



A Letter from the Director, written 7/25/2010

I'm very pleased to provide you an update on the proposed library building project. But first, let me provide a bit of background. You will likely recall that back in 2005 the Library was approved for a state grant of approximately \$4 Million to renovate and expand the library building. The designs called for replacement of the failing 1980 addition with a two story addition, more in keeping with the traditional design of the 1903 Jubal Howe building, and the restoration of the 1903 and 1923 buildings. The project would have approximately doubled the space, provided full handicap accessibility and addressed roofing, heating system and other major system failures in the building.

The project was initially delayed by a three year wait for state bonds to be approved for the grant. In August of 2009, the Board of Selectmen voted to place the project before Town Meeting that September. Surprisingly, just a few weeks later, the Board of Library Trustees and the Board of Selectmen agreed NOT to send the project to Town Meeting Members. Why such a decision, after years of planning and advocacy? We had just received incredible news from the Massachusetts Board of library Commissioners. The agency had just announced a new grant program was being introduced, and major changes were in the works. First, the reimbursement rate would be more generous. Instead of reimbursing approximately 33% of project costs, the program would fund 40 to 50% of project costs. Additionally, there would be supplementary funding for buildings designed with LEED certification or green design elements.

The Board of Library Trustees saw this new grant program as a wonderful opportunity. Besides the higher reimbursement rate, the grant could be based on current project costs. The previous grant award was based on cost estimates completed back in 2005. In addition, the Board saw this as a chance to think more conservatively, and to create a smaller project that would reflect current fiscal realities. They also recognized that new technologies, such as Radio Frequency Identification which will help run the library more efficiently, could now be included in the reimbursable costs. They also saw that integrating green design, with its focus on more efficient building systems, could help control operating costs. So with some trepidation, but much excitement, the Board voted to forgo the \$4 Million grant and prepare for an application to the new grant program. Much has been accomplished towards that end already. Back in December of 2009, the Finance Committee approved funds to update the Library Building Program Statement.

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The 2005 statement, which formed the basis for the first design, recommended a building of 51,000 square feet. The Trustees knew that creating a more conservative project required careful examination of the new program statement. They made a considerable effort to make the proposal smaller and more efficient. The Board instructed the new programming consultant to be as conservative as possible, even rejecting his first proposal and asking him to return with a smaller recommendation. The recently completed program now recommends a smaller building, in the range of 44,000 to 47,000 square feet. The Trustees have also instructed the architects, who will turn this program statement into a new design, to use the same conservative approach.

Continued progress was seen in May 2010 when Town Meeting voted \$20,000 to fund "architectural, engineering, surveying, testing, appraisal or other costs associated with the design development of repairs, improvements and expansion to the current Public Library and the construction of a new Library facility, and to authorize the creation of a building committee". With this authorization from Town Meeting, the Board of Selectmen appointed a nine member Library Building Committee, who met for their first meeting on July 15. Community representatives on the committee include Bridgid Rubin, Architect Clay Smook, Construction Manager Francis Mannella, and Michael Lapomardo, President of a local construction firm. Town representatives include Chair of the Selectmen Moira Miller, Vice Chair of the Library Trustee Board Joan Barry, Town Manager Dan Morgado, Superintendent of Public Buildings Robert Cox, and me. At the committees' second meeting on July 21, Clay Smook was elected as Chair and Francis Mannella as Vice Chair. The committee will be responsible for creating an updated design and related costs estimates, for submitting an effective grant application for the new state grant program and for any other activities related to the administration of this project.

There is much exciting work ahead. I encourage you to keep informed on the committees' progress by visiting the Library Building Committee website at www.shrewsbury-ma.gov/department/board.php?fDD=38-379t. You can navigate to this page from the Town of Shrewsbury website, by clicking on the "About Shrewsbury" tab, and then following the links for "Boards and Commissions", and "Library Building Committee". Here are you will find meeting minutes, all related project documents, essentially all the most recent and complete information on the project.

Sincerely,
Ellen Dolan

children's events calendar

Pre-K to Grade 4

the BIG boo!

Thurs. Oct. 28th, 5PM-6PM

Make the library your first chance to show off your Halloween costume for this year! For children ages 3 ½ and up. Children must be accompanied by an adult. Come in your costume and trick or treat around the Library. Listen to scary stories! Registration is required and will begin Monday, Oct. 15 in the Children's Room or by calling (508) 842-0081 x4.



fall story times

Listen to stories and do a craft. No age limits. No registration required. Thursdays at 10:30AM.

September 16th, 23rd, 30th
October 7th, 21st, 28th
November 4th (Diwali Story time), 18th

Check with the Children's Room for additional sessions.

music & motion with robin

A music enrichment program including singing, dancing, instruments, and a parachute. For children ages 2-5 accompanied by an adult. No registration necessary. Fridays, at 10:30AM, Sept. 17th, 24th, Oct. 1st, 8th. Sponsored by the Friends of the Shrewsbury Public Library.

diwali story time

Thursday, Nov. 4th, 10:30AM

Come celebrate Diwali - the Indian Festival of Lights! Listen to stories and make a craft - no registration required.

baby & me

A 30-minute program of stories, finger plays, songs, and movement designed for children ages birth to 2 ½ with an accompanying adult. Siblings welcome.

Session 1: September 14, 21, 28, Oct. 5

Session 2: November 2, 9, 16, 23

Space is limited. Lottery will begin on September 1 for both sessions.



read to a dog



Saturdays
10:00 a.m.
Sept. 25th, Oct. 16th (Willow's birthday),
Oct. 23rd (Kuma's birthday), Nov. 13th,
Nov. 20th, Dec. 11th.

Registration begins immediately in the Children's Room for all sessions.

Certified Therapy Pets, Kuma and Willow, are a wonderful way to encourage reluctant readers or children who would like to practice their reading skills. For children in Grades K - 4. Register in the Children's Room or call (508) 842-0081x4. Volunteers and dogs will be provided by "Paws For People".

time to clay!

Tuesday, Nov. 2nd, 2PM

A special hands-on workshop presented by Let's Gogh Art. Limited space. Registration begins October 19th. This program is sponsored by the Friends of the Shrewsbury Public Library.



all ages event

MUMMIES, MUMMIES, MUMMIES!

Sunday, October 3rd

S.J. Wolfe, from the Antiquarian Society in Worcester, shares her lifelong passion for mummies especially those found in American institutions!

2-3 pm: Program for children in grades 3 -8, and their guardians. Craft to follow. Registration required (beginning Sept. 17th).

3-4 pm: program for teens and adults. A drop-in event.

youth events calendar

Grades 5-12

splat election

If you're in grades 6-12, and want to volunteer in the young adult department in a larger way, run for one of two new positions. For more information on the open positions and the required , stop in the library. This would look great on a college application! Here are the dates you need to know:

September 6th: Nomination Forms Available at the Library

October 15th: Last day to submit completed Nomination Forms

October 22nd: Approved candidates will debate at 4PM

November 2nd: Voting will be held in the Loft (to vote, all you need to do is be in grades 5-12 and have a valid SPL Library card) from 2:30PM-6:30PM. A results after party will then be held for all who want to attend.



Youth Halloween Party

Saturday, October 30th, 2PM-4PM

Come in costume and prepare yourself for scares, fun, and candy! There will be great door prizes and a costume contest. 100% FREE - but you have to register!!

talent show!

Thursday, October 7th, 7PM

You're a young adult - by law you should want to be the center of attention! This fun evening will give you the chance to be just that, as you can show off your stuff - whatever it may be! Sing? Tell jokes? Crack your knuckles to the tune of 'Jingle Bells'? Whatever you want to do - as long as it's legal - is your choice. If you want to perform, you must sign up for a slot. Anyone is welcome to attend. 100% FREE.

youth trivia is back!

Tuesday, November 23rd, 6:30PM



The epic buzzer battle is back by popular demand! A wide variety of questions will be asked and prizes and pizza will be provided. Register at the library!



Join the Shrewsbury Public Library Advisory Team!

If you are a Shrewsbury resident in grades 5-12, you should join SPLAT! SPLAT is a group of hard-working youth who are dedicated to making the library a better place. We have multiple meetings every month - a great way to help us while getting volunteer hours. To become a member, you simply need to just start coming to the meetings! Here are the upcoming meetings - which are all held on Fridays at 4PM.

September 17th

October 22nd*
*SPLAT Election Event

November 19th

adult events calendar

Continued on next page....

Shrewsbury Genealogy Club

Mondays at 7PM, Sept. 27th, Oct. 25th, and Nov. 22nd
September session is a special welcome class. Led by George Brown.

An Evening of Forensic Archaeology

Tuesday, Oct. 5th, at 7PM
Dr. Anne Marie Mires explains how archaeological methods and techniques are used to identify skeletal remains found under suspicious and unusual circumstances. An "Archaeology Month" program.

Popular Music of the Gaslight Era

Monday, Oct. 18th at 7PM A nostalgic exploration of the popular music of the Gaslight Era (1890-1920), presented and performed by John Root. Sponsored by the Shrewsbury Cultural Council.

adult events calendar

...continued from previous page.

Drum Away the Blues

Monday, Sept. 13th at 7PM

Using hand drums and assorted percussion instruments, music educator and percussionist Craig Harris offers a program to relieve stress and restore emotional balance.

French Conversation Circle

Second Mondays at 4:30PM

Fourth Mondays at 6:30PM
No matter your level, this is a perfect opportunity to practice conversing in French. October times may change due to holiday.

College Search and Financial Planning Seminar

Tues. Oct. 19th, 7PM

A seminar for high school seniors and juniors and their parents, presented by two experts in the field: Judy Zodda and Jack Wang. Space is limited, and pre-registration is required; call 508-841-8531 to register.



Upcoming Events



The Heritage String Band Sat. Sept. 25th at 2PM

Come celebrate the Spirit of Shrewsbury at the General Artemas Ward House Museum. Enjoy the Heritage String Band under a tent on the Museum's lovely grounds. Rain or shine! Brought to you by the Friends of the Shrewsbury Public Library and Harvard University. The Museum is on Main Street, across from Dean Park.

Friends Annual Meeting & Great Scott...It's Andrew Carnegie!

Wed., October 13th in the Large Meeting Room of the Shrewsbury Public Library

6:30 PM - Brief business meeting of the Friends of the SPL.

7:00 PM - "A Visit From Andrew Carnegie".

He rose from humble beginnings to become "The King of Steel" and the richest man in the world. He was called the "greediest little devil that ever lived" yet he gave away billions of dollars building thousands of libraries. He warred with labor yet passionately advocated world peace, and counted Mark Twain, Helen Keller and Booker T. Washington as his friends. Come hear and see Richard Clark bring Andrew Carnegie back to life. Free and open to all interested.

Sponsored by the Shrewsbury Cultural Council



The Friends of the SPL recently purchased a sky puppet. When you see her waving outside of the library, stop in as there is a great event either about to start or underway! (Weather permitting!)



Pastel Class is Back!

Wednesday, Sept. 22nd, 7PM

Artist Greg Maichack returns for another pastel class. Space is limited, and pre-registration is required; call 508-841-8531 to register. Sponsored by the Shrewsbury Cultural Council.

Meet the Authors

A Visit with Tracy Brusa

Wednesday, Sept. 29th, 7PM

Local author Tracy Brusa will speak about her new novel "I'm Not Your Eve", which is set in Shrewsbury! This event is free and open to all.

A Visit with Eve Rifkah

Wednesday, Nov. 10th, 7PM

Fitchburg author Eve Rifkah will speak about two books she has written: "Outcasts," about the Penikese Island Leper Hospital off Cape Cod, and "Dear Suzanne," a series of portraits of a woman artist.

the eclectic book club

Held on Wednesdays at 10:30AM.

All are welcome, refreshments served.

sept. 22nd

The Language of Threads
by Gail Tsukiyama

oct. 27th

So Far From the Bamboo Grove
by Yoko Watkins

nov. 17th

Tea Time for the Traditionally Built
by A. McCall-Smith

FREE COMPUTER CLASSES

DIGITAL CAMERAS 101

THURS., SEPT. 16th, 2:30PM

For those just starting out with their point-and-shoot digital cameras. An introductory course. Bring your camera and manual. **(DH)**

ONLINE CATALOG

MON., OCT. 18th, 2:30PM

Discover how to use the library's online catalog to find exactly what you're looking for - from books to movies, music to video games - it's all in there! **(PR)**

CRASH COURSE

TUES., OCT. 5th, 2:30PM

Learn the basics of computers. Intended for those with little or no computer experience. **(DH)**

INTRO TO EBAY

WED., OCT. 13th, 10:30AM

Going once, going twice, SOLD!! The basics of bidding on eBay will be covered, along with a brief introduction to selling. Intended for beginners only. **(DH)**

ONLINE RESOURCES

MON., OCT. 25th, 10:30AM

An introduction to a variety of our free useful online databases that will help you improve your research skills. **(PR)**

INTERMEDIATE EXCEL

WED., NOV. 17th, 10:30AM

Become skilled at some additional features in Excel - including formulas, charts, and tables. Basic knowledge of Excel required. **(DH)**

GENEALOGY 101

TIME TBD

Using Ancestry.com and Heritage Quest and more, George Brown will take you on a fascinating journey of your past. **(GB)**

FACEBOOK FOR PARENTS

THURS., SEPT. 9th, 6PM

Find out the basics of your kid's favorite online destination - and what you need to watch out for to ensure their safety. **(DB)**

**\$5 REFUNDABLE CASH DEPOSIT
REQUIRED FOR EACH CLASS - BOOK
QUICKLY, CLASSES FILL UP FAST!**

Taught By Map:

DH - Dennis Holtgreffe, Electronic Resources Librarian

GB - George Brown, Head of Adult Services/Asst. Director

PR - Priya Rathnam, Reference Librarian

DB - Dan Barbour, Young Adult Librarian/Volunteer Coordinator



(Clipart model - chairs will be provided in actual classes.)



library newsletter

Vol. 25, Issue 4

ECRWSS
Resident Customer
Shrewsbury, MA 01545



Library Hours

Mon.-Thurs. 10AM-9PM
Friday 10AM-5PM
Sat. 10AM-5PM
Sun. 1PM-5PM

Contact Information

Phone: 508-842-0081
Fax: 508-841-8540
TTY: 508-841-8530

www.shrewsbury-ma.gov/library

sunday sponsorships

Thanks to sponsors, Sunday hours begin October 3rd

Thank you to the generous sponsors who helped sustain Sunday afternoon hours at the library these past five years.

Our 2011 Sunday season begins October 3, 2010, and we hope to have enough support to provide service through May 22, 2011.

We are now planning for our sixth Sunday Season, and we are very excited to report that at this early date (August 2, 2010) we already have 64% of the season funded.

As of the date of writing this entry, these individuals, businesses and community groups have donated funds to keep the library open 1 to 5 p.m. each Sunday afternoon.

10 sponsorship spots remain. Until October 3, 2011 the cost for sponsoring one Sunday is \$575. After that date the cost is \$600 per Sunday. Please contact the Library Director at (508) 841-8537 if you wish to provide a sponsorship or need more information.

4 sundays

Shrewsbury Federal Credit Union

2 sundays

Webster Five Cents Savings Bank

Mary Ellen Killelea, in memory of

Ellen Salmon Ryder & Ellen Dolan Killelea

An Anonymous Donor

1 sunday

Shrewsbury Firefighters Association

Jeff & Priscilla Billingham

Katherine Canney

Shrewsbury Woman's Club

The Polito Development Corporation

Laurie & Matt Hogan

Shrewsbury Social Club

Britton Funeral Home

Yu-Bin Liang & Wei Kong Yeoh

Amica Insurance

Carmela Heedles & Family, in memory of

James A. Heedles

Thank you to Papa Gino's (White City, Shrewsbury) for holding a fundraiser to benefit teen services. Also, thank you to all of the Shrewsbury families who went out to eat pizza to support SPLAT!

Thank you to the Shrewsbury Garden Club for donating passes to the Garden in the Woods, a popular museum pass that you can reserve and check out here at the library.