

Kingston Public Library



6 Green Street, Kingston Massachusetts 02364

781-585-0517

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Spring 2015

**We hit the SEND button a little prematurely last week.
Here is the edited Spring newsletter, with corrected information!**

The courtyard filled with snow in February, as if it were a bowl, and we wondered a bit what would happen when it all melted. We've never been so eager to see buds and blossoms -- and parking spaces!

We've been gearing up for spring. You'll see lots of news in this issue about programs, collections, and services, from science and art programs for children to a new author series for adults, and several book groups. The Youth Advisory Council will help us celebrate National Poetry Month in April with another Book Spine Poetry contest. If you've never experienced this, come in during April to see what it's all about. It's a blast!

We've also been very busy gathering ideas from the community to help us plan for the future. We have a new five-year Strategic Plan based on what we heard from you, and we're fully immersed in a comprehensive building study. For the next year, we'll be working on turning that study into a proposal for what Kingston's library building should feature in order to provide the level of service the community has asked for. You can follow our progress on our [website](#).

We're happy to tell you that thanks to a donation from the Kingston Public Library Foundation, we have a stronger wifi signal. With the new computers that were installed in 2014 and our weekly Tech Thursdays technology drop-in sessions, we're better equipped than ever for public computing.

With an improved book budget, we've been able to add many new eBooks, digital magazines, and downloadable audiobooks, and of course many new physical books, cds, and dvds.

If you haven't visited us for a while, this is a great time to stop in to the Kingston Public Library.

You can always contact us by [email](#), phone (781-585-0517), mail (6 Green St. Kingston MA 02364) or in person; we'd love to hear from you!



Borrower's Services

With electricity rates rising, you may want to see where you can reduce energy usage. We have two brand new **Kill-a-watt meters** for measuring the electricity your appliances use. You can borrow these for up to two weeks.

School vacation is fast approaching. It's never too soon to reserve the discounted **museum passes** brought to you courtesy of the Friends of the Library. You can reserve passes [online](#) or by calling 781-585-0517 ext. 111. This **April, May and June** is the time to take advantage of our [New England Aquarium](#) pass. This pass is not available during the months of July and August.

Home delivery is available for Kingston residents who cannot get to the library. Call 781-585-0517 x125 and speak with Jennifer.

You can reach the Circulation Desk at 781-585-0517 x112 or by [email](#).

P.S. When you call the Library, you can dial any extension as soon as the message starts. No need to listen to all the options if you know the extension!



Children's Services

Join us as we welcome in the warmer weather here in the Children's Room. There will be some exciting new programs and a few old favorites.

Our weekly drop in **story and craft times** happen at **10:30** on **Fridays on April 3, 10 and 24** in the activities room. There will be songs, movement, poetry, a picture book or two and a craft. All drop-in programs require caregiver participation and crafts are best suited for children 3 and up.



Children of all ages are invited to a fun storytime with puppeteer **Leigh Balzer and Friends** during our Friday, April 17 storytime. All children attending drop-in programs require an accompanying adult. Registration is not required.

This April, our **Math and Science Mornings** for all ages are at **10:30**. This is a drop-in program for children ages 3 to 5 with a caregiver. The Math and Science Storytimes are funded through a grant awarded by the IMLS and administered by the MBLC.

We're all looking forward to our final **Lunch Bunch Book Group** of the season! We'll have lunch, talk about books we like and work on a book themed activity. We will hold our first meeting on **Saturday, April 17 at 1 p.m.** We will meet again next **November through April**.

Time to Build! Time to Relax! Drop-in and build with our Lego collection on **April 18, 23 and May 16 at 2:00**. All drop-in programs participants require adult supervision.

Join us for **Drop-in Craft Morning** on **Wednesday, April 22** at **10:00 to 12:00**. Children will have fun in creating their own unique crafts. No registration is required. All children attending drop-in programs require adult supervision.

Full Steam Ahead with the **South Shore Natural Science Center!** There will be three exciting new preschool science programs this spring. Children ages 4 and 5 with a caregiver are invited to register for these fun STEM programs. Registration is required. You can register [online](#) or by calling 781-585-0517 ext. 111. The programs are on the following dates:

Chickens - April 25 at 1:00

Garden - May 23 at 1:00

Lost Ladybug - June 20 at 1:00

You will really feel a part of the spring season this **May** at our **Gardening Storytimes on Fridays at 10:30** in the activities room. All drop-in programs require adult supervision.

Please check out the [Children's Room Blog](#) for book reviews, program information, book lists, and web site reviews.

Call Children's Services at 781-585-0517 x111, or check the [Library event calendar](#) and the [Kids' page](#) for further information.



Teen Services

During the month of April, celebrate **National Poetry Month** with us by creating a poem using the spines of books. This contest is open to all ages. **To participate:** create a poem (it does not have to rhyme) using just the spines of books. Arrange the books so that the stacked titles read like a poem. Then snap a picture of the poems and email it to the Library for entry in the contest. There will also be a display of books at the Library if you prefer to make your poem here. All entries will be posted on the Library's Facebook Page.

Fan Art Contest! Calling all artists ages 8 to 18! Do you have a favorite character or scene from a book, movie or graphic novel? You can also choose to artistically re-create a person from pop-culture or history. Give your artistic skills a workout and submit your art to the Library during May and June. Art work will be judged by the Kingston Public Library Art Committee and 1st, 2nd and 3rd prize winners will be chosen. Your artwork can be drawn, painted or sculpted. See below an example from last year's contest. (Winner Lindsey)



Upcoming Youth Advisory Council Meetings (YAC)

Monday, April 13th at 5:00

Monday, May 18th at 5:00

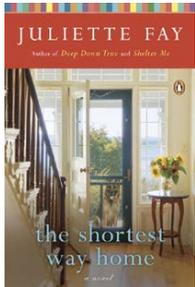
Monday, June 15th at 5:00

The **Youth Advisory Council** is a dynamic group that meets monthly. YAC members help choose books, movies and music for the Teen Space at the Library. They also plan and organize programs and fundraisers. Anyone age 11-18 is welcome to join. Non-members are welcome to attend a meeting to see what it's like.

The **Friends of the Library** generously support teen programming throughout the year, and we are so grateful for their help.

Have you seen the [KPL Youth Advisory Council Page](#) on **Facebook**? Take a peek! Don't forget to take a moment to "like" their page.

If you would like to learn more about the Youth Advisory Council (YAC), contact **Hannele Minsk** at 781-585-0517 x114 or by [email](#). Don't forget to check the [Teen](#) page on our website!



Reference and Adult Services

We're so excited that spring has arrived! We can actually see some of the plants when we look out at our courtyard. This season of growth is not limited to the garden. We have some exciting news for you with new programs and services!

You may already download [ebooks, audiobooks, and video](#) from our Overdrive collection. Not only will we soon be adding more Overdrive video, but we can now offer a brand-new collection. The [Commonwealth eBook Collections](#) include primary sources, historical documents, images, and video, in addition to fiction and nonfiction for all ages -- and many of these are searchable through our online catalog.

Tech Thursdays. From 10:30 -11:30 a.m. and from 3:00 - 4:00 p.m. every Thursday, staff will be available to assist you with your questions about using our electronic resources: how to download ebooks and audiobooks from our digital catalog, how to search for books and place holds, how to access the many research databases offered through the Kingston Public Library and our partners the Massachusetts Library System and the Massachusetts Board of Library Commissioners. If your question is about using your mobile device or laptop, bring it with you.

If you need further assistance you can [Book-A-Librarian](#) for one-on-one 30 minute sessions designed to answer your questions about using any Library resource. To make an appointment, call 781-585-0517 ext. 121 or [email](#) us.

COMING SOON!

We are delighted to announce that we will soon be offering access to **Lynda.com** and **Indie Flix**. **Lynda.com** lets you take online video classes in a range of topics, in the Library or from home. There are tutorials on technology, business subjects, photography, graphic design and many more subjects. All you need is your library card. With **Indie Flix** you can stream films from worldwide film festivals, including shorts, documentaries and feature films in many genres. Both of these services will begin during April.

Databases:

These databases join the many already available to you with your library card. You can find these on our newly revised [Reference Page](#).

Are you looking for a new book for your child to read? Then take a look at our [Novelist K-8](#). There are books by age group, booklists, recommendations and popularity. Don't forget to browse [Novelist](#) for adults, for author read-alikes, book discussion guides, book talks, awards and notable books.

If there were no print copies of [BookPage](#) when you visited us, you can still read the reviews and recommendations online on the [Readers Page](#) of the library website. The Readers Page offers many resources for all who love to read.



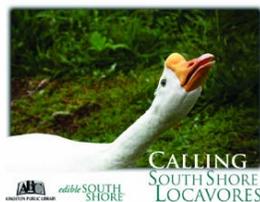
Spring Author Talks.

Juliette Fay will be here on **April 9 at 7:00**. This author has delighted readers with her debut novel, *Shelter Me*, which became an IndiePick Good Housekeeping Book Pick and Mass. Book Award Finalist for 2009. She followed that with *Deep Down True*. In her third novel, [The Shortest Way Home](#), Sean Doran returns home after spending twenty years as a nurse in Third World countries. He soon finds himself playing parent to a misunderstood boy, falling in love with a woman from his past and realizing that leaving isn't easy when there are people who want and need you to stay.

Lauren Scheuer visits on **April 23**. Ms. Scheuer is a talented illustrator of children's books and supplied the drawings for her book [Once upon a flock: Life With My Soulful Chickens](#). She also writes the blog [Scratch and Peck](#). When Lauren (with her husband and teenage daughter) decided to introduce chicks to her rural Massachusetts backyard, she was not prepared for the rewards that came with raising them to adulthood.

Hallie Ephron comes to Kingston on **May 7**. This New York Times bestselling author is quickly becoming one of the country's top suspense authors. Ephron's last suspense novel, *There Was An Old Woman*, was nominated for a Mary Higgins Clark Award and was praised by Sarah Weinman as "One of 2013's Top 10 crime fiction books." Now with [Night Night Sleep Tight](#), Hallie Ephron deliver her most captivating mystery yet, with Hollywood glamour, set in a town where fame and infamy are often interchangeable.

This series of author programs will be held in the Library Meeting Room. Seating is limited, so please reserve your seat by registering for these programs on the [Library Event Calendar](#).



The **South Shore Locavores** series continues at the **Kingston Senior Center, 30 Evergreen Street, from 7 to 9 p.m.** The **April 16** session will feature **Leiza Dagher**, manager of the [Plymouth Farmers Market](#). Leiza will talk about **Making the Most of a Farmers Market**. On **May 21**, **Peter Burroughs** of [Brown Boar Farm](#) talks about **Pastured Pork and Loving Lard**. We're also proud to tell you that the South Shore Locavores were recently honored as **South Shore Community Action Council Local Heroes!**

Book group and more:

Are you looking for a book group to join? **Kingston Public Library Book Group** will meet on **Thursday, April 16 at 5:30 p.m.** This month we'll be reading *The Art Forger* by **Barbara Shapiro**. If you would like the Library to help you locate a copy, please call 781-585-0517 x121. Our Book Group usually meets on the second Thursday of the month, September through June. New members are always welcome! For more information email Anna Kelley at kplreader@hotmail.com.

This spring the **Kingston Public Library Book Group** will be discussing *The Lady and the Unicorn* by **Tracy Chevalier** on **May 14** and *The Hanging Judge* by **Michael Posner** at the **June 11** meeting.

Join the **Knotty Knitters on Wednesdays at 7 p.m.** in the Children's Activities Room. In this congenial atmosphere we share our patterns, techniques, and experience. Everyone is welcome! To find out more contact Maryanne Driscoll at 781-585-0517 ext. 115 or by [email](#).

If you're interested in **showing your artwork at the Library**, here's [how to exhibit](#) -- or contact Maryanne Driscoll at 781-585-0517 x115 or by [email](#).



Local History Room

LHR by the numbers: Requests

Sometimes people ask us "Just what does an archivist do all day?" Our rote answer: preserve, process and provide access to our historical collections. Here's a little statistical detail about that last part, which is the very heart of local history work: using the collections to answer your questions!

Over the last eight years, we've received just over 1,000 local history or genealogy questions. That's about 125 questions a year, or 2.5 questions per week.

Who asks? Well, almost half of the questions (46%) come from Kingston residents, officials and town employees. A third of the total come from other Massachusetts towns, so that in-state questions make up about three quarters (78%) of the total. The remaining questions have come from 36 other states and a handful of foreign countries, including Canada (which has its very own

[Kingston](#), the cause of a few confusing conversations!)

What do they ask about? Just about anything you could think of, but the largest categories include people, mostly ancestors and relatives for genealogy research (26%); specific collections (22%) based on our [finding aids online](#) (yay, citations!); and houses and other buildings in town (15%). There are also questions about places, events, businesses, and any other aspect of town life imaginable. Some memorable requests include recipes for chowder, true crime and ghost stories, and whether the dog Laddie was modeled on President Harding's pet.

How much time does this take? About 60% of the questions required somewhere between 15 minutes and an hour to answer; 30% are "ready reference" taking less than 15 minutes each; and the remaining 10%, typically requests for photo reproduction or scanned documents, need more than an hour to complete. Some particularly intense requests have stretched over several days and multiple collections.

How do the questions get to me? About half of the questions come from people dropping in to the Library, with the other half pretty evenly split between phone and email.

It's one of the most fascinating parts of this job; we never know who might ask what yet and what the collections might tell us in response!

Do you have a question? [Email](#), call 781-585-0517 x 116, or drop in ([hours here](#)).



Kingston Public Library Foundation

Hello, Fellow Winter Sufferers!

We are delighted to announce that once again, Evelyn Dunbar will escort another of her one-day trips to New York City. It's time to cease hibernation and think positively about our third Kingston Library Benefit New York Bus trip. Think Spring and mark your calendars on **Saturday, April 25th for our usual Super Jaunt to the Big Apple!** Enjoy great food, conversation, and congenial company as you learn a little art history on this charter bus trip to visit museums or other NYC destinations of your choice. The price is the same, \$75, for the best buy ever! Tickets are available for purchase [online](#) on the KPLF website or by [mail](#). This time, the proceeds from the trip will benefit the Kingston Public Library. For more information contact [Ellen](#) with any questions. **Please note: April 25th is Election Day in Kingston. If you are a Kingston voter and plan to come on this trip, PLEASE vote by absentee ballot!**

For more information and ways that you can help the Foundation please contact Ellen Cook, KPLF President, at: info@kplf.org or check out our website www.kplf.org.

To find out more about the KPL Foundation, please visit the [website](#) or get in touch with [Library Director Sia Stewart](#).



Friends of the Kingston Public Library

The Friends meet on the first Friday of every month at 1pm, in the meeting room, at the Library. Please consider joining us; your ideas and suggestions are most welcome and very important to us.

We have continued to sponsor the Early Literacy for children, this winter 'Puppet Story Time', ongoing education for staff, the Museum passes, Youth Advisory Council and staff attendance at the Massachusetts Library Association's annual conference. In December, we had a successful winter "Boutique" held in conjunction with the 20th Anniversary Celebration for the Library at the

Green Street location.

To do this we rely **HEAVILY** on our Bake Sale and semi- annual Book Sales as well as the dues and donations from you, our supporters.

Things YOU can do to support your library:

Come to the ***Spring Book and Bake Sale, Saturday May 9, from 9 - 3PM, RAIN OR SHINE.*** Mark your calendars and come for great values on a wonderful selection of books in every category from the best authors, and delicious baked goods. Start saving your gently used, unneeded books (no textbooks, encyclopedias or reference manuals please) and donate them soon.

Renew your membership or become a new member, only \$10.00 per family. Sign up to help at the semi-annual sales. Time, Talent and Treasure, all are equally important to us! Forms are available at the Library.

Reserve a museum pass. Go to the [Events & Programs page of the Library website](#) or call 781-585-0517 x111 and save at the ticket booth of your favorite museum.

Like the [Library](#) and the [Friends of the Library](#) on **Facebook** ... get all the latest news first!

Contact Friends President Sandra Underhill by [email](#), if you have any questions, or just come to one of our [meetings](#)!

SEE YOU AT THE LIBRARY!

[Sign up for KPL newsletters.](#)

[Email us if you'd like the Library to purchase a title.](#)