

## Sharon Public Library Monthly Newsletter February 2026

### Announcements



**WELCOME**  
OUR NEW

LIBRARY DIRECTOR

*Randy E. Gagné*

Join us for a meet and greet

Wednesday, February 11, 2026

4 p.m. – 6 p.m.

Sharon Public Library Community Room

Sharon Public Library Board of Trustees

Friends of the Sharon Public Library

Sharon Public Library Foundation

As previously announced, The Board of Library Trustees has hired a new Library Director, Randy E. Gagné.

Randy will start at SPL on January 26, working with the current Library Director, Lee Ann Amend, until she retires on February 6. Randy will officially take over as Library Director on February 7.

Randy has extensive experience, most recently as Library Director for the Middleborough Public Library.



## A Message from Library Director, Lee Ann Amend

Over the past 11 years, I have had the privilege of meeting and speaking with many of you. I had the pleasure of hosting many programs on topics such as health, history, medicine, music, legal, and cultural events. Do you remember the Musical World Café events? They were a lot of fun, and with wonderful patrons like you, all of these and many more were successful.

With deep respect and admiration for our Veterans, I will miss our time together, and I hope I was able to create a lasting legacy through the National online programming database for Veterans.

You can all be proud of your beautiful new Library and the wonderful staff who serve you every day. You may still see me around as I wrap up the construction grant program by the spring. But most of all, thank you for allowing me the privilege to serve you for all these years.

Lee Ann

## Library Updates



THE LIBRARY WILL BE **CLOSED**

**MONDAY, FEBRUARY 16TH**

IN OBSERVANCE OF  
**PRESIDENTS' DAY**

## Upcoming Programs



# *Galentine's Book Night*

A discussion of love stories,  
romance, friendship, and fantasy



hot cocoa bar  
games  
raffle  
book swap

Bring your book club and your friends!

**Thursday**  
**Feb. 12**  
**6-7:30pm**

**Sharon Public Library**  
**Community Room**

scan to register



**Galentine's Book Night**

Thursday, February 12 at 6:00 PM

## SPL Community Room

Grab your book club and all your favorite gals for a cozy Galentine's celebration! Enjoy a relaxed evening of book swaps, raffles, sweet treats, and lively conversation as we chat about love stories, romance, friendship, and fantasy. Whether you're a devoted reader or just in it for the vibes, this is the perfect night to connect, share, and celebrate the joy of books together.

**Questions: Contact [info@friendsofsharonpubliclibrary.org](mailto:info@friendsofsharonpubliclibrary.org)**

*Hosted by the Friends of the Sharon Public Library.*

**More Info Here - Registration Required**



*Virtual*

### **Author Nava Atlas and Cartoonist Bob Eckstein: "Inspired by Cat: Writers & Their Mews(es)"**

February 2 at 7:00 PM via Zoom

What happens when you put together bestselling Vegan Cookbook writer, Nava Atlas, and New Times Cartoonist, Bob Eckstein? You get "Inspired by Cats: Writers and Their Mews(es)" with distinctive illustrations and charming stories celebrating the pawsitively purrfect relationships between renowned authors and their beloved cats. We hope you'll join us!

*In partnership with Ashland Public Library.*

**More Info Here - Registration Required**



*Virtual*

### **Author and Historian Helen Fry Discusses "Spymaster: The Man Who Saved MI6"**

February 7 at 2:00 PM via Zoom

Author and historian Helen Fry will be discussing her book, "Spymaster: The Man Who Saved MI6". Discover the untold story of Thomas Joseph Kendrick, a senior spymaster who saved lives and shaped history during WWII, blending daring spy networks and daring rescues in Nazi Germany, all while operating in the shadows of MI6 secrecy.

*In partnership with Ashland Public Library with funding from the Friends of the Sharon Public Library.*

**More Info Here - Registration Required**



*Virtual*

## **The Art Spy: The Extraordinary Untold Tale of WWII Resistance Hero Rose Valland**

February 11 at 7:00 PM via Zoom

Author Michelle Young will discuss her new book, "The Art Spy: The Extraordinary Untold Tale of WWII Resistance Hero Rose Valland." A riveting and stylish saga set in Paris during World War II, "The Art Spy" uncovers the true story of how an unlikely heroine infiltrated the Nazi leadership to save the world's most treasured masterpieces.

*In partnership with Tewksbury Public Library.*

[More Info Here - Registration Required](#)



*Virtual*

## **Sally Snowman, the last USCG Keeper of Boston Light and Husband Jay Thomson**

February 12 at 7:00 PM via Zoom

For more than three centuries, Boston Light has stood watch over Boston Harbor. First illuminated in 1716 as Colonial America's very first lighthouse, this iconic beacon is still an active Coast Guard aid to navigation today. This special presentation explores Boston Light's remarkable 307-year legacy, marks the retirement of its 70th keeper, the legendary Sally Snowman, and features expert insight from renowned lighthouse historian Jeremy D'Entremont.

*In partnership with Ashland Public Library.*

[More Info Here - Registration Required](#)



*In-person*

## **Mass Save Pop-Up Program**

February 14 and 24 at 10:00 AM to 5:00 PM  
Circulation Services

Longtime Mass Save® partner, HomeWorks Energy Inc. has teamed up again with the Sharon Public Library to help Sharon community members save money on energy costs and make their homes safer, healthier, and more comfortable. This is a popup program located near Circulation Services from 10 AM to 5 PM on the following dates: Saturday, February 14 and Tuesday, February 24.

Come to the Library on these dates to learn about the Mass Save program, which offers no-cost Home Energy Assessments (HEAs) to Massachusetts renters and homeowners. The goal of these assessments is to make residents' homes safer,

healthier, and more comfortable, while helping them identify ways to lower energy consumption, carbon emissions, and utility bill costs. [More information about the Mass Save Program.](#)

*In partnership with HomeWorks, Energy, Inc.*

[More Info Here - Registration Required](#)



*Virtual*

## **Burglary At The Louvre: How Can Writers Top This?**

February 25 at 7:00 PM via Zoom

The world is fascinated by the recent jewel robbery at the Louvre, and so are the Curators of Crime, mystery authors Connie Berry, Lane Stone, Nina Wachsman, and M. A. Monnin. In this presentation, the Curators of Crime will examine the public's fascination with the recent burglary of Napoleonic jewels at the Louvre and discuss how as authors they have used the same elements in their books.

*In partnership with Tewksbury Public Library.*

[More Info Here - Registration Required](#)



*In-person*

## **Blackwork Embroidery Workshop**

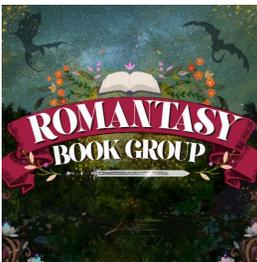
Wednesday, February 25 at 1:00 PM  
Community Room A

Join Esther Begleiter to learn Blackwork Embroidery! This beautiful technique is done by using geometric shapes in different patterns.

Ms. Begleiter is an expert of her craft, and has been teaching embroidery since the late 1970s. She has designed and taught various techniques, including; Blackwork Embroidery, 3 Dimensional Embroidery, Canvas Embroidery (Needlepoint), Crewel Embroidery, Hardanger Embroidery, Pulled Thread Embroidery and Smocking.

**Registration is limited to 10 people, so sign up fast!**

[More Info Here - Registration Required](#)



*In-person*

## **Romantasy Book Group**

Wednesday, February 25 at 6:30 PM  
Community Room A

This new drop-in book group is designed for Millennials and older Gen Z readers who enjoy fantasy stories where romance plays a central role. Instead of assigning a single book each month, the group operates as a genre-based discussion space.

Participants are welcome to read any romantasy title and come prepared to share current reads, favorite books, and recommendations. Discussion topics may include epic and romantic fantasy, dark and gothic romantasy, cozy magical reads, and popular BookTok favorites.

*For more information, contact Emily Greco at [egreco@sharon.ocln.org](mailto:egreco@sharon.ocln.org)*

**More Info Here - No Registration Required**



*Virtual*

## **"The Invention of Charlotte Brontë" with Author Graham Watson: Take Three!**

February 26 at 2:00 PM via Zoom

We always have such a good time chatting with Graham that we just had to have him back (again!)! This time, we'll be delving even deeper into the primary sources - the manuscripts and letters - that informed Graham's book "The Invention of Charlotte Brontë: A New Life". Join us, once again, as Graham discusses Charlotte's life - the myths vs. reality - as well as his own research and writing of this fantastic book

*In partnership with Ashland Public Library.*

**More Info Here - Registration Required**

## **Out of the Archives**

### **Who was Major General Richard Gridley? by Arielle Nathanson**

Major General Richard Gridley was born in Boston in 1710, the youngest of twelve children. He studied the art of military engineering from an early age and soon made a name for himself.

At thirty-five he was already a Lieutenant Colonel and the Engineer-Artillerist for the Imperial Forces of England. He participated in the siege of Louisburg in France as the Chief Bombadier, Captain of the artillery train and supervisor of the batteries. He would then participate in the fall of Quebec, as the Chief Engineer, as well as heading various civil works projects, like Boston's Long Wharf.

[\[Link to Full Article\]](#)

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**Exciting News from the SPL Archive!**

**SPL ARCHIVE NOW  
ACCEPTING  
DONATIONS**



**INQUIRE AT  
ANATHANSON@SHARON.  
OCLN.ORG**



The Sharon Public Library Archive is **now accepting donations!**

Do you have photos, documents, or memorabilia that capture Sharon's history? Help us preserve and share our community's story by contributing to the SPL Archive.

Contact Arielle Nathanson at:

[anathanson@sharon.ocln.org](mailto:anathanson@sharon.ocln.org)



### Share Your Sharon Story!

Do you have a special memory or story about Sharon? The Sharon Public Library is **collecting community reminiscences.**

We'd love to hear from you! Whether it's a favorite local event, a memory of the Library, or a story about life in Sharon, your reflections help keep our Town's history alive.

Send your stories to **Arielle Nathanson** at [anathanson@sharon.ocln.org](mailto:anathanson@sharon.ocln.org).

## Ongoing Programs



### Sharon Public Library Book Discussion Group

*In-person*

**\*\*The SPL Book Discussion Group** meets September to June on the 4th Thursday of each month @ 1:00 PM in Community Room B. No registration required and no obligation to attend all meetings. We read across many genres and enjoy lively discussion!

**Meeting: February 26** at 1:00 PM in Community Room B  
**Book:** *The King of Lies* by John Hart

Copies are available on the New Books Shelf on the Main Level. This title is also available in eBook format on [Libby by Overdrive..](#)

**Questions?** Contact Susan Eggimann | [seggimann@sharon.ocln.org](mailto:seggimann@sharon.ocln.org) | 781-784-1578 ext.1450

**Sign up** for our [SPL Book Discussion Group Newsletter](#) to stay up-to-date with meeting recaps, announcements, and book selections.

\*\* November and December meetings are on the 3rd Thursday due to holidays.

### 2025-2026 Book Titles and Meeting Dates

No Registration Required



#### *In-person* Casual Crafting

Tuesday, February 24 at 6:30-7:45 PM  
Community Room B

Join us for a drop-in crafting group for adults! Bring your current craft project or use some of the supplies we'll have on hand. Drop by any time from **6:30-7:45 PM** in **Community Room B**.

No Registration Required

## Youth Services



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

Sign up for Birth - 5th Grade  
Newsletter

Sign up for Teen/Tween  
Newsletter



## February Activities for Tweens and Teens!

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\(s\)](#).

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