

Happy December, Montague!

It's hard to believe that the year is nearly over! And what a year it's been. Here's a quick rundown:

With community feedback, the trustees and I put together a building program and application for a new or improved main library, which, with support from Town Meeting voters, was submitted to the state at the end of May. Youth Services Librarian, Angela, received multiple grants to both support teen services, in collaboration with the Brick House, and ongoing Music and Movement sessions. The ad hoc Accessibility Committee and I gathered community input to inform a 5-year accessibility plan for the libraries and developed a collection of assistive technology, including screen readers, personal amplifiers, and more! The American Library Association funded the libraries' grant for a new, accessible library website and a group of trustees and I participated in a re-branding process led by local designer, Liz Moran.

Branch Library Assistants, Kate and Jake, went above and beyond in developing new programs and services and Kate's recent Oral History Program Kick-off can only be described as a smashing success. Staff participated in the town's wage and class study, which led to the trustees and I pursuing both higher wages for frontline staff and a new position to support additional outreach, programming, and technology instruction. Thoughtful discussions about equity, initiated by frontline staff during a half-day staff meeting, led to a change in protocol for signing unhoused persons up for library cards. The Montague Center Branch got beautiful new windows, thanks to Christopher Sawyer-Laucanno's oversight and deep knowledge of historic architecture. The Millers Falls Branch got new windows, a coat of paint, new carpeting, and new furniture. And finally, the Carnegie Library was found to have active mold in the basement, but it was duly removed, and work is almost complete to make the space habitable by library staff once again.

I can't wait to see what 2025 has in store for us!

All the best!
Caitlin

LIBRARY INFORMATION

Carnegie Public Library
413-863-3214

201 Avenue A, Turners Falls

Monday - Wednesday

10:00 AM - 7:00 PM

Thursday - Saturday

10:00 AM - 5:00 PM

Millers Falls Library

413-659-3801

23 Bridge St.

Tuesday & Thursday

1:00-7:00

Montague Center Library

413-367-2852

17 Center St.

Monday & Wednesday

2:00 - 7:00

Friday 10:00-1:00

Website:

montaguepubliclibraries.org



Like us on Facebook



Follow us on Instagram



- **GRAB & GO BAGS**
Craft: Paper Roll Snowperson
Free kits at all branches while supplies last.
- **IMAGINATION STATION**
Tuesdays, 3:30-4:30 PM
Drop-in crafts for ages 6-12.
In November we'll have fun with food-themed crafts! **Carnegie Library**
- **LEGO AT THE LIBRARY**
Wednesdays, 3:30-4:30 PM
Build with library LEGO at the **Carnegie Library**
- **DROP-IN COMMUNITY PUZZLE**
Saturdays, 10:00am-5:00PM
Everyone is invited to add 1 or 2 (or 200) pieces to the library's community puzzle!
Carnegie Library
- **KNITTING CLUB**
Wednesday, December 4, 4:30-5:30PM
1st Wednesday of each month! Bring a project or learn something new. All ages welcome. **Montague Center Library**
- **FRIENDS USED BOOK SALE POSTPONED**
Due to basement renovation, the next book sale will be Sat, Jan 4th, 10:00am-1:00pm.
Email kristopherlangston@gmail.com
Carnegie Library
- **GRANGE CELEBRATION: FOOD, FARMS AND FACTORIES SERIES CLOSING EVENT!**
Saturday, December 7 6:00-10:00 PM
Join us for a potluck dinner, a talk by Will Quale on the "History of the Grange," and contra dance, featuring music by All Over the Map and calling by Steve Howland. Fun for everyone. Free.
Common Hall, 34 Main St, Montague Center
- **FRIENDS MEETING**
Monday, December 9, 5:30-6:30 PM
Current and future Friends.
Email kristopherlangston@gmail.com
Carnegie Library
- **MONTAGUE CENTER BOOK CLUB**
Thursday, December 5, 5:30PM
We will be discussing Lincoln in the Bardo by George Saunders. **Montague Center Library**
- **MEET & GREET WITH THE MONTAGUE VILLAGES**
Tuesday, December 10, 3:00-4:00PM
Millers Falls Library
- **MILLERS FALLS BOOK CLUB**
Thursday, December 12, 5:30PM
We will wrap up discussion of What the Wind Knows and begin discussing our next book Catalog of Unabashed Gratitude by Ross Gay). Ages 17 and up. **Millers Falls Library**
- **FOLDED PAPER LUMINARIES**
Wednesday, December 18, 5:00-7:00PM
Recommended for adults and children ages 8+ Drop-in format, no rsvp required.
Montague Center Library
- **GINGERBREAD HOUSES**
Saturday, December 21, 1:00-3:00PM
Make easy gingerbread houses! Empty milk cartons, graham crackers, and assorted candies will be provided. Ages 3-16.
Hosted by the Great Falls Discovery Center
- **MEET & GREET WITH THE MONTAGUE VILLAGES**
Friday, December 27, 10:00-11:00AM
Montague Center Library
- **CRAFT CLUB**
Monday, December 23, 4:00-5:00PM
Glassine stars to hang in the window and bring some color to this gray time of year. All ages.
Montague Center Library

The Montague Public Libraries
will be closed
Tues, Dec 24 and Wed, Dec 25
for the holidays.

Happy Holidays!