March 2018 Michelle Eberle (Mass. Library System) invited Madeleine Charney to offer two workshops for librarians re: facilitating climate change conversations in their libraries
Sept 2018 Chris Glass invited Madeleine Charney to co-facilitate a talk with him for librarians, as part of Climate Prep Week 2018.
Oct 2018 CREW realized libraries could be a major partner for Climate Prep Week 2019; the Blue Marble Librarians emerged.

Michelle Eberle
Madeleine Charney
Chris Glass
Ayoola White
CJ Wong
Gabrielle Griffis
Corey Farrenkopf
Laura Gardner
2019: Over 100 Climate Prep Week Events

Libraries Across Mass: Public & Academic (including k-12 schools)
CLIMATE Libraries Team Up to Prepare for Crisis

"Blue marble librarians" aim to promote social resilience

BY ELSPETH HAY | SEP 12, 2019

WELLFIELD — As citizens organize to address the certainty of disruptive climate-related events here, librarians — including Wellfield’s Gabrielle Griffen — are taking a leading role in urging communities to prepare for the crisis.

An emerging statewide network called Climate Change Conversations in Libraries is co-sponsoring a program on extreme weather events at the Wellfield library at 6:30 p.m. on Monday, Sept. 30. It’s part of the second annual Climate Preparedness Week, Sept. 24 to 30, organized by Communities Responding to Extreme Weather (CREW), another Massachusetts network of activists working to build local climate resilience.

As the climate crisis progresses scientists predict that Cape Cod will continue to see higher temperatures, more droughts, dramatic sea-level rise, and increasingly frequent extreme weather events.

"The likely impacts on the environment, human health and safety, and local economies are serious and are projected to be very costly," according to the Association to Preserve Cape Cod. Griffin, who is the Wellfield Library’s outreach coordinator, heard about the "Librarians' group earlier this year and attended a meeting in Worcester to learn more. There she met Madeline Charnley, a research librarian at the University of Massachusetts Amherst, who has been training librarians across New England to talk about the climate crisis in their communities. She had worked with the activist group Mothers Out Front.

"Libraries are one of the last places where nobody expects you to spend a dime,"

CLIMATE PREP WEEK 2019

Organized by Communities Responding to Extreme Weather (CREW)
JANUARY 2020: *CREW*

Climate Resilience Series

The Patriot Ledger

Living on the front lines of climate change

Severe cliff erosion has alarmed the Barnstable or Neatl Light, in Falmouth. [JOHN TUNNEY PHOTO]

CLIMATE RESILIENCE SERIES

PRESENTED BY *CREW* COMMUNITIES RESPONDING TO EXTREME WEATHER

HOW CAN WE ADAPT?

Tuesday, January 28th at 6:30pm

Cape Cod is vulnerable to sea level rise, storm surge, and erosion. The Cape Cod Commission has developed the Cape Cod Coastal Planner to support communities faced with difficult decisions about adapting and responding to these hazards. Cape Cod Commission Executive Director Krisy Senatori and Deputy Director Erin Perry will discuss how this new resource communicates the environmental and socio-economic effects of local and regional coastal resiliency strategies.

Executive Director Krisy Senatori leads the Cape Cod Commission in designing land use policies, environmental and community resilience strategies, and comprehensive economic development initiatives.

Erin Perry is the Deputy Director of the Cape Cod Commission and manages regional planning efforts for the program level and engages communities during the planning process to build consensus.

WELLFLEET PUBLIC LIBRARY (508) 349-0310 55 W. MAIN ST. WELLFLEET, MA 02667
Research into Squirrels Takes Flight on Campus

Instruction/Liaison Librarian C.J. Wong led a team of three students and two assistant professors in the installation of nesting boxes for flying squirrels in the woods behind parking lot K this summer, to learn whether there are any of the nocturnal animals in the area.

Using a SCUDCA grant to fund its research, the team, including assistant professor of civil engineering Cynthia Carlson and assistant professor of biology Adam Nicolas, who is a Zamperini Family Faculty Fellow, and student biology majors Julianna DeSantis, Gabrielle Kazz and Jack Canistraro, hung about 20 nesting boxes.

“They are like a bluebird box but the hole is on the side so a squirrel will go in it,” Wong said. “If it’s a bluebird box you put the whole on the front.”

There isn’t a lot known about flying squirrels in Massachusetts, Wong said. It looks like they aren’t present in the area here because of the palm trees, which are a fine environment for the squirrels and a part of their natural environment. There is a lot of research to be done to determine if they are in the area or not, Wong said.
Climate Resilience Hubs

GOAL: That no person is less than 20 minutes from a Climate Resilience Hub

Level 1: Engagement Center:
Serve as outreach, education, and engagement hub for your community:
1. Put up a Climate Resilience Hub Decal on the main entrance of your building
2. Permanently display literature around climate preparedness (digital copies provided by CREW)
3. Host at least one educational event per year around climate preparedness
Climate Hub: Providing Information

Where do people get information in times of crisis?
2020: Climate Prep Week Went Virtual
“The accessible physical space of the library is not the only factor that makes it work well as social infrastructure. The institution’s extensive programming, organized by a professional staff that upholds a principled commitment to openness and inclusivity, fosters social cohesion among clients who might otherwise keep to themselves.”

― Eric Klinenberg
Outreach & Building Online Presence

- Climate Prep Week
- Host Your Own Program
- Social Media Toolkit
- Getting Support
- Curated Book Lists
- Drawing Contest
- Blue Marble Blog

Creation of Blue Marble listserv
Outreach on Social Media

Building Solidarity
Economics of Sustainability

Six-Part Learning Series

Jan. 8-Feb. 12, 2021 6:30pm-7:30pm (EST)

Six weekly discussions facilitated by Dr. Madhavi Venkatesan. Readings will be made available online. Participants are encouraged to read the material provided before the discussion hour. On Zoom.

Jan. 15: The Role of GDP in Culture
Jan. 22: Theory & Reality the Role of Economic Agents in Consumption & Production
Jan. 29: Aligning Sustainability with the Present Economic System
Feb. 5: Reconfiguring the Economy from the Bottom Up
Feb. 12: Why Explicit Discussion of Values is Important, Necessary & Significant in Defining an Economy

To register email: sturgisreference@comcast.net
The Weather is Changing, Are you Prepared?

- David Pogue Keynote Event
- Librarians across Massachusetts hosted book discussions with guide created by BML

2021
Outcomes: Supporting Town Municipal Vulnerability Plan

Example: Libraries can help reduce town flood insurance costs for municipalities participating in FEMA's Community Rating System by hosting programs that apply to public education credits.
“People forge bonds in places that have healthy social infrastructures—not because they set out to build community, but because when people engage in sustained, recurrent interaction, particularly while doing things they enjoy, relationships inevitably grow.” — Eric Klinenberg
Thank You!
Gabrielle Griffis
Assistant Youth Services Librarian, Brewster Ladies' Library
ggriffis@clamsnet.org

Contributing Author: Repair Revolution
Libraries & Sustainability