



February 2019

Are you one in a million?

Enthusiasm has recently soared for the free **OverDrive** service offered by the library that allows you to borrow digital content (like e-books, audiobooks and magazines) anytime, anywhere. By the end of 2018, CW MARS library patrons made it to one million **OverDrive** checkouts in a year! The final checkout tally for 2018 was 1,001,975.



The use of this service has been growing steadily! CW MARS started circulating **OverDrive** titles in July 2005. It took the next nine years to reach the millionth checkout in 2014. In the next few years, usage continued to rise with 2018 marking the most annual usage to date by surpassing one million in a single year.

The largest leap was recorded in 2011 when e-readers gained popularity through the introduction of the Kindle. Annual circulation stats came in at 52,277 in 2010. By the end of 2011, that number more than doubled to 108,645.



OverDrive put a badge on their live statistics page: One million digital loans in 2018.

With the introduction of **Libby** as an easier alternative to the regular **OverDrive** app, it's anticipated the growth will continue to surge, with increasing numbers of new users.

If you haven't tried **OverDrive** yet, isn't it time for you to be one in a million plus? To try it out, visit <https://cwmars.overdrive.com/> to start searching. If you need help accessing this popular service, contact our reference department at (508) 624-6992.

Marlborough Public Library

Holiday Hours

The library will be
CLOSED Monday, Feb. 18



in observance of
Presidents' Day

Free Income Tax Preparation by AARP Volunteers



AARP volunteer tax preparers will be here at the Marlborough Public Library on Saturdays during the months of February, March and April. They will provide free income tax service for low and moderate income taxpayers. (Moderate income is less than \$80,000).

Reservations are required. To register for an appointment, please call the library at 508-624-6900. You will be asked for your name and phone number. Library staff will provide you with information about what you will need to bring on the day of your appointment. Questions? Please call 508-624-6900.

From the Director



An expanded and renovated library took a major step forward Monday, Jan. 7, 2019 when the City Council unanimously approved the Mayor's request to bond the project. We are now completing all of the necessary paperwork and will soon receive the first grant payment from the \$10,186,626 Massachusetts Board of Library Commissioners grant.

These funds will allow us to resume work on the design. When we created a preliminary design to submit with our grant application the city had not yet purchased the three neighboring properties that will allow us to expand our site for building and parking needs. Our first step will be to re-work the design to best utilize our expanded site.

We are excited at the prospect of designing a facility that will create the spaces that will allow us to serve the needs of library users today and well into the future.

Stay tuned to this column and other communications from the library as we report on our progress in the coming months.

Friends of the Marlborough Public Library Events

Calling High School Musicians! (Application deadline: February 27, 2019)

The Friends of the MPL invite advanced high school age instrumentalists in the greater Marlborough area to compete in the 22nd annual Anick Young People's Performing Arts Festival Music Competition. Winners will receive a cash prize and perform on Wednesday, May 22 in Bigelow Auditorium.

Information and application available at

www.mpl-friends.org/event_flyers/2019_YPPA_Info_application.pdf

Stephen Collins in *Sailing Towards My Father*

Wednesday, Feb. 13 from 7-8 p.m.

Join us for this one-man play about Herman Melville the American author best known for his whaling epic, *Moby Dick*.

The play chronicles Melville's life from youth to old age, concentrating on his evolution on his evolution as a writer and his complex relations with God, his parents and siblings, his wife and children, and Nathaniel Hawthorne.

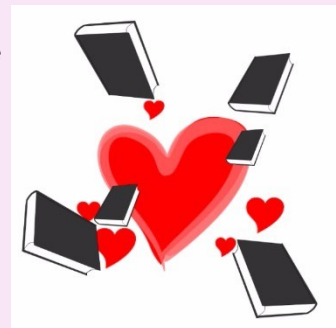


**Come to the library beginning Friday, Feb. 1 to celebrate
Valentine's Day
by going on a blind date ... with a book!**

Library staff have arranged for dating opportunities with some of our favorite titles. Wrapped books will be on display with dating profiles to attract your attention.

- Will it be love?
- Will you meet someone new?
- Will you unwrap an old friend?

Be sure to check out the fun for young and old!



Hello! Come join us!
¡Hola! Ven y únete a nosotros
Spanish Conversation Circles
Mondays at 6 p.m.



Come speak Spanish in a comfortable, stress-free setting. No testing, no fee, no homework. Just drop in and talk.

English Conversation Circles

English Conversation Circles offer an opportunity for English Language Learners to speak in a relaxed atmosphere and for native English speakers to learn about other cultures.



February English Conversation Circles

Mondays: 1 p.m.

Tuesdays: 10 a.m.

(Except no meeting Tuesday, Feb. 5)

Wednesdays: 1 p.m.

Thursdays: 6:30 p.m.

Fridays: 1 p.m.

Saturdays: 10 a.m.

No Registration Required

Portuguese Conversation Circles

Do you have a lot of students from Brazil?
Do your customers speak Portuguese?
Are you in love with someone from Belo Horizonte?



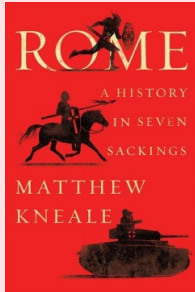
Well, now is your chance to practice speaking Portuguese!

Two non-native speakers who have lived in Brazil will lead sessions of speaking Portuguese. This is a stress-free chance to talk with other learners.

There is **no fee**, no registration, no homework. Just drop in and talk!
Wednesdays from 5:30-6:30 beginning Feb. 6 through June 5.

For more information, please contact Miriam Achenbach, Outreach Librarian at 508-624-6992.

Adult Book Suggestions

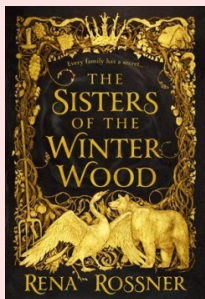


Rome:

A History in Seven Sackings

By Matthew Kneale

A novelist offers a nonfiction history of the Eternal City by focusing on seven moments of crisis and catastrophe, including fires, floods, earthquakes and most epically, attacks and invasions from roving armies.



The Sisters of the Winter Wood

By Rena Rossner

A tale inspired by Jewish mythology is set in a woodland village on the border of Moldova and Ukraine and follows the experiences of two sheltered sisters who uncover a secret magical heritage.

Adult Services

To sign up for any event that requires registration go to bit.ly/MPLRegisterFEB2019 or call (508) 624-6900

Do you aspire to be more financially fit in 2019?

The library has a series of events this year focusing on improving your financial health. Join us as we learn more about Social Security benefits, starting a small business, and how to protect yourself from identity theft. We also have an array of books and materials about finances.

If there is a program topic you would like to suggest related to financial health and fitness, please contact Morgan Manzella at mmanzella@marlborough-ma.gov.

Events

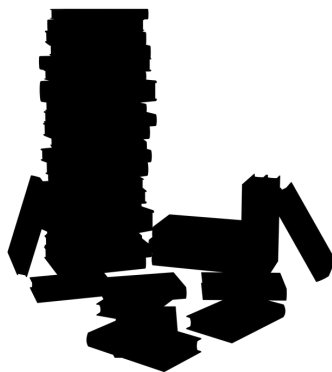
Valentine's Book Tasting

Monday, Feb. 4 from 6-8 p.m.

Looking for something delicious this Valentine's Day? Come to our Book

Tasting and find a story that's just your flavor!

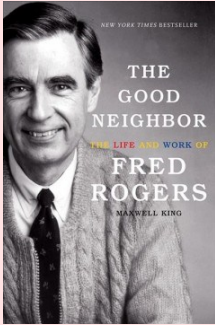
Each station will feature a set of books based on a theme. Use your tasting card to mark which books you'd like to read later, or take one home that night!



Please be sure to bring your library card if you'd like to check out books or reserve some. You can apply for a card or renew your existing card at the circulation desk with a valid photo ID and proof of address.

Please register as space is limited.

More Adult Book Suggestions



The Good Neighbor : The Life and Work of Fred Rogers By Maxwell King

Drawing on original interviews, oral histories and archival documents, the author traces Mr. Rogers' personal, professional and artistic life through decades of work.



Everything's Trash, But it's Okay By Phoebe Robinson

The star of "2 Dope Queens" presents a humorous essay collection that explores subjects ranging from intersectional feminism and today's destructive dating scene to the cultural obsession with work and beauty.

Adult Services

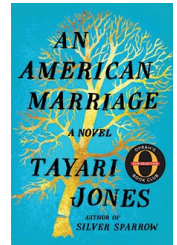


To sign up for any event that requires registration go to <http://bit.ly/MPLRegisterFEB2019> or call (508) 624-6900

More Events

Adult Book Club

Join us Monday, Feb. 11 from 6:30-8 p.m. or Thursday, Feb. 14 from 10:30 a.m.-noon for Book Club. This month we will discuss *An American Marriage* by Tayari Jones. Extra copies are available at the circulation desk.



Learn more about the Book Club on our website at <http://marlboroughpubliclibrary.org/adults/adult-book-club/>

Crafter Dark: Homemade Spa Scrub

Monday, Feb. 11 from 6:30-8 p.m.

Valentine's Day is a great time to treat someone you love (or yourself!) to a little TLC. We suggest homemade spa scrub. Whip up a jar of your own and decorate it to give to a friend or keep for yourself!

This class includes optional use of essential oils. Dogs, cats, and other animals are sensitive to essential oils and may be harmed by using essential oils around the house. In addition, essential oils may irritate human skin. Please consider any pets and your skin's sensitivity before using essential oils in personal care products.

Please register as space is limited.

Social Security Benefits 101

Thursday, Feb. 21 from 2-4 p.m.

Join Sabrina Feliciano from the Social Security Administration to learn the basics of Social Security benefits, working in retirement, Medicare eligibility, and filing for benefits. She will provide an overview of multiple topics and answer questions.



Another Adult Book Suggestion



Decorating a Room of One's Own

By Susan Harlan

If you have a passion for literature AND home design, *Decorating a Room of One's Own* is the book for you. It describes (in today's language) domiciles of all the iconic homes in literature and has "interviews" with the owners of the homes. From Elizabeth Barrett describing Pemberley to King Arthur's Camelot, from 221B Baker Street to the Swiss Family Robinson's Tree House, the reader gets a close view of the house, the surroundings, and its inhabitants. Their innermost thoughts might shock and surprise you—but you will never be bored. You may want to "visit" all the homes or pick and choose the ones you think you will most like. Either way, your tour will be filled with giggles and guffaws. Check out the abodes of all the most famous characters and their design tips!!

-Diane, Reference Librarian

Adult Services



To sign up for any event that requires registration go to <http://bit.ly/MPLRegisterFEB2019> or call (508) 624-6900

More Adult Events

Wonder Women, Super Girls, and Villainous Vixens

Sponsored by the Friends of the
Marlborough Public Library
Thursday, Feb. 21 from 6-8 p.m.

Join Sarah from Geek Gal to
discuss the history of women in
American Superhero comics.

There's been a lot of attention
paid to female comics fans in

the last few years, but the truth is women have always
been part of superhero storytelling. She'll explore the
importance of female heroes and the women who
brought them to life in the larger history of American
superhero comics. *Please register.*



Forever Young Adult

Wednesday, Feb. 27 from 6:30-7:30 p.m.

Calling all adults who are young at heart!

If you're a fan of YA literature, if you're curious
about what the kids are reading these days,
or if you're looking to connect with the teens
in your life, Forever Young Adult is for you!

Teens are welcome, too.



In February, let's talk about love! Read one,
two, or all three of the suggested romances.

•**Eleanor and Park By Rainbow Rowell**

•**Believe in a Thing Called Love By Maureen Goo**

•**Check, Please By Ngozi Ukazu**

We'll discuss the books and trends in YA
romance novels, and enjoy some Valentine
treats.



Young Adult Book Suggestions:



On the Come Up By Angie Thomas

A follow-up to the award-winning *The Hate U Give* finds an ambitious young rapper pouring her frustrations into a first song only to find herself at the center of a viral controversy that forces her to become the menace that her public reputation has portrayed her to be.



Brave Chef Brianna By Sam Sykes

Brianna Jakobsson has big cooking dreams, and when her ailing restaurateur father poses a challenge to his only daughter and fifteen sons, she seizes the opportunity. She's going to have the best restaurant around and earn the family empire. Thing is, the only place she can afford to set up shop is in Monster City.

Her menu is full of weird delicacies, her kitchen is run by a half-bird harpy, and her dining room is filled with skeleton businessmen. Add on the nefarious Madame Cron, some highly competitive siblings and Brianna's plate is literally...full.

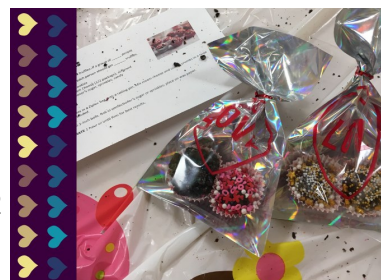
Young Adult

To sign up for any event that requires registration or to view all events, go to <http://bit.ly/MPLRegisterFEB2019> or call 508-624-6903.

Sweet Valentine Treats

Come to **Lazy Crafternoon** Thursday, Feb. 7 from 3:30-5 p.m. and use the library's art supplies to make DIY Valentine cards. We'll play Candy Heart Bingo while we work and, of course, have some Valentine's candy. *Registration is appreciated, but not required.*

Then make an easy, no-bake treat for yourself or your Valentine Tuesday, Feb. 12 from 3:30-4:30 p.m. Make and decorate Valentine Truffles, then wrap them up as a Valentine's gift. Open to grades 6-12 only. *Registration required.*



New Programs

Whether you're an aspiring writer who finds it hard to actually sit down and get started or you've already got a project in the works and just want a comfy place to do your thing, our monthly **Teen Write-In** is for you.

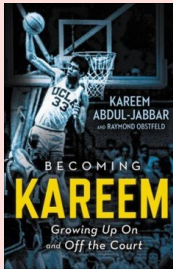
The next one will be Thursday, Feb. 14 from 6-7:30 p.m. Lounge in the Teen Room and write, write, write. We'll have writing prompts and exercises if you're stuck or uninspired. Of course, we'll also have soothing music, hot cocoa, and snacks to keep you going.



Come to the new **Manga Club** Tuesday, Feb. 26 from 3:30-4:30 p.m. Talk about your favorite manga and anime series, make series recommendations for the library's collection, and share your input about what this club should be. Want to practice drawing manga? Make manga/anime related crafts? Learn about the different parts of the Japanese writing system? Simply talk about your faves? We want to hear your ideas!

Christine, MPL's Teen Librarian, just started **Forever Young Adult**, a book club for adults who want to read YA literature. Teens are welcome to join, too! The next meeting is Wednesday, Feb. 27 from 6:30-7:30 p.m., and we'll talk about YA romance. For more details, see the Adult section of the newsletter.

More Young Adult Book Suggestions

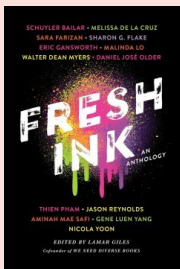


Becoming Kareem: Growing Up on and Off the Court

By Kareem Abdul-Jabbar and Raymond Obstfeld

An autobiography about Kareem Abdul-Jabbar and his life growing up in New

York, becoming the basketball star he's known to be, and getting involved in the world around him as an activist for social change.



Fresh Ink

Edited by Lamar Giles

An anthology featuring award-winning diverse authors about diverse characters. Short stories, a graphic novel, and a one-act play explore such topics as gentrification, acceptance, untimely death, coming out, and poverty, and range in genre from contemporary realistic fiction to adventure and romance. Featured authors include Jason Reynolds, Malinda Lo, Melissa de la Cruz, Gene Luen Yang, and Nicola Yoon.

Young Adult

School Vacation Week!

Come to a special brunch edition of our teen book group, **Reading at the Table**, for school vacation week! **Book Brunch** is Wednesday, Feb. 20 from 11am-12 p.m. Share your reviews, get recommendations, and enjoy some brunch treats while we chat. The Teen Librarian will also share some brand new YA titles before they hit the library shelves! Please pre-register to help us plan for food. Grades 6-12 only.



Cupcake Wars

Thursday, Feb. 21 from 1:30-3 p.m. You'll get three cupcakes to decorate in any theme you choose. All materials will be provided. All participants will vote for their favorite, and the winner gets a prize! Grades 6-12 only. Registration is required.



"Absolutely riveting!"
JASON REYNOLDS



ANGIE THOMAS

"Bleeding!"
JOHN GREEN



OCTOBER 19

Join us for a **Page to Screen**

Movie Friday, Feb. 22 from 2-4:15p.m. We'll watch the movie, *The Hate U Give* (PG-13), based on the bestselling and award-winning novel by Angie Thomas. There will be snacks and coloring pages to enjoy during the screening. This screening is open to grades 6-12, but this movie

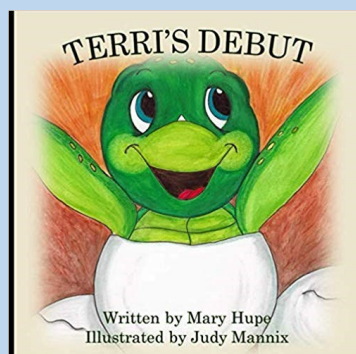
may not be appropriate for every tween or teen. Please consult Common Sense Media for more information about the movie's content and themes. No registration required.

Take the **Teen Speed Read Challenge**: can you read a whole book from start to finish over February Break? Read your book, fill out the Review Form, then bring your completed form the Reference Desk by Monday, Feb. 25 and pick out your free book (Limit one prize per teen).

To register for events or to view regularly scheduled monthly teen programs, go to <http://bit.ly/MPLRegisterFEB2019> or call 508-624-6903.



This month Spike has a
Children's Book Suggestion!



Terri's Debut

By Mary Hupe

Illustrated by Judy Mannix

Terri's Debut is a lovely tale that brings forth themes of environmental lessons, ways to stay safe, the intuitive sense of internal bravery that we possess and very importantly the theme of friendship, which helps all of us and to have happier lives. It shows the goodness that can come when birds of different feathers bond together! I definitely recommend coming out of your shell to read this spectacular story of the turtle Terri's Debut!

Children's

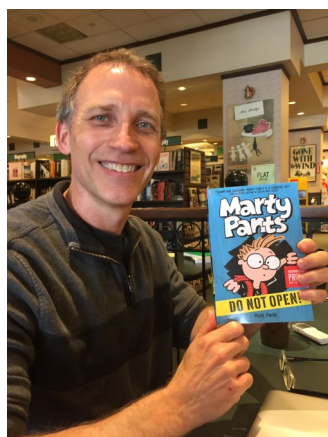
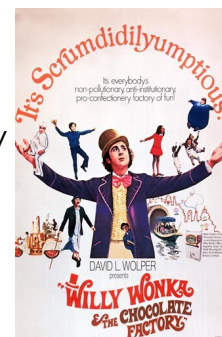


To view all children's activities, or to sign up online for any event that requires registration go to <http://bit.ly/MPLRegisterFEB2019> or call 508-624-6902.

Are you ready for February School Vacation Week?

The Children's Room will be hosting several fabulous events just for you!

On Tuesday, Feb. 19 at 1 p.m., Ms. Debby will show you how to make Gobstoppers in **Mad Science**, and then we'll have a screening of *Willy Wonka's Chocolate Factory* at 2:30 p.m. Please pre-register for the Gobstoppers workshop (ages 7-9).



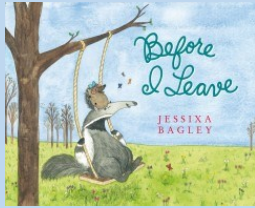
Mark Parisi will be stopping by Wednesday, Feb. 20 at 2 p.m. to do a **Graphic Novel Drawing Workshop**. Mark is the author and illustrator of *Marty Pants*! You'll learn how to invent and draw your own characters, get tips on how to write funny stories and receive hands on drawing instruction (ages 7-12). Please pre-register.

Stop by the library Thursday, Feb. 21 at 11 a.m. and learn what it's like to be a real life Sherlock Holmes! Venture into the world of CSI and learn all about forensic science. Learn how to find fingerprints on evidence and footwear impressions, use a metal detector and detect evidence using a crime light (this program is for kids in grades 3 through 8). Please pre-register.

Art Club will also meet on this day at 3:30 p.m., where you'll learn how to make yarn pom-poms.

Children's Book Suggestions

Picture Book

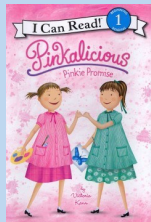


Before I Leave

By Jessixa Bagley

Leaving her best friend is difficult for a young hedgehog whose family is moving, but everyone assures her that things will be alright.

Early Reader/Chapter Book

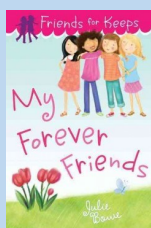


Pinkalicious: Pinkie Promise

By Victoria Kann

After Pinkalicious uses all of Alison's pink paint in class, she wonders how she can repay her best friend.

Chapter Book



Friends for Keeps: My Forever Friends

By Julie Bowe

Former best friends Brooke and Jenna are feuding and soon all the girls in the fourth-grade class are split into two groups, with Ida May right in the middle trying to put things back the way they used to be.

Children's



To view all children's activities, or to sign up online for any event that requires registration go to

<http://bit.ly/MPLRegisterFEB2019> or call 508-624-6902.

More School Vacation Events

We will be hosting a concert with Marcos Valles of **Rockabye Beats** Friday, Feb. 22 at 10 a.m. This crowd favorite for parents and toddlers is sure to make you get up and dance and sing (ages birth-7, with a caregiver). After the concert, there will be a **DIY Unicorn Piggy Bank Workshop** for children ages 3 and up. Please pre-register for the workshop.

More Children's Events

We will be hosting a **Young Scientist** series starting Tuesday, Feb. at 11 a.m. In this six-week series, little ones will learn STEM concepts through hands-on activities, engaging stories, challenges and simple experiments. *Registration is required, and is for all six weeks (ages 3-5, with a caregiver).*

TD Bank Wow! Zone continues Wednesday, Feb. 6 at 4 p.m. Instructors from TD Bank will teach children about financial concepts, including the value of money, the difference between saving and spending, balancing a check book and planning a budget. *Registration is required, and is for all four weeks of the series (grades 4-5).*

And finally, don't forget to join Ms. Larissa for **Portuguese Storytime** Thursdays at 11 a.m. Each week will feature Portuguese songs, stories and a craft. Ages 3 and up. *No registration is necessary.*