a daily destination for many, especially as a cool space to beat the heat. Each day at noon, teens would walk across the street to the YMCA to pick up bag lunches, made possible by the Summer Eats program. This created a nice rhythm and reliable structure that encouraged ongoing library use.

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



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SUMMER READING 2025 Wrap UP cont. !

CHILDREN'S SUMMER READING

The Children's Summer Reading Program was both highly successful and a lot of fun. Thanks to collaboration with the local elementary school librarian, we were able to promote the program directly to students. As a result, we had 253 sign-ups, an increase of nearly 70 participants from last year!!

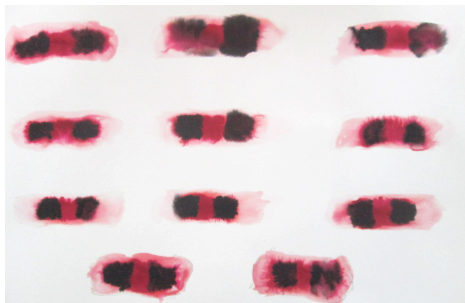
Attendance at other summer programs, such as crafts and dog visits, also benefited from this outreach.

In the library, kids enjoyed decorating our new Mario Brothers-themed bulletin board with stickers as they tracked their reading progress. We handed out around 300 ice cream coupons (twice as many as last year) for kids who read for 10 and 20 days. Not only did participation increase, but more children stayed engaged through to the reward milestones.

Another highlight was the addition of large-scale games in the Children's Room, including giant Connect 4, giant Sorry!, and oversized playing cards. Families had a wonderful time using them, especially playing giant Uno, which brought a lot of smiles and laughter.

In Our Galleries

WOOLY BEAR FLAGS:



COLLECTED WORKS 2020 - 2025
Mixed Media by Jeremy Ferris

Aug./Sept. 2025

in the Conference Room Gallery
Greenfield Public Library



FRANKLIN COUNTY FAIR MUSEUM



On display in the Local History Room July & August

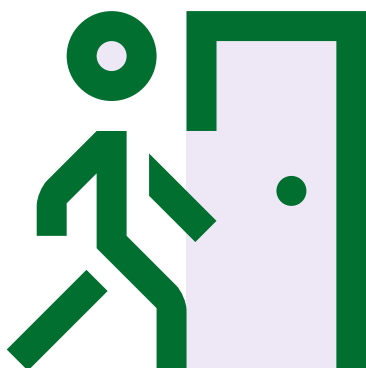
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July & August Program Highlights

- **Information Sessions:** In July and August, 14 local organizations tabled at the Library, offering information to over 150 members of our community on issues including health and human services, career and training opportunities, housing and energy efficiency, recycling and city grant opportunities.
- **Tech Help Sessions:** The Information Services team helped 175 people with technology issues
- **Drop-in Tech Help with Rich Valden, United Way's Digital Navigator:** over 30 people attended the Library's weekly drop-in program with Rich Valden
- **Epic The Musical Party:** Teens dressed up as their favorite Greek Gods and Goddesses, competed in a trivia challenge, ate theme foods and created crafts all based on Epic, the viral musical sensation based on *The Odyssey*. This program was created by our teen intern, Mac.
- **Teen Back to School Resource Fair:** On August 19 over two dozen youth serving organizations came to the library to ensure that teens enter the new school year feeling relaxed, confident and aware of resources available to them. Pizza was served and school supplies were given away as well.
- **Monthly Mending Clinic:** Starting July 15, the library launched its Monthly Mending Clinic, led by Information Services Librarian Nancy Little and longtime library volunteer Marianne Snow. Community members are invited to bring in an item that needs repair and receive hands-on coaching on how to fix it. Whether it's a torn shirt, a snagged sweater, or a button that won't stay on — we're here to help! Join us at the GPL Makerspace on the third Tuesday of each month, from 2:00 – 4:00 PM. Bring your item, and let us brainstorm a solution together. We'll help you figure out the best approach — and maybe even get you started on the repair. We provide: Sewing machines, Hand-sewing tools, Knitting supplies and tools. Give your beloved items a second life!

Statistical Highlights (library usage):



MONTHLY DOOR COUNT

Total July: 14,203

Total August: 12,708



MONTHLY STUDY ROOM USAGE COUNT

Total July: 369

Total August: 298



MONTHLY WIRELESS USAGE

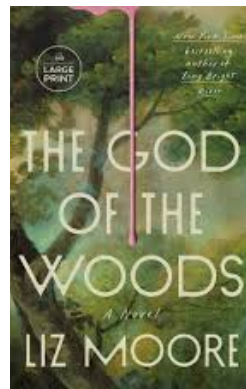
Total July: 2,538

Total August: 2,522

- **Number of library sponsored events:** July: 26; August 22
- **All non-library sponsored events:** July: 18; August: 14

Circulation:

- Patron borrowing: 23,305
- Newly added materials: 366
- Top borrowed titles:



Staff News:

≡Welcome≡

We're happy to welcome **Danielle (Dany) Bradley** to the library team! Dany is our newest part-time staff member, covering evenings and Saturdays. Originally from Florida, she now calls Western Mass home. Her creative and critical work appears or is forthcoming in *Colorado Review*, *Meridians: feminism, race, transnationalism*, *Rican Writings*, and the *South Florida Poetry Journal*, among others. She enjoys plotless literary fiction, baking, and tax law. If you don't see her at the desk, she's probably happily lost in the stacks.

We were lucky to have a Teen Room Intern this summer, **Mac Clark**, as part of MassHire's Youthworks program. Mac, a 2025 GHS graduate, is a longtime teen room volunteer and has been covering the room in evenings and weekends.

Team Library News:



Friend's Restaurant Raffle!!

Help support the **Friends of the Greenfield Public Library** and your favorite local restaurants by entering the annual **Taste of the Towns Restaurant Raffle**. You could win up to \$1350 worth of restaurant gift certificates! This is a great opportunity to support both our local restaurants and our community library during these challenging times. There are two prize packages available. Each package has nine gift certificates worth \$75, a total package value of \$675! Raffle tickets are 1 for \$5, 3 for \$10 or 7 for \$20. Tickets can be purchased at the Greenfield Public Library, The Franklin County Fair, the YMCA, and Federal Street Books.

For more information about the Taste of the Towns Restaurant Raffle, visit <https://www.facebook.com/FriendsGPL>

This raffle, a fundraiser of the Friends of the Greenfield Public Library, is open to the public. The winners will be chosen at the **Winter Farmers' Market on Saturday, December 6, 2025**.

Community Feedback:



"Thank you for hosting community series with info/vendors about Mass Save and so much more!"

"The people who work there are so nice and helpful and make sure that everyone feels welcome. The atmosphere is inviting to all and the selection of books and other media gives everyone from all backgrounds, religions, and orientations, something to absorb." (A patron's response to the question of the week "What do you think are some of GPL's greatest strengths as a library or a community?")

Facilities Updates:

- In late July, the Library and the City of Greenfield received exciting news: the new library building has been awarded LEED Silver Certification! LEED, which stands for *Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design*, is a globally recognized certification program developed by the U.S. Green Building Council. It evaluates buildings on a range of sustainability and efficiency criteria, including energy use, water conservation, materials selection, indoor environmental quality, and overall environmental impact. Achieving LEED Silver means the Greenfield Public Library meets high standards for environmental performance and sustainability. Along with the honor of certification, the library was awarded a financial incentive totaling \$210,902. Mayor Desorgher has recommended that this award be applied toward offsetting the debt incurred by the library construction project, helping to reduce the financial burden on the city and its residents.
- At the August 20th City Council meeting, Mayor Desorgher announced that the Library's solar panels will be replaced and properly fitted in the coming months, with the work to be completed by PV Squared. The Mayor also noted that the exterior digital sign is being addressed, and we hope to have plans for a fully functioning replacement soon.

In the News:

[Mending Clinic](#)

[The David Wells Bell](#)

[MBLC library funding cuts](#)

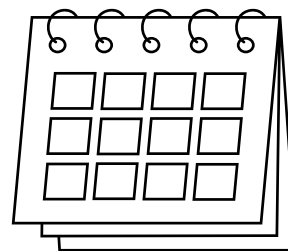
[Letter to the editor: Mending Clinic Marguerite Willis](#)

[Opinion: Clinging to History](#)

[Teen Back to School Resource Fair](#)



Upcoming Events of Note:



Here are some highlights for September:

- **Tech Lending Kits** will be available beginning September 2nd. The kit includes a laptop or Chromebook with a hotspot loaned out for two weeks. This initiative is funded through Alliance for Digital Equity and Federal Grant.
- **Candidate Meet & Greet, Saturday, September 6, 10:30 am - 12:30 pm** Stop by the Library's Community Meeting Room to ask questions and learn more about the credentials and platforms of candidates running in the September 9, 2025 Preliminary Election. All candidates running for office in Greenfield have been invited.
- **International Crochet Day, Friday, September 12, 9:30 am - 5:00 pm** Bring your project and a lawn chair and join other crocheters on the front patio for our day long Crochet-In, weather permitting; you are also welcome to find a comfy chair inside! In addition to crocheting anywhere in and around the library, you can learn to crochet an adorable octopus! Join crocheter Diane Levine for a special crochet class on Friday, September 12, from 2:00 - 4:00 pm, and learn how to crochet an Amigurumi octopus.
- **Resumania!, Monday, September 29, 10:00 am - 12:00 pm** Career Counselors and Resume Experts from the MassHire Franklin Hampshire Career Center will be at the Greenfield Public Library to help you finetune or craft a resume. Bring your printed resume to get quick tips, suggestions, and on-the-spot, superfast feedback. No appointment is necessary, and walk-ins are welcome.
- **FreeWrite Women's Writing in Recovery Group, Tuesday, September 30, 6:30 pm** Join FreeWrite of Franklin County's Amie Hyson and Gretchen Krull and other area women in our community for this creative writing workshop which encourages each participant to explore their unique voice through the written word on Tuesday nights at 6:30 pm. FreeWrite believes that there is no wrong way to write, that each of us has a unique voice and that bringing that voice to life, on the page, helps us to heal & grow. No experience necessary, come as you are and meet writers in our community! Supplies will be provided. This program is free and open to all who identify as women in recovery.

More details available on our calendar at greenfieldpubliclibrary.org

Library Snapshots:



Summer Eats - Tuesday dinners at the Library



Adult Summer Reading Drone Event!



Mending Clinic



Teen "Back to School" Resource Fair



Pamela and Delia at Fridays on the Common
"Bike, Stroller and Wagon Parade" pop-up



A (very) young reader in the making!