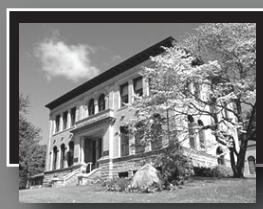


librarygeekletter

fall 2011

609 Main Street, Shrewsbury, MA. 01545 ~ 508-842-0081 ~ http://www.shrewsbury-ma.gov/library

A Letter from the Director

In this issue I'm going to update you on the status of our library building project. Before doing so however, I'd like to share with you a statement from our Library Values Statement—as well as one of the principles that's guided me in my professional life. First the library's value statement—At the SPL, "we communicate openly and reliably with our staff, our users and our community." My personal principle is "just be honest." Thus I'll let those statements set the tone for this letter.

I write this letter on July 26, two weeks after the State announced the awards for the Massachusetts Public Library Construction Grant program. I'm sure you have read the press coverage by now and know that Shrewsbury was approved for a $7,959,989 grant, but will need to wait for release of the grant funds in a future fiscal year. We were ranked as number 8 on a list of 15 communities that must wait for future funding.

Here's where my personal and professional ethics are tested. I'm not going to tell you that I was thrilled with the news. I was actually rather heartbroken. But the intervening week has given me a chance to pass through the stages of grief (shock, anger, a bottle of wine…) and reassess the situation. Matters have turned around considerably and we have a much more positive outlook now.

To explain the change, let me describe what "waiting list" status means. Shrewsbury has been approved for a $7,959,989 grant but must wait our turn (8th in line) for the funds. The money for the 15 communities on the waiting list will come from two sources. The initial portion will come from what remains of a $100 million Library Construction Bond Bill approved by the State Legislature in 2008. Just over $68 million remains in that bond. Once those funds are expended, any projects remaining on the waiting list will need to wait for the legislature to approve more state bonds for library construction.

With help from our local legislators, we began assessing how long it would take to receive the grant funding, and how secure we could be in eventual receipt of the funds. Senator Michael Moore and Representative Matt Beaton were invaluable in sorting through the intricacies of the state's capital plan and the status of the Library Construction Bond Bill. Town Manager Dan Morgado and I worked with the MBLC to confirm possible timelines for the grant funds. We learned that there is adequate capacity in the existing bonding authority to fund 8 of the 15 waiting list projects —and that those funds are scheduled to be fully released by fiscal year 2015.

Continued on Next Page...

geek pastels

Wed., Sept. 21, 6PM

With artist Greg Maichack, learn how to pastel paint flowers based on the art of Georgia O'Keeffe. Pre-Registration required. Only 20 slots available.

geek volunteering

Thurs., Oct. 13, 3PM - 6PM

This is a drop-in fair style event for prospective volunteers who are **18+ only**. Sorry, this is not a young adult session (see the SPLAT page inside this newsletter for youth opportunities.) Come by **any time** during the open house , meet different SPL employees who could benefit from your help, and fill out the appropriate paperwork. People with prior library experience, the ability to lift and push heavy items, and strong communication skills are preferred. **Please note:** Due to the overwhelming interest, everyone who attends may not be placed into a position as the openings are limited.

This means that Shrewsbury will begin to receive grant funds by July 2014, or possibly even earlier. No further applications will need to be submitted. Good news to be sure! The Board of Selectmen and the Board of Library Trustees will be working together in the coming weeks to assess the situation and determine a new timeline for the project. All are committed to addressing the conditions in our existing building and creating an improved building that will meet the needs of the community. I expect that by the time this newsletter appears in your mailbox, we will be close to announcing that schedule.
After the first press coverage on the grant announcement, many residents spoke to Library Trustees or staff to express their concern on the grant outcome. They were passionate about the need to press on. I'm so happy to now be able to share this good news. I hope that you will join me today in celebrating, as we now know that all will be well!

Thank you for your patience and your support.

Sincerely,
Ellen M. Dolan

P.S. What's all this GEEK stuff about?

"Geek Your Library" is a national awareness campaign funded by the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation to remind people that no matter what your interests, needs or passions are, your public library likely has materials, information or services you want. Everyone "geeks" something. Do you love genealogy? The library has databases and special interests clubs for that. Love children's activities? You'll find an amazing range of offerings for your little ones. Want to learn a new language? Try an audio disk lesson or our online instructions tools. Crazy about music? Try our new free download service, Freegal. Whatever you GEEK, the library probably has what you desire. You'll find all sorts of GEEK activities in this issue, but you should also watch for GEEK activities around town in the coming months.

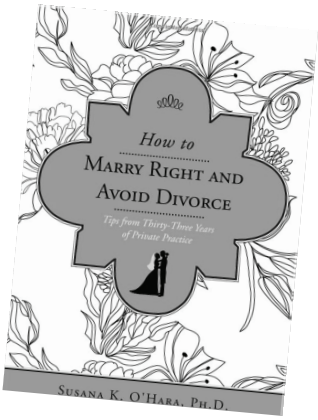
Shrewsbury Library is proud and excited to participate in this national program that highlights the vital role libraries play in their communities. We hope we can help you reveal your inner GEEK.

geek marriage

Mon. Oct. 17, 7PM

Local Author Talk

Local Author, Susan O'Hara, will be speaking about her new book, "How to Marry Right and Avoid Divorce" Free and open to the public.



geek archaeology

Sun., Oct. 16, 2PM

Underground Worcester County
With archaeologist Al Smith. Part of the statewide archaeology month.

geek money

Financial Choices That Matter
An ongoing series with Alvin B. Rosenblum

Thursday, Sept. 15 (7PM)
Be Prepared for Challenges in Retirement
Thursday, Oct. 20 (7PM)
Issues of Long Term Care
Thursday, Nov. 17 (7PM)
When is the Best Time to Invest?

geek music

Tues., Oct. 4, 7PM

Drum Away the Global Blues
Stress relief program that will focus on America's First People (i.e., Native Americans) with drummer Craig Harris. Drop-in.

geek friends antiques

Friends of the Library Annual Meeting

Wednesday, October 12

6:30 - Brief Business Meeting
Election of Board officers and other business matters of the Friends Organization

6:45 - Refreshments served

7:10 - Program Begins

Antiques Appraisal Program with Ron D'Auteuil of Old Tyme Stuffe

This event is free and open to all. Friend's membership is not required.

Mr. D'Auteuil will describe what makes your treasured item an antique, collectible, or simply something of personal value alone. He'll also discuss why Antiques Roadshow makes great television, but has created some myths in the antique appraisal field. Following this very brief presentation, Mr. D'Auteuil will appraise a limited number of items. The first 10 people registered for this program will receive a guaranteed opportunity to have their item appraised. Additional appraisals will be conducted as time allows.

geek genealogy

Come join the Shrewsbury Genealogy Club - meets the fourth Monday of each month at 7PM.

geek politics

Wed. Oct. 19
7PM-9PM

Ever have a concern or request, but do not know who exactly to talk to? In the expansive world of local, regional, state, and federal politics, it can be confusing to take the right steps to advocacy. Come to this special free session, learn about the responsibilities of everyone from a Town Meeting Member to the Governor, and meet some local politicians. This will not be a forum to talk about SPECIFIC issues, but you will get the proper information on where to go with those matters.

geek book clubs

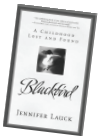
Wednesdays at 10:30AM

Join the Eclectic Browser's Book Club! Free and open to all that are interested. A limited number of titles are held at the Circulation desk for your convenience. All are welcome, refreshments served.

Sept. 28 - "Can't Buy Me Love"
by Jonathan Gould

Oct. 26 - "Irish Alibi"
by Ralph McInerny

Nov. 16 - "Blackbird"
by Jennifer Lauck



geek fashion

fly FASHION. LIFE. YOU.
Style on the FLY
personal style & wardrobe consulting

Kim Long, Founder and President of **Fashion.Life.You.** will lead a series on the basics of fashion for 30 participants. Starting on Thursday September 15 and running through October 27, the class will cover the basics of color, fit, matching style to lifestyle and wardrobe building. Participants will gain a basic understanding of what is needed to dress his or her best, and how to leave a lasting impression to help achieve greater success in work and personal life. Each class will last approximately one hour and forty-five minutes.

Thurs., Sept. 15, 7PM - True Colors: Color Analysis and Consultations
Understanding how to wear color and what colors you should wear to create a more radiant, taller, and slimmer you.

Thurs., Sept. 29, 7PM - Dress Your Shape: Not Your Size
Learn the secrets of looking taller and slimmer by dressing your shape not your size.

Thurs., Oct. 13, 7PM - You've Got Style: Take the Style Personality Quiz
Discover your unique style. Everyone has their very own style "essence" or "personality."

Thurs., Oct. 27, 7PM - Wardrobe Capsules: The Perfect Cure for Those in a Fashion Rut
Comprehensive wardrobe planning guide that will show you how to streamline your wardrobe and update your look by more effectively and creatively mixing and matching the clothes you already own.

geek language learning

FREE ONLINE CLASSES IN: Arabic (Levantine), Chinese (Cantonese), Chinese (Mandarin), Croatian, Czech, Danish, Dari, Dutch, Farsi (Persian), Finnish, French, German, Greek, Haitian Creole, Hebrew, Hindi, Indonesian, Irish, Italian, Japanese, Korean, Norwegian, Pashto, Portuguese (Brazil), Russian, Slovak, Spanish (Latin America), Tagalog, Tamil, Thai, Turkish, Ukrainian, Urdu, Vietnamese, and English as a Second Language

Use your library card to access

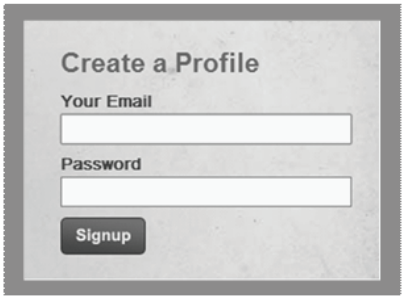
mango languages

1. Go to the Shrewsbury Library website:
http://shrewsbury-ma.gov/library

2. On the left side, under Topics of Interest, click on the link for
'Reference and Research'

3. Scroll down to find the link for
'Mango Languages.

4. Once you click the link, you will see a screen with this option on the right:



Create a profile if you want to save your progress with the lessons. If you just want to see what's there, you can also click the **'Start Learning'** button without entering any other info.

5. Once you're in, browse the languages and begin learning with this valuable online tool!

geek Spanish

NEW! Beginner Spanish Classes -

Thursdays 6:30PM - 7:30PM
New this fall, Tony Marin, a bilingual teacher will be teaching Spanish for beginners. The drop-in class for people who don't speak any Spanish at all. Sept. 8, 15, 22, 29. Oct. 6, 13, 20, 27. Nov. 3, 10, 17

geek French

French Conversation Circle
Gather and practice your French in a safe environment. Second Monday of each month at 4PM, and fourth Monday of each month at 6:30PM.

geek esl

The **English Conversation Circle** is for non-native English speakers who want to practice and improve their English-speaking skills. Classes are facilitated by four experienced and dedicated teachers. Sessions run for an hour. We have classes for Beginners on Thursdays and Saturdays and for Intermediate learners on Mondays and Tuesdays. Call Reference Librarian, Priya Rathnam at 508-841-8533 to sign up for the fall session.

Mondays at 5PM - Intermediate Classes

Tuesdays at 2:30PM - Intermediate Classes

Thursdays at 5PM - Beginner Classes

Saturdays at 10:30AM - Beginner Classes

Funded with federal LSTA funds through the Massachusetts Board of Library Commissioners.

Find us on Facebook! Just search "ECC @ SPL"!

geek haunted minigolf

Tuesday, Nov. 1

Putt, putt, if you dare! A special, spooky nine hole course will be set up in the Loft and Large Meeting Room. What will be scarier - the course or your score?!

This is a SPLAT fundraiser, and donations of any amount will be accepted at the door. Register in advance for a Group Departure Time!

Groups of no more than 4 will be permitted on the course. Geared towards those that are in grade three through adults. Groups can only play one time.

Sessions begin every half hour from 4PM-8PM.

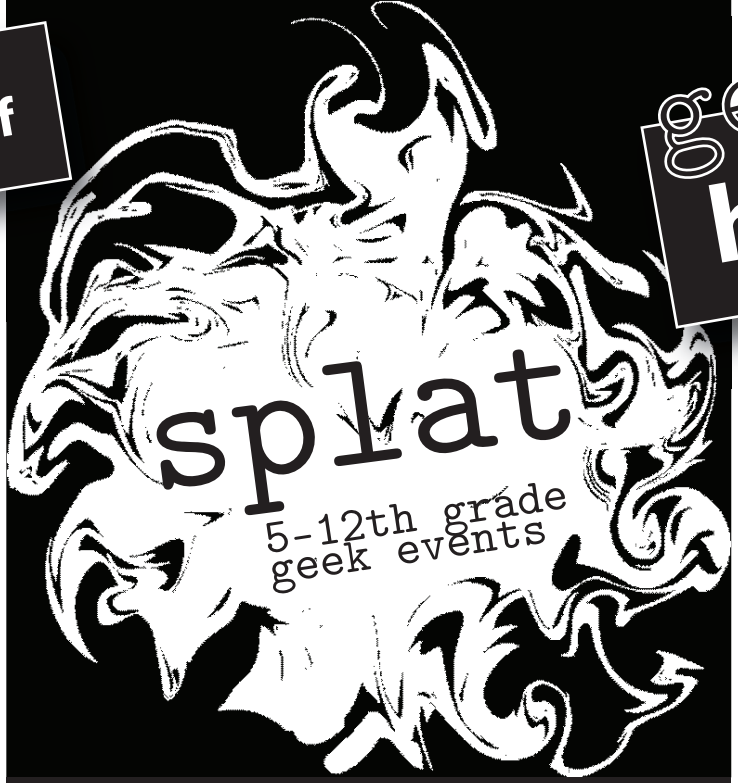
geek newbies

Come to a special new members meeting to learn about the funnest young adult volunteer group in town! Just attend, no registration required.

Thursday, Oct. 6, 4PM

geek free tutoring

1. Go to www.shrewsbury-ma.gov/library
2. Click 'Reference & Research' on the left
3. Click the 'Free Online Tutoring' option and start your session!



splat stands for shrewsbury public library advisory team. it is a group of young adults who geek many things.

the members help shape the young adult department so every geek can be represented. if you want to join the fun, get your geek to one of our events or meetings. we have a lot of great stuff planned for the fall, and we want you to be a part of it!

hope to see you there!

The Shorts by SPLAT Member Grishma Patel

geek hg trivia

Tuesday, Sept. 13
5:30PM

What district is Katniss from? Where did Peeta work prior to the games? What is Cinna's profession? If you know the answer to these simple Hunger Games trivia questions, come and compete to win some great HG gear. Only 20 people will be able to play... only one will be left standing to win the prize! For 7th-12th graders only.

geek elections

Vote on election day, Nov. 8, for the next SPLAT president. You just have to be in grade 5-12 and have a library card! Vote from 2PM-6PM.

geek e-newsletters

Want to get reminded of the stuff on this page and other great events that come up from time to time? Sign up for our SPLAT e-Newsletter, a weekly update that will help you not miss a thing!

1. Go to www.shrewsbury-ma.gov/library
2. Click 'E-mail List' on the right.
3. Add your address, and select 'Library Young Adult News'

children can geek too!

Pre-K to Grade 4

sign up for the **geek** fair!!

Tues. Nov. 1

call 508-842-0081 ext.4

It's a day off from school! What do you love to do in your spare time? We want to know! Bring it in, show it off, talk about it! For 1st-4th graders. Hurry! Call or come in to reserve your hour slot before space runs out.

SING-ALONG

Monday, Sept. 19, Sign up for ONE of two sessions at either 10AM or 11AM.

Presented by the professionals from Apple Country Music Together!

This program is appropriate for newborn babies, infants, toddlers, preschoolers and kindergarteners. Space is limited. Registration begins Tuesday, September 6th.

SPOT THE DIFFERENCE FROM BOOK TO MOVIE

Tuesdays at 5:30PM Sept. 27, Oct. 18, Nov. 22

Join us for an interactive experience as we watch the movie after reading the book. We will then talk about the differences and similarities. Books will be chosen from the optional portion of the Summer Reading List. Come to the Library to get your copy of the first book anytime after Sept. 6.

INTRODUCTION TO ARCHAEOLOGY

Sat., Oct. 1,10:30AM

To celebrate Archaeology Month, join Craig Chartier for this unique opportunity to learn how archaeologist explore the past through hands-on, interactive activities. For children in Grades 1 - 4. Space is limited. Registration is required and begins on Sept. 16.

SUMERIAN CIVILIZATION

Sat. Oct. 8 & 15, 1PM

Come learn about Sumerian civilization with Lisa Ewick. Explore the Epic of Gilgamesh, the geographical region of Mesopotamia and just like the ancient Sumerians, make unique cylinder seals out of clay. Appropriate for Grades 1 - 4. Limited space. Registration required. **Must be able to attend both two-hour sessions.** Registeration begins Fri. Sept. 23.

THE BIG BOO

Tues. Oct. 25, 5PM

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 Tuesday, Oct. 11 in the Children's Room or by calling (508) 842-0081 x4.

LOVIN' LEGO®

Fri., Nov. 25, 2:30PM

Show us your building skills! We'll give you a theme, you give us a creation. Space is limited. Registration begins Thurs. Nov. 10th.

COMING IN DECEMBER GINGERBREAD HOUSE WORKSHOP

Thurs., Dec. 8, 6:30PM

Come join us for a family night of fun and creativity building your own gingerbread house. This evening is recommended for children in Grades K-4 and their families. One adult may work with up to 2 children. Please register in the Children's Room beginning Wed. Nov. 23rd. Participants will be asked to bring some supplies and refreshments to share.

geek STORY TIMES

NOT YOUR AVERAGE STORY TIME

Mondays at 6:30PM Sept. 26, Oct. 31, Nov. 28

Join us for a storytime for older readers - and, because you never outgrow being read to, parents and caregivers are welcome to listen too!
Drop in - no sign-up required.

MUSIC 'n MOTION

Fridays at 10:00AM Sept. 30th, Oct. 7, 14, 21

Join Wendy for a music enrichment program including singing, dancing, instruments, and a parachute. For children ages 2-5 accompanied by an adult. No registration necessary.

Sponsored by the Friends of the Shrewsbury Public Library.

READ-TO-A-DOG

Saturdays at 10AM

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. Check dates and register in the Children's Room or call (508) 842-0081x4.

Volunteers and dogs are provided by "Paws For People," a volunteer group located at the Tufts Center for Animals, Tufts Cummings School of Veterinary Medicine.

PRESCHOOL STORY TIME

Thursdays at 10:30AM Sept. 8, 15, 22, 29. Oct. 13, 20, 27 Nov. 3, 10, 17, Dec. 1, 8

Listen to stories and do a craft. No age limits.
Drop in - no sign-up required.

TODDLER STORY TIME

Wednesdays at 10:30AM
Session 1: Sept. 7, 14, 21, 28
Session 2: Oct. 12, 19, 26, Nov. 2
Session 3: Nov. 16, 23, 30, Dec.7

A 30-minute program of stories, finger plays, songs, and movement designed for children just walking to 3 years old with an accompanying adult. Siblings welcome. Space is limited. Registration is required. Check children's room for details.

BABY & ME

Tuesdays at 10:30AM
Session 1: Sept. 6, 13, 20, 27
Session 2: Oct. 11, 18, 25, Nov. 1
Session 3: Nov. 15, 22, 29, Dec.6

A 30-minute program of stories, finger plays, songs, and movement designed for children ages birth to prewalking with an accompanying adult. Siblings welcome. Space is limited. Registration is required. Check children's room for details.

geek computers

E-Readers

Wed. Sept. 28 - 6:00PM
Learn how to get library books onto your ereader. Covers the Nook, Sony Reader, and iPad

Crash Course

Wed. Oct. 12 - 2:30PM
Our most basic computer course. Intended for those who have never used a computer before.

Intermediate PowerPoint

Wed. Oct. 19 - 2:30PM
Learn even more about the most popular presentation tool for your computer, Microsoft PowerPoint 2007.

Basic Computer Maintenance and Fixes

Tues. Nov. 8 - 10:30AM
Keep your computer healthy and fast. Covers antivirus, starting over, cleaning your hardware, and more.

Digital Cameras 101

Wed. Sept. 14 - 2:30PM
Tues. Nov. 22 - 2:30PM
A digital camera workshop intended for those with little photography experience. Bring your camera and directions along.

Register In-House. $5 Refundable Deposit Required.
Minimum of 3 students required to run each class.

How many times does the word 'geek' appear in this entire newsletter? Enter your guess in the Children's Room for a chance to win a prize!

geek VERB

1. To love, to enjoy, to celebrate, to have an intense passion for.
2. To express interest in.
3. To possess a large amount of knowledge in.
4. To promote.

Look for us at the SOS Expo! You might just get some 'geek' gear!

Did you know the 'geek' program was started by the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation? It was.

DEWEY DAY

SUNDAY OCT 23
2PM-5PM
FAIR EVENT W/
THINGS FOR ALL
AGES AND INTERESTS

If you come to only one geek event, this should be it! Stop by this fair style event and be entertained by performers, artisans, crafters, and many other recreational diversions.

lawn games

Saturday, Oct. 8
3:30PM to 5:30PM

At Dean Park - Bring your own games!

share your geek

Wed. Nov. 16
12PM-8:30PM

It's like show and tell - for adults and teens! Sign up for a slot (SPACE LIMITED) and let the world know about what you geek!

Shrewsbury Public Library
609 Main Street
Shrewsbury, MA 01545

Non-Profit Organization
US Postage Paid
Permit #192
Worcester, MA 01613

library newsletter

Vol. 26, Issue 3

ECRWSS
Resident Customer
Shrewsbury, MA 01545

your official geek guide enclosed

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

Contact Information
Phone: 508-842-0081
Fax: 508-841-8540
TTY: 508-841-8530
www.shrewsbury-ma.gov/library

sunday sponsorships *so far...*

2 sundays

An Anonymous Donor

1 sunday

Shrewsbury Firefighters Association
Wei Kong Yeoh and Yubin Liang
Shrewsbury Social Club
Katherine A. Canney
Erik Bakken, to celebrate his 9th Birthday
In Memory of James A. Heedles
David and Johanna Musselman
Webster Five Cents Savings Bank
An Anonymous Donor

Thanks to the generous sponsors who helped sustain Sunday afternoon hours at the library these past six years. We are now planning for our seventh Sunday Season, and we are very excited to report that at this early date (July 27, 2011) we already have 30% of the season funded. Our 2012 Sunday season begins October 2, 2011, and we hope to have enough support to provide service through May 20, 2012. As of the date of writing this entry, the preceeding individuals, businesses and community groups have donated funds to keep the library open 1 to 5 p.m. each Sunday afternoon.

Some sponsorships spots remain. The cost for sponsoring one Sunday is $600. Please contact the Library Director at (508) 841-8537 if you wish to provide a sponsorship or need more information.

THANK YOU!

This past summer, a number of individuals, businesses, and civic groups helped us out in a variety of ways. We are so thankful for your help and support! You kept us open and kept us active!

SUMMER SATURDAYS

Rotary Club of Shrewsbury

Shrewsbury Federal Credit Union

3 Anonymous Donors

Jacob & Emilie Sizemore

In memory of Sardar H.S. Nair

CARNIVAL KICKOFF

All Friends, Building Committee, ESL Team, and SPLAT members

SELCO

Rev. Dr. Nancy McMillan of the Central Mass Paranormal Society

Ron D'Auteuil of Olde Tyme Stuffe

The Silver Moon Gypsies

SPLAT SUPPORT

Papa Gino's in White City Plaza

Red Fern Reiki and Massage Therapy at 554 Main St.

Dana Perkins (Thor expert)

SPL Staff Raffle Basket Donations

Thank you to the Shrewsbury Garden Club for donating passes to the New England Wildflower Society's Garden in the Woods. Patrons can check out these passes, which will allow four people admittance at a reduced price to this lovely wildflower garden located in Framingham Massachusetts. The garden is open April 15 through October 31. Learn more at the library.