

# Check it Out!

A newsletter of the Montague Public Libraries

March 2026

Happy March, Montague!

As I write this note, blizzard conditions are whiting out the sky and sticking snow to the window screens. And yet, March is the month to plant peas. The Seed Libraries will be up and running at both the Carnegie Library and the Millers Falls Branch Library by mid-month. Stop by either location to pick up vegetable, herb, and flower seeds, donated by High Mowing Organic Seeds. Spring, somehow, is on the way.

This month, we'll also provide long-awaited updates about funding for the Main Library Building Project. On March 5th, the Massachusetts Board of Library Commissioners will vote to approve the state's share of the project costs. On Tuesday, March 17th the Library Building Steering Committee, representatives from Downes Construction, Town Administrator, Walter Ramsey, Town Accountant, Angelica Desroches, and I will host a community event at the Senior Center (and via Zoom) at 6:00PM. We'll review the Carnegie's challenges, the features included in the proposed new building, and go over project funding and the approval process.

How did public libraries in the US emerge as cornerstones of the community? What challenges do libraries now face? The Montague Center Branch will host a two-part documentary series, screening *The Librarians* and *Free for All: The Public Library* on Wednesdays 3/11 and 3/18 respectively. Kate is also launching a brand-new Afternoon Classics Book Club this month, featuring Ray Bradbury's *Fahrenheit 451*.

For those interested in local history, Professor Richard Little will present on the geological history of the area, covering glaciers, armored mud balls, and more at the Millers Falls Branch Library. For more recent history, join me at the Great Falls Discovery Center for a presentation on the Grand Trunk Hotel, the lost landmark that once stood on the site of what could be the new main library. The Montague Center Branch will also screen *FAR OUT: Life on & After The Commune* which focuses on two local communal farms and the people who built them.

Finally, Lachlan, our amazing new Community Relations Coordinator, has transformed our newsletter, making the event sections larger and easier to read. We welcome any feedback you might have on the newsletter and about library communications generally. Stay tuned for a joint communications survey from RiverCulture, the Libraries, and Parks & Rec, which will be released later this month or in early April.

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 Branch Library

413-659-3801

23 Bridge St.

Tuesday & Thursday

1:00-7:00 PM

### Montague Center Branch Library

413-367-2852

17 Center St.

Monday & Wednesday

2:00-7:00 PM

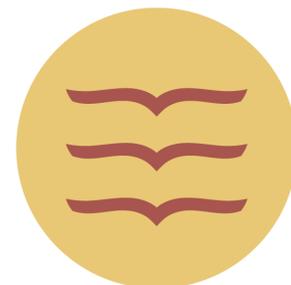
Friday 10:00 AM-1:00 PM

Website:

[MontaguePublicLibraries.org](http://MontaguePublicLibraries.org)

 /MontaguePublicLibraries

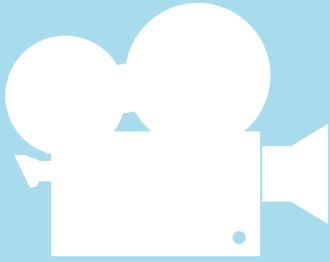
 @MontaguePublicLibraries





# MONTHLY SPOTLIGHT

Good Stories,  
Great Movies, Big  
Community  
Moments



**Wed.  
11th &  
18th**

### **Libraries on the Big Screen Series**

5:30-7:00 PM. Come watch a two-part film series with us and explore the power of books, the importance of libraries, and the people who protect them. **Montague Center Branch.**



**Mon.  
16th**

### **Afternoon Classics Book Club**

4:00-5:00 PM. Join us for our brand-new book club. Our first read is *Fahrenheit 451* by Ray Bradbury, a powerful book about censorship and thinking for yourself. **Montague Center Branch.**



**Tues.  
17th**

### **Your Library, Your Voice: Project Overview**

6:00-7:30 PM. Learn more about the plans for a new Montague main library and how it will impact our community financially. **Montague Senior Center.**



**Thurs.  
26th**

### **Amazing “Deep History” of Millers Falls**

4:00-5:15 PM. From the time when all the continents were joined together as Pangea, to the massive glaciers and Lake Hitchcock—Professor Little will bring to life the history of this place we call home. **Millers Falls Branch.**

For more details and updates about these events, please visit our website or follow us on social media.  
[montaguepubliclibraries.org](http://montaguepubliclibraries.org)

# WEEKLY PROGRAMS

Ages  
3-12

Ages  
8-12

All  
Ages

Adults

## Mondays

- **SENSORY FRIENDLY HOUR**  
March 2, 9, 16, 23, & 30. 9:00-10:00 AM  
Join us outside of normal library hours for a welcoming environment for preschoolers with sensory sensitivities. **Carnegie Library.**
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## Tuesdays

- **DROP-IN CRAFT**  
March 3, 10, 17, 24 & 31. 2:00-7:00 PM  
The craft bin is available in the children's area during library open hours. Designed for ages 5-12 but all are welcome. **Millers Falls Branch.**
  - **PLAYGROUP**  
March 3, 10, 17, 24 & 31. 2:00-3:00 PM  
This program is designed to give preschoolers a space to explore, imagine, and develop social skills through play. It's also a wonderful opportunity for caregivers to connect. **Millers Falls Branch.**
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## Wednesdays

- **LEGO AT THE LIBRARY**  
March 4, 11, 18 & 25. 10:00 AM -7:00 PM  
Build with LEGO at **Carnegie Library.**  
For ages 6-12.
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## Thursdays

- **BILINGUAL MUSIC & MOVEMENT**  
Thursday, Jan. 8, 15, 22 & 29, 10:00-10:45 AM  
Sing, dance, and move with Tom and Laurie at **Montague Center Branch.** Made possible by generous donations from patrons.
  - **DROP-IN CRAFT**  
March 3, 10, 17, 24 & 31. 2:00-7:00 PM  
The craft bin is available in the children's area during library open hours. Designed for ages 5-12 but all are welcome. **Millers Falls Branch.**
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## Fridays

- **DUNGEONS & DRAGONS**  
March 6, 13, 20 & 27. 5:00-7:00 PM  
DnD Club is for ages 11-19. The campaign will run on Fridays, from February 20 to march 27, outside of regular library hours  
**Carnegie Library**

# SPECIAL PROGRAMS



Tuesday,  
3/3

- **WORLD PLAY: CROSS CULTURAL PLAYGROUP**  
10:30 AM - 12:00 PM. In a special collaboration between the Montague Public Libraries and The Heartwing Center, this program explores the rich tapestry of global languages and cultures. **Carnegie Library.**
- **COMMUNITY RESOURCE ASSISTANCE**  
1:00-2:00 PM. Get assistance navigating a wide range of programs and resources, from job search help to mental health support services. **Millers Falls Branch.**

Saturday,  
3/7

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- **FRIENDS USED BOOK SALE**  
10:00 AM-1:00 PM. Browse fiction, paperbacks, and kids' books, DVDs/CDs & audiobooks. **Carnegie Library.**
  - **STUDENT EXHIBITION "THE IDEAL HOUSE" ART RECEPTION**  
1:00-2:00 PM. Experience the moving artwork of Ukrainian youth through "The Ideal House," a project where students share their visions of home and hopes for a peaceful future. **Carnegie Library.**

Saturday,  
3/14

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- **LOCAL HISTORY TALK SERIES: THE GRAND TRUNK HOTEL**  
2:00-3:00PM. Join the Massachusetts Department of Conservation and Recreation (DCR) staff as we use old photos, stories, and a little imagination to bring a lost landmark back to life. **Great Falls Discovery Center.**

Monday,  
3/23

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- **KNITTING NIGHT**  
5:00-6:15 PM. Drop by for our casual knitting night. Bring your fiber arts work-in-progress or borrow from our stash of yarn and needles. **Carnegie Library.**

# SPECIAL PROGRAMS



Monday  
3/23

- **FAR OUT: LIFE ON & AFTER THE COMMUNE**  
6:00-8:00 PM. Travel back to the counterculture movement of rural New England. This 85-minute documentary shares the powerful story of two communal farms and the people who built them. **Montague Center Branch.**
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Wednesday,  
3/25

- **HERE COMES THE PIZZER!**  
5:30-7:00 PM. Celebrate baseball opening day with Eric Poulin, Mark Shwaber, and baseball-inspired poetry. **Montague Center Branch.**
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Saturday,  
3/28

- **FAVORITE STORYBOOK CHARACTER DAY**  
1:00-3:00 PM. Join us for a magical afternoon with Brie's Balloons. Costumes encouraged, themed balloon art provided. **Great Falls Discovery Center.**
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Monday,  
3/30

- **KNITTING CLUB**  
4:30-5:30PM. Bring your fiber arts project or just your eagerness to learn. All ages and abilities welcome! Held every last Monday. **Montague Center Branch.**
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Tuesday,  
3/30

- **GAME NIGHT**  
5:15-6:30 PM. Join us for an afternoon of the classic board game Clue. Work together to solve the mystery and find out who did it, with what, and where! **Carnegie Library.**
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**ONLINE LIBRARY  
EVENTS CALENDAR:**

