

Submitted by Anna Bognolo, Director

May 2025

## May Program Highlights

The library provides space for a variety of activities each month. Library staff organize and lead many of the events, which are made possible by the Friends of the Greenfield Public Library's generous sponsorship, while other events are arranged by outside individuals and organizations. Here's a quick look at *just a few* of the past month's library-sponsored activities:

### MAKERSPACE SPRING ROUNDHOUSE SERIES

*These classes are sponsored by the Franklin County Fair and taught by local crafters:*

**Simple Rugmaking** Wednesday, 5/7

**Sewing Patterns Demystified  
(a lecture)** Monday, 5/12

**Shrinky Dink Jewelry** Thursday, 5/15

**Felted Bees** Saturday, 5/17

**Make a Miniature Coffee Table  
(dollhouse sized)** Wednesday, 5/21

**Collage Shadow Boxes** Friday, 5/30

### COMMON SEED PROJECT

Inspired by Common Read projects, the Common Seed project involves a community of home gardeners all growing a common seed, and learning seed saving practices. The inaugural seed is the Provider green bean, known for being easy to grow, either in garden beds, raised beds, or containers. Provider beans can be planted 1-2 weeks before the last frost of spring, generally the 3rd or 4th week of May in Western Massachusetts.

Provider bean seed kits were available at the Information Services Desk the first week in May. Thirty were distributed!

### INFORMATION SESSIONS IN THE MAIN LOBBY

**Master Gardener's Association  
Info & Soil Testing** Saturday, 5/3

**MassHire Employer Spotlight:  
Nam's Taekwondo** Thursday, 5/15

**Greenfield Community College** Tuesday, 5/20

**Greenfield Recycling Program** Tuesday, 5/20

**Homeworks Energy** Tues, 5/20 & Thurs, 5/29

**LifePath** Thursday, 5/22

**Franklin County Regional Housing and  
Redevelopment Authority** Thursday, 5/22

### IN THE CHILDRENS ROOM

**Bead Suncatchers** Wednesday, 5/7

**Stuffie Sleepover** Monday, 5/12

**Local Author: Jessica Montalvo-Jackson**  
*Mimi Can't Camouflage* and *The Otter in Charge*  
Saturday, 5/17

**Garden Rock Painting** Tuesday, 5/20

**Paper Flower Making** Thursday, 5/22

### FRIENDS BOOK SALE

Saturday, 5/10

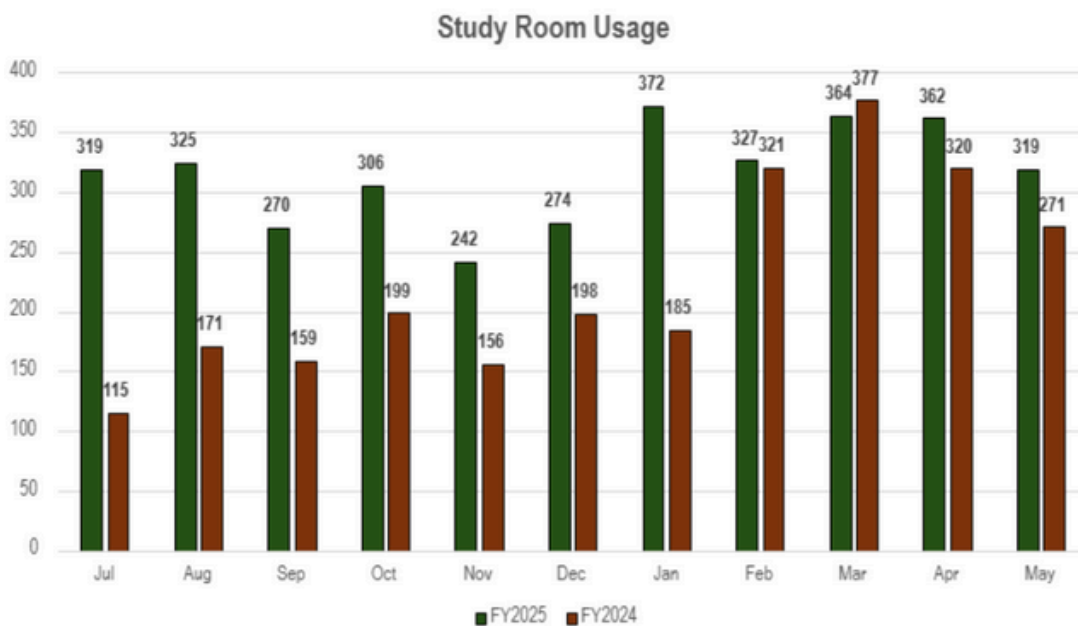
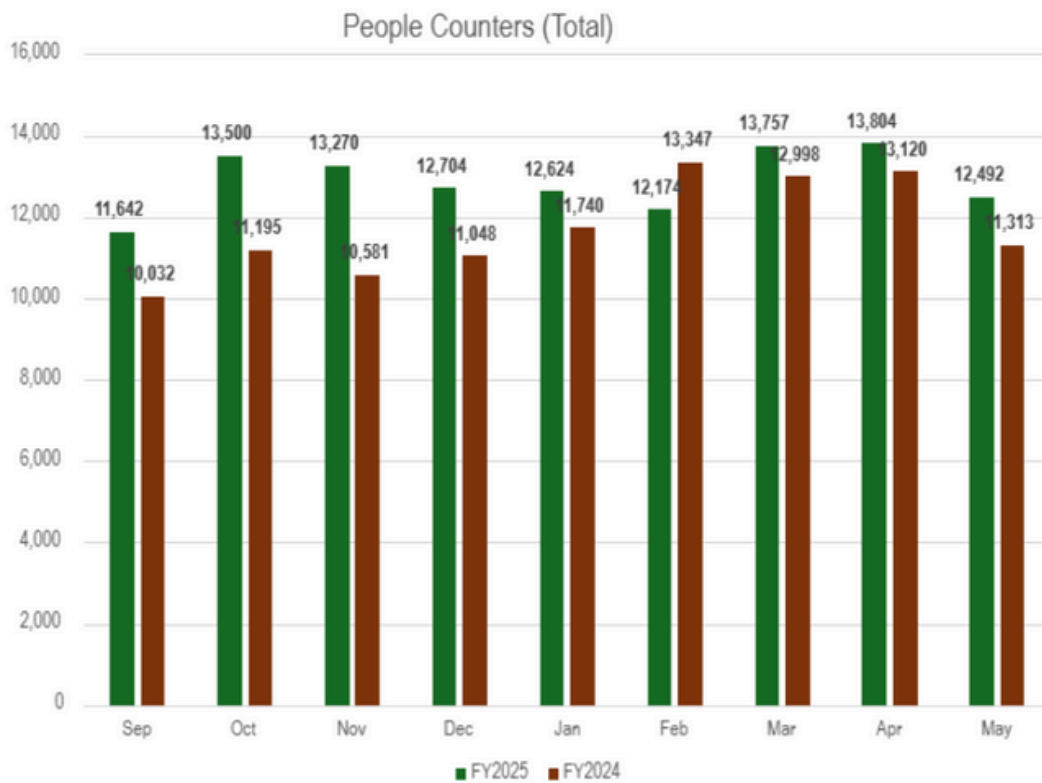
Funds earned from Friends book sales support our library programming. The next book sale will be in the fall.

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

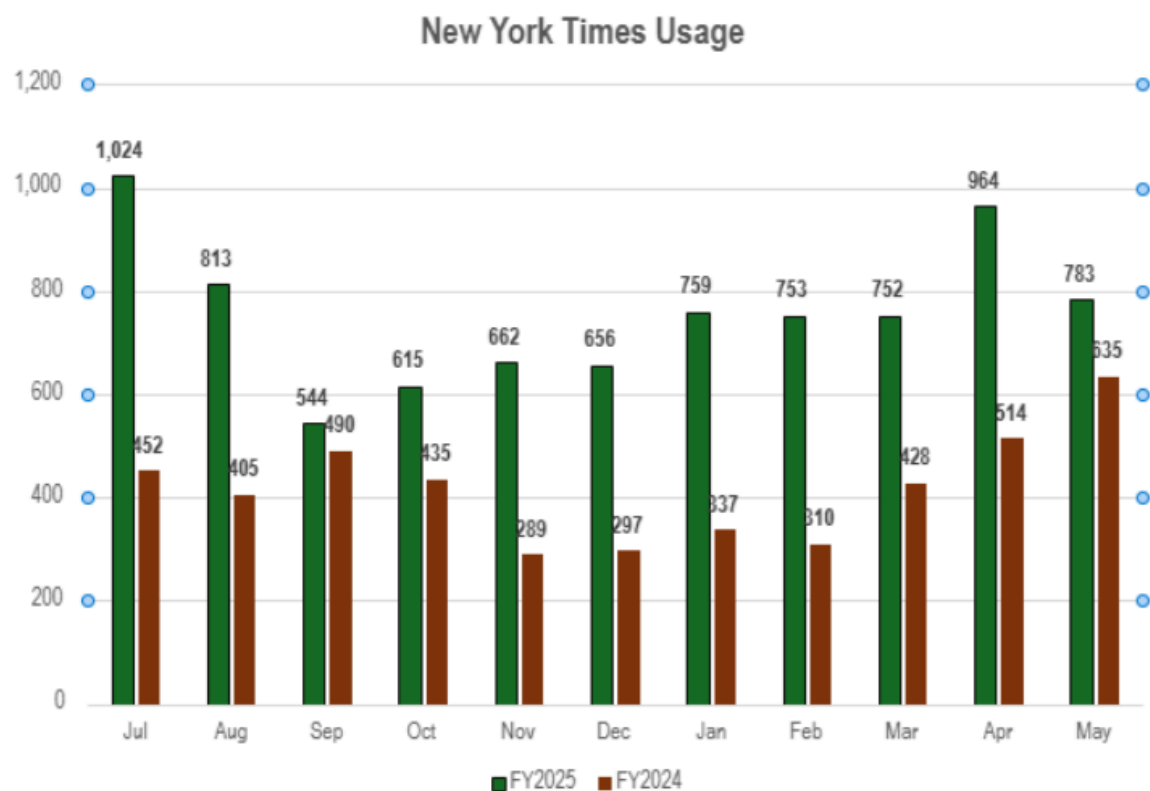
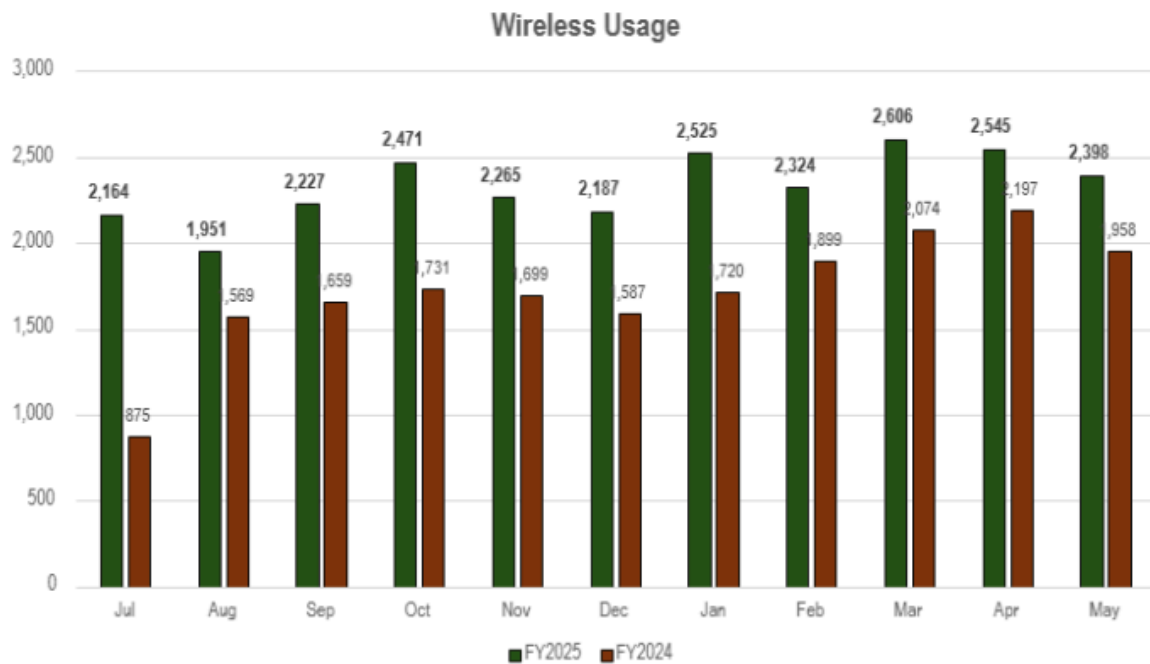


- **Number of library sponsored events: 128**
- **Number of attendees at library sponsored events: 402**
- **All non-library sponsored events: 16**

# Statistical Highlights (library usage):



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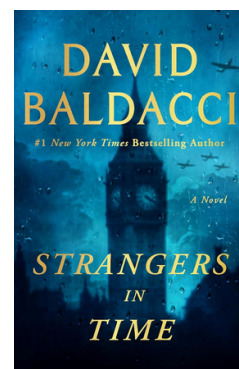
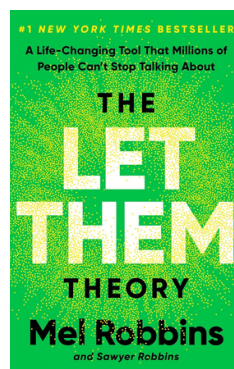
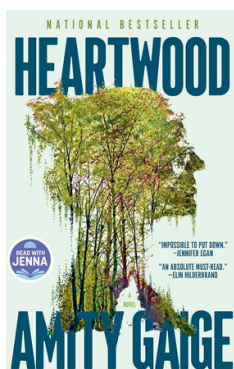
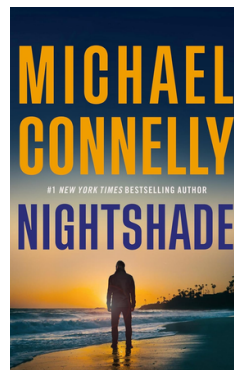
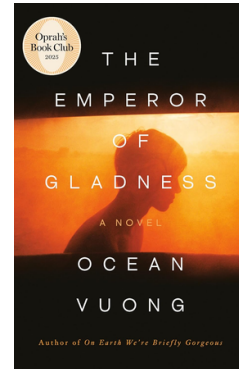
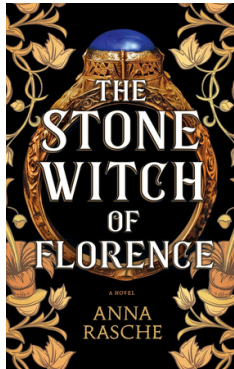


# Circulation:

- Patron borrowing: 15,676 items
- Newly added materials: 549
- Top borrowed titles:



GPL Bookdrop on Memorial Day!



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## **Staff News:**

It's wonderful to share that we've successfully filled the part-time library assistant position (19.5 hours per week) internally. Marko Packard, who became part of our team earlier this year, is transitioning into this role, previously held by Tarah Dunn. We're delighted to have Marko, an experienced librarian, increase his hours with us. Besides assisting patrons with borrowing and information services, Marko will now also be managing our music collection.

## **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:

- Massachusetts Library System Reader's Advisory Basics (Nancy Little, May 15, 2025)
- CWMars Directors and FY26 Funding (Anna Bognolo, May 8, 2025)
- American Association of School Libraries Public Library and Independent School Collaborations (Anna Bognolo, Guest speaker, May 13, 2025)
- Massachusetts Library System Strategic Planning Process (Anna Bognolo, May 23, 2025)
- Massachusetts Board of Library Commissioners FY26 Budget update (Anna Bognolo May 29, 2025)
- Mass Teen Choice Book Award Marketing Committee Summer Publicity Meeting (Francesca Passiglia, May 28, 2025)
- FRCOG Community Supports for Young People (CSYP) monthly meeting (Francesca Passiglia, May 21, 2025).
- Libraries as Cooling Centers (Pamela McBride, Anna Bognolo, May 6, 2025)
- How to Find (almost) Anything about Transportation (Pamela McBride, May 27, 2025)
- Community Based Well Being or "Social Prescribing" in Libraries (Pamela McBride, May 28, 2025)
- FCRN Networking Meeting (Pamela McBride, May 1, 2025)
- Greenfield Unhoused Community Ad-Hoc Committee (Pamela McBride, May 22, 2025)

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## Facilities Updates:

Exciting News! The Greenfield Public Library Foundation's generous donation of a new public photocopier/printer was successfully installed in late May. It's been a learning curve for everyone, but we've received great feedback on this much-needed upgrade. Key improvements include card payment and color printing options. To cover associated costs, we've slightly increased prices, but we remain the most affordable local option. Thanks again to the Foundation from the staff and public! Come check out the new equipment if you haven't already.

Our second floor balcony reopened earlier this month and is being very much enjoyed by community members.

Unfortunately, the long awaited Children's room mural has been delayed! We are working on a new date. Stay tuned!

## Community Feedback:

This month, we had a number of Greenfield residents write into the Greenfield Recorder about their appreciation for the Greenfield Public Library. Thank you to Mitch Anthony and Lew La Chance for their vote of confidence! You can read their letters on the Greenfield Recorder website or at the library.

A very appreciative patron sent this to our staff email: *A Very Special Thank You to the staff member who helped me today. I have low vision and great difficulty with the renewal of my passport. Her voice just brought me to a place where all things are possible. She proceeded to help me complete necessary forms and circumvent the materials I didn't need. Thank You! You are the reason people live here in Greenfield. People helping People.*

## Other:

On May 19, 2025, the Greenfield Public Library in collaboration with the Greenfield Garden Cinema, hosted a viewing of the documentary Free for All: The Public Library. We are deeply grateful for the overwhelming support shown by the 80+ attendees who participated in the film screening and subsequent panel discussion. Their insightful questions demonstrated a keen interest in the vital work of our public library and its dedicated staff. We extend our sincere thanks to Isaac Maas and the staff of the Greenfield Garden Cinema and the esteemed panelists, who represented some of Franklin County's town libraries, the state's board of library commissioners, and the dean of the Simmons University library program, for generously sharing their expertise and engaging with the audience.

Finally, we thank the Greenfield Recorder for their article highlighting the event. You can read that [here](#).



# Library Snapshots:



Patrons busy making felted bees in the makerspace during the city's Bee-fest



Tomato plants made available to patrons courtesy of Deerfield Academy



Zine-making workshop with Jesse



Bee-fest button making at the library's pop-up at the Greenfield Farmer's Market



Federal Street students field trip to the library!



Braided rug class in the makerspace



# Upcoming Events of Note:

Here are some highlights for June. More details available on our calendar

- Summer Reading Programs
- Franklin County Pride Events and Programs
- Community Conversations 413
- World Wide Knit Day & Yarn Exchange
- Pokemon Afternoon
- Resumania!
- Wednesday Resources for Teens (Young Adult Career Counselors from MassHire)
- Local Author Talk with Elaine Reardon

GPL Summer Reading Programs for all ages begin June 13:



**LEVEL UP AT YOUR LIBRARY**  
Fun with puzzles and games!

**SAVE MARIO!**  
Have you heard? Mario has been captured and imprisoned in Bowser's castle! Luigi, Princess Peach, Toad, and Toadette are determined to save their friend, but they need YOUR help.

In addition to earning ice cream coupons by reading, you will also get stickers to help Mario's friends find their way to Bowser's castle on our story bulletin board. Please help save Mario!

**GPL Children's Summer Reading Program 2025**  
June 13-July 26

**How does it work?**

- Sign up (kids ages 0-12)
- Track days read on a paper tracker
- EVERYONE can earn up to TWO ice cream coupons
- WORK TOGETHER TO SAVE MARIO!

**How do I sign up my child?**

- Use the QR code, sign up at the library, or online at [greenfieldpubliclibrary.org](https://greenfieldpubliclibrary.org) starting June 13.

**Sign up and start June 13th!**

**Greenfield PUBLIC LIBRARY** **iREAD**

This program is not sponsored by Greenfield Public Schools



**LEVEL UP AT YOUR LIBRARY**  
**READ BOOKS!**  
Plus fun and games all summer long!

**WIN PRIZES!**  
Become Reader of the Week!

**TEEN SUMMER READING**  
JUNE 13 TO JULY 26

Teens ages 12+ can sign up in the teen room beginning June 13. Receive a summer reading swag bag which includes an ice cream coupon for Ice Cream Alley and so much more!

**Read just 15 minutes a day!**

**Greenfield PUBLIC LIBRARY** **iREAD**

Our summer reading program is generously funded by Greenfield Public Schools. This program is not sponsored by Greenfield Public Schools



**ADULT SUMMER READING**

**CAMP READMORE**

Dewey go together? I think so!

**What You'll Find:**

- Read & Earn Badges
- Solve Puzzles & Riddles
- Journey on the Autumn Lands Map
- Drones & RC Car Race: July 16
- Weekly Games & Trivia

**Why You Should Come:**

- Chills, Thrills & Fun
- Read more books
- Share Summer Moments

**How to join:**

- Sign Up Today
- Grab Your Log & Tracker
- Read, Solve, Have Fun
- Track Progress on the Map
- Win a Kindle Fire!

**Sign Up**

**JUNE 13TH - JULY 26TH**  
Greenfield Public Library

**Join us for Chills & Thrills this summer!**

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