

Submitted by Anna Bognolo, Director

September & October 2025

Message from the Director



Autumn brings a shift in gears for just about everyone, including your public library! As the days grow shorter and the temperatures drop, we're finding new ways to connect with our community and help make the darker, colder months a little brighter.

For us, fall means the return of creative displays, exciting programs, and the chance to try new things. In this report, you'll find highlights from our September and October events and a glimpse of what's ahead.

As always, your feedback is incredibly valuable and deeply appreciated. We'd love to hear your thoughts on our programs—especially those you've attended. Please take a few moments to complete our short online survey:

👉 [Share your feedback here!](#)

Your insights help ensure that the Greenfield Public Library continues to meet the diverse interests and needs of our community, keeping it a vibrant and welcoming resource for everyone.

In Our Galleries



THIS EARTH, OUR HOME
Hooked Rugs
by Phyllis Lawrence
Conference Room

TRASH TO TREASURE
Improvisational Quilts
from Salvaged Textiles
by Laura Davis
Community Room



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



September & October Program Highlights

- **Information Sessions:** In September and October, 10 local organizations tabled at the Library, offering information to over 127 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 170 people with technology issues.
- **Drop-in Tech Help:** with Rich Vaden, United Way's Digital Navigator: over 25 people attended the Library's weekly drop-in program with Rich Vaden.
- **Digital Skills Training:** A new tech initiative offers a variety of classes intended to help improve digital skills. The first class introduced 11 participants to "All things Google." Led by United Way's Digital Navigator, Rich Vaden, different classes will be offered through early December 2025.
- **Constitution Day:** On September 17th, in observance of the signing of the US Constitution in 1787, 36 community members stopped by the library to pick-up a free copy of the *Pocket Constitution*. Another 14 copies were gifted at offsite library events.
- **Community Baby Shower:** On September 27th, nearly 250 expecting and new families gathered for the Community Baby Shower, an event organized by the library in partnership with "It Takes a Village" and the Franklin County Perinatal Support Coalition. Attendees had the opportunity to connect with local resources and collect essential items, all at no cost to families.
- **Make Your Own Vintage-Style Jack-O-Lantern Workshop:** Participants thoroughly enjoyed this two-part Makerspace activity. Be sure to check out the photos included at the end of this report
- **Author Talks:** October featured a range of local and national authors who shared their inspirations for writing and discussed their recently published works.
- **Halloween Celebrations:** The library and its staff joined in on several Halloween festivities! From the Children's Room Library Parade to the Discovery Center Four Corners "Trunk or Treat," as well as the Recreation Department's Downtown Trick or Treating and Rag Shag Parade, there was plenty of candy consumed and fun experienced by all!

Statistical Highlights (library usage):



MONTHLY DOOR COUNT

Total September: 12,460

Total October: 13,400



MONTHLY STUDY ROOM USAGE COUNT

Total September: 319

Total October: 365



MONTHLY WIRELESS USAGE

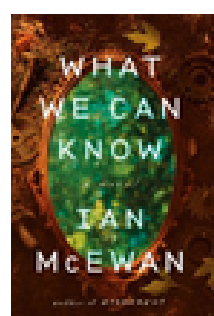
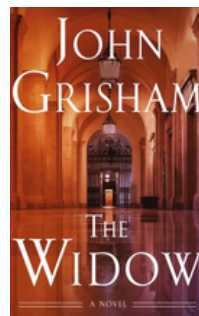
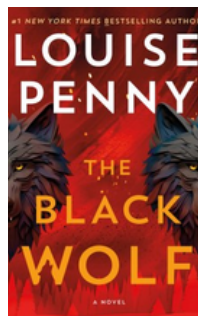
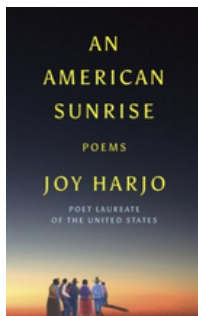
Total September: 2,544

Total October: 2,607

- **Number of library sponsored events:** September 22; October: 29
- **All non-library sponsored events:** September: 9; October: 26

Circulation:

- Patron borrowing: September: 15,738; October: 16,482
- Newly added materials: September: 705; October: 525
- Top borrowed titles:



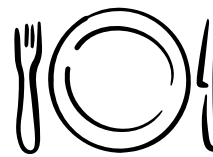
Staff News:

≡Welcome≡



We are excited to share that Mac Clark will be returning to the Teen Room for a second round of her internship through MassHire's Youthworks program. A proud graduate of the GHS Class of 2025, Mac is also a committed volunteer in the Teen Room. She brought great joy to our team over the summer, and we look forward to her support once again during evenings through February.

Team Library News:

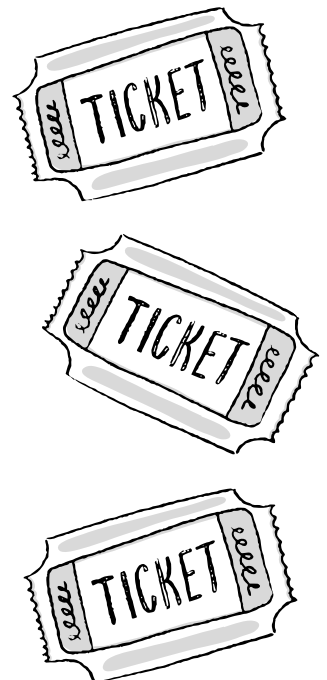


Friend's Restaurant Raffle!!

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.**



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:

- GivePulse user training (Jeremiah Rood, September & October 2025)
- Cut The Line: For Readers of Horror (Jeremiah Rood, September 2025)
- Fall 2025 Drawing Collections Series at UMass Science & Engineering Libraries (Francesca Passiglia & Nancy Little, September 2025)
- GOAT Teen Services Conference (Francesca Passiglia, October 2025)
- New England Library Association Annual Conference 2025 (Pamela McBride & Delia Lavigne)
- "It's Like a War Zone": Trauma Experiences of Public Library Staff as Secondary Responders on the Front Line in America's Communities." (Anna Bognolo, Panel Speaker)

In the News:



Pair of programs to discuss impact of rodenticides on wildlife,
Recorder 8/27/2025 updated 9/3/2025

My Turn: Our Public Libraries - bastions of freedom on Constitution Day, Recorder 9/14/2025

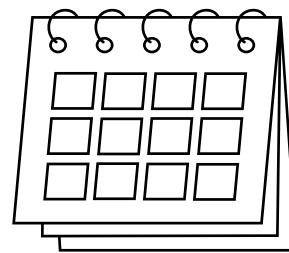
Franklin County Community Baby Shower aims to ensure 'every family feels supported',
Recorder 9/20/2025

Crafting for change: Library's crochet coral reef exhibit raises climate change awareness,
Recorder 10/3/2025

Taste of the Towns Restaurant Raffle 'a wining combination', Recorder, 10/10/2025

Finding Freedom Through Writing, Recorder 10/31/2025

Upcoming Events of Note:



Here are some highlights for November:

- **Winter Farmer's Market:** It's back! Dates are November 8, December 6 & 20, 2025; January 10, February 7, March 7 and April 4, 2026.
- **1,000 Books Before Kindergarten:** Join us to celebrate the re-launch of this program that encourages families to read 1,000 books to their children by the time they reach kindergarten! Sign up to participate in the program, and enjoy live music and a story read by local author Astrid Sheckels. November 15, 2025, 10 am to 1pm.
- **We the People: Yo Yo Ma plays Bach's Cello Suites (Live Simulcast):** November 21, 2025, 6pm-10pm, Yo Yo Ma's final performance of the Bach Cello Suite tour. Yo Yo Ma requested to share this performance with public libraries across the state of Massachusetts via live simulcast. Registration required as there are seats are limited.
- **Art Exhibits:** View artwork by two local artists, photographer Alfred Mitchell and painter Kelly Popoff. Through November 2025.

More details and other event highlights available on our calendar at greenfieldpubliclibrary.org



Library Snapshots:



D. Levine's magnificent Crocheted Coral Reef Display. Winner of a blue ribbon at the Franklin County Fair 2025!



"Teen Room Wednesday Resources" Youth Career Counselor from MassHire shares tips on how to find a job with local teens



Local Teens create Vape-Free PSA in Teen room for FRCOG Communities that Care Coalition



Participants at the Community Baby Shower Program



League of Women Voters Franklin County Candidate Meet & Greet



GPL staff at Discovery School Four Corners third annual "Trunk or Treat" event at GHS