



Spring 2020 Newsletter

Ayer Library Closed Until Further Notice Due To COVID-19 Pandemic

During this COVID-19 Pandemic Ayer Town Offices are closed, and that includes the Library building. Library book drops are locked. Please keep all borrowed materials at home; loan periods will be extended, and no late fees will be charged until further notice. Library staff is checking voicemail, email, and social media on a daily basis to answer questions and assist with access to the Library's online collections of eBooks, digital magazines, and other resources. Links to helpful resources will be posted periodically on the Library's website - <https://ayerlibrary.org> – and on the Library's Facebook page.

If you don't have a library card, or if your card is blocked or expired, please contact the Library and the staff will set you up with access to ebooks and online collections for the duration of the pandemic. Call 978-772-8250 or email ayerlibrary@cwmars.org.

The Friends Quarterly Meeting on April 16th is cancelled.

In the interest of public health during the continuing pandemic, we have cancelled our April Friends meeting. The Friends are planning to regroup at their regularly scheduled meeting on Thursday, July 16, 5:30-8:30 p.m. to find ways we can continue to support this precious community resource.

Friends Cancel Annual Garden Sale

The Friends Annual Garden Sale, originally scheduled for Saturday, May 30th, has been cancelled.

***Books on Wheels* is currently on hiatus.**

The Friends, working with Library staff, introduced a very successful *Books on Wheels* program; however, while the Ayer Library remains closed the *Books on Wheels* program has been suspended. We expect to have it up and running once the library reopens.

Book Sale Room Donations

While you are remaining indoors over the next weeks, many of you will probably be doing spring cleaning in your home. Please put aside used books and DVDs for resale in the Friends Book Sale Room. No textbooks please. We will let people know when we can begin accepting donated materials again once the library reopens.

Ideas for Home Activities While Social Distancing at Home.

The homepage of the Ayer Library website includes a link to information on ordering ebooks, eAudiobooks, and digital magazines at <https://ayerlibrary.org/ebooks/>. That homepage also offers a link to ***Stay Engaged, Have Fun, Relieve Stress***, the Massachusetts Library System's collection of resources to help you address the impact of COVID-19 pandemic at home. Check out <https://guides.masslibsystem.org/COVID19/stayengaged>

Travelzoo has put together a fascinating collection of links to 20 stunning travel virtual experiences you can have without leaving your home: <https://www.travelzoo.com/blog/20-amazing-places-you-can-visit-without-leaving-home/> This collection offers amazing experiences, such as seeing artwork in the Sistine Chapel at the Vatican and the Museum of Modern Art in NYC; watching wildlife cams at the San Diego Zoo, Monterey Bay Aquarium and on safari in Africa; hearing performances at the Vienna State Opera House and the Metropolitan Opera; and viewing incredible edifices like the Taj Mahal and the Great Wall of China as well as spectacular landscapes at Volcano National Park and Bryce Canyon – and much more. It's a perfect way to get your mind off of COVID-19.

At the Screen Actors Guild's website: <https://sagaftra.foundation/childrens-literacy/storyline-online/> some well-known actors read a variety of children's books alongside creative illustrations from the books. Related materials created by teachers are also available for each book. This site gets over 100 million views every month.

NOTE: Our Friends Secretary Laurie Sabol is making protective masks for area hospitals, but there is a shortage of ¼ inch elastic needed for these (she needs at least 7 inches for each mask). She also needs inch-wide bias tape, seam binding or fabric ribbon. To donate supplies, please send a message to the Friends email address: friendsoftheayerlibrary@gmail.com

The Friends of Ayer Library Executive Committee:

- Mary Metzger: President
- Carol Horgan: Vice President
- Liz Nonis: Treasurer
- Laurie Sabol: Secretary
- Elaine Sullivan: Member-at-large

Thanks for being a member of the Friends of Ayer Library. We look forward to seeing you all again at the Library once we no longer need Social Distancing!

Ayer Library, 26 East Main St., Ayer, MA 01432; 978-772-8250

Website: <https://www.ayerlibrary.org/friends/>