

# Check it Out!

A newsletter of the Montague Public Libraries

April 2025

Happy April, Montague!

This month is packed—and I mean PACKED—with exciting programs. Get your creative juices flowing by making a haiku postcard, compose a poem or a song at one of three writing workshops led by local storyteller and musician, Eric Wheeler, or create a vision board collage using recycled library materials with Cut Loose. Artists are encouraged to share work about a poem, and poets are encouraged to share a poem about an artwork at the Montague Center Branch Library, starting in May. Additionally, history buffs can hear Kostya Kennedy discuss his new book on Paul Revere's ride and poets and gardeners can attend a watch party/author talk with Ross Gay, community gardener and author of Big Read collection, *Catalog of Unabashed Gratitude*. Kids may have the most fun, however, figuring out how to eat in outer space during our Space Food Activity.

A grant-funded technology pod, AKA the Nook Huddle, was just installed at the Millers Falls Branch Library. It's the perfect place to snuggle up with a book or your homework, to take a zoom call or catch up with a friend. Starting soon, representatives from the Brick House will hold free benefits counseling session in the pod and, once the new website is launched, the pod will also be bookable.

On the building project front, the Library Building Steering Committee will hire a project manager before the end of a month and work on hiring an architect. This month, I'll also start writing a building updates column in the Montague Reporter. Of course, anyone with questions about the building project, or anything else, is welcome to reach out to me at [librarydirector@montague-ma.gov](mailto:librarydirector@montague-ma.gov).

Happy reading!

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](http://montaguepubliclibraries.org)



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**BUTTERFLY CRAFT**

Grab & Go Bags  
Free activity kits while supplies last  
All Branches

**CALL FOR ART & POETRY**

Calling all visual artists to make a work inspired by a poem and poets to write a poem inspired by a work of art. Please bring your work and your inspiration to the library to be displayed from May 5 - July 2.  
Montague Center Branch Library

**IMAGINATION STATION**

Tuesdays, 3:30-4:30 PM  
Drop-in crafts for ages 6-12  
Millers Falls Branch Library

**LEGO AT THE LIBRARY**

Wednesdays, 3:30-4:30 PM  
Build with library LEGO at the Carnegie Library. Ages 6-12

**BILINGUAL MUSIC & MOVEMENT**

Thursdays in April, 10:00AM-11:00AM  
Join Tom & Laurie for a an interactive program!  
For ages 0-5.  
Montague Center Branch 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 April 2, 4:30-5:30PM  
First Wednesdays of the month. Bring a project or learn something new! All ages and skill levels welcome.  
Montague Center Branch Library

**FRIENDS USED BOOK SALE**

Saturday, April 5, 10:00AM-1:00PM  
Fiction, paperbacks, and kids' books, DVDs/CDs & Audio Books. Hundreds of recent donations.  
Carnegie Library

**HAIKU POSTCARDS**

Saturday, April 5, 1:00PM-3:00PM  
Hands-on workshop for families, children, ages 8+ accompanied by an adult. Poems and materials will be provided.  
Great Falls Discovery Center



**ARTIST TALK WITH ARISTA ALANIS**

Sunday, April 6, 2:00-3:30PM  
Meet Arista Alanis and hear how her painting "on down the road" became the image used for Ross Gay's Catalog of Unabashed Gratitude book cover.  
Great Falls Discovery Center



**WHEATPASTE MURAL COMMUNITY INPUT SESSION**

Tuesday, April 8 5:30-7:00PM  
Join the Millers Falls Community Improvement Association and muralist Ponnapa to see a presentation about her designs and to discuss ways to make the draft designs more personal to Millers Falls.  
Millers Falls Branch Library

**THE RIDE: AUTHOR TALK WITH KOSTYA KENNEDY**

Monday, April 7, 6:00PM  
NY Times bestselling author Kostya Kennedy presents a dramatic new narrative of the events of Paul Revere's ride. This event celebrates the 250th year anniversary of the infamous ride, and is hosted by the Griswold Memorial Library, Montague Public Library, and Greenfield Public Library.  
Greenfield Public Library Community Room

**WRITING WORKSHOP WITH ERICA WHEELER**

Thursday, April 10, 6:30-8:00PM - Wistariahurst Museum, Holyoke  
Thursday, April 16, 6:30 - 8:30PM- Forbes Library, Northampton  
Thursday, April 17, 6:30 - 8:30PM- The Permaculture Place, Shelburne Falls  
Craft vivid stories, poems, or songs inspired by your experiences with place. Registration required.



**BOOK CLUB**

Thursday, April 10, 5:30-6:30PM  
The Well of Lost Plots by Jasper Fforde  
Millers Falls Branch Library


**FRIENDS MEETING**

Monday, April 14, 5:30-6:30 PM  
Current and future Friends.  
Carnegie Library



These events are part of The National Endowment of the Arts BIG READ and a project of the Pocumtuck Valley Memorial Association. This year's NEA Big Read explores the theme "Where We Live" through Ross Gay's poetry collection, *Catalog of Unabashed Gratitude*.



 ● **ROSS GAY READS, FROST HEAVES ROCK**  
**Monday, April 14, 7:00-8:00PM, 8:30-10:00PM**  
 Keynote event for NEA Big Read: a conversation with author, Ross Gay. After party with The Frostheaves.  
**Great Falls Discovery Center or join on Zoom**  
**After Party at The Rendezvous**


● **MEET AND GREET WITH MONTAGUE VILLAGES**  
**Tuesday, April 15, 3:00 - 4:00PM**  
 Get to know one another and learn about Montague Villages. **Millers Falls Branch Library**

● **BUILDWAVE EVENT**  
**Tuesday, April 22, 11:00AM-12:00PM**  
 A building game that feels like a gameshow. Registration required. Ages 5+  
**Great Falls Discovery Center**

● **SPACE FOOD ACTIVITY**  
**Thursday, April 24, 2:00-4:00PM**  
 Consider ways to store food or feed astronauts using recycled materials!  
 Ages 5-12. **Carnegie Library**

 ● **WRITER'S SHOWCASE & CONCERT**  
**Sunday, April 27, 3:00-5:00PM**  
 Celebrate local voices and stories with a concert with Erica Wheeler and writer's showcase event. **Great Falls Discovery Center**

● **CUT, PASTE, MANIFEST: UPCYCLED VISION BOARD WORKSHOP**  
**Wednesday, April 30<sup>th</sup>, 6:00PM**  
 Give old books and magazines new life while crafting a vision board that sparks inspiration! In this hands-on collage session with Michael Sjostedt of Cut Loose Collage Workshops, you'll transform discarded library materials into a unique visual roadmap—whether for personal goals, creative projects, or pure fun. Open to all ages and skill levels—just bring your imagination!  
**Montague Center Library**

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