

Charlton Public Library Newsletter

March



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/>



The Seed Library returns Monday, March 2!

How does our seed library work?

Stop by the main level of the library, choose your seeds, and plant them! When you harvest your crop later in the year, save some seeds, bring them to the Library, and we will add them back to our "growing" collection.

Why have a seed library?

Seed collecting is the age-old process of harvesting and preserving seeds from one's garden or local environment. It is based in indigenous tradition and deeply tied to cultural preservation, agricultural practice, and community building. Sharing seeds collected from plants in our neighborhoods increases our access to resilient plants. The seed library aims to support our local ecosystem and combat food insecurity.

What is available?

We have a variety of easy-to-grow vegetable, herb, and flower seeds as well as many books on seed collecting and gardening available to borrow. Seed selection may vary and will be available while supplies last.

The Seed Library is possible through the generous support of Friends of the Charlton Library, Eden Brothers, Sow Right Seeds, Baker Creek Heirloom Seed Co., High Mowing Organic Seeds, Prairie Moon Nursery, Blackstone Valley Veggie Gardens, and the Charlton Garden Club.

Friends of the Library

Have you ever wondered exactly what the Friends of Charlton Library do? Stop by the Friends table outside the Book Room and check out the photos, poster, and binder filled with newspaper clippings of our accomplishments.

Our next meeting takes place on March 10 at 3:30 pm in the Community Room.
We invite you to drop in and meet the group. All are welcome!

March Art Exhibit

Our Community Room art gallery features **Springtime Friends**, a show by Laura Cenedella and Jim R. Wilton. Join us at 6 pm on Tuesday, March 24 for a reception to meet the artists, view the art, and enjoy some fellowship. Everyone is welcome, no registration is required.

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 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!

Upcoming Programs for Adults

Play Games in the Community Meeting Room

Monday, March 9 from 12:30 - 2 pm

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

Monday, March 16 and 30 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, March 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.

Intro to Rope Flow with the Flotron Method™

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](#)

Quilt Day Presentation: Whimsical Quilts
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 1800's 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 with the Cornerstone Quilters Guild to kick off National Quilting Month!

Coffee Cupping
Saturday, March 14 at 10 am and noon

If you love coffee, this is for you!

Learn all about the fascinating world of coffee from coffee enthusiast, Rob Fitzgibbon. Enjoy an informal half hour presentation, covering coffee as an agricultural commodity, how it's grown and processed, how it's been consumed throughout history and learn about roasting, aroma, taste and mouthfeel. Rob will then lead participants in a fun interactive exercise in which they try three different coffees and document what they smell and taste using stickers and a flavor wheel.

The event concludes as participants review their shared perceptions of taste and aroma, have a Q & A session and finish the coffee. We are offering two identical sessions to accommodate more folks. Please sign up for only one session.

[Register here for the 10 am session](#)

[Register here for the 12 noon session](#)

Lee Irish Dance Performance
Saturday, March 14 at 11 am

Join us for a performance by Charlton's own Lee Irish Dancers! All are welcome!

Floral Rabbit Craft

Tuesday, March 17 at 6 pm and Wednesday, March 18 at 11 am

Let's march into warmer weather with this month's adult craft: Floral Rabbits. Participants will cut and bend wire to form a rabbit's outline, that will then be wrapped in soft yarn and colorful springtime florals. For adults and teens ages 13 and up, registration is required.

We are offering two identical sessions to accommodate more folks. Please sign up for only one session.

[Register here for the Tues. March 17 at 6 pm session](#)

[Register here for the Wed. March 18 at 11 am session](#)

Funerary Services with Mark Bartel **Thursday, March 19 at 6 pm**

Mark R. Bartel, a licensed funeral director and embalmer with 40 years experience at Bartel Funeral Home in Dudley, will speak about funerary services. Bartel Funeral Home offers funerals for many faiths. Services include earth burials, cremations, and celebrations of life at their funeral home/chapel or your place of worship.

Stay afterwards for our monthly Death Café discussion from 6:30-7:30 pm.

National Quilt Day Celebration **Saturday, March 21 from 10 am - 2 pm**

To celebrate National Quilting Day, Cornerstone Quilters Guild invites you to a mini quilt show! Dexter Hall will be filled with many quilts, and ongoing demonstrations of quilting techniques that highlight the diverse world of quilting--from traditional to modern to contemporary. Something for everyone! No registration is required and all are welcome.

Drop-In Needle Felting **Tuesday, March 24 at 6 pm and Wednesday, March 25 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.

Bay Path Career Technical Initiative Program Info Session **Thursday, March 26 at 6 pm**

Staff from the Career Technical Institute at Bay Path will present an information session about their program. Everyone is welcome to attend, no registration is necessary. Get full details on our calendar

Gentle Flow Yoga **Saturday, March 28 at 10 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.

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](#)

Puzzle Race **Saturday, March 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 and we'll put together a team of interested folks!

[Register](#)

Chuck Collins Author Talk **Tuesday, March 31 at 6 pm**

Author Chuck Collins will discuss his latest book *Burned by Billionaires: How Concentrated Wealth and Power Are Ruining Our Lives and Planet*. He is a senior scholar at the Institute for Policy Studies in Washington, DC., and a co-founder of Wealth for Common Good. Chuck is an expert on economic inequality in the US, and has pioneered efforts to bring together investors and business leaders to speak out publicly against corporate practices and economic policies that increase economic inequality. Registration is appreciated.

This program is presented in collaboration with: Merrick Public Library in Brookfield, Charlton Public Library, Pearle L. Crawford Library in Dudley, Oxford Public Library, Joshua Hyde Library in Sturbridge, and Merriam-Gilbert Public Library in West Brookfield.

Charlton Library will hold a book discussion on Tuesday, March 10 at 6 pm for anyone interested in reading and discussing the book before the author talk.

[Register](#)

Digital Skills Instruction

Drop-in Tech Help

Local History Room - no registration required
Tues., March 3, 10, 17, 24, 31 from 4:30-5:30 pm
Sat., March 7, 14, 21, 28 from 10 am - noon

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 speak with Charlton Library's Digital Skills Instructor 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
Thurs., March 5, 12, 26 at 4:30, 5:30, or 6:30 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 with the Charlton Library's Digital Skills Instructor and get up to 60 minutes of dedicated support.

Using Notes: Your iPhone's Built-In Notepad

Monday, March 2 from 12:30-1:30 pm - Community Room - registration required.

Learn how to use the Notes app to jot down ideas, make checklists, scan documents, and keep your thoughts organized. This class covers everything from creating simple notes to sharing and collaborating with others using iCloud.

Job Applications Part 1

Tuesday, March 3, 6:00-7:00 pm OR Saturday, March 7, 1:30-2:30 pm - Local History Room - registration required

Looking for a job can be overwhelming, but your library is here to help! Join us for an overview where you'll learn how to navigate job application resources, create or improve your resume, and discover local and online tools to find employment opportunities. This session is perfect for job seekers of all experience levels and part of a job workshop series.

Cover Letters 101

Tuesday, March 10, 6:00-7:30 pm OR Saturday, March 14, 1:30-2:30 pm - Local History Room - registration required.

Cover Letters 101 is a beginner-friendly workshop that walks participants through the basics of writing a clear, professional cover letter for online job applications. Attendees will learn what employers look for, such as naming protocols and preferred formats. We will also discuss how to tailor a letter to a specific job and the pros and cons of AI supported writing. This session includes practical tips, examples, and time to start drafting a cover letter usable right away.

Staying on Schedule Using Calendar and Reminders

Wednesday, March 11, 12:30-1:30 pm - Community Meeting Room - registration required

Discover how to use the Calendar and Reminders apps to keep track of appointments, tasks, and daily routines. You'll learn how to add events, set reminders, create lists, and even use Siri to help you stay on schedule with ease. Registration is required.

Navigating the Settings on iPhone and iPad

Friday, March 13, 10:30-11:30 am - Dexter Hall - registration required

In this class, we will explore the Settings app, examining ways to adjust our devices to suit our individual needs. We will learn to access important information about our devices, update the software, and customize important features like Do Not Disturb, Face ID, and notifications.

Introduction to Instagram

Friday, March 13, 12:30-1:30 pm - Dexter Hall - registration required

Instagram is one of the world's most popular applications for viewing and sharing photos and videos. Users can create, edit, and post their own content, as well as view posts from online content creators. This class teaches participants to navigate Instagram and share their own photos and videos with others.

Resumes 101

Tuesday, March 17, 6:00-7:30 pm OR Saturday, March 21, 1:30-2:30 pm - Local History Room - registration required.

Resumes 101 is a beginner-friendly workshop that introduces the basics of creating a clear, effective digital resume for online job applications. Participants will learn how to organize their information and highlight their skills and experiences. We will also explore free resume template options and proofreading programs. This session includes practical tips, examples, and time to start building or improving a resume they can use with confidence.

Setting Up and Managing Email

Friday, March 20, 10:30-11:30 am - Community Meeting Room - registration required

In this class, attendees learn about the basics of email and the Apple Mail app. We explore the Mail app to learn about sending/reading emails, checking your inbox, and clearing junk and archive folders.

The Photos App on iPhone: A Deep Dive

Friday, March 20, 12:30-1:30 pm - Community Meeting Room - registration required

This class explores all the available features on the iPhone's Photos app, including using Favorites and albums to organize photos, sharing photos with friends and family, and creating short compilations of photos and videos.

Getting To Know Your Android Phone - for ages 60+

Monday, March 23, 10:30-12:00 pm - Community Meeting Room - registration required

In this class we will go over the basic features of an android smartphone and explore various settings and apps that can make your life easier! Please make sure to bring your Android smartphone with you to the workshop. This class is for people ages 60 and up. This Senior Planet from AARP class is being offered through the Senior Planet licensing program.

Job Applications Part 2

Tuesday, March 24, 6:00-7:00 pm OR Saturday, March 28, 1:30-2:30 pm - Local History Room - registration required.

In this session, participants will get an overview of the job application process. Attendees will learn how to search for job openings online, tailor resumes and cover letters, and avoid common mistakes in digital interviews. This session includes helpful tips, resources, and guidance to support successful job applications.

Introduction to Editing Photos

Wednesday, March 25, 12:30-1:30 pm - Community Meeting Room - registration required

This class explores the features available in the iPhone for editing photos. We will discuss different ways to organize our photos, then select a photo to practice editing with. We learn about filters, adjusting colors and lighting, and cropping/resizing our photos. Registration is required.

Taking & Organizing Photos

Friday, March 27, 10:30-11:30 am - Dexter Hall - registration required

In this class, we dive into the Camera app on the iPhone, exploring different features of the camera and adjustments that can be made for taking pictures in different settings. We also go into Photos and discuss organizing photos into Favorites and Albums.

Understanding iCloud and Your Apple Account

Friday, March 27, 12:30-1:30 pm - Dexter Hall - registration required

This class provides a general overview of the iPhone and iPad Settings app. We learn where to find information on our Apple accounts, manage the information stored on iCloud, and synchronize our devices. Registration is required.

Intro to Zoom

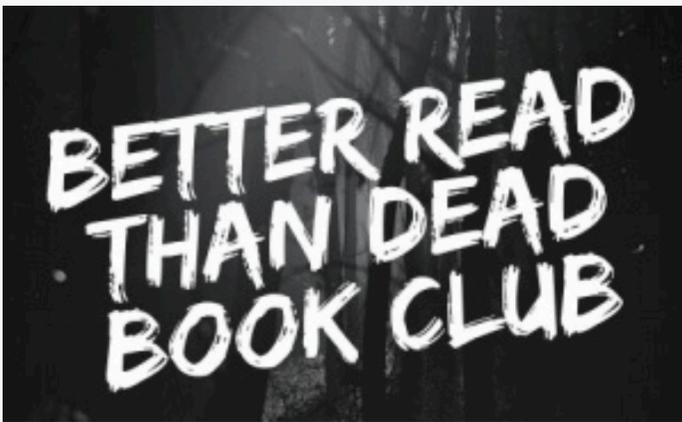
Tuesday, March 31, 6:00-7:00 pm OR Saturday, April 4, 1:30-2:30 pm - Local History Room - registration required

This hands-on workshop is designed to help job seekers feel confident using Zoom for virtual job interviews. Participants will learn how to join and schedule a Zoom meeting, test audio and video, adjust camera and microphone settings, and use basic tools such as mute/unmute, chat, and screen view options. The session will also cover best practices for professional appearance, lighting, and interview etiquette on Zoom. No prior experience is required—this workshop is ideal for anyone preparing for an online job interview.

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

The Scientist and the Serial Killer
by Lise Olsen

Wednesday, March 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.



CPL Book Group

Memorial Days by Geraldine Brooks
Thursday, March 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](#)

[Read More](#)

**Book Group at the Charlton Senior Center
Wednesday, March 11 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 Book Club for Troublesome Women* by Marie Bostwick. Books are available to pick up at the Library one month prior to the discussion date.



Threaded Together Fiber Arts Group

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

Genealogy Group

Thursday, March 5 at 6 PM | Community Meeting Room

Alzheimer's Caregiver Support Group

Thursday, March 19 @ 6:00-7:30 PM | Community Meeting Room

Death Café

Thursday, March 19 at 6:30 pm | Dexter Hall
Guest speaker this month at 6 pm, see description above

SARJ (Saturday Acoustic Roots Jam)

Saturday, March 21 @ noon-1:30 PM | Community Meeting Room

CULE (Charlton Ukulele League & Ensemble)

Thursday, March 26 at 6:30 pm | Community Meeting Room

Critical Thinking Discussion Group

Friday, March 27 @ 1:00-2:00 PM | Community Meeting Room

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



March Movie Matinees Tuesdays at 1 pm

March 3

Harriet

Based on the thrilling and inspirational life of an iconic American freedom fighter, Harriet tells the extraordinary tale of Harriet Tubman's escape from slavery and transformation into one of America's greatest heroes. Her courage, ingenuity, and tenacity freed hundreds of slaves and changed the course of history. 2019. Rated PG-13. 125 minutes.

Starring: Cynthia Erivo, Janelle Monae, William Still, & Joe Alwyn

March 10

Princess Kaiulani

In this historical drama set in the late 19th century, Hawaiian Princess Kaiulani (Q'Orianka Kilcher) fights for the rights of her people after fleeing to England to escape civil unrest in her home country. When the Hawaiian monarchy falls, the princess travels to the U.S. to meet with President Grover Cleveland and prove that her people aren't the savages the American press makes them out to be. 2009. Rated PG. 130 minutes.

Featuring: Q'Orianka Kilcher, Barry Pepper, Shaun Evans, Will Patton

March 17

On the Basis of Sex

Young wife, mother, and lawyer Ruth Bader Ginsburg battles the U.S. Supreme Court for gender equality and women's rights. She works with the American Civil Liberties Union to argue cases on behalf of both men and women, demonstrating that discrimination "on the basis of sex" is unconstitutional. Her trailblazing work paved the way for her to become a beloved Supreme Court Justice. 2018. Rated PG-13. 120 minutes.

Cast: Felicity Jones, Armie Hammer, Justin Theroux, Kathy Bates, Sam Waterston

March 24

Battle of the Sexes

This sports docudrama recreates the legendary 1973 "Battle of the Sexes" tennis match between Billie Jean King and Bobby Riggs. When Riggs brags that he can beat any woman in the world on the tennis court, reigning champion King accepts his challenge. Their highly publicized match soon takes on a larger meaning as a milestone in the fight for gender equality. 2017. Rated PG-13. 121 minutes.

Starring: Steve Carell, Emma Stone, Sarah Silverman, Bill Pullman, Elisabeth Shue

March 31
Bombshell

Bombshell is a revealing look inside the most powerful and controversial media empire of all time; and the explosive story of the women who brought down the infamous man who created it. 2019. Rated R. 110 minutes.

Starring: Charlize Theron, Nicole Kidman, Margot Robbie, John Lithgow

No registration required. Free freshly-popped popcorn!

A banner with a blue hand icon pointing to a purple target symbol on the left. To the right, the text "Digital Resources" is written in a large, black, sans-serif font. The background is a blurred image of a library or office with bookshelves and computer monitors.

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!



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



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