CHAPTERS

The Newsletter of the Shrewsbury Public Library - SPRING 2015

Thank You to Our Sunday Sponsors!

Thank you to our generous Sunday sponsors! To date, their donations have provided enough funds to keep us open through March 2015. The goal is to be open through May. If you are interested in one of the seven remaining sponsorship slots please contact: Library Director Ellen Dolan at **edolan@shrewsburyma.gov** or 508-841-8537.

2 Sundays each

•Olive I. and Anthony A. Borgatti Jr. Donor Advised Fund of the Greater Worcester Community Foundation
•Rita Croteau

One Sunday each

•Shrewsbury Social Club
•Shrewsbury Garden Club
•Katherine Canney
•Laurie & Matt Hogan
•In memory of Sandra L. Cutler,
•Rotary Club of Shrewsbury
•Weiqun Li and Xiafeng Yan
•Polito Development Corp.
•Cathy Cooper, in honor of Tinu
•Shrewsbury Firefighter's Association
•A gift in memory of James A. Heedles
•Friends of the Shrewsbury Public Library, to recognize Joan and Errol Ethier's exceptional service to the Library
•Shrewsbury Education Association
•The Rocheleau Family
•Jeff & Priscilla Billingham
•Southgate Bargain Box Committee
•Shrewsbury Garden Club
•Three anonymous donors, one "in honor of our families who gave us a love of reading"

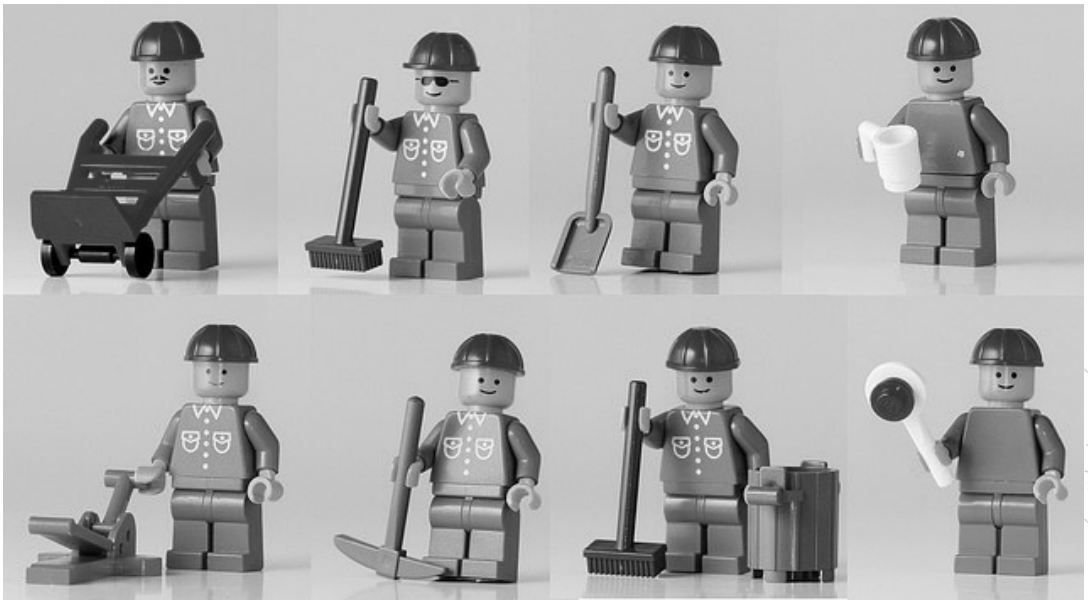

Photo by John Robb, http://bit.ly/1sWwvX

A Letter from Library Director ***Ellen Dolan***

Every day, my staff and I receive questions such as "When are they going to start the demolition?" "When will the building start?" Or "How come nothing is happening over there?" People are eager to see activity at the Main Street site, so I thought I would explain why all has looked (deceptively) quiet at the "old library".

To give a clear explanation, I must describe the typical design phases for a municipal construction project. A project typically starts with a feasibility study, work then proceeds on to the Schematic Design phase, before moving on to the more detailed and lengthy design phases called Design Development and Construction Drawings. Most voters are familiar with the school project timelines, which are partially funded by grants from the state's School Building Authority (SBA). SBA projects require that drawings have progressed through Design Development before bringing the project to voters. So once approved, only the Construction Drawings phase lies ahead. With the library project, which was partially funded by a $7.9 million grant from the Massachusetts Public Library Construction Grant program, only a feasibility study was required before seeking voter approval. However, the Library Building Committee, knowing that voters would want more information with which to make an informed decision, had the architects proceed through the Schematic Design phase. They decided however, not to proceed further into the lengthier and more costly Design Development and Construction Drawing phases, as this major expense would be wasted if the voters did not approve the project.

"People are eager to see activity at the Main Street site..."

Continued on next page...

"The more you read, the more things you will know. The more that you learn, the more places you'll go."
- Dr. Seuss, "I Can Read With My Eyes Shut!'

Continued from front page...

Thus, when voters approved the Library project in November 2013, nine to ten months of Design Development and Construction Drawings design work lay ahead.

In the month following the November 2013 project vote, the Town Manager finalized contracts with the architects and project manager for the upcoming work. Since early December 2013 the Project Manager and the Architectural team have been hard at work on the design and planning for the project. Design Development Drawings were completed in April 2014, and Construction Drawings were done in December 2014. The bidding process started up in early December and proceeded through January. Which brings us to the phase everyone is eagerly waiting for—for work to actually begin at Main Street! By the time this letter arrives in your mailbox, you likely will have seen construction fences in place, the installation of a construction trailer on the site, the contractor preparing the site for demolition and construction—essentially you will be able to see that the project really will be happening!

Besides the design, there has been a lot of other work going on.

A sampling of activities includes:

•The fundraising campaign continues, with over $1 million raised of the $1.75 Million goal

•Architectural historians have been conducting research in the original 1903 building to determine original colors, lighting fixtures and so forth. This work brought exciting news when they unearthed an original fireplace in the local history room.

•The project team secured the necessary approvals from state and local agencies such as historical commissions and districts, the Architectural Access Board, local Zoning and Planning Boards, the state Department of Transportation, etc.

•Cost estimates have repeatedly been reviewed and updated, showing the project below budget.

•Additional borings and testing of the soils were conducted, to avoid surprises during construction.

•We secured the first state grant payment of $1.6 million.

•The technology planning for the library's public and staff functions has begun.

•The supplies and equipment for converting the library's collections from barcode to RFID technology have been acquired, and the conversion work is underway.

•And as you know, we moved the library to a temporary site at 214 Lake Street.

Keep your eyes open as you pass by the Main Street building. Soon the construction will begin, and we can then look forward to moving back to our "new library" in the summer of 2016.

Sincerely,

Ellen Dolan

Good News Alert!

Exciting news about the English Conversation Circle program – Thanks to a $4,000 grant from the Robert W. Booth Fund in Memory of George F. Booth of the Greater Worcester Community Foundation we will continue to offer 4 sessions a week for adults wanting to learn English. For details about this program, contact Priya Rathnam at 508-841-8531.

Remembering Willow. . .

The library has lost one of its most special and non-traditional volunteers. Willow was a former greyhound racing dog, who was adopted by library trustee Nancy Gilbert in 2005. She became a certified therapy dog and soon became part of the R.E.A.D. (Reading Education Assistance Dogs) program at the library, serving from 2006 until 2014. The purpose of the program is to help children from grades K to 3 develop a love for reading through their love for animals. Willow was a perfect candidate, with her sweet, gentle, calm nature. "The kids think it's fun to read to a dog", says Nancy. "It helps to give them confidence in their reading ability because, after all, a dog doesn't criticize or correct. They just listen. Once, when Willow was so relaxed that her eyes closed, a young reader paused to ask if she was really listening. I pointed out that she could concentrate better that way. He said that made sense and resumed the story." She was instrumental in helping many kids overcome their fear of dogs, just by her quiet, gentle demeanor.

In addition to her READ duties, Willow represented the library by marching in several "Spirit of Shrewsbury" parades. She campaigned for the new library project, standing out with fellow supporters wearing a "Vote Yes" sign. The Shrewsbury Public Library and community will surely miss this beloved volunteer...truly our library's best friend.

"You don't have to burn books to destroy a culture. Just get people to stop reading them." - Ray Bradbury

adult programs

GHOST SCULPTURES!

In this two-part workshop, we'll use our own bodies as the molds to create life-size transparent "ghosts" out of plastic wrap and packing tape! We'll suspend our ghosts from the library's open rafters where they can keep an eye on the check-out desk. Registration is required - register on our website, call 508-841-8533, or email Walker at wevans@cwmars.org. For teens and adults.

Monday, March 9, 7:00 PM (Session 1)
Monday, March 16, 7:00 PM (Session 2)

DIGITAL TUNES WORKSHOP

You've probably seen the library's great CD collection, but did you know you can check out and download MP3s of popular music too? In this hour-long session, we'll learn all about two of our online resources, FREEGAL and HOOPLA, that offer millions of songs by thousands of artists. Registration is required - register on our website, call 508-841-8533, or email Walker at wevans@cwmars.org. Thursday, March 12, 7:00 PM

SONGWRITING WORKSHOP

Get in touch with your muse in this four-part series led by Nan Gibbons of Worcester's Joy of Music Program. Participants will study melody and lyric writing, supporting each other while composing an original song over the course of the series. Finally, we'll all join together for a concert of original music by Shrewsbury library users! Thursday and Saturday sessions are available - please register for one or the other. Sign up on our website, call 508-841-8533, or email Walker at wevans@cwmars.org.

Thursday series: April 9, 16, 23, and 30, 6:30-8:30 PM
Saturday series: April 4, 11, 18, and 25, 10:00-12:00 PM
Concert: Friday, May 1, 7:00 PM

WIN CAREER WORKSHOPS

Work Initiative Network (WIN) meetings are on the second and fourth Wednesday of the month from 6:30-8 PM. A networking forum for people interested in job search-related resources. For the full schedule with a list of speakers and presentations, please check the events calendar on the library website.

GREENHOUSE FOR ENTREPRENEURS

A collaborative venture with **Krosslink.org**, this is a networking opportunity for anyone interested in start-ups and small businesses. Informal meetings are held on the third Thursday of the month from 6:30-8:30 PM. Aspiring entrepreneurs and successful entrepreneurs can brainstorm ideas and share tips and advice. For more information, call 508-841-8531.

YOGA WORKSHOP

Yoga 101 Roots of Hatha with Christine Harrelson – Saturday, March 28, 11:30-12:30 You will learn the principles that were written to help guide us on the yoga mat and in the world. Using basic yoga poses, we'll make the "eight limbs" of yoga come alive in the body in order to resonate better with our mind. Please bring a yoga mat. Limited spots available, so sign up at the library website. Sponsored by the Friends of the SPL.

"To learn to read is to light a fire."
— Victor Hugo, Les Miserables

adult programs

ORGANIC GARDENING FOR EVERYONE

Join John Root, naturalist and landscaper on Thursday, April 2, 6:30 PM for this great free workshop! Learn safe and nature-friendly techniques for the cultivation of a variety of vegetables, fruits, herbs and flowers. This program is supported in part by a grant from the Shrewsbury Cultural Council, a local agency which is supported by the Massachusetts Cultural Council, a state agency.

TRAIL WALK TALK

Reflections from the Pacific Crest Trail by Wendy Johnston – Thursday, March 26, 6:30-8 PM. From April to September of 2013, Wendy Johnston backpacked the entire 2,700 mile long Pacific Crest Trail from the US/Mexican Border to the US/Canadian border through California, Oregon, and Washington. Join Wendy for a powerful talk focusing on the reasons she hikes long trails, some of the adversity she has overcome (both in life and on the trail), and the universal lessons that she has learned on her long hikes, as well as a slideshow of photos taken along her PCT hike.

computer classes - register online or by calling the spl

Windows for Beginners

March 3rd, 6pm—7pm
Familiarize yourself with the basics of Windows operating systems, including navigating the desktop, opening programs and documents, and manipulating the control panel. This class will focus on Pre-Windows 8 operating systems.

MS Excel for Beginners

March 24th, 5:30pm-6:30pm
Learn the basics of Microsoft Excel including designing spreadsheets, formatting cells, rows, and columns, and implementing some basic formulas.

Understanding e-Books

April 14th, 5:30—6:30pm
Get a crash course on how to use the various eBook downloading services the Shrewsbury Public Library offers, including Overdrive, Freading, and the new MA eBook Project.

MS Word for Beginners

May 12th, 5:30pm—6:30pm
Learn the basics of MS Word, including how to modify text, how to format a paragraph, and how to save and open files.

PowerPoint for Beginners

May 26th, 5:30pm—6:30pm
Learn the basics of Microsoft PowerPoint, including formatting slides, adding images, customizing transitions, and running slideshows.

teen events

Finding Free Videogames Online

April 21st, 2:30—3:30pm Looking to do some great gaming on a budget? Come learn about some of the fantastic new and classic videogames you can get for no cost on the web.

Return of the 3-Hour Writing Competition!

Tuesday, April 21st, 9:30AM

Back by popular demand! Our **teens only** competition that tests how well you can whip up a short story while on the clock! There are twists and turns along the way, and participants will not know what's coming!
A free pizza lunch will be served, and prizes will be awarded to the top three stories. Strictly limited to 15 players. Register online starting in March.

Lunch & Logos Trivia

Thursday, April 23rd at 1PM

Back by popular demand! Our **teens only** competition that tests how well you know logos and icons from products and pop culture. This two hour competition will come with a free lunch and prizes for the top teams. Teams can be two or three members each, and the event requires advance registration which will begin at least three weeks prior to the event.

"Today a reader, tomorrow a leader."
– Margaret Fuller

children's programs

STORYTIME: Book Beats

No registration required
Tuesday 10:30 am
March 3, 10, 17, 24, 31
April 7, 14, 28
May 5, 12, 19, 26

STORYTIME: Wiggle Words 2s

Register 2 weeks before the program dates
Thursday 10:15
March 5, 12, 19, 26
April 2, 9, 16, 30
May 7, 14, 21, 28

STORYTIME: Wiggle Words 3-4s

Register 2 weeks before the program dates
Thursday 11:15
March 5, 12, 19, 26
April 2, 9, 16, 30
May 7, 14, 21, 28

STORYTIME: Babies, Books, & Bubbles

New Format!
No registration required, drop in.
For children from birth to 2 years old.
Wednesday 10:30 am
March 4, 11, 18, 25
April 1, 8, 15, 29
May 6, 13, 20, 27

LEGO CLUB!

The Lego Club is a "building for fun" group which meets on the third Tuesday of every month from March 17 – May 19. Legos, a snack, and a building theme will be provided. Open to grades K-4. Registration opens two weeks before each meeting. This program is funded by the Friends of the Shrewsbury Public Library.

STORYTIME: Kindergarten Lunch Bunch

Register 2 weeks before the program dates - Mondays at 11am
Mar 2, 9, 16, 23, 30, April 6, 13, 27, May 4, 11, 18
Listen to stories while you have lunch!
Siblings are welcome.
Space is limited, registration opens 2 weeks before the date of each program.

Read to a Dog

Certified Therapy Pets – Sophie and Connor are a wonderful way to encourage reluctant readers or any children who would like to practice their reading skills. We need a minimum of three readers to hold this program. We will notify you in the case of any cancellations. Volunteers and dogs are provided by "Paws for People". Online registration begins two weeks prior to date of the event.
Saturday 10 am, March 7 and 21.

First Tuesday Crafters

Kids and adults celebrate creativity together! This program is open for adults and kids in kindergarten through grade 4. Registration opens 2 weeks before the date of each event.
Tuesday 4:30
March 3
April 7
May 5

Pajama Storytime

May 5, Tuesday 6pm
Come wearing your pajamas and bring a favorite stuffed animal - or other lovey - and join us for a craft, stories, a bedtime snack, and a lullaby sing-a-long. This event is a family event geared to children 2-5 years and their parents or caregivers. Siblings are welcome. Registration is required and will begin April 21 .

KTOG

Tuesdays at 7 pm, April 7, 14, 21, May 12
Knit 2 Together! A class for kids and their adult to learn to knit together. The classes will be for kids in grades 3-5 (and their adult), but the first session (April 7) will be for the adults only ... to be introduced to the basic skills before the kids get started.....(so you will look SOOO smart!) The next sessions: April 14, 21 and May 12 we will welcome the kids to the class. Please bring size 8 needles (bamboo or wood is easier to work with than metal) and some worsted weight yarn.
We will be making a bookmark...something easy for the kids to actually finish! This is 4 week program.
Please be sure that you are able to attend each session. Space is limited, register beginning March 24.

April School Vacation Books 2.0
Connecting Books and Technology – join us as we explore books and reading in various formats.

Summer is coming! Join us as we explore the hero in all of us. Come and participate in a full range of activities created just for your hero or heroine.

Shrewsbury Public Library
214 Lake Street (Temp Site)
Shrewsbury, MA 01545

Non-Profit Organization
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Permit #192
Worcester, MA 01613

CHAPTERS

The Newsletter of the Shrewsbury Public Library - **SPRING 2015**

ECRWSS
Resident Customer
Shrewsbury, MA 01545

Library Hours
Mon.-Thurs. 10AM-9PM
Friday 10AM-5PM
Sat. 9AM-5PM
Sun. 1PM-5PM (Oct. - May)

Contact Information
Phone: 508-842-0081
Fax: 508-841-8524
TTY: 508-841-8530
www.shrewsbury-ma.gov/library

It's here!

NEW FREE STREAMING SERVICE THAT INCLUDES FEATURE FILMS!
VISIT OUR WEBSITE TO ENJOY THIS GREAT NEW SERVICE NOW!

These are just some of the great events coming soon..

FREE CONCERT

From Ireland to America with Roger Tincknell – **Sunday, March 15, 2-3 PM at the Senior Center, 98 Maple Ave.**

This program is sponsored in part by a grant from the Shrewsbury Cultural Council, a local agency, which is supported by the Massachusetts Cultural Council, a state agency. A drop-in program to celebrate St. Patrick's Day.

SPRING CLEANING

Calming the Chaos with Jenna Elliott
Tuesday, May 19, 7-8 PM
Jenna Elliott, founder of The Naked Flower is back by popular demand to share tips and tools for organizing your home. Registration required.

THE LOST TRIBES OF ETHIOPIA

Sunday, April 26, 2 PM
Bob DeCoteau (a Shrewsbury resident) will be presenting a travel presentation on his recent trip to Ethiopia. He will entertain and inform you about the tribes in the Omo Valley of southern Ethiopia and enlighten you about the culture and life styles of the Mursi, Kara, Bodi and Hamar tribes as they try to adjust to the changing world around them. Registration required.

MULTICULTURAL FESTIVAL

April 11, 7 PM, at the Congregational Church, Shrewsbury
This joint program between the library and the Congregational Church (Arts on the Green) is organized by Malcolm Halliday. The Blackstone Valley Bluegrass band will be performing.

ADHD Overview

Tuesday, March 17, 6:30-7:30 PM

11 Strategies for Common Home and School Challenges

Join Clinical Neuropsychologist Dr. David Nowell for this interactive, high-energy, and practical introduction to ADHD. Registration required.

Thanks to the Friends of the SPL for their support, sponsoring many of the programs in this newsletter!