



575 YEARS TO CELEBRATE!

By Allison Murphy, Library Director

There are many important anniversaries to celebrate in 2026, and we can't wait to share the excitement with you. As you know, the Scranton Library celebrated our 125th anniversary, which kicked off last July. We were thrilled to be the Grand Marshal of Madison's annual Fourth of July parade. This year, the Town of Madison honors its 200th anniversary with plenty of fireworks, festivities, and fun. See the article in this newsletter about one of the ways the library will participate in this monumental anniversary. On an even grander scale, the United States of America will commemorate the 250th anniversary of the signing of the Declaration of Independence. These anniversaries provide a unique opportunity to reflect on the rich history, enduring legacy, and vibrant future of our library and the community we call home.

Both Scranton Library and the Town of Madison have been through many changes, yet our shared commitment to community and progress has remained constant. This year, as we celebrate our anniversaries, we recognize that the strength of both our library and our town lies in the people who call Madison home. It is your dedication, spirit, and pride in this community that have helped us thrive and grow.

We can't wait to see you at the library!

CHECK OUT THE NEW ART MURALS IN THE CHILDREN'S ROOM

Have you seen the new art murals in the Children's Room that were painted by retired art teacher Kristen Cafferty? The gorgeous art murals and panels feature sea creatures, waves, jellyfish, and more. Stop by and enjoy!



THE HEART OF MADISON RAFFLE

Our raffle is back, and the drawing for excellent prizes will be held in the spring!

Tickets will be available online, at the library, and at the outdoor raffle table. You could be one of our lucky winners!



CELEBRATING MADISON'S 200TH ANNIVERSARY

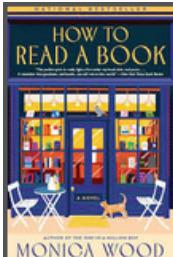
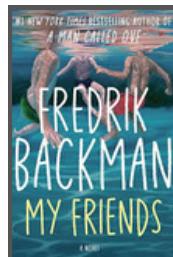
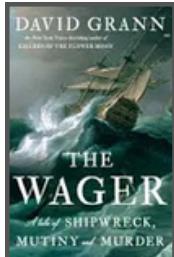
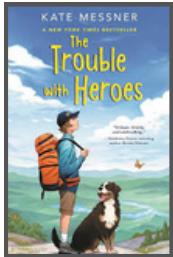
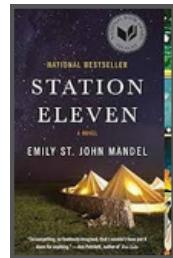
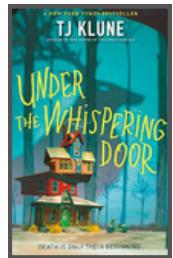
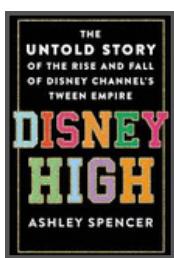
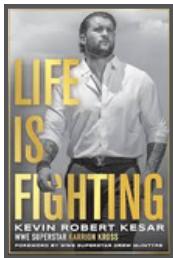
Do you have a story to share?

The library will be creating a Madison Memories podcast in honor of the town's 200th anniversary, and we would love to hear from you! We are looking for Madison residents who would like to talk about their experience in town, and we hope that you'll share some special memories. The conversations will be compiled into a podcast that can be accessed on our website. If you're interested, contact Allison Murphy at murphy@scrantonlibrary.org.

Stay tuned for more information about other exciting events at the library to celebrate the anniversary!



FAVORITE STAFF PICKS FOR 2025



LOOK FOR MORE ANIMAL AND NATURE PROGRAMS!

The library is excited to be a proud recipient of a grant from the Allan Loeb Foundation for the Benefit of Wildlife and Domestic Animals! The Loeb Foundation “is a nonprofit corporation dedicated to benefiting wildlife and domestic animals ... for the purpose of promoting the well-being and the kind and humane treatment of domestic animals and wildlife and of disseminating knowledge to that end.”

This grant will provide high-quality educational programs for children, teens, and adults over a five-year period. The Children’s Department is excited to host penguins from Mystic Aquarium in the near future. The Teen Department hopes to offer a Mystic Aquarium trainer for a day opportunity as a summer reading prize. The Adult Department is planning many exciting lectures, such as one about gorillas and an introduction to beekeeping.

Look out for these and many more wonderful programs coming soon!



WAYS TO DONATE:

- Click the **DONATE** button on the website
- Donate online:
scrantonlibrary.org/support-the-library
- Send a check: 801 Boston Post Road, Madison, CT 06443
- Make a gift via **PayPal**: bit.ly/scrantonpaypal
or **Venmo** @scrantonmemoriallibraryct
- Scan this QR code to donate online:



LIBRARY HOURS

Monday - Thursday
9:30am - 8pm

Friday & Saturday
9:30am - 5pm

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The secret
of getting ahead
is getting
started.

Mark Twain

The Scranton Library Friends

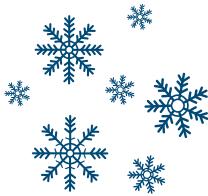


Book donations are accepted
in the bins on the porch of
24 Wall Street, which is located
across from the library’s
main entrance.

Thank you for your donations!

JANUARY FEATURED EVENTS

This is just a small sampling of the free events offered by the Scranton Library each month. Go to our website to see more, read the full details, and register now: scrantonlibrary.org/events



CHILDREN'S LIBRARY STORYTIMES & MORE!

Story time is now in session! You and your little ones can enjoy all your favorites - Walkers & Wiggles, Toddler Tango, and Tots & Tales. Registration opens one week before each program. We also have a bunch of fun events for Tweens and Teens. Plus, check our Events Calendar online or stop by the Children's or Teen Room today to find out about other special events.

PJ STORYTIME

Thursday, January 15 at 6:30pm

Find your finest pajamas and get comfy for this cozy storytime. We will sing songs, read stories, and have some snacks for this winter storytime special!

For all ages. Registration required.

TWEEN AFTERNOON

Saturday, January 24 at 2:00pm

Get ready for a fun-filled time at the library! We will have video games, crafts, and snacks.

For grades 4 and up. Registration recommended.

LLAMA, LLAMA MESS, MESS, MESS

Thursday, January 29 at 10:00am

Enjoy the story, *Llama Llama Mess, Mess, Mess* by Anna Dewdney followed by an accompanying craft.

For ages 2 and up. Registration recommended.

AFTER HOURS TEEN NIGHT: KIRBY AIR RIDERS & GLOW-IN-THE-DARK BINGO

Friday, January 31st at 6:00pm

Join us for the first After Hours Teen Night of 2026! There will be food, fun, video games, and more.

Open to grades 6 - 12. Registration recommended.



CANDIDLY CHRIS: COMPOSING THE PHOTOGRAPH

Wednesday, January 7 at 6:00pm

We welcome photographer Peter Glass for a talk about the various rules of composing a photograph. This program is inspired by the life and loves of our colleague, Chris Jennings Penders. These special events are held quarterly and made possible by donations in Chris's memory.

For adults of all ages. Registration required.

TRIVIA NIGHT

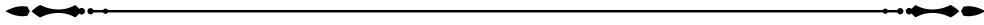
Wednesday, January 21 at 7:30pm

We have partnered with Commomango Restaurant to offer a monthly trivia night. Join us at 52 Wall Street for a little friendly competition. Have fun with a team of friends or meet some new ones.

For adults of all ages. Registration required.

FEBRUARY FEATURED EVENTS

This is just a small sampling of the free events offered by the Scranton Library each month. Go to our website to see more, read the full details, and register now: scrantonlibrary.org/events



CAN'T MISS PROGRAMMING

In addition to the special events featured here, we also host a variety of regularly scheduled weekly and monthly programming. Check out our online Events Calendar for full details. We have something for everyone!

FREE MONTHLY OR WEEKLY PROGRAMS: Ukulele and Guitar Clubs, Fiber Arts Club, Craft of the Month, Saturday Sleuth's Book Club, Scranton Writers' Group, Friday Movie Matinee, Open Mic Night, and Creative Craft Night.

Thank you to the staff and volunteers who make these free programs possible!

THE VERY HUNGRY CATERPILLAR MINI GOLF

Saturday, February 7 at 10:30 and 11:45am

Get out of the cold and join us at the library to play a little indoor mini golf! Our room will be transformed with a 9-hole game featuring the Very Hungry Caterpillar.

For ages 3 and up. Registration required.

MAD POSSIBILITIES: YOUTH SPRING/SUMMER PROGRAM EXPO

Thursday, February 12 at 5:30-7:00pm

Be the FIRST to sign up for youth/children's programs and camps happening in and around Madison this summer or find the perfect volunteer opportunity for your teen!

All ages. No registration required.

KINDNESS WEEK: CARD ANGELS POP-UP MEETING

Wednesday, February 11 at 6:00pm

Join us to make homemade cards with happy messages that go to cancer treatment centers and nursing homes to cheer up patients.

For teens of all ages. Registration recommended.

GROVE STREET THEATER TROUPE: THE DAY THE CRAYONS QUIT

Wednesday, February 25 at 4:00pm

Watch the crayons come to life in this short theater performance.

For kids of all ages. No registration required.



CRAFT SUPPLY SWAP

Saturday, February 14 at 2:00pm

Are you a crafter who needs to reduce your stash of craft supplies or are you looking to start a new hobby? Check out the second Craft Supply Swap! Donations accepted 2/6-2/13. Those who donate receive an early bird ticket and can start shopping at 1:30.

For adults. No registration required.

WINTER MINDFULNESS MEDITATION

Monday, February 23 at 7:00pm

Join us for a six-week virtual meditation series this winter. Patrons will sign up for the entire six-week session.

For adults. Registration required.