

*"At its core, the rise of "fake news" is first and foremost a sign that we have failed as a society to teach our citizens how to think critically about data and information. "*

- Kalev Leetaru, *Forbes*

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# Off the Shelf

Because we are guardians and guides to the vast world of information, the buzz word among librarians right now is **fake news**. Perhaps you have heard the phrase as well? **Fake News** is misinformation, often intended to mislead. **Fake News** may not be 100% fake. It may be a mixture of real and fake, or it may be strongly biased, providing a slanted or incomplete perspective. **Fake News** plays to people's passions and preconceived notions.

*"Fake news stories touch on a broad range of subjects, from unproven cancer cures to celebrity hoaxes and backyard Bigfoot sightings*

**Fake News** is not new, but it garnered new life during the recent election because of the possibility that it could have swayed the outcome.

*"At the heart of [fake] news is the inability to think critically about the information that surrounds us and to perform the necessary due diligence and research to verify and validate..."*

**Fake News** is spread via "click bate" headlines that are designed to provoke a strong response. People share, "like" and forward fake news through social media without even knowing

that they are doing it. Because people pay more attention to stories that they agree with, they disregard stories that have a different point of view. In this way, social media becomes an "echo chamber" of agreement, so people don't see opposing viewpoints.

It is important to remember that not all search results are the same. When you search online, your results are personalized, based on what the search engine knows about you. Because of this, you are less likely to encounter points of view you disagree with, and risk becoming isolated in your own cultural bubble. In order to escape that trap, clear your search history often. Use a variety of search engines - not just one. Search anonymously, using "private" or "incognito" mode. Opt out of being tracked whenever possible. You can also turn off the predictive search option in your browser. To do this, click on "search settings" and choose "never show instant results."

*"Misinformation is perpetrated because people aren't taking the time to evaluate sources before they accept it as truth and/or pass it on to others."*

In order to verify whether



what you are reading is true, consider the source. Who wrote the article? Do they have the background and affiliations to be trusted? Are they considered experts in the field? Ask yourself if the information that you are reading is an ad? Check the date on the article. Is it an old article that is being recycled? Has new or better information emerged since it's publication? Check multiple sources on the topic. Do they agree? Do they cite evidence, or is it just an opinion piece? Lastly, you can use a fact checker like [Snopes.com](http://Snopes.com) or [FactCheck.org](http://FactCheck.org). Of course, you can always check with one of our reference librarians. They are here to help you find, evaluate, and use the resources available, whether they are in print or electronic form.

As always, I am available to meet and talk with you. This is *your* library and we want to hear what you think!

Nanci Milone Hill,  
Library Director

## Meet the Staff... Lydia Gravell



Welcome to our new column: *Meet the Staff!* Each month, we will feature a different staff member. Make sure to say hello to them whenever you see them.

This month, we would like you to meet Lydia Gravell. Lydia joined our staff on July 5th of this year. She is our Head of Technical Services. Lydia received her B.A. in History at Salem State University. She re-

Library Science (MLS) from Simmons College this past May. She is also fluent in French and Spanish!

Here at the Parker Library, Lydia is responsible for all of our original cataloging and the ordering and processing of all materials. She also covers our Reference Desk, Circulation Desk, and Children's Room desk as needed. She has worked on several special projects since arriving here,

including putting together and cataloging our new Binge Box collection (see the next article for details on that), re-cataloging our Music CDs for easier finding, and assisting our Reference Librarian in creating signage for our stacks.

We are thrilled that Lydia is here ... and we are sure that you will be too!

## BINGE BOXES ARE HERE!



Are you a binge watcher? Do you find new shows and then watch entire seasons, one after the other? Do you need to get caught up on the last season of your favorite show before the new season starts? Don't you hate it when you're on Netflix or HBOGo and you see a movie from a series that you want to watch but you haven't seen the prequels? Not to mention the fact that it's nearly impossible to find all of the movies in a series on free (and legal) streaming services!

Well, we here at the library figured we could tackle that

problem by bundling movies in boxes and circulating them as one item. We have boxes featuring movies based on books by famous authors, like Stephen King; boxes on themes, like Biblical Movies, and featuring a particular actor or actress, like Marilyn Monroe! The library currently has 29 Binge Boxes, with plans to add more. We would love to hear from you if you have an idea for a Binge Box that you would like to see added to the collection. To suggest a theme, contact our Office Manager via email at [chamiton@dracutlibrary.org](mailto:chamiton@dracutlibrary.org), and put "Binge Box Request" in the subject line.

The Library currently has the following Binge Boxes:

- ◆ Classic Disney
- ◆ Clint Eastwood
- ◆ Coming of Age
- ◆ Competition Comebacks
- ◆ Disney: Old and New
- ◆ Disney/Pixar Films
- ◆ Disney Princesses
- ◆ Double Feature: Martin Scorsese & Robert DeNero
- ◆ English Royalty
- ◆ Girl's Night Out
- ◆ Hanky Holders
- ◆ High School Flicks
- ◆ High School Flicks 2
- ◆ Inspirational Travel
- ◆ Love Is in the Air
- ◆ Marilyn Monroe
- ◆ Meryl Streep
- ◆ Non-Traditional Christmas movies
- ◆ On Broadway
- ◆ Pulp Action
- ◆ Star Wars, Episodes I-VII
- ◆ Stephen King Classics
- ◆ Stephen King Variety
- ◆ Teaching Moments
- ◆ Thanksgiving is Turkey Time
- ◆ True Tales of Terror

Binge Box circulation contains the following parameters:

- ◆ Patrons may check out one (1) Binge Box at a time.
- ◆ Binge Boxes may not be placed on hold.
- ◆ Any patron with an MVLC library card may check out Binge Boxes.
- ◆ Binge Boxes must be picked up and returned at the Parker Library.
- ◆ They may not be placed in the return box. Binge Boxes must be handed to a staff member.
- ◆ Boxes will be checked out for 7 days and are not renewable.
- ◆ Overdue fines accrue at the rate of \$3.00 per day with a \$15.00 maximum.

- ◆ If all DVDs are not returned in the box, the Binge Box will remain checked out to the patron and fines will continue to accrue until all parts are returned or the maximum fine limit is reached.
- ◆ Replacement DVDs will not be accepted for missing DVDs.
- ◆ Patrons are responsible for damage, loss, or theft of the Binge Box and all contents while it is checked out to them. Patrons will be responsible for the entire replacement cost of the box and contents as well as a \$10.00 processing fee (the replacement cost will vary depending on the cost of the items lost/damaged).

The above policy was adopted by the Board of Library Trustees on October 12, 2016.

## New Acquisitions

### NEW FICTION ADDED - JANUARY 2017

#### Fantasy

- Arden, Katherine. *The Bear and the Nightingale*
- Cogman, Genevieve. *The Burning Page* (Invisible Library, Book #3)
- Gladstone, Max. *Bookburners*
- Older, Daniel Jos. *Battle Hill Bolero: a Bone Street Rumble novel*

#### General Fiction

- Moriarty, The Fifth Letter
- Star, Nancy. *Sisters One, Two, Three*

#### Historical Fiction

- Buckley, Fiona. *The Heretic's Creed*
- Clare, Alys. *A Rustle of Silk*

- Cogman, Genevieve. *The Burning Page*
- Krivak, Andrew. *The Signal Flame*
- Muller, Marcia. *The Dangerous Ladies Affair*
- Rowland, Laura J. *The Ripper's Shadow*
- Tolkien, Simon. *No Man's Land*

#### Horror

- Cutler, Nick. *Little Heaven*

#### Literary

- Ackerman, Elliot. *Dark at the Crossing*
- Alexander, Ellie. *Fudge and Jury: a Bakeshop Mystery*
- Arden, Katherine. *The Bear and the Nightingale*
- Bitto, Emily. *The Strays*
- Cusk, Rachel. *Transit*
- Johnson, Lindsey Lee. *The Most Dangerous Place on Earth*
- Kang, Han. *Human Acts*
- Krasikov, Sana. *The Patriots*
- Krivak, Andrew. *The Signal Flame*
- Miller, Derek B. *The Girl in Green*
- Wallace, Melanie. *The Girl in the Garden*

#### Mystery

- Airth, Rennie George. *The Death of Kings*
- Buckley, Fiona. *The Heretic's Creed*
- Clare, Alys. *A Rustle of Silk*
- Daniels, Casey. *Graveyard Shift*
- Dorsey, Tim. *Clownfish Blues*

#### Mystery

- Hall, Parnell. *A Puzzle to be Named Later*
- Hart, Ellen. *Fever in the Dark*
- Jones, Darynda. *Eleventh Grave in Moonlight*
- Kingsbury, Kate. *Dead and Breakfast*
- Lansdale, Joe R. *Coco Butternut*
- McKinley, Jenn. *Assault and Beret*
- Moody, Susan. *Quick off the Mark*
- Muller, Marcia. *The Dangerous Ladies Affair*
- Rankin, Ian. *Rather be the Devil*
- Rowland, Laura J. *The Ripper's Shadow*
- Sweazy, Larry D. *Where I Can See You*
- Thoft, Ingrid. *Duplicity*

#### Romance

- Cleeton, Chanel. *On Broken Wing*
- Griffin, Patience. *It Happened in Scotland*
- MacAlister, Katie. *The Perils of Paulie*
- Shalvis, Jill. *Accidentally On Purpose*
- Williams, Beatriz. *The Wicked City*

#### Science Fiction

- Freed, Alexander. *Rogue One*

#### Short Stories

- Acimen, Andre. *Enigma Variations*

#### Suspense | Thrillers

- Barry, Brunonia.

- Bower, Belinda. *The Beautiful Dead*
- Dazieri, Sandrone. *Kill the Father*
- Ferencik, Erika. *The River at Night*
- Gardner, Lisa. *Right Behind You*
- Graham, Heather. *The Rising*
- Grant, Andrew. *The False Friend*
- Johnsson, R. *Snowblind: a Thriller*
- Moore, Jonathan. *The Dark Room*
- Pavone, Chris. *The Travelers*
- Petrie, Nick. *Burning Bright*
- Pinborough, Sarah. *Behind Her Eyes*
- Reardon, Scott. *The Prometheus Man*
- Swanson, Peter. *Her Every Fear*
- Taylor, Brad. *Ring of Fire*
- Woods, Stuart. *Below the Belt*

#### NEW AUDIOBOOKS

- Barry, Brunonia. *The Fifth Petal*
- Bauer, Belinda. *The Beautiful Dead*
- Bear, Greg. *Take Back the Sky*
- Gardner, Lisa. *Right Behind You*
- Graham, Heather. *The Rising*
- Hall, Parnell. *A Puzzle to be Named Later*
- Jones, Darynda. *Eleventh Grave in Moonlight*
- Rankin, Ian. *Rather Be the Devil*
- Taylor, Brad. *Ring of Fire*
- Dorsey, Tim. *Clownfish Blues*

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## STAFF

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Circulation Librarian

Penny Berube  
Children's Librarian

Lydia Gravell  
Head of Technical Services

Cathy Bence  
Reference Librarian

Christine Cloutier  
Young Adult Librarian

Cheryl Salem  
Asst. Circulation Librarian

Richard Kasilowski  
Maintenance

Amber Bouchard  
Asst. Children's Librarian

Colette Marion, Laura  
Sanscartier, Amy Spence,  
Brian Bisson, Robin Gadue,  
Katie Krikoris, YoungOak Lim,  
Marina Morse, Melissa Ryan,  
Joyce Servente

## TRUSTEES

Dr. Linda Trouville, Chair  
John Dyer  
Jim Nolan  
Eric Jackson  
Monique Verville

## NEW NONFICTION - ADDED JANUARY 2017

- Blackburn, Dr. Elizabeth. *The Telomere Effect: the New Science of Living Younger*
- Chambers, Veronica. *The Meaning of Michelle: 15 Writers on the Iconic First Lady and How Her Journey Inspires Our Own*
- Epstein, Edward Jay. *How America Lost It's Secrets: Edward Snowden, the Man and the Theft*
- Gary, Amy. *In the Great Green Room: The Brilliant and Bold Life of Margaret Wise Brown*
- Jacobs, Leanne. *Beautiful Money: the 4-Week Total Wealth Makeover*
- Clinton, Kelly. *I Hate Everyone, Except You*
- Kingsley, Patrick. *The New Odyssey: the Story of the 21st Century Refugee Crisis.*
- Kinzer, Stephen. *The True Flag: Theodore Roosevelt, Mark Twain, and the Birth of American Empire*
- Krawcheck, Sallie. *Own It: The Power of Women at Work*
- MacLean, Nancy. *Democracy in Chains: The Deep History of the Radical Right's Secret Plan for America*
- Preston, Douglas. *The Lost City of the Monkey*
- Ricca, Brad. *Mrs. Sherlock Holmes: The True Story of New York's Greatest Female*
- Detective and the 1917 Missing Girl Case that Captivated a Nation
  - Shuttuck, Debra A. *Bloomer Girls: Women Baseball Pioneers*
  - Sundeen, Mark. *The Unsettlers: In Search of the Good Life in Today's America*
  - Wade, Lisa. *American Hookup: The New Culture of Sex on Campus*

"SOME BOOKS YOU  
READ. SOME BOOKS  
YOU ENJOY.

BUT SOME BOOKS JUST  
SWALLOW YOU UP,  
HEART AND SOUL."

JOANNE HARRIS - HPLYRIKZ.COM

## FEATURED MUSEUM PASS OF THE MONTH



Tired of being in the house already this winter? Trying to plan what to do with the kids during February vacation? Why not take them to the Boston Children's Museum? By using the library's museum pass, you can pay **half price** admission per person, up to four (4) people.

"The science of brain development is providing

concrete evidence that there is real power in play. While often dismissed as "just fun," play is the vital activity that children use to learn about and interact with their world, and gain the mental, physical and social skills necessary to succeed in their adult lives." At the Boston Children's Museum, you can see collections objects in exhibit spaces such as Arthur & Friends, Science Playground, and the the Japanese House.

The Library's Museum Pass Program is generously funded by the Friends of Dracut Library.

## IMPORTANT DATES

### Monthly Meeting of the Board of Trustees

Wednesday, January 11th 2016 at 4:30 pm. Director's Office. Open Meeting.

### New Year's Observation

The Library will close at 4:30 pm on Friday, December 30th, and re-open at 8:30 am on Tuesday, January 3rd.

### Martin Luther King Day

The Library will be closed on Monday, January 16th, in observance of Martin Luther King Day.

### Friends of the Library

Wednesday, January 25th at 6:30 p.m.