



Sharon Public Library Monthly Newsletter January 2024



From the Director



Photos of some of the work completed for the new Library project at 1 School St. The first photo shows wall panel construction, and the second shows concrete poured into the wall foundation forms.

For information about the project, contact the Town's [Standing Building Committee](#).

Announcements

Sharon Public Library
is excited to partner with
Massachusetts Center for the Book
for the
2024 Reading Challenge - for Adults!



What is it?

- The *Mass Center for the Book* Reading Challenge gives adults a chance to set and meet the goal of reading a book each month in a specific category and to share their experience within their reading community.

How do I participate?

- It's easy! Choose and read a book that fits the monthly challenge. After you've finished the book, **fill out the official *Mass Center for the Book* Monthly Entry Form** at mareadingchallenge.org. Dedicated readers will be invited to a year-end celebration hosted by Mass Center for the Book.
- If you would also like to participate within the SPL Community, fill out a 2024 Reading Challenge slip and drop it in the blue submission box (slip and box are located upstairs below the TV) or submit your read **via our online SPL Community Form [here](#)***. We will anonymously share our Community's reads throughout the year!

Free books!? A raffle!?

- Yes! New to 2024, *Mass Center for the Book* will be drawing two names on the last day of each month to win a free book.
- In addition, participants who read a book and submit a monthly entry form in each of the 12 months will be entered in a drawing to win 1 of 2 totes filled with books and Massachusetts goodies, courtesy of *Mass Center for the Book*.

**Learn more at
massbook.org**

2024 Monthly Topics

- **January:** A book you read years ago that you may feel differently about now
- **February:** A book with a color in the title
- **March:** A book whose protagonist has a different culture or lifestyle from yours
- **April:** A book about nature, the environment, or climate change
- **May:** A graphic novel
- **June:** A book that inspired a film or television series
- **July:** A book by an author born outside of the United States
- **August:** A book whose title starts with the same letter as your birthday month
- **September:** A debut book by a Massachusetts author
- **October:** A book about a time in history you'd like to know more about
- **November:** A relaxing, soul-soothing book
- **December:** A well-reviewed book in your least favorite genre

**Sharing your reads in the SPL Community submission box or online form does not count as an official monthly entry for the Massachusetts Center of the Book challenge or raffle. If you decide to share your read with the SPL Community, be sure to also submit*

Collection News



Cozy up at the Library with a good book! Plan your escape - to warmer or colder climates - with a travel guide. Check out a cookbook to prepare soups, stews, and baked goods. Learn to knit/sew/crochet with one of our craft books. Add a piece to the Community Puzzle!

Online Spotlight

Travelling Soon?



Stay
Connected ⁽⁽⁽⁻⁾⁾⁾
to Wi-Fi during your
travels via a **Hotspot!**



Hotspots work in US + Canada/Mexico.



Hotspots are available to check out at the Adult Circulation Desk.



Traveling Soon?

Stay connected to Wi-Fi during your travels with a mobile hotspot! Hotspot cellular service is available in the US, Canada, and Mexico. Available for checkout (14-day loan) at the Adult Circulation Desk.

Tech Talk

Learn Libby

with OverDrive Experts!*



Free Zoom Training: how to download the app and sign in, search for and borrow titles, place holds, adjust reading settings & more!

2024 Webinar Dates:

- Jan. 10 | 2:00 PM
- Feb. 7 | 2:00 PM
- Mar. 6 | 2:00 PM



Register Here:



Registrants will receive a Zoom recording following the event.

**This is not a SPL event.*

Learn Libby with OverDrive experts!

These free Zoom Training include how to download the app and sign in, how to search for and borrow titles, how to place holds, how to adjust the reading settings, and more! Join for one of the following times:

- *Wednesday, January 10th at 2:00 PM*
- *Wednesday, February 7th at 2:00 PM*
- *Wednesday, March 6th at 2:00 PM*

[Register here](#)

**SPL does not facilitate these virtual programs.*

Out of the Archives



In preparation for the new Library, we have embarked on a project to organize our local history archival collection. Some very interesting items are being unearthed and will be featured as part of this monthly newsletter by Information Services Librarian, Arielle Nathanson.

Sharon's Ecclesiastical History Until 1825: An Account by Eugene Tappan

Timeline and Summaries by Arielle Nathanson

1741 Sharon became the second precinct of Stoughton in 1740. The population then flourished and a colonial meeting house was immediately built where the Episcopal Church is the center of town now stands. This meeting area became the church and Reverend Philip Curtis became the minister.

1797 After 56 years of service to the ministry, Reverend Philip Curtis retires. His popularity earns him a full years salary, even though he could not carry out his duties for that year.

1799 Reverend Jonathan Whitaker is ordained and becomes Sharon's new minister. At first the people find his liberal ideas refreshing, but he soon falls out of favor due to his ardent reformer and political opinions.

1815 A committee is created to discuss the possibility of removing Reverend Whitaker from the ministry. He will not hear the complaints of the committee and is unofficially voted out of the ministry.

1816 An official council is called for by Reverend Whitaker and the Town of Sharon. The council examines the case and finds that the Reverend has committed no fault, however, they recommend that he resign due to the townspeople's dislike for his theologies.

1817 Reverend Thomas Rich is invited to become the pastor of the Congregational Society and refuses.

1821 Due to the further division of beliefs, the more Calvinistic parishes leave the main church and create the Christian Society. Reverend Fall soon becomes their pastor. The Congregational Society invites Reverend Samuel Brimbleton to their pulpit, who accepts.

1825 Reverend Fall resigns in 1825 and Reverend Jonathan Curtis takes over the Christian Society as its new minister. Reverend Brimbleton is dismissed from the Congregational Society and they are left without a minister for several years.

[To view the original document visit: The Internet Archive](#) | [To view the photographs in greater detail visit: Digital Commonwealth](#)

This month's feature is:

A Brief Historical Account of Sharon's Churches from 1741 to 1825

Many people often wonder what life was like during the 1700s and 1800s. While a good question, the answer is rather disappointing. People back then were exactly like us. They didn't have the level of technology or scientific knowledge that we enjoy. However, they still cared deeply about their families, worked hard for their money, and argued over politics and religion.

The last point is the focus of this brief article. As recounted by Eugene Tappan in his "Sharon Papers," there was much strife surrounding the Congregational Society and its ministers. Despite that fact, the events were recorded as cordially as possible. That is one difference between then and now; even when arguing, people were ultimately polite...

[\[click here for the full article...\]](#)

[\[click the left-hand image for a brief timeline\]](#)

Youth Services

JANUARY 2024

Register for all programs on the library website!
Scan or visit tinyurl.com/spi-cal

Recommended Program

- Age Ranges
- Babies/Toddlers
- Preschool
- Grades K-5
- Grades 5-8
- Grades 9-12
- All Ages

Sharon Public Library
(781)784-1578
Follow us on social media @sharonpubliclibraryMA

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
Library Closed	Library Closed	10:00 AM Tinker Time	10:00 AM Tinker Time	10:00 AM Whimsical Winter Story Time	4:00 PM National Reading with the Garden Club	
10:30 AM Shrink and Stretch	10:00 AM Tinker Time	10:00 AM Tinker Time	5:00 PM Paw Patrol Craft	10:00 AM Whimsical Winter Story Time		
10:30 AM Shrink and Stretch	10:00 AM Tinker Time	10:00 AM Tinker Time	5:00 PM Paw Patrol Craft	10:00 AM Whimsical Winter Story Time	4:30 PM Pasta Salad Coding	
10:30 AM Shrink and Stretch	10:00 AM Tinker Time	10:00 AM Tinker Time	5:00 PM Binary Bracelets	10:00 AM Whimsical Winter Story Time	4:30 PM Pasta Salad Coding	10:00 AM Bats and Books
10:30 AM Shrink and Stretch	10:00 AM Tinker Time	10:00 AM Tinker Time	5:00 PM Pumpkin Patch	10:00 AM Whimsical Winter Story Time		

Calendar is subject to change. For the most up to date information check our website: Sharonpubliclibrary.org

Youth Services Programs

Check the Youth Services calendar for this month's programs (*click calendar for full-sized view*). Register for events on [our website's Event Calendar](#).

For more information, contact Children's Librarian [Rachael Savage](#).

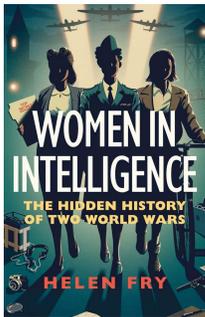
Tween and Teen Programs

Click the cat to pull up a copy of this month's activities for 6th-12th graders.



For more information, contact Tween/Teen Librarian [Amy Greil](#).

Upcoming Programs



Virtual

Author and Historian Helen Fry Discusses "Women in Intelligence"

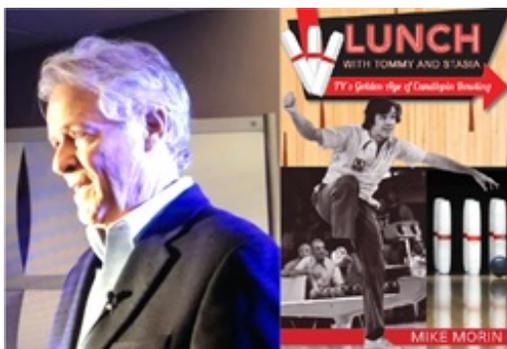
January 13th at 2:00 PM via Zoom

If you are fascinated by the untold stories of women's contributions to war efforts, please join author and historian, Helen Fry, as she discusses her latest book "Women in Intelligence: The Hidden History of Two World Wars". It is a ground-breaking history of women in British intelligence, revealing their pivotal role across the first half of the twentieth century.

Presented in partnership with the Ashland Public Library.

[More information here](#)

Registration Required.



In-person

TV's Golden Age of Candlepin Bowling with Mike Morin

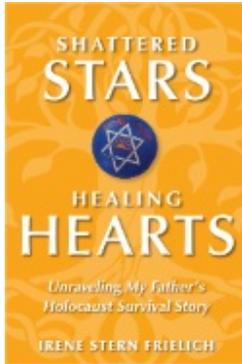
January 17th at 6:00 PM
Library Community Room

For nearly 50 years, loyal candlepin bowling fans followed their favorite stars on various weekly televised competition shows. Because of the massive ratings, especially on Boston's Channel 5 for four decades, the local star bowlers became celebrities, comparable to Bird, Williams and Orr on a New England level. Author Mike Morin knew the bowlers and their fans personally, giving him extraordinary access to share their stories - both on the lanes and behind the scenes - in his

published book, *Lunch With Tommy and Stasia: TV's Golden Age of Candlepin Bowling*.

[More information here](#)

Registration Required.



In-person

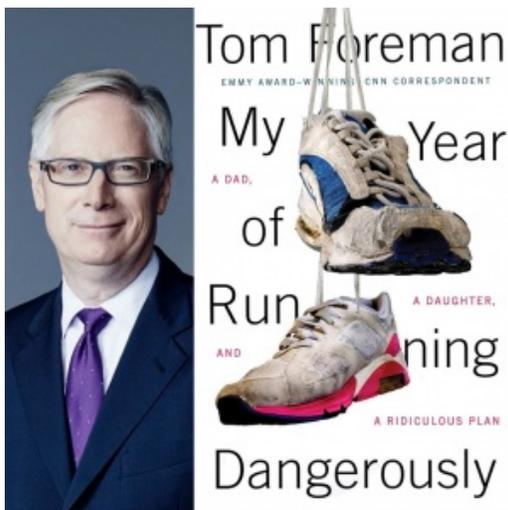
Shattered Stars: The Power of Courage, Compassion, and Kindness with local author Irene Stern Frielich

January 24th at 6:15 PM
Library Community Room

Local author Irene Stern Frielich is the daughter of a German Holocaust survivor. In 2017 she re-discovered the testimony video her father had made just prior to his death in 1994, and immersed herself in her father's world of survival, loss, and hope. In this engaging multi-media presentation, Irene retraces the Stern-Herzfeld family's footsteps as they escape their comfortable home in Germany on Kristallnacht in 1938 and cross the border to the Netherlands. The family lives there in relative safety until the Nazis invade and turn their world upside down.

[More information here](#)

Registration Required.



Virtual

CNN's Tom Foreman Discusses "My Year of Running Dangerously"

January 30th at 7:00 PM
via Zoom

CNN correspondent and veteran journalist Tom Foreman will discuss his book, *My Year of Running Dangerously: A Dad, a Daughter, and a Ridiculous Plan*, in conversation with author Dale Phillips,

who facilitates the Tewksbury Library's Writers Group. Foreman's book shares his remarkable journey from half-hearted couch potato to ultra-marathon runner, with four half-marathons, three marathons, and 2,000 miles of training in between. It is a poignant and warm-hearted tale of parenting, overcoming the challenges of age, and quiet triumph.

[More information here](#)

Registration Required.

Ongoing Programs



Sharon Public Library Book Discussion Group

In-Person

January 25th @ 1:00 - 2:30 PM

Fellowship Point by Alice Elliott Dark

The SPL Book Discussion Group meets from Sept - June on the 4th Thursday of each month @ 1:00-2:30 PM in the Library's Community Room.
No registration required!

2023-2024 Book Titles and Meeting Dates

For more information, please contact
Susan Eggimann at seggimann@sharon.ocln.org or 781-784-1478 ext. 1422.



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Sharon Public Library | 11 North Main Street, Sharon, MA 02067

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