New Library Design

Renderings of the library renovation and expansion project were recently unveiled.

To see more views of the new library design, go to bit.ly/NewMPLDesignPlans
From the Director

Last month we held a series of public meetings to unveil the design for the library renovation and expansion project. We received lots of feedback that we are currently reviewing.

During the meetings LLB Architects reviewed the floor plans and exterior designs from Witherbee and West Main Streets. We also talked about the parking that will be available on site and how more parking will be developed on city owned property across Witherbee Street.

The architects also discussed how we hope to restore key elements of the historical Carnegie building, such as the Palladium window that may have been covered up when the 1960’s addition was constructed and fireplaces that may still be behind library walls. We won’t be able to confirm which features remain until construction begins.

We are on track to move to the Walker Building and set up our temporary library space in September 2020 and begin construction in the fall.

We appreciate how excited people are as the project moves forward and look forward to sharing more exciting developments in the months to come.

March is here; the winds are high
How the months seem to fly by

Soon April will be here
Along with National Poetry Month, oh dear!

So why not practice now creating a line or two?
Then maybe your poem will win a ribbon that’s blue!

Gianna gives her bear friend a hand tying his tie in the Children’s Room.
Free Income Tax Preparation by AARP Volunteers

AARP volunteer tax preparers will be here at the Marlborough Public Library Saturdays starting February 8 through April 11. They will provide free income tax service for low and moderate income taxpayers. (Moderate income is less than $80,000 per household.)

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.

Need a Hand?

English Conversation Circles
English Conversation Circles offer an opportunity for English Language Learners to speak in a relaxed atmosphere.
No Registration Required

English Conversation Circles Schedule
Tuesdays at 10 a.m.
Wednesdays at 9:30 a.m.
Thursdays at 6:30 p.m.
Sundays at 2 p.m.
Please check our calendar of events at bit.ly/EnglishCircles for meeting cancellations.

Would you like to receive our newsletter in your email inbox every month?

Sign up at bit.ly/MPLeNEWS
When you sign up you can also opt to receive additional alert reminders about kids, teen or adult events, holiday hours and special announcements.
Hold Redelivery is scheduled to go live the week of March 2, 2020

**Hold Redelivery will replace Auto-Checkout** for all new and existing holds in OverDrive. Hold Redelivery will give you more flexibility to manage your holds and allow you to suspend a hold even after it's made available to you, while maintaining your place on the waitlist.

By enabling patrons to pass books they don’t have time to read on to the next person in line, Hold Redelivery helps the library connect more readers to the books they want when they are ready for them. It also allows those not ready to read a book when it becomes available to them to keep their place on the waitlist until they are ready.

**How will it work?**
Libby notifications will alert users when their holds become available. There will be a “Notifications” section added to the OverDrive website and the OverDrive app.

After receiving notification that a hold is available, you can borrow the title within three days or suspend the hold by selecting “Deliver Later.” After the suspension period (set by the user), the user will be able to borrow the book when the next copy is available.

If the user takes no action, their hold will automatically be suspended as a one-time courtesy for seven days. If no action is taken a second time, the hold will be cancelled automatically.

If you have questions about this new option, please contact the MPL reference department at 508-624-6900.
Friends of the Marlborough Public Library Event

Author Series with writers Joseph and Kathleen Bebo.

Wednesday, March 25, from 7-8 p.m.

Join the Bebos for a free presentation about their book, Waiting to Take Off.

About the book:

A puppy dog in St. Thomas, the red-light district in Amsterdam, sword fishing in Bermuda, hurricanes in Jamaica, ‘shroom’ hunting on the side of Haleakala, the Baja 1000, Spiders in Costa Rica, ghosts in Scotland, these are some of the stories chronicling the life of the author’s wife as she traveled the world. From Salzburg and Vienna to London and Paris, from Rome and Madrid to the jungles of Papua, New Guinea, the book recounts her travel adventures.

As someone who has worked in all aspects of the travel industry in a career spanning thirty years, Kathy has a unique perspective. The story is not only about travel, but how one person managed to make a wonderful career from nothing. This is a story that will make you laugh and inspire you to live your dreams. It’s about disappointments and victories, and how to never give up or lose your sense of humor.

The event will be held in the library’s Bigelow Auditorium.

Thank you!

The Children's Department would like to thank Sarah Hough and her family for generously donating the mini grocery store to our play area. Our little patrons have been thrilled with the new addition!
To sign up for any event that requires registration, go to bit.ly/MPLRegisterMAR2020 or call (508) 624-6900.

Adult Events

Crafter Dark: Spray Bottle Buddies
Monday, March 2, from 6:30 to 8 p.m.
Spring is coming (we promise!). Make a foam spray bottle animal to help make your spring cleaning a little bit more fun! Registration required.

Crafter Dark: Painted Bead Necklace
Monday, March 9, from 6:30-8 p.m.
Paint your own bead to make a bead-utiful necklace! Registration required.

Adult Book Club
Join us Monday, March 16, from 6:30-8 p.m., or Thursday, March 19, from 10:30 a.m.-noon, for Adult Book Club. This month the club is reading The Year of the Flood by Margaret Atwood. Copies of the book are available at the circulation desk. For details about the club, go to bit.ly/MPLAdultBookClub2020. No registration required.

Cookbook Club:
Tuesday, March 17, from 6:30-8 p.m.
This month we’re featuring the cookbooks of Carla Hall, former cohost of The Chew and a Top Chef All-Stars fan favorite. Join us as we read Carla’s stories and sample her recipes. We’ll explore the characteristic tastes and origins of American soul food, Carla’s twists on global comfort foods, and her ideas about “cooking with love.” Copies are available at the circulation desk starting a month prior to each meeting. You are welcome to register for the event and, if you’re so inspired, sign up to make a recipe from one of her books!

Adult Book Suggestion

The Story of the Earth in 25 Rocks: Tales of Important Geological Puzzles and the People Who Solved Them
By Donald R. Prothero

Every rock is a tangible trace of the earth’s past. This book tells the fascinating stories behind the discoveries that shook the foundations of geology. In twenty-five chapters—each about a particular rock, outcrop, or geologic phenomenon—Donald R. Prothero recounts the scientific detective work that shaped our understanding of geology. Summarizing a wealth of information in an entertaining, approachable style, the book is essential reading for the armchair geologist, the rock hound, and all who are curious about the earth beneath their feet.

Margaret Atwood
The Year of the Flood

This month, the club is reading The Year of the Flood by Margaret Atwood. Copies of the book are available at the circulation desk. For details about the book, go to bit.ly/MPLAdultBookClub2020. No registration required.
More Adult Book Suggestions

It Would Be Night in Caracas
By Karina Sainz Borgo

A woman tests the limits of what she is willing to do to secure her future in turbulent modern Venezuela overrun by violent revolutionaries. A first novel by the author of Caracas Hip-Hop.

Still Here: The Madcap, Nervy, Singular Life of Elaine Stritch
By Alexandra Jacobs

A full chronicle of the Tony Award-winning star's life and career includes coverage of her upbringing in Depression-era Detroit, her psychologically fraught creative collaborations, her struggles with addiction and her Tony Award-winning performances.

Adult Services

To sign up for any event that requires registration, go to bit.ly/MPLRegisterMAR2020 or call (508) 624-6900.

More Adult Events

Healthy Garden Recipes
Monday, March 23, from 6:30-8 p.m.
Fresh is best! Prepare healthy meals with the ingredients from your backyard garden! Join Blackstone Valley Veggie Gardens to learn how to get the healthiest results from your garden produce. Registration is required for a guaranteed seat. Drop-ins will be accommodated on a first-come first-served basis.

 Forever Young Adult
Wednesday, March 25, from 6:30-7:30 p.m.
Join our book club for adults who read YA books. Teens are welcome, too! March’s book is I'll Give You the Sun by Jandy Nelson. Copies will be available at the circulation desk. No registration required.

Science Book Club
Monday, March 30, from 6:30-8 p.m.
Read a book about a topic in science! No previous experience in the subject is necessary; come to learn something new or to share your expertise! This month we are reading The Disappearing Spoon: and Other True Tales of Rivalry, Adventure, and the History of the World from the Periodic Table of the Elements by Sam Kean. Copies are available at the circulation desk. This club is for ages 18 and over. No registration required.
Teen Events
(For Grades 6-12 unless otherwise noted)

Read Across America!
On Monday, March 2, we celebrate Read Across America Day in honor of Dr. Seuss' birthday. The best way to celebrate is to read a book to yourself or someone else:

“You’re never too old, too wacky, too wild, to pick up a book and read to a child.”

Spread the message by being a Window Artist Monday, March 2, from 3 to 5pm. Paint Seuss-inspired designs on the Children’s Room windows. This is a fun way to earn volunteer hours for school. Please pre-register to reserve a window.

YA Book Suggestion

The Deep and Dark Blue by Niki Smith

After a terrible political coup usurps their noble house, Hawke and Grayson flee to stay alive and assume new identities, Hanna and Grayce. Desperation and chance lead them to the Communion of Blue, an order of magical women who spin the threads of reality to their will.

As the twins learn more about the Communion, and themselves, they begin to hatch a plan to avenge their family and retake their royal home. While Hawke wants to return to his old life, Grayce struggles to keep the threads of her new life from unraveling and realizes she wants to stay in the one place that will allow her to finally live as a girl.

To sign up for any event that requires registration or to view all events, go to bit.ly/MPLRegisterMAR2020 or call 508-624-6903.
More Teen Events
(For Grades 6-12 unless otherwise noted)

This is also the perfect time to join our informal book club for teens, Reading at the Table. The next meeting is Thursday, March 19, from 6 to 7 p.m. There’s no assigned book and no pressure to talk. You can share recommendations with fellow teen readers and get first dibs on brand new YA books before they hit the shelves. Best of all, we eat pizza and dessert while we chat. Pre-registration is required to help us plan for dinner.

We also have a book club for adults and teens to talk about YA literature together. Forever Young Adult meets Wednesday, March 25, from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. This month we’re talking about I’ll Give You the Sun by Jandy Nelson. Get your copy at the circulation desk.

Back to the 90’s!
The next meeting of the Teen Anime Club will be a bit of a throwback! We’re screening the classic 90’s anime series Yu Yu Hakusho. Chat about how the series compares to your modern favorites and snack on Pocky. Join us Tuesday, March 10, from 3:30 to 4:30 p.m. Registration appreciated but not required.

To register for events or to view regularly scheduled monthly teen programs, go to bit.ly/MPLRegisterMAR2020 or call 508-624-6903.
Even More Teen Events
(For Grades 6-12 unless otherwise noted)

Craft and Create
Stretch your creative muscles at the next Teen Write-In Thursday, March 12, from 6 to 7 p.m. Brainstorm, workshop, and collaborate with other teen writers in a supportive environment. Hot cocoa and snacks will help, too. Registration appreciated, but not required.

Are you longing for a little sign of spring? Come to Lazy Crafternoon Tuesday, March 17, from 3:30 to 5 p.m., and make a tiny magnetic planter out of a wine cork. It’s sure to brighten up your fridge or the inside of your locker. Since real plants couldn’t survive inside your locker, we’re going to make faux plants out of felt. Please pre-register.

Hot Cocoa Cafe
Come to Hot Cocoa Cafe in the Teen Room Wednesday, March 4, from 3 to 5 p.m., and Thursday, March 26, from 6 to 8 p.m. Settle in and do your homework, enjoy cozy cocoa, and take breaks to make DIY pins on our button machine. No registration required.

One more YA Book Suggestion

Sunnyside Plaza
by Scott Simon
Sally Miyake can’t read, but she learns lots of things. Like bricks are made of clay and Vitamin D comes from the sun. Sally is happy working in the kitchen at Sunnyside Plaza, the community center she lives in with other adults with developmental disabilities. For Sally and her friends, Sunnyside is the only home they’ve ever known.

Everything changes the day a resident unexpectedly dies. After a series of tragic events, detectives Esther Rivas and Lon Bridges begin asking questions. Are the incidents accidents? Or is something more disturbing happening? The suspicious deaths spur the residents into taking the investigation into their own hands. But are people willing to listen?

To register for events or to view regularly scheduled monthly teen programs, go to bit.ly/MPLRegisterMAR2020 or call 508-624-6903.
Fiona’s Lace by Patricia Polacco

Fiona and her family moved from Ireland to Chicago to begin a new life. Yet, when the family is struck with misfortune, will Fiona’s lace help save them?

So Far From Home: The Diary of Mary Driscoll, an Irish Mill Girl by Barry Denenberg

In the diary account of her journey from Ireland in 1847 and of her work in a mill in Lowell, Massachusetts, fourteen-year-old Mary reveals a great longing for her family.

This month the Children’s Room is “Marching” right along with some brand NEW programs!

Spike is hoping you will come by to say “Hi” and join the fun! Here’s what’s new:

Craft-O-Rama Club
Wednesday, March 11, from 4-5 p.m.
Join us every second Wednesday of the month for an afterschool craft. This month’s craft is a hot air balloon multimedia painting. Ages 5 to 11 with a caregiver. Please pre-register.

Alphabits Storytime
Friday, March 13, from 11 to 11:45 a.m.
This program is a biweekly storytime for children ages 2 to 5 with a caregiver, where we focus on one letter each session.

We’ll listen to stories, sing songs, play games and make a craft. Siblings are always welcome. No registration required.
Another Children’s Book Suggestion

Chapter Book

Hunger: A Tale of Courage
By Donna Napoli

In the autumn of 1846 in Ireland, twelve-year-old Lorraine and her family struggle to survive during the Irish potato famine, but when Lorraine meets Miss Susannah, the daughter of the wealthy English landowner who owns Lorraine’s family’s farm, they form an unlikely friendship that they must keep secret due to the deep cultural divide between their two families.

Another exciting NEW program is here:

The Children’s Department is inviting those in grades 2 to 5 to join the new Graphic Novel Book Club for Kids, Wednesday, March 25, from 4-4:45 p.m.

If you love graphic novels, then this club is for you! This month we’ll be reading the very first Dog Man by Dav Pilkey. We’ll chat about the book, eat “dog food” and make Dog Man pins. Copies of this month’s selection are available at the Children’s circulation desk. Please pre-register.

Besides our new programs, we will be staying busy with all our usual programs, too, like Mother Goose on the Loose, Read to a Dog, Dance Me a Story, Hooked on Books, and more.

Don’t forget to check out calendar of events at bit.ly/MPLRegisterMAR2020 for dates and times, and to sign up for the ones that require pre-registration.