

Submitted by Anna Bognolo, Director

December 2025

## Message from the Director



**“In times of  
trouble,  
libraries are  
sanctuaries.”**  
– **Susan Orlean,**  
**The Library Book**

A new year is upon us, and in the public library world this offers a perfect opportunity to return to our traditional *raison d'être*: the library as a place to get books. Each January, we're delighted to share with our community the Top Read Books of the year. Below you are given a glimpse into the reading activity of the GPL community in 2025!

Thanks to our colleagues at CWMARS, this is a relatively easy (and always fascinating) task to compile and share. Data is a driving force in libraries, particularly when it comes to selecting books for our shelves. With the enormous number of titles published each year, we rely on circulation data to guide our decisions. And the users--you--have spoken.

Much of the library's other work operates on a fiscal calendar, running from July 1 through June 30, so you'll need to wait a bit longer for additional data and reports about the library as a whole.

If you're looking for New Year's resolution inspiration, or simply something new to read, watch, or listen to, be sure to browse the book and new materials displays on the main floor of the library. And as always, if there's something you're interested in that we don't currently have, we encourage you to fill out a recommendation form. We truly value your input.

Finally, while winter seems to be fully upon us, we invite you to check out our events calendar for wonderful programs designed to carry you through these cold months. We look forward to seeing you at the library.



In 2025, as a patron of the GPL library, **you nailed it!**\*

\*Keep reading to see just how much!

You saved over **\$5 million** by borrowing over **250K** physical and digital titles, instead of buying the material outright.

If we stacked every book and ebook you borrowed from your library this year on top of each other, they'd reach over **958 miles** high...

...or in New England measurements, over **12 million** medium **DUNKIN'** coffee cups!

**Greenfield PUBLIC LIBRARY 2025 in Review**

On average, your library's collection is **20,611%** larger thanks to being part of the C/W MARS network, and you made the most of it in 2025!

This year, you requested nearly **12 thousand items** from across the state, which were delivered right to your local library.

If you were to drive to a library every time they shared an item, it would have taken you over **16 thousand gallons** of gas.

**Greenfield PUBLIC LIBRARY 2025 in Review**

Thanks to our automatic renewal process, we saved you nearly **260,000 clicks** on your phones and computers...

...putting those finger muscles to better use flipping and swiping through a whopping **40+ million pages** of material!

With more ways to use your library than ever before, we can't wait to see what you accomplish in 2026!

Continue to see our most popular titles of 2025!

**Greenfield PUBLIC LIBRARY 2025 in Review**

**Most Popular Titles\***

Audience	Title	Checkouts	Pages Flipped	Words Read
Adult	<i>One Day Everyone Will Have Always Been Against This</i> by Omar El Akkad	186	38,688	11+ million
Children's	<i>The Baby-Sitters Club</i> by Ann M. Martin, adapted by Raina Telgemeier	352	67,584	2+ million
YA	<i>Heatstopper</i> by Alice Oseman	59	15,045	238,419

\*Most circulated title in each audience category: Adult/General, Children's, and Young Adult/Teen.

**Greenfield PUBLIC LIBRARY 2025 in Review**

December 2025

Greenfield Public Library presents

### Spice Club's Annual Holiday Cookie Recipe Exchange



**Tuesday, December 9  
6:30 pm in the Meeting Room**

Space is limited, pre registration is required.  
To register:  
<https://forms.gle/KPrqW7TdV7brQGL6>

Bring 3-4 dozen of your favorite cookie along with your recipe. You'll go home with a plentiful of assorted cookies and a whole bunch of new recipes that you can make for the holidays!

Spice Club Kit recipes can be found on the GPL Blog at: <https://gpllibraryma.wordpress.com/>



Greenfield Public Library presents

### LOCAL AUTHORS BOOK FAIR

**Saturday, December 13  
10:00 am - 1:00 pm  
Community Meeting Room**

**Author Panel Discussions  
10:00 am and 11:30 am**

FEATURING:  
Eric & Bennett  
Phyllis Brooks  
Kerena Burdick  
Avery Casati  
Richie Davis  
Rebecca Daniels  
Reidie Jaska  
Joan Livingston  
Eveline MacDougall  
Trouble Manderson  
Elaine Reardon  
Kate Spencer  
Tara Terrence  
G Vogt  
Sylvia Weathersby  
Caitlan Williams  
Daniel Yalowitz

**SUPPORT YOUR LOCAL AUTHORS**

Prose Non Fiction Poetry Children Zones  
Copies Available for Purchase & Signing



Fresh local food, crafts & library activities

### Winter Farmers' Market

GREENFIELD PUBLIC LIBRARY  
412 MAIN ST. GREENFIELD, MA

**November 8 10 AM - 1 PM, SATURDAYS**  
**November 22 December 6 December 20**

**January 10 February 7 March 7 April 4**

**SNAP/ZIP accepted!**



### Wildlife Presentation!

**Monday, Dec 1, 6:00pm-7:00pm  
at the Greenfield Public Library**

Today

Some foxes climb trees  
Blue Jay feathers aren't blue  
Some frogs make their own anti-freeze

...and Brad will share with us simple actions each of us can take to help wildlife all around us. Come join us for this free program! Your eyes will be opened to wildlife in ways you never could have imagined!

Brad will stay after the presentation to chat with attendees and will have signed copies of his book available for purchase (\$20) at the event.



Greenfield Public Library

### Nutcracker Storytime and Craft

with Hayley from Catherine Grace Studios

**FRIDAY, DEC. 19TH  
3:30PM**  
EXTRE CHILDREN'S SERVICE ROOM

Great for dance lovers  
ages 2-6



Greenfield Public Library

### NINTENDO SWITCH TOURNAMENT

**TUES., DEC 23  
11:30am-2:30pm**  
Conference Room

**FREE PIZZA**

FOR TWEENS AND TEENS  
AGES 10-18



GREENFIELD PUBLIC LIBRARY PRESENTS

### ZINE WORKSHOP WITH JEREMY FERRIS

**MONDAY DEC 1  
6 PM  
MAKERSPACE**

Join zinester Jeremy Ferris at the library to learn new zine techniques and transformations on a copier!

All supplies provided. Ages 13+. Pre-register with the QR Code or at [bit.ly/gplzineclub](http://bit.ly/gplzineclub).

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



Relax and unwind with

### Oddly Satisfying Crafts

after school every Friday  
3-4pm

Dec. 5 Hand Carved Stamps  
Dec. 12 Shrinky Dinks  
Dec. 19 Winter Watercolors  
**in the teen room**



## Other December Highlights

- Winter's Farmer's Market
- Meet a Therapy Dog (children)
- Holiday Cookie Recipe Exchange (adult)
- Nutcracker Storytime and Craft (children)
- Wildlife Presentation (all ages)
- Zine Workshop (adult)
- Nintendo Switch Tournament (tween)
- Local Author Book Fair (all ages)
- Oddly Satisfying Crafts (teen)

## In Our Gallery:



Watercolors by  
**JIM MEEHLEDER**  
Be exhibit through December

### Watercolors by JIM MEEHLEDER

"Color creates order and rhythm, it's a guide to the mind, leads an eye, and the world needs more of it."  
—Meehleder  
The art world's most colorful and highly accomplished watercolorist, Meehleder's work is a vibrant and joyful celebration of color. His work is a testament to the power of watercolor and a source of inspiration for artists and art lovers alike. Meehleder's work is a testament to the power of watercolor and a source of inspiration for artists and art lovers alike.



**EVOLUTION:  
FROM FIGURATIONALISM TO ABSTRACTION**  
Newsweek Addictive Personalities  
**WORKS BY JOHN NORDELL**  
Be exhibit through December in the Community Room Gallery

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



# Statistical Highlights (library usage):

- Number of library sponsored events: **38**
- All non-library sponsored events: **10**



## MONTHLY DOOR COUNT

Total: **12,382**



## MONTHLY STUDY ROOM USAGE COUNT

Total: **343**

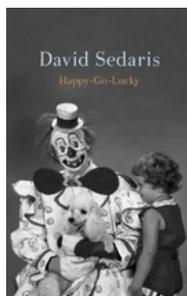
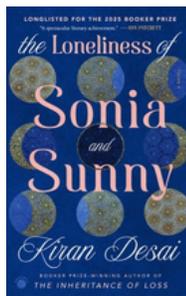
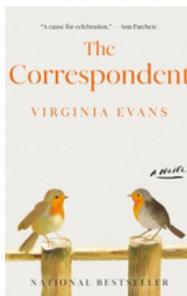
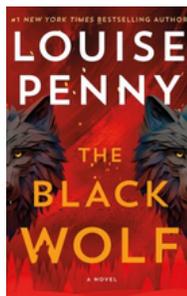


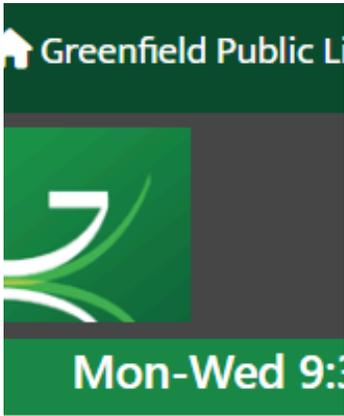
## MONTHLY WIRELESS USAGE

Total: **2,461**

## Circulation:

- Patron borrowing: 16,798
- Newly added materials: 549
- Top borrowed titles:





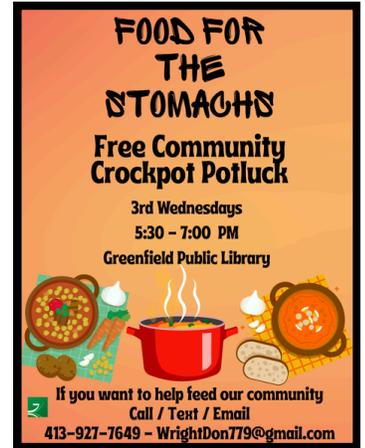
# Miscellaneous Library Updates:

## Food for all!

At the November 2025 meeting of the Greenfield Public Library Board of Trustees, the Board voted to support a local initiative to provide meals for community members at the library one evening each month.

“Food for the Stomachs,” a collaboration with local resident Don Wright, began on Wednesday, December 17, 2025. The program is a Crockpot Community Meal held on the third Wednesday of each month through April 2026.

The first meal, held on December 17, 2025, served more than 20 members of our community.



## Greenfield Public Library’s Website Redesign!

If you haven’t already noticed, the library has a newly redesigned website. This project was more than a year in the making and was a collaboration with a website design class from the Simmons School of Library and Information Science, offered through the GCC campus.

We knew our website needed some TLC, but staff did not have the time or resources to take on a full redesign. At the same time, Simmons students were looking for a real-world project—making this a true win-win. The students reviewed library websites from across the country and developed a proposed design, which library staff reviewed and refined over several weeks. That mockup was then shared with our web designer, and the site has been updated gradually.

A project like this would typically be quite costly, but thanks to this partnership, it was completed at little to no expense. While the new site isn’t flashy, it is more user-friendly and visually pleasing, making it easier to find the information you need.

We are still fine-tuning content and welcome your feedback. If you notice any incorrect information or feel something is missing, please let us know, we appreciate your help in making the site better for everyone.



## In the News:

# GREENFIELD RECORDER

The GPL received some great local media coverage during the month of November! If you missed the articles, you'll find the headlines below.

If you're unable to access them from your device, don't worry—we have print copies available in the library's Local History Room, and we can also help you access the digital versions. Just visit or call our Information Services staff for assistance.

**Thank You Greenfield Public Library,** John David Bowles  
*Greenfield Recorder, December 11, 2025*

**A Week at the Greenfield Public Library,** Daniel Cantor Yalowitz  
*Greenfield Recorder, December 22, 2025*

## In Our Galleries:



When We Made Stuff

Watercolors by  
**JIM MEEHLEDER**  
On exhibit through December  
in the Conference Room Gallery

**ARTIST'S  
RECEPTION:  
MONDAY 12/8  
6-7:45 PM**



**EVOLUTION:  
FROM PHOTOJOURNALISM TO ABSTRACTION**

ETHICS IN WASHINGTON  
The Rules Keep Changing

**Newsweek**

Addictive  
Personalities

Who gets hooked  
on drugs and  
alcohol—and why

Kitty Dukakis:  
Her private  
struggle

**WORKS BY JOHN NORDELL**

On exhibit through December  
in the Community Room Gallery



# Library Snapshots:



Library Custodian, Dan, works hard to make coming to the library safe for all!



Teen Librarian, Francesca, and Greenfield Middle School Librarian Hillary O'Malley at GMS's "Hot Cocoa and Cookies Night"



Zine making class in the Makerspace



Local archivist, Tom Doyle (left), and Simmons School of Library and Information Science archive student, Noelle (right) taking care of the local history Room collection as part of the Community Preservation Committee Grant program



Patrons Amanda and Evie found the gnome hidden in the stacks - yay!



Holiday craft classes in the makerspace

# Library Snapshots:



Teens engrossed in an art project in the Teen Room



Monica Aguilar, owner of local mural company Chasing Trails Art, paints a fun winter scene on the library windows.



Jingle Fest Elves perform in the library too!



Children's librarian, Ellen, concludes a holiday storytime with the bubble machine!



Volunteer Marianne Snow leads a pillowcase making class in the Makerspace



A patron gets ahead of the game by wrapping her gifts at the Library!

# Upcoming Events of Note:

Here are some highlights for January:

More details available on our calendar at [greenfieldpubliclibrary.org](http://greenfieldpubliclibrary.org)

- Cat Castles
- Beginning Needle Felting Workshop
- Choose Your Own Adventure: A "Pick Your Own Book" Club, with Zoey Erickson
- Meet a Therapy Dog
- Valentine Shadow Boxes
- Winter Ecology and Horticulture Workshop with Erik Vegeto
- Drop in Mending Clinic
- GPL Zine Club Presents: Construction Workshop with Bee Leake
- Dear Neighbor: Letters of Light During Dark Times
- Legislative Meet and Greet



**GPL Children's Room**  
**BOX DAY!**  
 Saturday, January 3  
 Drop-in from 9:30am - 2pm  
 Ages 2-12

Get creative with boxes!

Could it be a castle?  
 Could you use one to time a treat?  
 Can you make some into a train?

Greenfield Public Library

**Tween Advisory Board**

Come join us for a fun, mini workshop where you'll learn to craft something unique and totally handmade by YOU!

7 January 2026  
 3:45pm

Meetings once a month for kids ages 8-12  
 Newcomers always welcome!

Greenfield Public Library

**NEEDLEWORKERS GUILD**  
 A Welcoming and Supportive Embroidery Club for all skill levels!

Join us for a cozy, creative, and relaxing workshop that meets once a month!

Whether you're brand new to embroidery or already have a project underway, this is the perfect space to learn, stretch, and connect.

All are welcome from beginners to pros alike!

MEETING ON THE 2<sup>ND</sup> MONDAY OF EACH MONTH!  
 4-7:30 IN THE MAKERSPACE

NOVEMBER 10  
 DECEMBER 6  
 JANUARY 12  
 FEBRUARY 3  
 MARCH 10

Free registration! No cost to attend! Red cost: registration fee.

Greenfield Public Library

GPL Children's Room presents:  
**LOCAL AUTHOR STORYTIME**  
 with **Susan LaScala**

*The Muscle Ties* *Munchie the dog!*

*Meet the Great Friends*

Saturday, January 17  
 10:30am

Great for ages 4-8

Greenfield Public Library

Greenfield Public Library & The Franklin County Agricultural Society present

**Roundhouse CRAFT CLUB**

Work on crafting skills at the Library! Enter your projects in the Fair!

**Thursday January 22 10 - 11:30am**  
**in the Makerspace at Greenfield Public Library**

This month we'll be looking at the 2025 premium book and brainstorming projects we'd like to enter. Bring along a craft you are working on if you'd like!

**EVERYONE WELCOME**

Make something to give as a gift! All programs are greenfield.org

Greenfield Public Library 412 Main Street, Greenfield, MA 01302 www.greenfieldpubliclibrary.org 413-579-1944

**FAMILY BOARD GAME NIGHT**

Join us for a fun night of board games in our activity room.

*\*Now with more games for ages 3-5!\**

January 26  
 5:30 - 7:30pm

Greenfield Public Library