

THAYER PUBLIC LIBRARY
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781-848-0405

The Library is
located directly
across from Town
Hall.

Library Hours

Monday - Thursday

9:00 AM - 9:00 PM

Friday & Saturday

9:00 AM - 5:00 PM

"If you have a garden
and a library, you
have everything you
need." —Cicero



Library Connections

The Newsletter of Thayer Public Library

MARCH 2024

Amazing History of the Boston Marathon



BOSTON MARATHON TRADITIONS & LORE

PAUL C. CLERICI | FOREWORD BY GUY MERSÉ III, MAYOR OF BOSTON



Bestselling author Paul Clerici joins us on **Tuesday, March 12th, at 7:00 pm in Logan Auditorium** to share stories about the iconic Boston Marathon. Mr. Clerici has written extensively on the race; his latest book is *Boston Marathon Traditions and Lore*.

He describes and illustrates such traditions as the connection between the Greek god Zeus, the Battle of Marathon in 490 BC, and the gold-dipped olive-branch wreaths each champion receives; the growth of the start and finish lines from its simple origins as a single line to its lavish colorful artistry; the unique athlete and culture exchange program with the Ohme-Hochi 30K in Japan that began with four-time Boston Marathon winner Bill Rodgers in the 1970s; statues and monuments along the course, including one of runner-

sculptor Bobbi Gibb, the first woman to finish the Boston Marathon and who created the life-size statue herself; the ever-changing beauty of the finisher medal; the evolution of media coverage; the athlete villages, one of which began in 1996 to accommodate its largest field of 38,000 for its centennial; and much more.

His storytelling is supplemented with a multimedia presentation of images from his books, which include some from rare collections and some never seen before! Books will be available to purchase and can be signed by the author.

What to Grow: Fresh and Unique Garden Ideas

Join us for this Therapy Gardens workshop on **Saturday, March 23rd at 11:00 am in Logan Auditorium** to learn **What to Grow: Fresh & Unique Garden Ideas for 2024**.

Tired of the same old garden? Whether you enjoy growing indoors or outdoors, come check out these unique (and easy) garden ideas.

We will review several common and uncommon vegetable, herb, and flower plants that you can grow, including what to plant and when, companion planting techniques to increase yield and deter pests, and more.

Participants will leave with their own garden planning sheet, along with information on where to purchase hard-to-find seeds and other supplies. Great for indoor and outdoor gardeners in any season! Registration is NOT required. All are welcome.

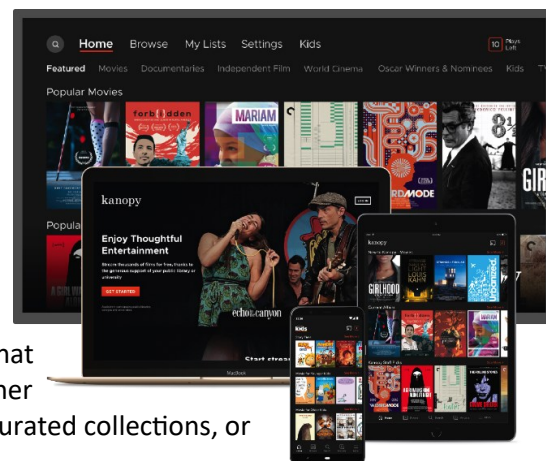


This program made possible by the use of Library State Aid Funds.

Curious About Kanopy?

How many times have you spent more time deciding what to watch, than actually watching it? Channel surfing isn't nearly as fun as it sounds, and with so many streaming services to pick from, the time and subscription costs can add up quickly. Cut the cord and lose the choice paralysis and rising fees with Kanopy, the free streaming video service from Thayer Public Library. All you need is your TPL library card.

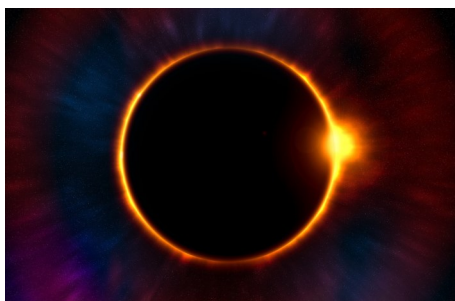
Kanopy offers instant access to thousands of critically acclaimed movies, inspiring documentaries, award-winning foreign films and kid favorites, and can be a great alternative to streaming subscription services. Picking what to watch is easy with a variety of quality, thoughtful entertainment. Like other streaming platforms, you can watch on your TV or device, browse through curated collections, or search for a specific title you'd like to watch.



Curious about Kanopy? Sign up for one of our sessions to learn more about this streaming service. Two sessions will be offered on **Tuesday, March 5th in Conference Room A, one at 11:00 am and another at 2:00 pm. A third, virtual, session will be offered on Friday, March 8th at 11:00 am.**

These are small group, hands-on programs, **so registration is required.** Register online through the Event Calendar, in person or over the phone at 781-848-0405, ext. 4417. Please bring your library card and the device you plan to stream movies on and we'll go through the steps to make it happen.

Prepare for the Solar Eclipse



Interested in learning more about the next Solar Eclipse?

This presentation by Pat Monteith, a NASA Solar System Ambassador, on **Saturday, March 30th at 11:00 am in Logan Auditorium**, will explain it. For all ages -- families with children, teens and adults. Registration not required.

In Massachusetts, the eclipse is expected to be seen Monday, April 8th starting at 2:16pm. Peak coverage will be 93%, at 3:30 pm. It will end at 4:39 pm.

The eclipse should only be viewed with solar eclipse glasses or a home-made eclipse viewer. The library will hold a session for you to make a safe viewer on **Saturday, April 6th from 2:00 pm to 4:00 pm in Logan Auditorium.** All materials will be provided.

Genealogy Club: The Gravestone Girls

Join us on **Saturday, March 16th at 10:00 am in Logan Auditorium** to learn proper gravestone rubbing techniques with The Gravestone Girls.

Don't be scared of old cemeteries, they are unique and interesting places full of folk art and history found only in New England! The images on old gravestones are considered the first graphic art of the New World and communicated messages to individuals and the community about virtues, ethics and standards of behavior. These objects can be more than 300 years old and still stand on the landscape in a virtual museum which serves as a gateway between the past and the present.

Most of us have done a gravestone rubbing. Some have left behind a mark of their presence through improper techniques. Others have left unsatisfied with their result and still others long to go back to do it again. There are many misconceptions about doing gravestone rubbing. You will learn the safest methods for creating a rubbing while ensuring the safety and preservation of the old gravestones.

Brenda Sullivan has been immersed in gravestone art, history, and symbolism for more than 30 years. "Keeping Our Dead Alive" through lectures, tours, classes, and art, The Gravestone Girls work nationwide, raising cemetery awareness and teaching citizens the history buried under their feet.

