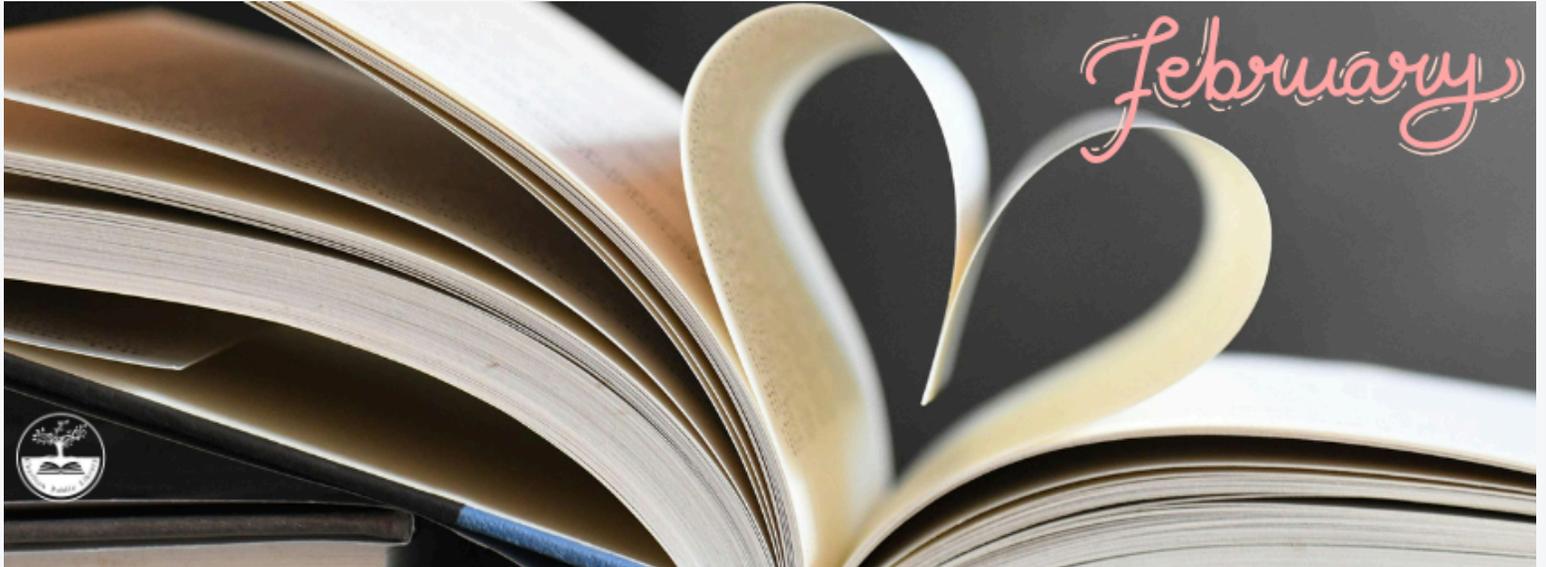


# Charlton Public Library Newsletter



## Special Hours

The Library will be closed on February 16

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## Friends of the Library

Welcome to a New Year! Are you looking for a fulfilling volunteer opportunity? A way to help your local community? To create some valuable friendships? The Friends could be the answer.

Our next meeting takes place on Tuesday, February 10 at 3:30 pm in the Community Room. We invite you to come and see what the Friends are all about. You might be pleasantly surprised!

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## February Art Exhibits

This month the front lobby features the art of Ellen Gould and Carol Frieswick.

Our Community Room art gallery features the Blackstone Valley Art Association's 10th annual Choco l'Art show. All of their art is chocolate themed! Join us for a delicious chocolate reception on Feb. 10!

Interested in exhibiting in either our Front Lobby or our new Community Room Art Gallery? Get all the details on the library website here: <https://charltonlibrary.org/art-exhibits-at-the-charlton-library/>

## Where are the programs for kids and teens?

We have so much going on that we're sending out two newsletters: this one which covers our adult programs and another one which covers our youth programs. If you'd like to change which ones you receive send us an email at [charltonlibrary@cwmar.org](mailto:charltonlibrary@cwmar.org) letting us know which ones you'd like to add or drop and we'll make sure that you're getting the news you want!

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## Upcoming Programs for Adults

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**Blind Date With A Book**

# BLIND DATE

*with a book*

We'd like to fix you up with a blind date! We've selected a variety of books and wrapped them all up so that you won't know the identity of your blind date till you get it home. Will it be funny, informative, a mystery, true-crime? Sure you might be disappointed; but then again ... you may end up having a great read with something you wouldn't have chosen for yourself. With each book is a 'Rate a Date' slip, simply say whatever you want about your date, no feelings will be hurt. Even if your date turns out to be a dud, all is not lost. With each slip you return, you can enter raffles for a variety of dates! Prizes are generously sponsored by the Friends of Charlton Library.

## Summer Reading Bookmark Contest

For the past few summers we've been giving out special bookmarks that we've made but now it's your turn! This contest is open to all ages! This year the theme is: Plant a Seed, Read

Get full details on our web site here:

<https://charltonlibrary.org/2026-summer-reading-bookmark-contest/>



## Play Games in the Community Meeting Room

### Monday, February 2 from 12:30 - 2 pm

Today we'll play a variety of party games together! Come have fun with us!

### Monday, February 9 from 12:30 - 2 pm

This afternoon we're playing cribbage! We've got a few boards and decks of cards and we can't wait to play with you! Beginner and experienced cribbage players are welcome.

### Monday, February 23 from 12:30 - 2 pm

Join us for a fun afternoon playing Scrabble! We have boards (and dictionaries) ready and waiting for you to play with us!

*Play Games* is presented in partnership with the Golden Age Club of Charlton.  
No registration is required for these programs.

**AI For Seniors**  
**Wednesday, February 4 from 1-3 pm**

Robots, smart assistants and magic-sounding tech—oh my! If you've ever wondered what AI actually is (and what it isn't), this fun, no-pressure class is for you. Explore how artificial intelligence shows up in everyday life, how to use it to make things easier, and why it's not just for the younger crowd. Come with questions, leave with confidence! Registration is appreciated.

*This project was funded by the Massachusetts Broadband Institute at the MassTech Collaborative under the Municipal Digital Equity Implementation Program. Funding was provided by Massachusetts ARPA State Fiscal Recovery Funds.*

[Register](#)

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## **Choco l'Art Reception** **Tuesday, February 10 from 6-7:30 pm**

The Community Room Art Gallery is featuring the Blackstone Valley Art Association's 2026 Choco l'Art show—the perfect melding of chocolate and art! Everyone is welcome to join us for a reception this evening to view the art and enjoy a decadent variety of chocolate treats. No registration is required.

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## **Galentine's Day** **Two sessions: Thursday, February 12 from 6-7 pm and 6:30-7:30 pm**

Join us for a fun evening with crafts, snacks, and a little self care!

We'll have a special Galentine's photobooth setup too!

We have two sessions scheduled so that we can accommodate more folks, please sign up for only one session. This program is for adults and teens ages 13 and up. Registration is required.

[Register for 6 pm](#)

[Register for 6:30 pm](#)

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## **Paper Roses** **Tuesday, February 17 from 6-7:30 pm** **Wednesday, February 18 from 11 am-12:30 pm**

Valentine's Day lasts only 24 hours, but these roses will bloom all year long! We will cut and fold book pages to make a small bouquet of roses. For adults and teens ages 13 and up. Each session is identical, please register for only one. Registration is required.

[Register for Feb. 17 at 6 pm](#)

[Register for Feb. 18 at 11 am](#)

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**Drop In Needle Felting**  
**Tuesday, February 17 at 6 pm**  
**Wednesday, February 18 at 10 am**

This time is just for you to drop-in and work on your projects! There will be needles, wool, and pads for use but no formal instruction or project planned. Feel free to bring a project you've already started or use our supplies to bring your ideas to life.

This program is for adults 18 and over due to the nature of the materials being used.

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**Becoming More Grief Literate**  
**Thursday, February 19 from 6-6:30 pm**

Experts in the field of grief encourage people to become more “grief literate.” When we learn more about grief, how people grieve, and what people need when they grieve, we will be better at supporting those around us in grief and be more prepared for loss ourselves.

Come join Laurel Hemmer, JHC Hospice’s Bereavement Coordinator and Certified Grief Educator to explore this topic. Stay afterwards for our monthly Death Café discussion from 6:30-7:30 pm.

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**Discovering New England Stone Walls**  
**Saturday, February 21 at 11 am**

Why are we so fascinated with stone walls? Kevin Gardner, author of *The Granite Kiss*, explains how and why New England came to acquire its thousands of miles of stone walls, the ways that they and other dry stone structures were built, how their styles emerged and changed over time, and their significance to the famous New England landscape. Registration is appreciated.

[Register](#)

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**Gentle Yoga**  
**Saturday, February 28 at 10 am**

Gentle Flow Yoga – All Levels Welcome!

Breathe, stretch, and unwind in this relaxing 60-minute yoga class. Perfect for beginners and experienced yogis alike, this class will blend gentle, mindful movement with calming breathwork and end in a deeply restful savasana. Bring a mat, water bottle and any props. (Some blocks and knee pads available). Led by Erin Anderson – RYT-200 yoga instructor and SEL facilitator.

Reduce stress • Improve flexibility • Feel your best physically and mentally!

Registration is required. This program is for adults and teens ages 13 and up.

[Register](#)

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**Puzzle Race**  
**Saturday, February 28 at 12:30 pm**

Can your team complete a jigsaw puzzle faster than your friends and neighbors? Each team will receive the same 500 piece puzzle provided by the library. The team that finishes first or completes the most before time is called wins! Adults, teens, and families with children aged 8+ are welcome to participate. Registration is required—only one person from each team should register. Teams can have up to six members. Don't have a team? Email Betsy at [perryb@cwmars.org](mailto:perryb@cwmars.org) and we'll put together a team of interested folks!

[Register](#)

**Intro to Rope Flow**  
**Thursday, March 5 at 6 pm**

Experience joyful movement that unites mind, body and spirit in a practice that is approachable and accessible for all. Rope flow is a low-impact and dynamic movement practice that can improve coordination, balance, mobility, joint health and lymphatic circulation. Beyond physical benefits, learn an accessible daily ritual that rewires your brain for consistency, dissolves stress, and boosts creativity. Space is limited and registration is required. This class is for adults and teens ages 13 and up.

[Register](#)

**Whimsical Quilts Presentation**  
**Saturday, March 7 at 11 am**

Besides making beautiful bed coverings to keep their families warm, quilt makers use their craft to express themselves. "Whimsical Quilts" explores the use of quilts to show their makers' sense of humor, from the early 1800s to the current day. Presenter Diane Hamm has made copies of historical quilts and samples of current designs, which she uses to tell the stories of these quiltmakers.

Presented in partnership with the Cornerstone Quilters Guild to kick off National Quilting Month.  
Sponsored by the Friends of the Charlton Public Library.

**Save the date:** on Saturday, March 21 from 10 am - 2 pm  
the Library will host a mini quilt show by the Cornerstone Quilters Guild.

# Digital Skills Instruction

**Intro to Chat GPT - Registration Required**  
Tuesday, February 3 from 6:00-7:00 pm or Thursday, February 5 from 6:00-7:00 pm

Curious about ChatGPT and what it can do for you? Join us for a hands-on introduction to one of today's most popular AI tools! In this beginner-friendly workshop, you'll learn what ChatGPT is, how it works, and how it can help with everyday tasks like writing, researching, organizing ideas, learning new skills, and more. No technical experience is required—just bring your curiosity and get ready to explore the world of artificial intelligence in a simple, practical way.

**AI for Seniors – Dexter Hall – Registration Required**

Wednesday, February 4 from 1:00-3:00 pm

Robots, smart assistants and magic-sounding tech—oh my! If you've ever wondered what AI actually is (and what it isn't), this fun, no-pressure class is for you. Explore how artificial intelligence shows up in everyday life, how to use it to make things easier, and why it's not just for the younger crowd. Come with questions, leave with confidence!

**iPhone Essentials: Find My, Wallet, and Translate – Dexter Hall – Registration Required**

Friday, February 13 from 10:30-11:30 am

This class covers a variety of tools and features built into the iPhone and iPad. We learn to share our locations with our friends and family, make safe, secure payments with our phones, and converse in different languages using the Translate app.

**Personalizing Your Device: Widgets and Apps – Dexter Hall – Registration Required**

Friday, February 13 from 12:30-1:30 pm

In this class, we learn to add helpful widgets to our Home Screens, choose which apps can send us notifications, and further explore options for customizing our wallpapers and Lock Screens.

**Staying in Touch Using Phone, Messages, and FaceTime – Dexter Hall – Registration Required**

Friday, February 20 from 10:30-11:30 am

This class focuses on using the iPhone and iPad to stay in touch with friends and loved ones. We learn about sending texts in Messages, managing contacts in Phone, and setting up video calls in FaceTime. We also learn to use Siri to make calls and send messages.

**Apple Watch for Beginners – Dexter Hall – Registration Required**

Friday, February 20 from 12:30-1:30 pm

This class will teach attendees about the Apple Watch's hardware, including its speakers, screen, and buttons, as well as the basics of navigating the Apple Watch and using its apps for messaging, making and answering calls, and other important functions.

**Using the iPhone for Health and Emergencies – Dexter Hall – Registration Required**

Friday, February 27 from 10:30-11:30 am

In this class, we explore how the iPhone can help in different emergency situations and offer insight into our health. We learn how to set up emergency contacts, use the SOS feature, turn on voice activation, and use the Health app to find patterns and changes in our physical health.

**Using YouTube, Netflix, and Other Streaming Services – Dexter Hall – Registration Required**

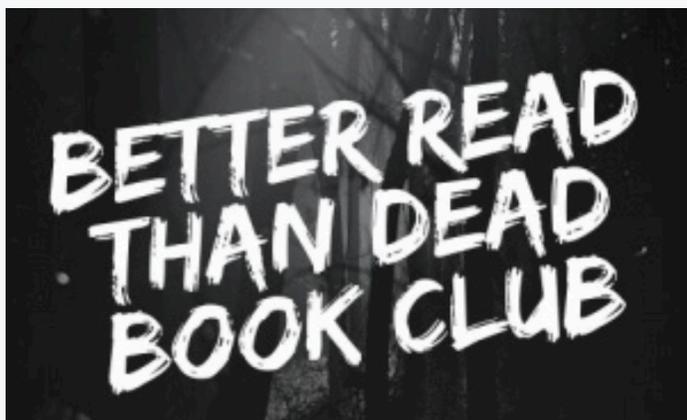
Friday, February 27 from 12:30-1:30 pm

Netflix and YouTube are among many services that allow you to “stream” movies, TV shows, and videos. They offer engaging options and offer an exciting alternative—or addition—to regular cable TV. This class teaches participants how these services work and how users can find interesting content to enjoy.

*This series was funded by the Massachusetts Broadband Institute at the MassTech Collaborative under the Municipal Digital Equity Implementation Program. Funding was provided by Massachusetts ARPA State Fiscal Recovery Funds.*

[Visit our calendar for dates, times, and registration.](#)

## Library Book Groups



### Better Read Than Dead Book Club

#### *Death in Mud Lick*

by Eric Eyre

Wednesday, February 4 at 11 am  
in the Local History Room

A True Crime monthly meetup!  
Books available for checkout at the circulation  
desk prior to discussion.

[Read More](#)



### CPL Book Group

#### *Brave New World* by Aldous Huxley

Thursday, February 12 from 6:00-7:00 pm  
in the Community Room

Books are available for checkout at the adult  
circulation desk one month prior to discussion.

[Read More](#)

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# Discussion Groups and Ongoing Programs

#### **Threaded Together Fiber Arts Group**

Thursdays @ 1:00-3:00 PM | Community Meeting Room

#### **Genealogy Group**

Thursday, February 5 at 6 PM | Community Meeting Room

**Alzheimer's Caregiver Support Group**  
Thursday, February 19 @ 6:00-7:30 PM | Community Meeting Room

**Death Café**  
Thursday, February 19 at 6:30 pm | Dexter Hall  
Guest speaker this month at 6 pm, see description above

**SARJ (Saturday Acoustic Roots Jam)**  
Saturday, February 21 @ noon-1:30 PM | Community Meeting Room

**CULE (Charlton Ukulele League & Ensemble)**  
Thursday, February 26 at 6:30 pm | Community Meeting Room

**Critical Thinking Discussion Group**  
Friday, February 27 @ 1:00-2:00 PM | Community Meeting Room

Visit our [Event Calendar](#) for more information on all our Adult programs.



**February Movie Matinees**  
**Tuesdays at 1 pm**

**February 3**

**Remember The Titans**

In 1971, Virginia high-school football was everything to the people of Alexandria, but when the school board was forced to integrate an all-Black school with an all-white one, the foundation of football's tradition was put to the test.

Starring: Denzel Washington, Will Patton, Wood Harris, Ryan Hurst, Craig Kirkwood

**February 10**

**A Big Bold Beautiful Journey**

Two strangers who meet at a mutual friend's wedding have the chance to relive important moments from their pasts, illuminating the path that led them to the present and gaining the opportunity to change their futures.

Featuring: Colin Farrell, Margot Robbie, Hamish Linklater, Jennifer Grant, Jodie Turner-Smith

**February 17**

**Bad Guys 2**

The Bad Guys are struggling to find trust and acceptance in their newly minted lives as Good Guys, when they are pulled out of retirement and forced to do "one last job" by an all-female squad of criminals.

Cast: Sam Rockwell, Marc Maron, Awkwafina, Craig Robinson, Anthony Ramos

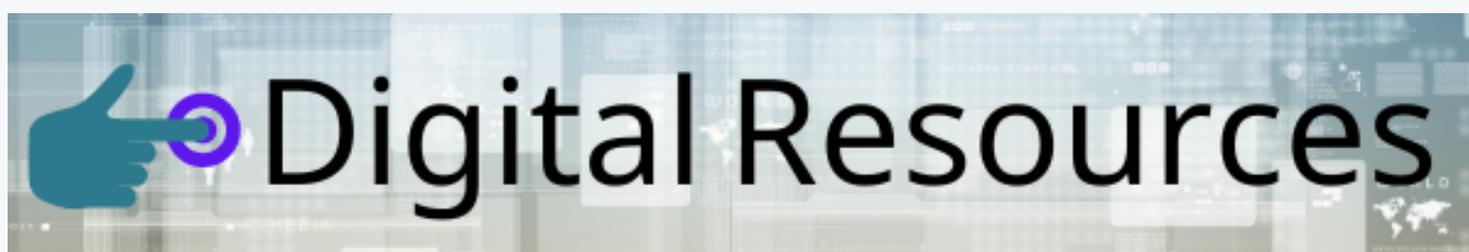
**February 24**

**Regretting You**

A mother and daughter must grapple with what's left after a devastating accident reveals a shocking betrayal and forces them to confront family secrets, redefine love, and rediscover themselves.

Starring: Mason Thames, Mckenna Grace, Allison Williams, Dave Franco

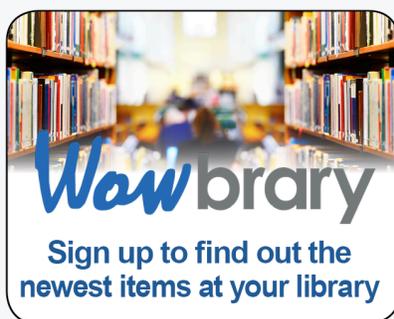
No registration required. Free freshly-popped popcorn!



# Digital Resources



Sign up and never miss a book by your favorite author!



Get free weekly emails announcing our latest books, movies, music, and more!



NovelList Plus is the premiere database of reading recommendations.



Free access to over 500 classes with your Charlton Library card!



Free movie streaming with your Charlton Library card!



Over 1,400 instructional video classes; covering 20 different creative passions



Free access on a Charlton Library computer or using Library WiFi.



A streamlined App to download your favorite OverDrive books, audio books, magazines & more!



Watch beautiful classical music, operas, and ballets from around the world, anywhere, anytime.

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