

Charlton Public Library Newsletter



Special Hours

The Library will be closed on Monday, Sept. 7 for Labor Day.
Saturday hours will resume on Sat. Sept. 12!

Friends of the Charlton Library

The Friends invite you to visit our booth at Old Home Day, which takes place on Sunday, September 6 from 8 am to 3 pm. Members will be available to answer questions about our group. We will also have a selection of books available – cash donations gratefully accepted.

The Friends will hold its next meeting on Tuesday, September 8, at 3:30 pm in the Community Room. Lots of exciting events coming up! We hope you can join us.

Where are the programs for kids and teens?

We have so much going on that we're sending out two newsletters each month: 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@cwmars.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!

September Art Exhibit

Our Community Room art gallery features the work of the Artists of the Overlook. Visit the Library anytime during regular hours to view the work of this talented group of artisans.

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



Spice Drive for Chip-In Food Pantry Sept. 14 - Oct. 17

We're doing a spice drive for the Chip-In Food Pantry from Monday, September 14 - Saturday, October 17. We are accepting donations of new, unopened, unexpired spices for Chip-In to distribute with their monthly food pick-ups. You may drop off spices at either circulation desk. Thank you for your donations!

Upcoming Programs for Adults

Craft Supply Swap Saturday, September 12 from 10 am - 2 pm

Our third annual craft supply swap is here! Drop in anytime between 10 am and 2 pm on Sept. 12 and take what you need for FREE! This is great for new and experienced crafters, anyone who wants to try a new craft, or teachers that need supplies! Bring your own bags! Everyone is welcome to come and take materials regardless of whether they donated any.

Donations will be accepted from August 24-September 11, we will be collecting arts and crafts materials only (fabrics, yarn, paper, patterns, tools, beads, etc.) We will NOT accept office supply donations (binders, file organizers, etc.) items must be able to be reused (new or gently used, not expired.) When in doubt, use the best friend rule—would I give this to my best friend? We cannot accept opened liquids such as paints, chemicals and glue.

Play Games in the Community Meeting Room

Mondays, September 14 and 28 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, September 21 from 12:30 - 2 pm

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

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

Mushroom Growing Tuesday, September 15 at 6 pm

The folks from Blackstone Valley Veggie Gardens will be here to show us how to grow mushrooms. Every participant will put together, and bring home, a quart container that will grow mushrooms! For adults and teens ages 13 and up, registration is required.

[Register](#)

Puzzle Race **Saturday, September 19 at 10 am**

Can your team complete a jigsaw puzzle faster than your friends and neighbors? Each team will receive the same 300 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@cwmar.org and we'll put together a team of interested folks!

[Register](#)

Adult Craft: Mushroom Tea Towels

Tuesday, September 22 at 6 pm
Wednesday, September 23 at 10 am

In this month's adult craft, we are celebrating all things mushroom by designing our own mushroom themed tea towels. Participants will use fabric markers and stamps (or free-hand) to create personalized designs on the provided cotton towel. Please note that fabric markers will stain clothing and dress accordingly. Registration is required. This class is offered twice to accommodate more folks and differing schedules. The project will be the same each time.

[Register for Sept. 22 at 6 pm](#)

[Register for Sept. 23 at 10 am](#)

All About Mushrooms **Thursday, September 24 at 6 pm**

Mycologist Jonathan Kranz will discuss the basics of fungal life with insights on foraging for food and a special emphasis on common mushrooms that are likely to be found in our area.

About presenter Jonathan Kranz: Kranz leads mushroom walks and talks for libraries, land trusts, clubs, and other interest groups in southern New England. In addition to being a MA Audubon Certified Field Naturalist, Kranz currently serves as vice president of the oldest mushroom club in North America, the Boston Mycological Club, and is a board member of the Pioneer Valley Mycological Association.

Registration is appreciated.

[Register](#)

Gentle Yoga

Saturday, September 26 at 10:30 am

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

[Register](#)

Companion Planting in the Garden

Tuesday, September 29 at 7 pm

Companion planting is planting two different plants together to help at least one of them with nutrients, pollinators, support, and/or pest deterrence. Does it really work? Sometimes. This lecture goes into the science behind companion planting, and discusses a number of pairings that are known to work, some that don't, and some where the evidence isn't clear. The focus is on vegetable and herb gardens.

Presenter Gretel Anspach is a Trustee of the Massachusetts Horticultural Society, a Lifetime Master Gardener with the Massachusetts Master Gardener Association, and a recently-retired systems engineer for Raytheon. She won the MMGA Lifetime Achievement Award in 2016. Gretel established and maintains a 20,000 square foot food production garden that has provided fresh produce to the Marlboro and Maynard Food Pantries for the last ten years. Her primary interest and focus is always in the science behind horticulture.

Registration is appreciated.

This program is funded by a grant from the Charlton Cultural Council, a local agency which is supported by Mass Cultural Council, a state agency.

[Register](#)

Save the Date!

Repair Café

Saturday, October 24 from 10 am - 2 pm

The Charlton Library is looking for Fixers for our first Repair Café! Are you good with tools? Do your friends often ask you for advice? Do you enjoy building, maintaining, and fixing things? Are you free on Saturday, October 24, 2026? Reach out to Betsy Perry, Library Director, at 508-248-0452 or perryb@cwmar.org for more information.

What is a Repair Café?

A Repair Café is a gathering of volunteers who offer to consult on and possibly fix items that

would otherwise go to landfills. The Repair Café concept is an attempt to reverse our society's throw away culture. We throw out vast amounts of stuff, even things with almost nothing wrong and which just need a simple repair. The problem is that most people don't know how to fix things and often it costs more to have an expert repair something than to simply replace it. But replacing things rather than repairing them wastes raw materials and energy, increases carbon dioxide emissions and expands our overflowing landfills.

The Repair Café will be held Oct. 24 at Charlton Public Library in partnership with Charlton Business Alliance, Charlton Lions Club, and Keep Charlton Beautiful.

Digital Skills Instruction

Drop-in Tech Help

Local History Room - No registration required
Wed., Sept. 2, 16, 30 from 9:30 am to Noon
Thurs., Sept. 3, 10, 17, 24 from 9:30 am to Noon
Sat., Sept. 12, 19, 26 from 9:30 am to 12:15 pm

Do you have a few quick questions about technology? Would you like to learn how to use apps like Libby or Kanopy? Drop in and get the specific support you need. If you will need more than 15 minutes of tech help, please make a one-on-one appointment.

One-on-One Tech Help

Local History Room - registration required
Sat., Sept. 12, 19, 26 at 12:30 pm or 1:30 pm
Do you have a more complicated question than we can cover during Drop-in Tech Help? Would you like to learn some basic email or internet skills? Make a one-on-one appointment and get up to 60 minutes of dedicated support.

We cannot assist with setting up a new device; fixing/restoring/repairing a broken or infected device, app, or email account; entering sensitive information for you (e.g., credit card information, social security number, online banking, etc.); keyboarding, typing, or proofreading documents. We cannot provide medical, legal, or business advice or opinions.

Apple Watch for Beginners

Tuesday, September 8, 12:30-1:30 pm - Community Meeting Room

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.

Podcast at a Glance

Monday, September 14, 10:30 am to Noon - Local History Room - registration required

Podcasts are an increasingly popular form of entertainment and a great source of information on all kinds of topics. In this lecture, you'll learn more about these audio programs available on the internet: why people listen to them, where you can find them, and what the most popular ones are. This is for people ages 60 and up. *This Senior Planet from AARP class is being offered through the Senior Planet licensing program.*

Build Your Own Website

Saturday, September 19, 11:30-2:30 pm - Community Meeting Room - registration appreciated

Quickly design and set up a website without needing to be too technically proficient. With the availability of professionally produced templates, design elements with simple drag and drop, and the ability to easily add and modify both text and pictures it's easy to create a website! A very complete handout will be distributed in class. It contains lots of information and will greatly simplify the process of understanding what's being taught. Registration is appreciated. This class is for adults ages 18 and up.

Listening to Podcasts

Monday, September 21, 10:30 am to Noon - Dexter Hall - registration required

It's estimated that over 70 million people in the US listen to podcasts monthly. This hands-on workshop provides a general introduction to this popular form of entertainment. You'll learn how to search for podcasts, listen, and share popular audio shows using the Podbean app. This is for people ages 60 and up. *This Senior Planet from AARP class is being offered through the Senior Planet licensing program.*

Learn Microsoft Word Basics

Saturday, September 26, 11:00-12:30 pm - Community Meeting Room - registration required

Join us today to learn about Microsoft Word! We'll start at the very beginning and walk you through all the basics like:

- Opening, editing, and saving a file
- Changing text style (font, color, size, etc.)
- Keyboard shortcuts
- Inserting an image, link, or non-standard text/symbols
- Adding a comment
- Finding text in a document
- Using numbering and bullets

Stay and join us for a follow-up class at 1 pm to learn more advanced Microsoft Word skills.

Learn Microsoft Word Advanced Skills

Saturday, September 26, 1:00-2:30 pm - Community Meeting Room - registration required

Join us today to learn some advanced skills to use in Microsoft Word! We'll cover:

- Advanced formatting
- Image formatting
- Tables
- Mail merge
- Tracking changes
- Using links and bookmarks within a file

Intro to Spotify

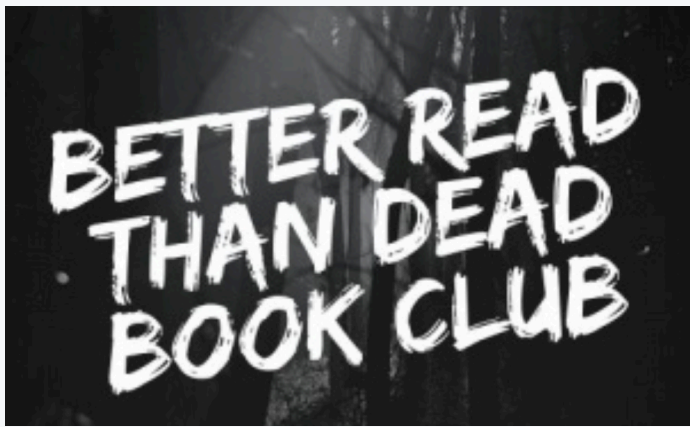
Monday, September 28, 10:30 am to Noon - Local History Room - registration required

Spotify is a great digital music service for enjoying millions of songs, podcasts, and videos for free! In this lecture, you'll learn about Spotify's important features, including how to search for songs and create your own playlists. You'll also learn how to follow your friends and the artists you love. This is for people ages 60 and up. *This Senior Planet from AARP class is being offered through the Senior Planet licensing program.*

**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

A Devil Went Down to Georgia
by Deb Miller Landau

Wednesday, September 2 at 11 am
in the Local History Room

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

[Read More](#)



CPL Book Group

Station Eleven by Emily St. John Mandel
Thursday, Sept. 10 from 6:00-7:00 pm
in the Community Meeting Room

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

[Read More](#)

Book Group at the Charlton Senior Center Wednesday, September 9 at 10:30 am

The Senior Center Book Group meets at the Senior Center at 10:30 am on the second Wednesday of the month. Everyone is welcome! We will discuss *The Alice Network* by Kate Quinn. Books are available to pick up at the Library one month prior to the discussion date.



Threaded Together Fiber Arts Group
Thursdays from 1-3 pm | Local History Room

Genealogy Group

Thursday, September 3 at 6 PM | Community Meeting Room

Alzheimer's Caregiver Support Group

Thursday, September 17 from 6:00-7:30 PM | Community Meeting Room

Death Café

Thursday, September 17 at 6:00 pm | Dexter Hall

SARJ (Saturday Acoustic Roots Jam)

Saturday, September 19 from 12-1:30 pm

CULE (Charlton Ukulele League & Ensemble)

Thursday, September 24 at 6 pm | Community Meeting Room

Critical Thinking Discussion Group

Friday, September 25 from 1:00-2:00 PM | Community Meeting Room

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



Septmber Movie Matinees Tuesdays at 1 pm

September 1

Is this Thing On?

As their marriage unravels, Alex faces middle age and divorce, seeking new purpose in the New York comedy scene. Meanwhile, his wife Tess confronts sacrifices made for their family, forcing them to navigate co-parenting and identities. 2025. Rated R. 121 minutes.

Starring: Will Arnett, Laura Dern, Andra Day, & Bradley Cooper

September 8

You, Me & Tuscany

When a woman crashes at an empty Italian villa, posing as the owner's fiancée, she discovers an unexpected romance that may transform her life. 2026. Rated PG-13. 105 minutes.

Featuring: Halle Bailey, Regé-Jean Page, Lorenzo de Moor, Marco Calvani, & Aziza Scott

September 15

The Breadwinner

A supermom lands a Shark Tank deal, switching roles with her breadwinner husband. He struggles to adapt as a stay-at-home dad to their three daughters. 2026. Rated PG. 95 minutes.

Cast: Nate Bargatze, Kumail Nanjiani, & Mandy Moore

September 22

Michael

An in-depth portrayal of Michael Jackson, a complicated man, who became the King of Pop. The biopic brings to life Jackson's most iconic performances as it gives an informed insight into the entertainer's artistic process and personal life. 2026. Rated PG-13. 127 minutes.

Starring: Jaafar Jackson, Juliano Valdi, & Colman Domingo

September 29

Power Ballad

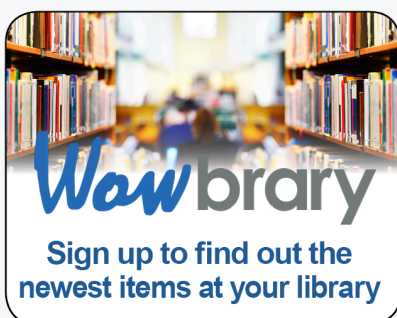
Rick, a washed-up wedding singer, and Danny, a fading boy band star, bond over music and a late-night jam session. When Danny turns Rick's song into a hit, Rick sets out to reclaim the recognition he believes he deserves. 2026. Rated R. 98 minutes.

Starring: Paul Rudd, Nick Jonas, & Peter McDonald

No registration required. Free freshly-popped popcorn!



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