

# AINSWORTH PUBLIC LIBRARY

NEWSLETTER | FEBRUARY 2021



## LIBRARY BUDGET



We need your support! Our yearly budget has been accepted by the Select Board, please vote it in at Town Meeting on March 2nd. During these unprecedented times, the library has done what libraries are known to do, be flexible, adapt, and offer as much to our community as we can while protecting everyone's health. When we were completely closed, we took advantage of the time to put a new coat of paint on walls that haven't been painted in many years, made our youth books more accessible to young patrons, and put up a sneeze guard to prepare the library for reopening safely once allowed by state mandates. While we are unable to have visitors inside the library at this time, we have brought our services to you. We offered free masks, and staple household goods on our porch in March and April, and have made craft projects available through curbside pickup where you can also pick up any of our available library items. We are continuing to grow our collection so that it stays relevant and useful to our patrons. In addition, we have continued to offer the important services of photo-copying, faxing and scanning. Our book groups have gone virtual, we have expanded our wifi reach and we are supporting our youth patrons through storytime and homeschool support. Please review the full annual report available on our website and consider voting in our budget on Town Meeting Day.

## LIBRARIES TRANSFORMING COMMUNITIES

The Ainsworth Public Library is pleased to be a recipient of this American Library Association Grant. Keep your eyes and ears open for opportunities to connect with others through conversations and readings that will help us examine our roles in being open to differences, an ally to others and how our lives have shaped who we are. We will be working with Williamstown Schools and there will be options for all ages to participate. We are looking forward to doing this important work together!



## BINGO

It's here! From February 1st through March 11th, we will be hosting a Winter Bingo Challenge- with prizes! A different Bingo challenge card will be available each week. Once you finish a card, email, scan or drop it in our dropbox with your name, phone number and whether you are an adult or youth. Winners will be pulled on March 12th. Check out the fabulous prizes which include two \$50 gift cards, a giant gummy bear, a science kit, a box of hand sanitizer, and books. This contest is for fun and open to all ages.



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## CURBSIDE GIVEAWAYS



Looking for some fun? A project that is simple, but new to keep your kids entertained? This month we will be giving away valentine kits at curbside to our young patrons. Reserve your free kit by calling, emailing or sending a message through Facebook Messenger and then pick them up via curbside the week of

February 8th- 13th.

## NEW GAMES COMING!



How can you reduce stress, laugh more, and strengthen your relationships? By playing board games. Thanks to a grant from the CLiF Foundation, we are in the

process of purchasing more games that will be available to our patrons for check-out.

## ONLINE BOOK GROUP



Join us Thursday, February 18th at 4pm, to discuss the book *The Water Dancer* by Ta-Nehisi Coates. The online conversation is bound to be interesting as we discuss this book that is a mix between historical fiction and fantasy. We welcome new

people and ask that you contact the library if you need a copy of the book.

## MARK YOUR CALENDARS

**Wednesday, February 3rd at 10am**  
Online Storytime

**Mon-Sat, February 8th-13th**  
Giveaway Week

**Wednesday, February 10th at 10am**  
Online Storytime

**Friday, February 12th at 10am**  
Board of Trustees Open Meeting

**Wednesday, February 17th at 10am**  
Online Storytime

**Thursday, February 18th at 4pm**  
Online Adult Book Group

**Wednesday, February 24th at 10am**  
Online Storytime

## MEET OUR PATRONS



Allison Belisle's passion for books and reading started at a young age. She says, "Every week, we'd go to the library to get a week's supply of books". Her earliest memories of a library are of the Fletcher Free Library in Burlington where she grew up. She remembers the joy of the Children's Section with crates of books placed at a just-right height to make them easy to browse through. As an eighth grader, Allison won an award as the student who read the most books. Never before had her school librarian presented such an award, but Allison's voracious book consumption did not go unnoticed. Allison now has stacks and shelves of books throughout her home that she calls her "own little lending library". Included in that collection are her childhood copies of many favorites. As an adult, her favorite reading material is historical fiction and non-fiction and the supernatural. Allison says, "My most favorite places are libraries and museums".