

## LOOK HERE FIRST

December 2025 Newsletter | Volume 34, No. 12 | framinghamlibrary.org

# Do you feel the Library serves your community well?

As patrons' needs change, the Library evolves to keep pace with those changes. Throughout the years, we've made significant investments and improvements to benefit the community.

We've grown our digital collection to include Libby, Hoopla, Kanopy, and more. We've expanded to bring you the Library of Things and the Spark Lab. Most recently, we've introduced social services at the Main Library (see page 4 for more).

These are a few examples of how the Library has adapted to your changing needs. As part of our longrange planning, we want to know:

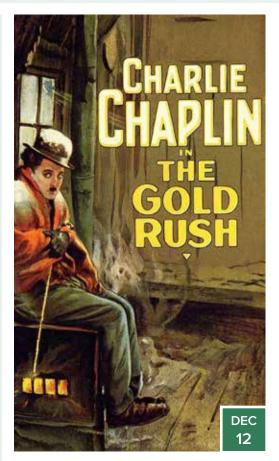
# Do you feel the Library serves your community well? Why or why not?

Are there physical and digital resources that we're missing? Do you want more educational and community programs? Can we offer you more services and resources?

Our goal is to remain a relevant and purposeful community space. Help us by sharing what needs we've met and which have gone unmet. Let us know what we can do to better serve the community.

Stop by the Main Library or McAuliffe Branch to complete a brief questionnaire or submit your response online by December 31.

To learn more about the Library's Long-Range Plan, visit framinghamlibrary.org/about/lrp.







#### **BIG REVEAL PARTY!**

December 1, 6PM | Main Library

New library cards, logo, and benefactor sign—oh my! Big changes are coming to the Library, so we're celebrating with a big reveal party at the Main Library! Find out which designs won our Library Card Design Contest. See our new logo as well as our new sign honoring the benefactors who helped make all of this—and more—possible for us.

#### **Local News Listening Session**

December 9, 7PM | Main Library, Technology Learning Center & Zoom

What kind of local news and information are you looking for? Where do you want to receive it? This listening session is designed to have your voice be heard in shaping local news. Find out more about The Frame, Access Framingham's local news initiative, and contribute to its growth. What issues do you value, what stories need more attention? We want to hear from you! Register for the Zoom link.

### Friday Night "Silent" Film with Pianist Richard Hughes: *The Gold Rush*

December 12, 6:30PM | Main Library, Costin Room | 1925, NR, 1h 36m

Experience the magic of the silent film the way audiences did a century ago! Don't miss this special cinematic evening as we screen a Charlie Chaplin classic, brought to life by live piano performance. Doors open at 6PM.

#### Main Library

49 Lexington Street 508.532.5570 Monday—Thursday 9–9 Friday—Saturday 9–5 Sunday: 1–5

#### Christa McAuliffe Branch Library

746 Water Street 508.532.5636 Monday—Thursday 9:30–9 Friday—Saturday 9:30–5 Sunday: 12–4 Sign up for email updates of Library news and events at framinghamlibrary.org!

Find our newsletter archive online at framinghamlibrary.org/news-events/monthly-newsletter.

Funding for Library programs is provided in part by the Friends of the Framingham Library.

















#### Celebrating Austen's 250th: Dr. Helen Heineman on Emma

December 4. 7PM | McAuliffe Branch. Community Room

Revisit Jane Austen's beloved masterpiece Emma as Dr. Helen Heineman describes the three continuations that she's published: Emma Redux 1: Happily Ever After; Emma Redux 2: Family Secrets; and Emma Redux 3: Matchmaking Madness. Learn about the inspiration that began this enterprise.

#### Garden Series: Milk Jug Winter **Native Flower Seed Project**

December 6, 10AM @ Main Library, Costin Room | 1PM @ McAuliffe Branch, Community Room

Get a head start on next year's garden! Bring a translucent gallon jug or use one of ours (supplies limited) to sow winter seeds. Make planters out of gallon jugs to be placed outdoors over winter and transplant the seedling in the spring. No gardening experience needed. All ages are welcome.

#### **Bob Dodd Sunday Concert:** Roman Rudnytsky

December 7, 3PM | Main Library, Costin Room

Join us for the Bob Dodd Sunday Concert, featuring concert pianist Roman Rudnytsky. Doors open at 2:30. Refreshments provided.

#### **DIY Holiday Sweaters**

December 11, 6PM | Main Library, Costin Room

Be ready for those holiday parties with a custom DIY sweater! You bring a sweater, sweatshirt, or shirt of your choice; we supply the crazy decorations. Drop-ins welcome!

#### Yuletide Holiday Card Making December 16, 3-8PM | McAuliffe Branch, Craft Room

Drop in and create your very own yuletide holiday cards to hang in your living room or send out to friends and family. Materials are provided. No registration needed. Stop by anytime!

#### Art Journal Jam for Adults

December 16, 6PM | Main Library, Spark Lab

Bring your own art journal and prepare to get messy! Join us for this casual, unstructured session exploring the possibilities of art journals. No experience required. Some supplies are provided, but feel free to bring your favorite medium to work in. Space is limited. Register at bit.ly/FPL\_Art\_Workshop.

#### **Community Connection Hour**

December 16, 6:30PM | Main Library, Costin Room

Meet our new social work intern, Day Kolz! Ask questions and learn about community resources and partners while engaging in calming activities, such as coloring pages and crafts! Learn more about social services now available at the Main Library.

#### Craft Ladies: Craft Closet Cleanout

December 17. 6-8:30PM | McAuliffe Branch, Community Room

Come meet the Craft Ladies and help us clean out the craft closet! Materials are provided from a variety of past projects. Supplies and space are limited. Registration is encouraged and opens on December 1.

#### A Reading of Charles Dickens' A Christmas Carol

December 18, 7PM | Zoom

Join us online for this annual tradition and see Charles Dickens' masterpiece come to life! Dickens prepared a special version of A Christmas Carol used during reading tours in England and the United States. See Dr. Helen Heineman perform a dramatized reading of this version, enhanced by a slideshow of over 200 illustrations! Register for the Zoom link.

#### Spark Lab Saturdays: Make Your **Own Gift Trimmings**

December 20, 2PM | Main Library, Spark Lab

Make gift giving uniquely yours! Stop by the Spark Lab to make your own paper, tags, cards, or gift toppers! No registration needed.

#### **BOOK DISCUSSIONS**

Join the mailing list for one, two, or all of our book discussions! Learn which books are chosen for each meeting and receive Zoom links where applicable. Find sign-up forms online.

#### Main Library Book Discussion: Mansfield Park by Jane Austen

December 2, 7PM | Zoom | Join the mailing list to receive the Zoom link.

January 6: Sister Carrie by Theodore Dreiser

#### McAuliffe Book Discussion (Evening): Persuasion by Jane Austen

December 9, 7PM | McAuliffe Community Room | Join the mailing list.

January 12: Culpability by Bruce Holsinger

#### Science Fiction Book Discussion: Metallic Realms by Lincoln Michel

December 10, 7PM | Main Library, Costin Room & Zoom | Join the mailing list.

January 14: Neuromancer by William Gibson

#### Queer Reads Book Discussion: Most Ardently by Gabe Cole Novoa

December 16, 7PM | McAuliffe Community Room | Join the mailing list.

January 20: Orlando: A Biography by Virginia Woolf

#### Hot Takes: The Second Chance Year by Melissa Wiesner

December 17, 6PM | Main Library, Costin Room | Join the mailing list.

January 28: Boyfriend Material by Alexis Hall

#### McAuliffe Book Discussion (Morning): Emma by Jane Austen

December 18, 10AM | McAuliffe Community Room | Join the mailing list.

January 15: In the Midst of Winter by Isabel Allende



#### **FILMS**

#### McAuliffe Matinee: Pride & Prejudice

December 10, 1PM | McAuliffe Branch, Community Room | 2005, PG, 2h 9m Based on the classic Jane Austen novel, this film stars Keira Knightley as Elizabeth Bennet and Matthew Macfadyen as Mr. Darcy.

#### McAuliffe Matinee: Murder on the Orient Express

December 17, 1PM | McAuliffe Branch, Community Room | 1974, PG, 2h 8m

"Returning home from Istanbul on the Orient Express, renowned Belgian detective Hercule Poirot is called upon to solve the murder of an American businessman aboard the train."

#### Musicals at McAuliffe: Fiddler on the Roof

December 18, 1PM | McAuliffe Branch, Community Room | 1971, G, 3h 1m

"In 1905 Russia, a traditionalist Jewish peasant contends with marrying off three of his daughters with modern romantic ideals, all while anti-Semitic sentiment threatens his village."

#### Monday Matinee: Muppets Treasure Island

December 22, 2PM | Main Library, Costin Room | 1996, G, 1h 39m

"The Muppets are back in action as they sail the high seas in their own twist of the classic tale by Robert Louis Stevenson."



#### ONGOING EVENTS

#### **One-on-One Career Services**

\*Thursdays, 9AM-1:30PM | Zoom only Email career coach Ed Lawrence at elawrence@minlib.net to schedule an appointment.

\*Appointments available the week of December 22, except for the 25th.

#### Walk-in Career Services

Tuesdays, 6-8PM | Main Library

#### Writing Together on Wednesdays

December 3 & 17, 7PM | Main Library, Children's Program Room

#### Stretch & Relax

December 5 & 19, 3PM | Zoom only

#### Chair Stretch & Relax

\*December 13, 10AM | McAuliffe Community Room

\*No class December 25

Join our **Exercise mailing list** to receive weekly email reminders with Zoom links.

#### **Upcycling Book Crafts**

December 9, 6PM | Main Library, Spark Lab

Registration required.

#### Mah Jongg

December 10, 6PM | Main Library, J Program Room

Open to experienced players with a National Mah Jongg League card.

#### Veterans At Ease Coffee Hour

December 21, 10AM | McAuliffe Community Room

#### Release, Relax, Reinvigorate: Meditation with Leslie

December 22, 10AM | Zoom

Join our **Meditation mailing list** to receive the Zoom link.

#### McAuliffe Puzzle Swap

December 22, 7PM | McAuliffe Branch

#### Main Library Yarn Social Hour

Wednesdays, 10AM and 2nd & 4th Saturdays, 10AM

McAuliffe Branch Yarn Social Hour

Wednesdays, 6PM

#### **SUPPORTERS**

## Framingham Public Library Foundation (FPLF)

Help fund the creation of the Framingham Reading Room to house the city's historic collection of rare artifacts, town records, yearbooks, photos, antique maps, oral histories, and more.

For information, email Ruth Winett at rwinett@rcn.com. To donate, visit fplf.org/donate or send a check to FPLF, 49 Lexington St., Framingham, MA 01702.

#### Friends December Book Sale

December 20. 10AM-3PM | Main Library

Fill a bag of books in the Bag Room (Costin Room) for only \$12 (half a bag for \$6). Check out the Friends Annex and the boxes of books in the lobby. These books are available only during the Saturday book sales. Friends members may enter the sale at 9:30AM. Check out tag sale for last minute holiday gifts!

#### **Corporate Members**

Many thanks to our most recent renewing corporate member McCarthy, McKinney & Lawler Funeral Home & Cremation Services. We appreciate their support.

#### **COMMUNITY EVENTS**

## Framingham's 34th Annual Tree Lighting & Holiday Block Party

December 5, 5–7:30PM | Memorial Building Plaza

Meet Santa and Mrs. Claus and enjoy hot chocolate, cookies, and holiday music! Visit the bookmobile for free books and green screen photos! Take a storywalk and get a special visit from the Yeti!

#### Framingham Artists' Guild Show

All of December | Main Library Lobby

The Framingham Artists' Guild provides a supportive forum for local artists to develop their skills and show their work. This December, they encourage the community to enjoy artwork by their members as you stroll through the gallery. Learn more about the Framingham Artists' Guild.

#### **DID YOU KNOW**

## Social services now available at the Main Library

If you have housing needs, food insecurity, mental health, or other issues, contact Day Kolz, Framingham Public Library's social work intern.

They are here to help you find the resources you need. Drop by their office hours at the Main Library on Thursdays from 12–2PM or schedule an appointment online.



#### Little Food Pantry

Located by the stairs on the first floor of the Main Library, the Little Food Pantry offers non-perishable foods and snacks for library patrons, available to take as needed. The pantry was created as a Gold Award project by Aatu McCarthy, a member of the Girl Scouts of Eastern Massachusetts.

#### 18 Languages and counting

That Framingham Library offers books in 18 languages, including Spanish, Portuguese, Russian, Chinese, French, and Hindi—just to name a few. Come check them out!

#### LITERACY UNLIMITED

#### **Volunteer Information Session**

December 10, 6PM | Zoom

Interested in volunteering as a tutor for adults learning English? Join Literacy Unlimited Coordinator Martha Coleman for an online volunteer information session to learn about our free tutor training course and discover how you can help promote language and literacy skills for adults in Framingham and beyond. No prior teaching experience or foreign language skills required.

To read more about our program and register for the information session, visit framinghamlibrary.org/literacy.