



A Letter from the Director

I write this letter on October 19, one day after the vote on the proposed library building project. You will have read by now that the question failed by 158 votes. While I am obviously deeply disappointed, I am exceedingly thankful to the many people who worked on and supported this project with passion and determination. We must now go back to the drawing board and create a solution that will work. As we've communicated in the past, we have many significant problems in this building. These problems, of course, are a driving force towards further action, but the real reason we must find resolution is the people who live in this community and use this library.

Before the vote yesterday I was contemplating this responsibility to our community, while observing a group of Spring Street School first graders on their annual visit to the Library. The tension of Election Day at hand, I felt the need to keep active, so I stopped into the children's room. There I saw "Miss Linda" (Linda Dashnaw) talking to the first graders about all they could find at the library. The 50 or so children and their chaperones were tightly packed in children's room enthusiastically listening to Linda describe all the riches a library card could bring!

I remember thinking that if the vote were successful these children would receive abundant benefit throughout their lives. They would enjoy a beautiful new children's room, and would continue to benefit from the library through their teen years and into adulthood. I pondered the idea that the library would probably also serve their children and grandchildren someday. Thinking of the many volunteers and supporters who were working hard to bring the project to the voters, it gave me some pleasure to realize that these children were quite likely unaware of the beehive of activity swirling around this vote. I felt grateful for the many volunteers working all around town, while we librarians continued our work; providing service to children and other people using the library.

While the vote was unsuccessful, the desire and need to resolve the building problems remains strong. In the coming weeks town and library officials will begin to assess how to best move forward. We will find a way. In closing, I thank our many supporters and volunteers for their hard work and determination on this project. I thank all voters who participated in this important question about the library. Each has a part to play in shaping our library's future. I truly believe that in the end, we will find an appropriate solution; one that the entire town can embrace.

Sincerely,
Ellen Dolan



DID YOU KNOW?

This newsletter, as well as the last, was folded by a group of dedicated volunteers! We'd like to thank them for their many hours of service. If you'd like to be on the folding team for our next newsletter, e-mail Dan at dbarbour@cwmares.org and express your intent!



geek theater

"Two for Christmas"

ONE SHOW ONLY!

A Free Two-Person Production!

Sunday, Dec. 11, 2PM

A special performance for patrons of a two-person show. Seating is free, but limited so arrive early. Two hours.

geek crafts



Adult

Crafternoons:

Beading with Brenda

Resident beading 'geek' Brenda will help you spend the long winter afternoons doing something fun! Join Brenda on Wednesdays, Jan 11, 18 and 25 from 2-3 PM to learn to create a beaded spiral rope necklace. All supplies will be provided. No prior knowledge necessary. This is a program **for adults only** and there are only eight spots, so please call 508-842-0081x3 to register.

geek book clubs

Eclectic Browsers Book Club

Open to all interested. Selections held at the desk prior to the sessions for easy check-out. All are Wednesdays at 10:30AM.

- Dec. 21 - **Covington Christmas**
by Joan Medlicott
- Jan. 25 - **Tree Grows in Brooklyn**
by Betty Smith
- Feb. 22 - **Bishop at the Lake**
by Andrew Greeley

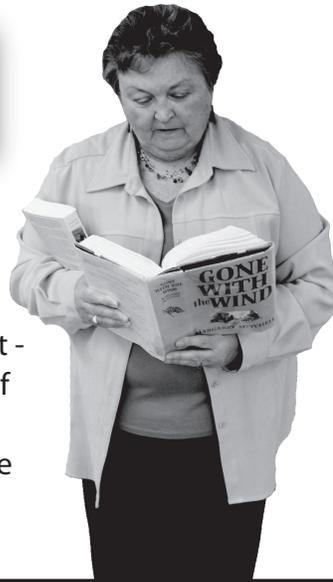
adult services

events for every type of 'geek' in the community!

geek **storytelling**

Adult Story Hour Sunday, Feb. 12, 2PM

Join us for our first "Adult Story Hour!" That's right - a story hour just for adults... In the bleakest part of the year, it's time to nourish the child within each of us. You'll hear a story (or two) to warm even the coldest of hearts! Open to all adults, drop-in, no charge, and refreshments will be served.



geek **bollywood**

Bollywood Movie Marathon

A Free Film Afternoon at the Library!

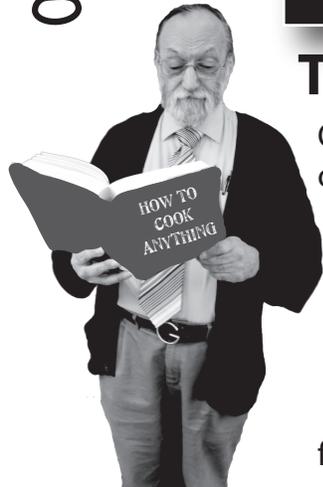
Tuesday, December 27th

Tired of going shopping and returning presents? Come to the library to relax and watch three back-to-back Bollywood movies on Tuesday, December 27th, 10:30AM. Appropriate for the whole family. Children 10 and under have to be accompanied by adults.

geek **MEN ONLY cooking class**

Tues., Feb. 7, 7PM

Okay, guys! This is your opportunity to learn how to produce good, healthy meals with the least amount of effort! Taught by the male staff of the Library! Pre-registration is necessary; call 508-841-8531 for more information or to sign up.



geek **volunteering**

Join the Adopt-A-Shelf Team!

We could use some volunteers who could come in once or twice a week and review and check a shelf in the library for accuracy and cleanliness.

Volunteer positions open in:

- Non-Fiction
- Fiction
- Children's Room

To start this process, please e-mail the Volunteer Coordinator, Dan Barbour, at dbarbour@cwmar.org

geek **Game Night for Twentysomethings**

Tuesday, Jan. 10th, 6:30PM

If you're in your twenties, and looking to meet new people in a fun and casual environment, come out to our first ever "Game Night for Twentysomethings." Bring your favorite game if you'd like (we'll have games on hand as well) and a snack to share with the group. No need to register, just show up for a good time! If it goes well, we will discuss, as a group, the frequency and location of further meetups!



geek genealogy

Shrewsbury Genealogy Club

Monthly meeting for anyone interested in genealogy and family history. Occasional guest speakers from time to time. Self-help time and sharing every month. Open to anyone interested--no need to be a Shrewsbury resident. Monday Dec 19, 2011 - Jan. 23, 2012 - Feb. 27, 2012 (7:00 PM - 8:45 PM)

geek Spanish

Adult Beginner Spanish Classes

Thursdays 6:30PM - 7:30PM

Tony Marin, a bilingual teacher will once again be teaching Spanish for beginners. For **ADULTS 18+** who don't speak any Spanish at all. Please call 508-842-0081 ext. 2 or 3 to sign up. Only 25 spots. Schedule: Dec 1, 8, 15, Jan 12, 19, 26 Feb 2, 9, 16, 23

geek French

French Conversation Circle

A drop-in opportunity to practice speaking French, with others who share the same avocation, and about topics of interest to all the group. Meets on the 2nd Monday of the month (4:00 pm) and again on the 4th Monday of the month (6:30 pm). Meetings are held in the non-fiction area on the lower level.

geek MAT

Join the NEW Multicultural Advisory Team!

Do you want to be a part of a new team that would meet once a month and brainstorm ideas for multicultural programs to be held at the library? These could include shows, artwork displays, author visits, etc. Please contact Reference Librarian, Priya Rathnam at 508-841- 8533 to join the team or ask any questions.

geek esl

The **English Conversation Circle** is for non-native English speakers who want to practice and improve their English-speaking skills.

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 Are Currently Full

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

geek friends of the spl events

Holiday Open House

Sat., Dec. 3, 11AM-2PM

Refreshments ~ Crafts ~ Games
~ Stories ~ Entertainment

Sponsored by Friends of the Shrewsbury Public Library



The Third Annual Friends of the SPL Foreign Film Festival Sundays in February at 2PM

Opportunity will be provided for discussion after the film for those who wish to stay. Popcorn will be provided - bring your own beverages.

2/5

The Picture Bride

From Japan
Released 1994
Rated: PG

Running Time: 110 min.

A young woman, looking for a better life, travels from Japan to Hawaii.

2/12

Mongol

From Kazakhstan
Released 2007
Rated: R

Running Time: 126 min.

The story of the man who would be Genghis Khan.

2/19

Wasabi

From France
Released 2004
Rated: R

Running Time: 94 min.

A cop is left a fortune and travels to Japan - and gets more than he expected.

2/26

Our final film will be a mystery!

If you REALLY want to know, check with the Library (but that would spoil all the fun!).

geek author visits

Meet the Author: Vin Femia

Wed., Dec. 7, 7PM

Discussing his book *Patriot Pride* about the New England Patriots.

Meet the Author: John B. Hench, PhD

Wed., Feb. 22, 6:30PM *Snow date Feb. 29th*

Discussing his book *Books as Weapons: Propaganda, Publishing, and the Battle for Global Markets in the Era of World War II*

geek

computers

Intro to Excel

Tues. Dec. 20 - 10:30AM
Learn how to use the most popular spreadsheet software. Uses Microsoft Excel 2007.

Intro to Email

Wed. Jan. 11 - 2:30PM
Learn how to get and use your own email address. Includes attachments.

Intro to the Internet

Wed. Jan. 25 - 2:30PM
Learn how to get around online. Covers basic concepts and safety.

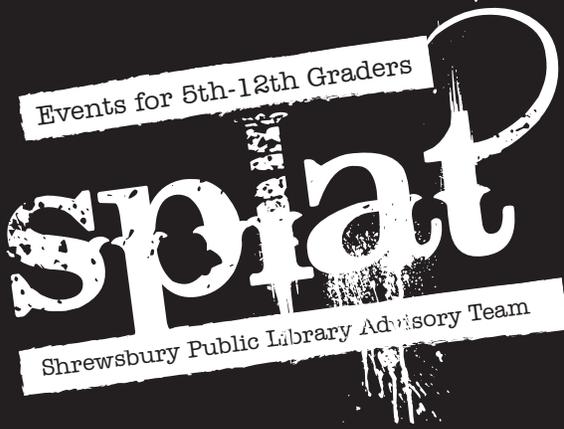
Online Genealogy with George Brown

Tues., Jan. 17 - 2:30PM
Using Ancestry.com, Heritage Quest, and other resources, learn how to investigate your family history.

eReaders

Wed. Feb. 8 - 2:30PM
We'll show you how to put library books on your eReader. Covers Kindle, Nook, Sony, and more.

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



Cooking Competiton

Thurs. Dec. 29, 6:30PM

For the fifth time, the large meeting room will be a cooking arena where teens will compete in teams of two by cooking with mystery items. Register today!

Teen Crafting Camp

Begins Friday January 20

The first session, three consecutive Friday afternoons, will focus on knitting for teens! The group will then decide what craft to pursue from there! Register today! For 7th-12th graders.

Mission: Valentine's Day

Mon. Feb. 6, 4-6PM

Show the community some love by competing to make the best homemade Valentine's card. All the cards will then be sent out to residents! Drop-in - but bring two stamps if you can!!

The Annual Holiday Bash Where Everyone Will Walk Away with a Gift and Many Will Compete to Have the Ugliest Sweater in Shrewsbury Event

Thursday, December 22, 5:30-7:30PM. YOU MUST REGISTER! Only 35 slots open!

At **5:30PM**, we will eat a bunch of holiday snacks. Bring one to share with the group!

At **6PM**, we will hold a crazy scavenger hunt where at least one person will win a GREAT prize.

At **6:30PM**, judges will come in and determine who, in fact, has the ugliest sweater on. They will win a GREAT prize.

At **6:45PM**, the annual gift swap will begin. You don't need to bring anything! Will you get a good prize or a gag gift?

The Shorts by SPLAT Member Grishma Patel



We have TONS of other great meetings, events, and volunteer opportunities for youth. Stop by the 'brary for a full schedule!

geek family hunt!

RINGS & RIDDLES

A family scavenger hunt based on the works of J.R.R. Tolkien

FRIDAY, JAN. 13TH, 6:30PM

Did you know that at night the Shrewsbury Public Library transforms into Middle Earth? Come compete against other hobbits-in-training at a special one night after hours event. There will be challenges that will test both your wits and your bravery as you race to win a grand prize! This is a family event, so fill out your entry form (to the right) and claim your slot in this competition!

TEAM ENTRY FORM (SUBMIT IN CHILDREN'S ROOM):

(Required) Adult (18+) Full Name: _____

(Required) Youth #1 (3RD-12TH GRADE) Name: _____

(Optional) Youth #2 (3RD-12TH GRADE) Name: _____

Phone Number: _____ E-Mail: _____

children can *geek* too!

Chinese New Year Story Time

Mon. Jan. 23 at 10:30AM

Appropriate for preschool children. Listen to stories and make a Chinese Lantern. Space is limited. Please register beginning January 9th.



Celebrate Hanukkah

Tues. Dec. 20 at 6PM

Listen to Hanukkah stories, play the dreidel game, and make a paper menorah. Space is limited. Please register beginning Dec. 6th.



Wee Sign Class with Claire

Friday, February 10

10:00----For children birth to 15 months
11:00----For children 15 months to 36 months

Introductory workshops on signing with your baby or toddler. Space is very limited. Registration begins. Friday, January 27th. Sponsored by the Friends.



Music 'n Motion with Wendy

Fri. Jan. 6, 13, 20, 27 at 10AM

Registration Now REQUIRED!

Music enrichment program including singing, dancing, instruments, and a parachute. For children ages 2-5 accompanied by an adult. Register starting Dec. 23. Sponsored by the Friends of the Shrewsbury Public Library.



Gingerbread House Workshop

A Christmas Event for Families

Thurs. Dec. 8 at 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 Nov. 22. Participants will be asked to bring some supplies and refreshments to share.



Mardi Gras Week

During February Vacation

Feb. 21-24

Stop in the Children's Room beginning Feb. 1 to sign up for fun events happening all February vacation week! Crafts, Stories, Spooky Hunts. Don't miss out!



Read to a Dog

Not just any dog... Come read to Kuma or Willow.. Certified Therapy Pets are a wonderful way to encourage reluctant readers or children who would like to practice their reading skill. For children in Grades K-4. Register in the Children's Room or call (508) 842-0081 x 4. Volunteers and dogs will be provided by "Paws For People", a volunteer group located at the Tufts Center for Animals, Tufts Cummings School of Veterinary Medicine. Check with the Children's Room for dates.



NOT Your Average Story Time

Preschool Story Time

Thursdays at 10:30AM



Listen to stories and do a craft. No registration necessary. January 5, 12, 19, 26. Feb. 2, 9, 16, 23.

Grade 1-4 on Mondays
December 12, January 30, February 27, March 26
6:30 pm
Join us for a story-time for older listeners. In the Children's Room, drop in, no registration required.

Pre-K to Grade 4

Holiday Toy Soldier Show

Magic Show by Robb Preskins

Wed. Dec. 28 at 10:30AM

Come experience the family comic that keeps everyone laughing with his magic and quick improv humor. Space is limited. Free tickets will be available beginning Dec. 14th. This program is sponsored by the Friends of the Shrewsbury Public Library.



Valentine's Day Story Time

Thurs., Feb. 9 at 10:30AM



Appropriate for preschool children. Valentine's stories and craft. No registration required.

Winter Reading Challenge

Books, Patches, and Bags!

Read some books, write a review, get an embroidered patch and a bag (to put the patches on and your library books in!) Read more books and get more patches. Stop by the Children's Room for more information and take a look at the patches and book bag on display. Programs available for Preschoolers and K-4 students. Sign up online NOW at www.readsinma.org/shrewsbury

Apple Country Music Together Sing-Along

Two Shows, Tues. Dec. 13, 10AM and 11AM

Join us for a Music Together Holiday Sing-Along. This sing-along is a demonstration of the Music Together classes offered by Apple Country Music Together and is appropriate for newborn babies, infants, toddlers, preschoolers and kindergarteners. Space is limited. Registration begins Tuesday, November 29th.

Baby & Me Story Time

Tuesdays at 10:30AM

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 so there will be a lottery.



Jan 3, 10, 17, 24
Lottery: Dec. 12 - 19

Jan 31, Feb 7, 14, 21
Lottery: Jan. 17 - 23

Toddler Story Time

A 30 minute program of stories, finger plays, and movement designed for new walkers to age 3 with an accompanying adult. Siblings welcome. Space is limited so there will be a lottery.

Jan. 4, 11, 18, 25 Lottery: Dec. 12 - 19
Feb. 1, 8, 15, 22, 29 Lottery: Jan. 17 - 23

Wednesdays at 10:30AM

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 4

ECRWSS
Resident Customer
Shrewsbury, MA 01545

geek scavenger hunt
begins in January.
ask for your guide
at the library! win
a donated gift card!

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...*

Thank you to the following...

2 sundays

Daniels Insurance Agency
An Anonymous Donor

1 sunday

Shrewsbury
Firefighters
Association

In Memory of
James A. Heedles

Wei Kong Yeoh and
Yubin Liang

David and Johanna
Musselman

Shrewsbury Social
Club

Webster Five Cents
Savings Bank

Katherine A. Canney

Polito Development
Corporation

Erik Bakken, to
celebrate his
9th Birthday

Laurie & Matt Hogan

An Anonymous Donor

We Love Our
Donors!



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 date (October 31, 2011) we already have 60% of the season funded. Our 2012 Sunday season began 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 preceding 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.

PRESCHOOL COMPUTER CENTER

Donated by the
**SHREWSBURY
FEDERAL
CREDIT UNION**

'THANK YOU!' RECEPTION

Tuesday, December 13 from 4:30 – 5:30

We are pleased to announce a special reception for our new Shrewsbury Federal Credit Union Preschool Computer Center. This new area of the Children's Room is made possible through the generous support of our community partner, Shrewsbury Federal Credit Union. Two new computers especially designed to strengthen and support pre-literacy skills and development are now available. These early literacy stations have bright key boards, touch screen functionality and age appropriate pre-literacy software. Beautiful new furniture which is sized for the younger child completes this new computer center area.

Please stop in and view our new computer center. Let your children experience our latest technology and then convey our gratitude to the members of the Shrewsbury Federal Credit Union board for this generous donation. Refreshments will be served.

Thanks to Lora & Cliff Askinazi (from New England Images) for their work on our 'geek' poster project. Their time spent photographing our local 'models', was much appreciated! Great work!



Thanks to the Green Thumb in Westboro, MA., for donating the use of putters for our first Haunted Mini-Golf event! (Held on 11/1/11)