



library newsletter

spring 2010

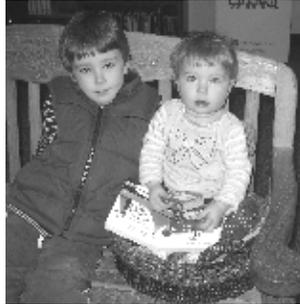


609 Main Street, Shrewsbury, MA. 01545 ~ 508-842-0081 ~ <http://www.shrewsbury-ma.gov/library>

director's letter by Ellen Dolan

In this issue I'd like to discuss gratitude: an unusual topic for a library newsletter, I admit, but two recent occurrences have reminded me of just how fortunate I am to serve as Director of the Shrewsbury Public Library.

As luck would have it, I have a photograph to record one of those incidents. This picture was taken one afternoon near the main service desk at the Library, after Library employee Deb Alger asked me to step out to the desk. I assumed there was a problem that needed my attention, but instead I found a wonderful gift waiting. Sitting on a bench across from the main desk was a young boy and his toddler sister. The bench features a large basket filled with board books, designed to occupy children while mom or dad check out his or her selections. Apparently, this little girl loved books so much, she crawled into the basket itself and began "reading" the books that surfaced around her. Her brother sat patiently and protectively beside her while mom finished checking out her books. Clearly, this was one of those moments when I was grateful for my chosen profession.



The immediate sense of thankfulness was a sweet counterpart to a growing sense of appreciation I feel for three people involved in our proposed building project: volunteer campaign leaders Cush Bozenhard, Mary Casey and Kathi Colman. Cush serves as the Honorary Chair of our overall fundraising campaign. Mary Casey is the Chair of our Leadership Council, while Kathi Colman chairs the Steering Committee of the fundraising campaign. All three are committed to improving the library building and securing a lasting legacy for the community.

Continued on next page...

friends' news

It's that time of year again! The Friends present the...

SPRING BOOK & MEDIA SALE

Mark your calendar for the Friends of the Shrewsbury Library's Annual Sale!

FRIDAY
MAY 14th
10AM-4PM

SATURDAY
MAY 15th
10AM-4PM

SUNDAY
MAY 16th
1PM-4PM

Donations accepted beginning April 1st. Items must be in good condition. Condensed novels, musty items, text books, and computer books older than a couple of years will not be accepted. All donations must be in boxes or sturdy bags. Sorry, no exceptions.

Friends of the Library Grounds Cleanup June 19th

Have a green thumb or just enjoy working outdoors? Come lend a hand with the Friends of the Shrewsbury Library during their annual spring cleanup day on the Library grounds. Bring your rakes, shovels, brooms, and other tools!



Wolf Talk @ Senior Center Sunday, April 11th at 2PM

Wolf Talk has been educating people about wolves since 1978 at schools, museums, libraries, summer camps and more. They believe that education can clarify the misconceptions about one of our most valued endangered species. They have worked with and studied wolves at research facilities, zoos, in the wild and in their own compound. They would like to share their knowledge and joy of these beautiful animals with you. Get your free tickets at the Shrewsbury Public Library. Tickets are extremely limited! This event is co-sponsored by the Friends of the Shrewsbury Public Library and the Friends of the Shrewsbury Senior Center, Inc.



National Library Week April 11th-17th

Stop by the SPL during this special week when we'll have mystery guests, special events, and best of all, donuts and coffee every morning!

adult programs

Planning for College Tuesday, March 16th at 7PM

Educational consultant Judy Zodda and financial consultant Jack Wang give an overview of the college planning process, with lots of practical tips. Free. Open to high school juniors and seniors and their parents. Pre-registration is necessary. Call 508-842-0081 x3 to register.

Indian Cooking for Adults Wednesday, April 21st at 7PM

Venturing beyond naan and curry! Presenters Priya Rathnam and Lori Berkey will help you get familiar with traditional Indian spices and other ingredients that are used in Indian cuisine. Learn how to prepare easy, nutritious, vegetarian dishes from different regions of India. Sponsored by the Friends of the Shrewsbury Library. Registration is required. Please call 508-842-0081 x3 or sign up at the front desk.

English Conversation Circle Select Monday evenings at 5PM

A special opportunity for non-native English speakers to gather and practice speaking English in a safe environment. Registration required. Please call 508-842-0081 x3. Dates for the spring: March 8, 15, 22, April 12, 26, May 3, 10, 17, 24.

director's letter *continued...*

I realize you may not know of their work, because they are leading what is appropriately called the quiet phase of the fundraising campaign. Traditionally, in this phase, the committee seeks to assemble a broad base of support with significant donations. The goal is often to raise 50% or more of your overall fundraising goal, before you emerge to the public stage when community-wide events and activities will engage the whole town. The initial quiet phase, however, devoid of public acknowledgment and visibility, is vitally important to the success of the campaign. Since by definition their work should be done quietly, few people are aware of the hard work and commitment these leaders have displayed.

I've been especially appreciative of Cush, Mary and Kathi's commitment to the effort, despite a longer than expected timeline, a few setbacks and many new and unexpected challenges. They have remained passionate and resolute. I often feel amazed that these three people, as non-elected and unpaid volunteers, have committed to the hard work of quiet and persistent progress on the building campaign. And until I've named them here today, it is work they have performed in the background.

To give you a sense of the resolve of this team, I must explain that our efforts on this project began back in 2004. Almost seven years ago, the Board of Library Trustees began preparing for a grant application to the state, seeking funds to cover approximately 30% of the project costs. When I joined Shrewsbury in 2005, I had no idea of the challenges and twists ahead. As many of you know, back in 2005 the state approved our community for a grant of almost \$4 million to expand our library. We had to wait until August 2008 until the state approved the bonding capacity to fund these grants. We then began plans for bringing the project to voters. That's when we encountered the first major twist in the effort: the economic recession reared its head in October 2008. After almost 12 months of advocacy, the Board of Selectmen voted to send the project to a November 2009 Town Meeting. A second and more unexpected twist hit just a short week later. The state announced a new grant program with the potential for much larger grants, which would cover approximately 40% to 50% of project costs. This could result in a grant of \$8 to \$9 million. Clearly, it was time to change course and try to avail ourselves of this new program.

The Board of Trustees and I are now preparing for a grant application under the new program. With generous support from the Town Administrator's office and Town officials, we've begun work on that effort. In October 2009, the Finance Committee approved funds to update the Building Program Statement (which serves as a sort of backbone for the proposed design). We've also begun further review of building code and other local regulations to assure plans for compliance. Next, we'll begin looking at the current proposed design to see what kinds of changes might make sense in light of suggestions and comments of the state grant review team, local boards and committees. We also wish to consider changing technologies, populations and harsher fiscal realities. While all this political, legislative and planning activity is taking place, Cush, Mary and Kathi are working hard to keep the fundraising effort strong.

I have great faith in the resolve and ingenuity of these three leaders and their passionate committee members. Working together, they have raised close to 75% of their goal for this quiet phase of the campaign. Their team has also attracted interest from more than 70 significant donors, nine of whom have already selected naming rights for various spaces in the new building. I am sure the hard work, strong commitment and positive attitude of this generous team will result in even further success as we move into future stages of the campaign. They are setting a great foundation for continued support and generosity from community members when we move into the public phase.

I know Cush, Mary and Kathi will cringe that they've been singled out when other committee members and volunteers have been working hard along with them. I'm sure however, that their passionate leadership has much to do with the success of the project thus far. I find great inspiration and encouragement in their determination, and I am deeply grateful for all they do for the library.

So I send my thanks to Cush, Mary, Kathi and our little "basket reader" for reminding me how fortunate we are at the Shrewsbury Public Library.

With much gratitude,
Ellen Dolan

special event

ALL AGES WELCOME!

ANIMATED

FREE FAMILY FILM

FESTIVAL

HERE ARE THE CLUES TO WHAT WE ARE SHOWING
ON OUR BIG SCREEN IN THE LIBRARY!

TUES., APRIL 20TH @ 2PM: SCARY CREATURES

WED., APRIL 21ST @ 2PM: ROBOT CLEANER

THURS., APRIL 22ND @ 6PM: BALLOONS

FRI., APRIL 23RD @ 6PM: LOST LITTLE FISH

GET YOUR FREE TICKETS (REQUIRED) AT THE LIBRARY
FILMS SHOWN WITH PERMISSION BY MOVIE LICENSING USA

Shrewsbury Genealogy Club

Mondays at 7PM - 3/22, 4/26, 5/24

If you're interested in learning more about your family's history & genealogy, join the Shrewsbury Genealogy Club! No dues, no heavy commitment, lots of opportunities for sharing and learning.

CORRECTION:

In our Winter 2009/2010 newsletter, we inadvertently omitted The Rotary Club of Shrewsbury from our list of Sunday Sponsors.

computer classes

PLEASE NOTE: Pre-registration and a \$5 cash deposit are required for all classes. Deposit is returned in full when you arrive at the class. Must sign up at least 24 hours in advance at the library.

Intro to the Internet (1 Hour) Limit: 18

Learn how to get around on the web!

Wed. Mar. 10th, 2:30PM or

Thurs. Apr. 22nd, 2:30PM

Intro to Excel (1 Hour) Limit: 18

Learn how to use the most popular spreadsheet software.

Thurs. Mar. 25th, 2:30PM or

Wed. May 19th, 10:30AM

Intro to Email (1 Hour) Limit: 18

Get the knack of email. Learn how to get an email address if you don't have one.

Wed. Apr. 7th, 2:30PM

AUTHOR VISIT & SPECIAL EVENT SERIES

YOKO WATKINS

Award-Winning Young Adult Author
Monday, March 29th, 7PM

Venerini Academy and the Shrewsbury Public Library, through funding by the Central Massachusetts Regional Library System and The Friends of the Shrewsbury Public Library, are proud to welcome acclaimed author Yoko Watkins. A presentation, light meal, and autograph session will be held in the Shrewsbury Public Library - admission is FREE but to ensure you have a seat, get your complimentary tickets at either the Shrewsbury Public Library or Venerini Academy. The event is open to all ages.



Book Discussion

Monday, March 22nd, 4PM

Don't miss this great opportunity to discuss "So Far From the Bamboo Grove" by Yoko Watkins. A journey of survival and a tale of the human spirit, this is one book you'll have plenty to talk about! Led by Venerini Academy Librarian Pat Avis, this discussion will be both enlightening and engaging. No registration required - just drop in! This discussion will take place in The Loft at the Shrewsbury Public Library.

Looms at the Library

Thursday, March 25th, 3PM-5PM

A special drop in event - come for ten minutes or the whole two hours and take part in making a community tapestry. Saori Worcester will be bringing two looms to demonstrate and teach how to make some incredible fabric creations.



Photo used courtesy of Saori Worcester

No registration required - just drop in! This event will be held in the lobby of the Shrewsbury Public Library.

Korean & Japanese Calligraphy Session

Monday, March 22nd, 5PM

Saori Worcester will be presenting a special workshop where participants of all ages can come and see what their name would look like in both Korean and Japanese characters. Free and held in The Loft at the Shrewsbury Public Library. Just drop in!

Origami Workshop

Monday, March 29th, 6PM

Come to this special craft event to learn the great art of paper folding. This event will be held prior to the author visit as a way of helping to decorate and welcome Yoko Watkins to the Library! This event is open to all ages, and will be held in The Loft at the Shrewsbury Public Library. All materials will be provided - just stop by and get folding!

These events are all being held at the Shrewsbury Public Library in Shrewsbury, Massachusetts.

609 Main St. 508-842-0081 ext.5. <http://www.splatatspl.blogspot.com/>

FEELING FRIENDLY?

The Friends of the Shrewsbury Public Library is a special non-profit organization dedicated to the support of our Library. Becoming a Friend of the Library is an excellent way to support one of Shrewsbury's most valued resources. During these tough economic times, the Friends of the Library can help soften the blow of harsh fiscal realities by providing so many of the extras that make the library an exceptional place.

What do the "Friends" do?
* Provide the Shrewsbury Public Library with financial assistance and often give time and energy to projects to maximize its resources.
* Fund programs for children, teens, adults, seniors and families.
* Sponsor an annual scholarship to a deserving Shrewsbury student.
* Purchase museum passes for use by library patrons.

Have you renewed your membership or joined yet?

LEVELS OF 'FRIEND'SHIP':

- FRIENDLY ACQUAINTANCE \$5.00
- TRUE FRIEND \$25.00
- BEST FRIEND \$50.00
- VERY BEST FRIEND* \$100.00
- BUSINESS ASSOCIATE* \$300.00
- OTHER AMOUNT* \$_____

THIS IS A (CHECK ONE): NEW MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL

NAME: _____ PHONE: _____

ADDRESS: _____ E-MAIL: _____

*Make checks payable to "The Friends of the Shrewsbury Public Library." Mail donations to 609 Main St., Shrewsbury, MA. 01545
OR simply drop this completed form and payment off at the library.*

**A donation of \$100 or more will be rewarded with a complimentary leather bookmark and bookbag.*

children's events (up to grade 4)

Read to a Dog

Kuma and Willow will be back 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 508-842-0081 x4 for exact dates. 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.

Chess Chums

First Monday of Each Month

This spring, come to the Children's Room to get your game on! We provide the room, you provide the chess! Bring your board, your friends and your skills to play this game of fun and strategy. 7PM – 8PM. Recommended for children in grade 3 and up, with adult. Register in the Children's Room at 508-842-0081 x4.



Music 'n Motion with Robin

Wednesdays at 10AM in April - 7, 14, 21, 28

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.

How We Published

Wednesday, April 21st, 2:30PM

Grafton residents Jen and Colin White, mother and son creators of *On the Edge with Coolhead Luke* talk about the process of publishing a book together. Registration begins April 7th in the Children's Room at 508-842-0081 x4.

Craft for Mom

Saturday, May 8, 10AM - 4PM

Surprise your Mom! Make a special craft for Mom in the Children's Room. Drop in anytime. No registration required.

Lovin' Lego® at the Library

Tuesday, April 20th, 11AM

Show us your building skills! We'll give you a theme, you give us a creation. We have some Lego® blocks, but could always use more. If you have blocks that you no longer need, please consider donating them to the Children's Room. This program is possible because of previous donations! Thanks for your generosity.

Bilingual Storytime (English & Hindi)

Friday, April 23, 10:30AM

All ages. No registration necessary.



Alex the Jester

Thursday, April 22, 10:30AM

Take an inspiring journey to Medieval times with Alex the Jester - a hilarious act to be enjoyed by the whole family. Get your free tickets beginning April 8th in the Children's Room.

youth events (grades 5-12)

Raffle Baskets Are Back!

SPLAT holds gift basket raffles twice a year, and this spring you'll have the chance to win a great basket while you support the youths in the library. Look for the baskets this month!

NEW! Teen Book Group (For Grades 8-12)

First Session - Tuesday, March 9th, 4:30PM-5:15PM

Join the new teen book group at the library and read exciting page-turners every month. The selections in this group are designed to be fast-paced, purely entertaining books that can be discussed as a group. The first session will have prizes and pizza to start the group off right, and participants will help choose what the following selections will be. Register at the Library to be a part of this great new program! The first book selection is: "In the Path of Falling Objects" by Andrew Smith.

SPLAT Meeting Schedule

SPLAT meets for 45 minutes, once a month, to help shape the teen department. Help choose materials, event ideas, and help to volunteer in YOUR department of the library.

Friday, March 19th - 4PM

Friday, April 23rd - 4PM

Friday, May 14 - 4PM



3-Hour Writing Showdown for Teens

Thursday, April 22nd, 11:00AM (Vacation Week!)

Enter this unique competition if you can handle the pressure of creating an original story in a limited amount of time. The stories will be created, presented, and judged all within a three-hour time period. Only fifteen spots will be open for this event, and one of the people in attendance will walk home with a \$50 Borders giftcard. Everyone in attendance will be treated to pizza for lunch. In addition, all of the stories will be recorded, put on YouTube, and a second round of voting will begin for another online prize!

Video Game Racing Tournament

Friday, April 23rd, 1:30PM (Vacation Week!)

Think you've got what it takes to go head-to-head with other Shrewsbury youths and ride away in first place? Come to the first ever Video Game Racing tournament and show off your stuff. Single elimination rounds will determine the winner who will walk away with a great prize sponsored by Dunkin' Donuts of Shrewsbury. Other video games will be hooked up as well. Free for youths in grades 5-12 - limited to 40 participants, so sign up early at the Library or get left in the dust!

Shrewsbury Public Library
609 Main Street
Shrewsbury, MA 01545

Non-Profit Organization
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Worcester, MA 01613



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ECRWSS
Resident Customer
Shrewsbury, MA 01545

Library Hours

Mon.-Wed. 10AM-9PM

Thurs. & Fri. 10AM-5PM

Sat. 10AM-5PM (Fall/Winter/Spring)

Sun. 1PM-5PM (Fall/Winter/Spring)

Contact Information

Phone: 508-842-0081

Fax: 508-841-8540

TTY: 508-841-8530

www.shrewsbury-ma.gov/library

sunday sponsorships 2009 - 2010 season

Thanks to the generous sponsors who helped sustain Sunday afternoon hours at the library these past four years. Our 2009/2010 Sunday season began October 4, 2009, and will run through May 23, 2010. A special thank you to all of the individuals, businesses and community groups who have donated funds to keep the library open.

If you're interested in sponsoring a Sunday for our upcoming season, please contact the Library Director, Ellen Dolan, at (508) 841-8537.

"Even when I'm just driving by, the parking lot is always full."
-- April Prince,
Sunday Patron

5 sundays

Dunkin' Donuts

4 sundays

Shrewsbury Federal Credit Union

2 sundays

Shrewsbury Lions Club

1 sunday

Webster Five Cents Savings Bank
Shrewsbury Firefighters Association
Yu-Bin Liang & Wei Kong Yeoh
Gerald Isaacson
Amica Insurance
Shrewsbury Social Club
David & Johanna Musselman
Jeff and Priscilla Billingham
The Polito Development Corporation
Julia Gallagher & Jon Grayzel
Rotary Club of Shrewsbury
One Anonymous Donor