Sharon Public Library Monthly Newsletter
December 2024

Mass Center for the Book
2024 READING CHALLENGE
A monthly book challenge for adults!

December's Challenge:

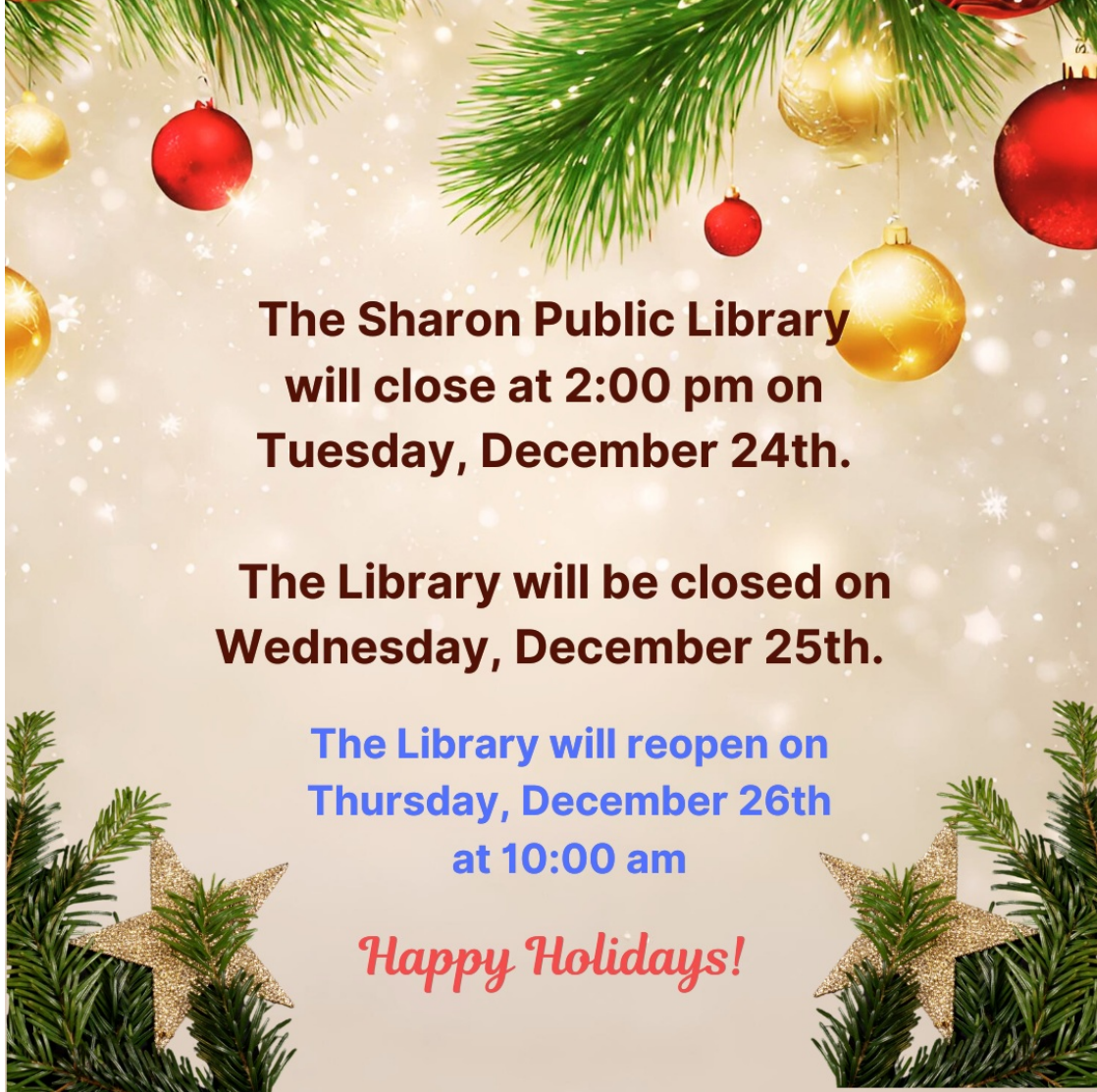*A well-reviewed book in your least favorite genre*

Announcements

New Library Project

All questions about the project should be directed to the **Sharon Standing Building Committee** via the Town's website. The SSBC page is regularly updated with meeting agendas and minutes. The public is always welcome to attend these meetings, which are also recorded by **Sharon Cable TV**.

Construction updates and photos may be found at the Town's website under **Quick Links - Building Projects** - **Library Project In Progress.**

The Sharon Public Library
will close at 2:00 pm on
Tuesday, December 24th.

The Library will be closed on
Wednesday, December 25th.

The Library will reopen on
Thursday, December 26th
at 10:00 am

Happy Holidays!

The Library will close at 2:00 pm on Tuesday, December 24. The Library will be closed on Wednesday, December 25. The Library will reopen on Thursday, December 26 at 10:00 am.

HAPPY
New Year!

The Library will close at 2:00 PM on December 31, 2024
January 1, 2025 - Library closed
We will reopen on January 2 at 10:00 AM

The Library will close at 2:00 pm on Tuesday, December 31, 2024.
The Library will be closed on Wednesday, January 1, 2025.

The Library will reopen on Thursday, January 2 at 10:00 am.

From the Circulation Desk

Have you downloaded the SPL Mobile App yet?

Exciting changes are coming to the Sharon Public Library, including a new self-checkout system patrons will be able to use in our new building. To use the self-checkout system, patrons will need their library barcode, available on their library card or conveniently in the **Sharon Public Library Mobile App** on their phone. For a streamlined checkout experience now and when the new building opens, we encourage everyone to download the SPL Mobile App.

With the SPL Mobile App, patrons can:
- Use the app as your library card for an easy checkout experience
- Search the Catalog
- Place holds with one tap
- Receive real-time updates on hold status, checkouts, and fines
- Stay informed about library events

The app lets you skip the lines, easily search for items, and track your borrowed books—all to make your library experience more convenient than ever.

Note: Account settings are managed outside of the app. For specific features, including changing your PIN or paying fines/fee, **please click here and click on "My Account."**

Tech Talk

Did you know that you can schedule a 30-minute appointment with one of our Reference Librarians for technology help? **Find more info and request an appointment on our website.**

Out of the Archives

In preparation for the new Library, we have embarked on a project to organize our local history archival collection. Some very interesting items are being unearthed and will be featured as part of this monthly newsletter by our Archivist, Arielle Nathanson.

This month's feature is:

Slavery and The Underground Railroad in Sharon

The colonial style house on 247 South Main Street is one that many people pass without a second thought. It was built in 1741 by Squire Benjamin Reynolds as his family homestead. While that date alone is impressive, it's hardly why this house deserves attention.

Instead, the focus should be on the spaces behind the chimneys and fireplaces, as well as the walls of the second floor. There we will find cedar posts with average looking nails in them. Each one is thought to represent a slave who hid there during their journey to freedom on Ponkapoag Plantation in Canton and

Milton. In total, there are thirteen nails, though the exact number of actual slaves hidden cannot be known. Unfortunately, any records pertaining to secret emancipation efforts were understandably destroyed, or never created in the first place. It is speculated that other old homes in Sharon served the same purpose. Though, once again it is difficult to be positive...

[**link to full article**]

Youth Services

Looking for information about youth programs and services? Sign up for our Youth Newsletters by clicking the appropriate button below.

Sign up for Birth - 5th Grade Newsletter

Sign up for Teen/Tween Newsletter

Upcoming Programs

Virtual
More Holiday Romance Book Recommendations with Booklist Reviewer John Charles

December 2 at 7:00 PM
via Zoom

With the holidays right around the corner, take a minute (or an hour) to relax and find some good holiday romance reads! John Charles will give us his "best of" list of 2024 that will have your TBR pile tipping over and your holidays spent cozying up to a good book (bring your own hot toddy!). No need to bring papyrus and quill, we'll send out a list after the session. We hope you can join us!

Presented in partnership with the Ashland Public Library.
Sponsored by the Friends of the Ashland Public Library.

Registration Required.

In-person

Tech with Tim - Google Suite

December 4 at 6:00 PM
SPL Community Room

Join Tim Lumnah for an overview of Google Suite in this beginner's program. Participants are welcome to bring their own devices to follow along.

Tim runs his own business that helps people keep up with the fast pace of today's technology. He started professionally helping people with tech by building websites and later became the go-to person for tech assistance when the IT department couldn't resolve an issue before starting his current project, ComputerTutor.

More information here

Registration Required.

Virtual

Q&A with Author Nicole Tersigni: "Cat People to Judge in Art and Life"

December 9 at 7:00 PM
via Zoom

We can't wait to chat with bestselling author Nicole Tersigni about her most recent book, *Cat People To Judge In Art And Life*. Cat people love their cats deeply... maybe a little too deeply. Cats, on the other hand, secretly hate our haircuts but tolerate our presence because we have the thumbs to open the food can. Against the backdrop of fine art, bestselling author Nicole Tersigni delves into the minds of our feline companions and the people who serve them.

Presented in partnership with the Ashland Public Library.
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More information here

Registration Required.

Author Q&A: "Invisible Strings: 113 Poets Respond to the Songs of Taylor Swift"

**December 12 at 7:00 PM
via Zoom**

An anthology of brand-new poems inspired by Taylor Swift songs, from a powerhouse group of contemporary poets, including Kate Baer, Maggie Smith, and Joy Harjo. In **Invisible Strings**, poet, professor, and dedicated Swiftie Kristie Frederick Daugherty has brought together 113 contemporary poets, each contributing an original poem that responds to a specific Taylor Swift song.

In a spirit of celebration and collaboration, poets have taken a cue from Swift's love of dropping clues and puzzles for her fandom to decode, as each poem alludes to a song without using direct lyrics.

Presented in partnership with the Ashland Public Library.
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More information here

Registration Required.

Ongoing Programs

Sharon Public Library Book Discussion Group

In-person

All are welcome to join this drop-in group at any time;
there is no obligation to attend all meetings.**
We read across many genres and enjoy lively discussion!

December's book is**: *The Mountains Wild* by Sarah Stewart Taylor**

Thursday, December 19 at 1:00 PM in the Community Room

(Copies are available at the Adult Circulation Desk and on **Libby by Overdrive**)

Questions? Susan Eggimann | seggimann@sharon.ocln.org | 781.784.1578 x1422

2024-2025 Book Titles and Meeting Dates

Sign up for our SPL Book Discussion Group Newsletter to stay up-to-date with meeting announcements and book selections.

**The SPL Book Discussion Group meets September to June on the 4th Thursday of each month @ 1:00 PM in the Library's Community Room. No registration required!

Follow us on social media &
stay up-to-date with programs, services, and news!

Download the **Sharon Public Library (MA) mobile app** on either your iPhone/Apple device(s) or Android/Google device(s).