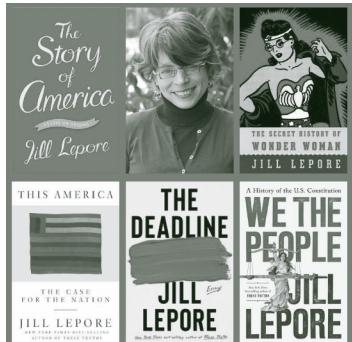


CHAPTERS

The Newsletter of the Shrewsbury Public Library – Spring '26

Distinguished Speakers Series



SHREWSBURY PUBLIC LIBRARY
FOUNDATION

JILL LEPORE

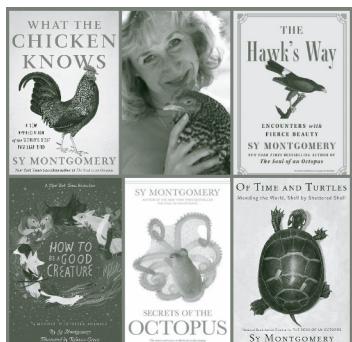
Wed. April 8, 7-8 pm

Oak Middle School, 45 Oak St, Shrewsbury, MA 01545

Well-known historian and Harvard Law Professor Jill Lepore will talk about her research and her books, *These Truths: A History of the United States* and *We the People: A History of the U.S. Constitution*.

Community-Wide Read in April

We encourage children, teens, and adults to read books by Sy Montgomery during the month of April, and listen to her speak on April 14th! All month long we will have animal-related programs and events for you to enjoy!



SY MONTGOMERY

Tues. April 14, 7-8 pm

Oak Middle School, 45 Oak St, Shrewsbury, MA 01545

Join us for an evening with beloved author and naturalist Sy Montgomery. Through her books for both children and adults, she explores themes of nature, sustainability, and animal life. Montgomery will share insights into the life of an octopus and our essential connection to the natural world.

LIBRARY SPEAKERS CONSORTIUM

JOIN US FOR VIRTUAL AUTHOR TALKS!

Mar 4 2 pm: Michael Perry: *Humor, Heart, and Reflective Rural Stories*

Mar 12 7 pm: Kate Quinn: *Book Portals and Journeys of Literary Magic*

Mar 24 2 pm: Shoshana Walter with Barbara Kingsolver: *America's Failed Response to the Opioid Crisis*

Apr 2 2 pm: Smithsonian Curator Emerita Valerie Neal: *History of Women Astronauts*

Apr 14 7 pm: Brad Taylor: *On Writing Action-Packed and Suspenseful Spycraft*

Apr 22 2 pm: Miranda Cowley Heller: *Lush Lyricism and Intimate Confessions*

Apr 30 7 pm: Jason Reynolds

TO REGISTER

SCAN QR CODE OR VISIT:

libraryc.org/shrewsburypubliclibrary/upcoming



ADULT PROGRAMS



BOOK CLUBS

SHREWSBURY READERS —*In Person*
1st Thurs. monthly, 6:30-8 pm

SPANISH BOOK CLUB —*In Person*
1st Sat. monthly, 11 am-12:30 pm

CHAPTERS IN COMMON

—*Hybrid: In Person + Zoom*
1st Sat. monthly, 1-2 pm

DISCOVERIES NON-FICTION

BOOK CLUB —*In Person*
3rd Thurs. monthly, 11 am-12 pm

READING GLASSES-ADULTS 20'S & 30'S
—*Hybrid: In Person & Google Meet*
3rd Thurs. monthly, 7-8:30 pm

SPL COOKBOOK CLUB —*In Person*
4th Thurs monthly, 6:30-7:30 pm

SPECIAL EVENTS

PUZZLE & BOARD GAME SWAP

Sun. March 29, 1-4 pm

Drop off gently-used puzzles and games starting Mon. March 23. See our event calendar for more details!

FIXIT CLINIC

Sun. April 26, 2-4 pm

Don't toss it, Fixit! Local volunteers will fix your broken items. See our website for a list of items that can be fixed.



Please!
Note!

REGISTRATION REQUIRED FOR MOST PROGRAMS

Sign up and see more on our calendar!

tinyurl.com/5652hz37



SPL Learning Lab Makerspace

Please!
Note!

Makerspace classes require basic computer skills. Registrations for Makerspace classes open two weeks ahead and for ages 13+. Contact: splmaking@cwmars.org

DIGITAL DESIGN FOR EMBROIDERY WITH INKSCAPE

Wed. March 11, 6:30-8 pm

Learn more about Inkscape and how to design for the embroidery machine.

3D MODEL A BARNYARD ANIMAL

Thurs. April 30, 6-7:30 pm

3D model a chubby barnyard animal with TinkerCAD!

LASER CUT FLOWERS

Wed. May 6, 6:30-8 pm

Use the laser cutter in the SPL Makerspace to make a few flowers out of cardstock.

KNIT & CROCHET NIGHT

Every 1st Mon. of the month, 5:30-7:30 pm

PAPERCRAFT NIGHT

Every 2nd Thurs. monthly, 6-7 pm

GAMING



NEW GAMES PLUS

2nd Sat. monthly, 12-3 pm

Try a different role-playing game every month!



March 14: Avatar Legends

April 11: Magnus Archives

May 9: Star Wars RPG

BRUNCH & BOARD GAMES

Last Sat. monthly, 11 am-2 pm

Play a game from our collection, or bring in one from home! Enjoy snacks to keep you playing.



MARIO DAY TRIVIA

Tues. March 10, 6-7:30 pm

Celebrate the most beloved plumber around. Test your knowledge about all things Mario! Pizza and prizes! **Registration required.**

CRIBBAGE TOURNAMENT

Wed. May 13, 5:30-7:30 pm

Calling all cribbage players! Represent our library at the BVPL Edward J. DeHaan Memorial Cribbage Tournament!

Registration required.

LITERARY PROGRAMS

MAKE A SCENE WRITING WORKSHOP WITH DIANE V. MULLIGAN

Sat. March 28, 10-11:30 Am

Scenes are the building blocks of great stories, but sometimes we also need to summarize to move the plot along.

MELISSA MONTEITH BOOK TALK

Mon. March 30, 6-7:30 pm

Melissa will discuss her book: *Bootcamp for the Brave: A Parent Survival Guide for Navigating Special Needs Adulthood*.

POETRY READING BY JAYANTHI RANGAN

Wed. April 18, 10-11 am

Wheels over Potholes began as a poetry chronicle of the poet's observations during her husband's journey after a spinal cord injury.

ADULT COMMUNITY-WIDE READ EVENTS

PAINT YOUR PET!

Sat. April 18, 2-4:30 pm

Please bring a printed picture of your pet size 8.5x11 or smaller for this event.

CHICKENS IN THE GARDEN

Sun. April 19, 2-3:30 pm

Enjoy a talk from the MA Master Gardeners Speaking Bureau on "Chickens in the Garden"!

TURTLE RESCUE LEAGUE

Wed. April 22, 2-4:30 pm

Join the Turtle Rescue League for a family-friendly turtle presentation for grades K+.

PIG SCAVENGER HUNT

April, all month

Find a pig and take a picture to submit on a google form. Can you find them all?

ADULT PROGRAMS

ADVENTURING THE APPALACHIAN TRAIL Mon. March 2, 7-8 pm

Join Susan "Season One" Leo-Johnson as she shares her journey and learn what it takes to thru-hike the world's oldest, continuous footpath.

WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH

Sat. March 7, 11 am-12 pm

Yixuan Li from *She Builds the Future* will give a Women's History Month presentation.

WOMEN ARCHITECTS AND WOMEN'S CLUBS

Mon. March 16, 7-8 pm

Ana Santos Restivo, the Preservation Worcester docent, will share the stories of 19th/early 20th century women who pioneered the nascent field of professional architecture.

DEMOCRATIC RESILIENCE VS. FASCIST FEAR: FACING THE CHALLENGE OF FASCISM IN AN IMPERFECT REPUBLIC

Wed. March 18, 7-8 pm

Join Tom White and explore democratic resilience in the face of fascist fear. How did the "missionary generation" respond to the threat of anti-democratic (and even Nazi) leaders at home and Nazism abroad.

INDIAN CLASSICAL MUSIC AND DANCE EXTRAVAGANZA

Sat. March 21, 10 am-4 pm

Music and dance teachers based in Shrewsbury will showcase the talents of their students: Sruthilayaa School of Music, India Society of Worcester, Amudha Sri Dance School, Lasya School of Dance, and Pravin Sitaram, Mridangam and percussion teacher.

CONCERT BY LORI DIAMOND & FRED ABATELLI WITH SPECIAL GUEST ANELISE

Sun. March 22, 2-3 pm

Connect with this inclusion-loving family and hear the stories behind their music.

DISCOVER YOUR IRISH ANCESTRY

Wed. March 25, 4-5 pm

Do you have Irish relatives? Join Alex London to learn how to uncover genealogical records to tell their stories.

BLOOD FEUD: THE DEMOULAS SUPERMARKET TRIALS

Wed. March 25, 7-8 pm

Justice Dennis J. Curran (ret.) will discuss one of America's oldest family businesses longest-running, most expensive litigation ever, resulting in a judicial scandal that led to the judge's resignation in disgrace.

CRAFT CORNER

HOLI TAKE AND MAKE

Sun. March 1, 9am - while supplies last
Each kit contains a blank rangoli design on watercolor paper, a watercolor palate and brush. One kit per patron at the Reference Desk on the second floor.

TEA BLENDING AND BREWING

Sun. March 8, 2-4 pm

Craft a perfect cup of tea with a selection of loose-leaf teas, as well as spices and herbs.

ABANDON SHIP

Tues. March 31, 7-8 pm

An overview of great historical sea tragedies of the 19th and 20th century, including some in which Shrewsbury residents were victims.

10 STEPS TO RESEARCHING THE HISTORY OF YOUR HOUSE IN SHREWSBURY

Sat. April 4, 3-4 pm

Learn how to uncover the past of any home with house historian Marian Pierre-Louis.

COOKING WITH CHEF PAULA

Tues. April 21, 7-8 pm

Join local chef Paula McCarthy and learn to make something delicious!



FINDING GREAT INFORMATION IN THE AGE OF AI

Thurs. May 14, 7-8:45 pm

Laura Robinson, Dean of the Library at Fitchburg State, will discuss misinformation, help you better understand AI, and teach new techniques to search for the best information.

FIRST AMENDMENT AND THE FREE PRESS WITH THE NEW ENGLAND FIRST AMENDMENT COALITION

Tues. May 19, 7-8:30 pm

This program highlights our constitutional freedoms and the democratic role journalism plays in our country. Join us as we discuss how the First Amendment works and how local newsrooms can best meet their obligations to the communities they cover.

WORLD-CLASS RESEARCH IN OUR BACKYARD WITH CLARE O'CONNOR

Wed. May 20, 7-8 pm

Learn the history of the Worcester Foundation for Experimental Biology, which included the discovery of the modern birth control pill and research into new areas in neurobiology and cell biology.

FLOWER CRAFT

Mon. March 9, 10-11:30 am

Create beautiful pressed flower bookmarks.

CREATE TOGETHER:

TREASURE CANDLES

Mon. April 13, 6:30-8:30 pm

We'll use a plant-based wax blend and non-leaded wicks to make beautiful, non-toxic candles with hidden treasures inside!

CREATE TOGETHER:

TAKE AND MAKE TEA BOUQUETS

Fri. May 9, 9 am - While supplies last

Create an everlasting bouquet of paper flowers that also hold tea! Pick up at the Reference Desk on the 2nd floor.



RECURRING PROGRAMS

ENGLISH CONVERSATION CIRCLE

Weekly. Mon. & Wed., 10:30-11:30 am

—In Person at the library

Weekly. Fri., 10:30-11:30 am

—In Person at St. Anne's Church

GOOD DAY MEMORY CAFÉ

1st & 3rd Fri. monthly, 1:30-3:30 pm

VIRTUAL 50+ JOB SEEKERS

NETWORKING GROUP

—Virtual

1st & 3rd Wed. monthly, 9 am-12 pm

GENEALOGY NIGHT

—Hybrid

3rd Thurs. monthly, 7-8:30 pm

NEW RECURRING PROGRAMS

CHINESE CONVERSATION CLUB

1st & 3rd Sat. of every month

10-11 am

A friendly, low-pressure space for anyone who is interested in speaking Mandarin Chinese. All levels are welcome, from beginners to native speakers.

JOB SEARCH SUCCESS

2nd Wed. of every month

6:30-7:30 pm

Join Lisa Rosen from TAG, a professional development group, and discuss how you can be the strongest job candidate you can be! **Registration required.**

Children's Room



NOSTALGIA MOVIE NIGHT:

Watch a cinema classic from the 80s, 90s, or 2000s. Can you still quote all the lines? Snacks provided, please bring a blanket/cushion.

All ages with a grown up.

ROBIN HOOD — G
Mon. March 2, 6:30-8:30 pm

THE PRINCESS DIARIES — G
Tues. April 7, 6:30-8:30 pm

STAR WARS: A NEW HOPE — PG
Mon. May 4, 6:30-8:30 pm

HALF DAY HUNT

Tues. March 3 & May 5, 9 am-8 pm

Drop in for a half day scavenger hunt! Complete the scavenger hunt and you'll be entered to win a prize. For all ages.

LITTLE KID CREATIVE DRAMA

Sat. March 7 & April 25 10-10:50 am

A high-energy, imaginative, zany, silly, super fun theater experience! We focus on senses, feelings, and movement through fun, energetic, and imaginative play. Each class has an early literacy component and is aligned with state standards for theater education. Ages 2-5 with a caregiver.

Registration required.

READING CHALLENGES

<https://tinyurl.com/SPL-reading>

1,000 BOOKS BEFORE KINDERGARTEN

The SPL is taking part in this exciting national literacy program. Read to your child, log reading activity, win free books and a t-shirt upon completion! Ages 0-6 and their families.

SPRING INTO READING

March 21-June 20

Put some spring in your step and get reading! Log your reading to earn colorful badges all month long. Ready, set, bloom! Open to grades preK-4.

MCBA CHALLENGE

Kids in grades 4-6, the Massachusetts Children's Book Award needs YOU to vote! Drop in to the library or check the catalogue to see which books are finalists. Read at least five books from the list and you're eligible to vote for the best in April!

ORIGAMI FOR YOUNG CREATORS

Sat. March 7, April 4, & May 2, 12-1 pm

Join us in unfolding the magical world of Origami, designed exclusively for young children in grades 2-3. The art of Origami is known to help children build motor skills, enhance spatial reasoning, understand symmetry, and observe patterns as they transform ordinary paper into extraordinary creations. **Registration required.**



PIE SPY SCAVENGER HUNT

Sat. March 14, 9 am-4:30 pm

Join us for a pie-themed scavenger hunt to celebrate Pi Day. Find all the pies and earn a small prize. For all ages.

POKÉMON CLUB

Tues. March 17 & May 19, 6:30-7:30 pm

Calling all young Trainers! Join us at the library for a fun Pokémon-themed activity, a tasty snack, and time to hang out with fellow fans. After the program, kids are welcome to trade cards with each other if they choose, but please note that trading is not supervised by library staff. **Registration required. Grades K-4.**

DIGITAL DRAWING WITH

SKETCHYGOICHLIE

Mon. March 23, 6-7:30 pm

SketchyGOichie DRAW! is an innovative digital art program that provides kids with a fun and educational introduction to digital illustration on iPads. iPads are provided. SketchyGOichie's mission is to nurture creativity, encourage productive screen time, and allow students to explore digital arts. For ages 7-12. **Registration required.**

TECH TEAR DOWN

Tues. March 24, 4-5 pm

Ever wondered what is inside different electronics? Here's your chance to open them up and see what's inside! For ages 5+ with constant adult supervision.

3DOODLER PEN DROP IN

Sat. March 28, 10 am-12 pm

Drop in to try our 3Doodler Pens! Follow a template or create your own design. Best for kids in grades 1+.

KIDS IN THE KITCHEN

Mon. March 30, 6:30-7:30 pm

Put on your chef hat, it's time to cook! Kids in grades 3-4 are invited to cook along with us as we prepare a tasty dish. This program contains many food items; please contact us if you have an allergy concern.

Registration required.

SUPER MARIO GALAXY

TAKE-HOME CRAFT

Fri. April 3, 10 am - While supplies last

Celebrate the new Super Mario movie with a take-home craft! Available while supplies last.

SPRING EGG TREASURE HUNT

Sat. April 4, 9 am-4 pm

Get ready for an egg-citing adventure with a glowing twist! Search for hidden eggs, then use a black light to reveal a secret code on each one. Collect the clues, crack the code, and unlock the treasure chest to claim your prize, while supplies last! All ages.

LITTLE INNOVATORS, BIG DREAMS

POLYMER CHAINS

Sat. April 18, 2-3 pm

A fun hands-on STEM workshop led by local students! This exciting workshop invites young scientists to explore the science behind polymer chains and making putty. Get ready for an awesome experiment that's educational and entertaining! For ages 7+. **Registration required.**

STRANGER DANGER SAFETY SEMINAR

Thurs. April 23, 1:30-2:30 pm

Kids ages 3-8 with their parents are invited to a presentation sponsored by America's Best Defense on the importance of being safe and aware. This seminar will be led by ABD black belt student Prisha N along with an ABD sensei. **Registration required.**

CRIBBAGE FOR KIDS

Tues. May 5, 1-3 pm

Kids ages 8-10 will learn how to play cribbage step by step using easy rules, friendly games, and lots of practice. Cribbage helps build math skills, strategic thinking, and good sportsmanship, all while having fun with friends. No experience needed.

Registration required.

MOTHER'S DAY BABY FOOTPRINT

CRAFT

Wed. May 6, 10-11:30 am

Drop in after Babies, Books, and Bubbles to make a footprint card to celebrate a mom or other special person in your life.

KINDERPALOOZA!

KINDERGARTEN READINESS COMMUNITY EVENT

Sat. April 11, 10:30 am-12 pm

Join us for our first annual Kinderpalooza!, designed especially for children ages 4-5 and their caregivers! Meet special guests from Shrewsbury Public Schools, local early childhood professionals, and community partners who support young learners. Explore a variety of interactive school readiness stations that build early literacy, motor skills, social-emotional development, and more—all through hands-on, playful activities. This is a wonderful opportunity to connect with educators, ask questions, and help your child feel confident and excited about starting kindergarten. Whether your child is starting school this fall or you're planning ahead, we'd love to see you there!

STORYBOOK GARDEN CLUB

Sat. May 9, 10-11 am

Join us for the first meeting of the Storybook Garden Club! We're creating an education garden helping kids make the connection from plant to plate. Storybook Garden Club classes will use the garden to teach about nature and science including age-appropriate lessons on botany, pollinators, nutrition, climate, and more! This unique program is intended for children ages 4-10. Each club meeting will be both indoors and outdoors where we will be hands-on in the garden—please plan accordingly (sunscreen, hat, apron, gardening gloves, etc).

Registration required.

PAJAMA STORYTIME

Sat. May 16, 10-11 am

Join us for a fun morning of bedtime stories, songs, and a simple craft. Wear your jammies and bring a favorite sleepytime pal or blanket! For preschoolers and their families.



COMMUNITY-WIDE READ PROGRAMS

OWL PELLET DISSECTION

Mon. April 13, 6:30-8 pm

Want to try something really gross and cool? Come dissect an owl pellet! We'll learn about the owl's diet, digestion, and place in the ecosystem. For grades 1-4.

Registration required.

VACATION WEEK SCAVENGER HUNT

April 21-26, All Day

Drop in for an animal-themed scavenger hunt! Complete the scavenger hunt and you'll be entered to win a prize. For all ages.

MARSHMALLOW PEEPS NEST STEAM

CHALLENGE

Wed. April 22, 12:30-1:30 pm

In this delicious STEAM challenge kids in grades 2-5 will use their creativity and problem-solving skills to build a cozy and safe nest for marshmallow Peeps!

Registration required.

ANIMAL ADVENTURES

Thurs. April 23, 3:30-4:30 pm

Would you like to meet a chinchilla? What about a blue tongue skink? Animal Adventures is bringing some amazing animals to the library! Learn about the animals, hear their stories, and get an up-close view! Great for all ages.

Registration required.

VACATION CRAFTERNOON

Fri. April 24, 2:30-4 pm

Drop in for an animal-themed crafting program at the library! Great for kids in grades K-4 with an adult.

ANIMAL SCIENTIST STORY WRITING

Mon. April 27, 6-7 pm

Kids in grades 2-5 will write and illustrate a fun, short piece about a favorite animal, inspired by Sy Montgomery's nonfiction Animal Scientist books.



ONGOING KIDS PROGRAMS

NO REGISTRATION REQUIRED

BUILD IT! CLUB

Weekly. Mon. 6:30-8 pm

Build with different kinds of blocks, including KEVA planks, big foam blocks, and Duplo. All ages. *Please be aware that this program has no facilitator.*

TINKER TIME

Weekly. Tues. 10-11:30 am

A hands-on learning program for preschoolers. Together you and your child can explore a variety of age-appropriate STEAM and early-literacy stations. Ages 3-4.

LEGO CLUB

Weekly. Tues. 4-5:30 pm

Follow our weekly prompt, or create whatever your heart desires. For kids of all ages who are comfortable using LEGOs. *Please be aware that this program has no facilitator.*

BABIES, BOOKS & BUBBLES

Weekly. Wed. 9:30-10 am or 10:30-11 am

Enjoy songs, fingerplays, and books with the littlest listeners. Ages 0-2 with a caregiver.

WIGGLE WORDS

Weekly. Thurs. 10-10:30 am

Singing, dancing, and stories. For walkers up to 3 years with a caregiver. Siblings welcome.

FUN WITH COLORS!

Weekly. Thurs. 10:30-11:30 am

Join us for a variety of simple - and colorful - school readiness activities such as coloring, painting, cutting, gluing, and more! For preschoolers with a caregiver.

STORYWALK®

Visit the StoryWalk® at Lake Street Park — 430 Lake Street in Shrewsbury — and stroll through a new picture book every month. Scan the QR code **at the park** for a chance to win the monthly book!

TECHNOLOGY CLASSES FOR ADULTS

INTRODUCTION TO CANVA

Tue. March 31, 5:30-7 pm

Learn to use the free graphic design tool, Canva, to create flyers, social media posts, presentations, and more.

DIGITAL PAINTING WITH PROCREATE

Sat. April 18, 9:30-11 am

Learn to use basic Procreate brushes to draw a digital portrait of your pet or loved one. iPads will be provided.

**Classes held in the Learning Lab, Ages 13+ Registration is required and opens 2 weeks before class date.*

Teens

Grades 5-12

MONTHLY SCAVENGER HUNTS

Every month, all month long!

Drop by the Teen Room and try our monthly scavenger hunt! Finish the hunt and you'll be entered to win our monthly raffle prize.

FRIDAY FUN

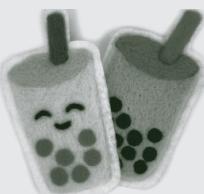
Weekly. Fri. school days, 3:30-4:45 pm

Drop in each week for a different activity — some relaxing, some crafty, some ridiculous, some delicious.

FELTED BUBBLE TEA PATCHES

Mon. March 9, 6:30-8 pm

Make a bubble tea patch to add onto a backpack, tote bag, or jacket!



For ages 11-18.

Registration required.

WRITES & BITES: TEEN WRITING CLUB

Thurs. March 12, April 9, & May 14, 7-8 pm

We'll write, play games, work with prompts, enjoy snacks, and connect with other young writers. Even better, each meeting will include a raffle with a prize giveaway, just for showing up! Registration required.

GIRLS IN STEM SERIES

Sun. March 15 and Sat 21 & 28, 11:30 am-1 pm

Each week, participants will learn about a different STEM-related topic.

March 14: Biomedical Science

March 21: Technology and Math

March 28: Engineering

For grades 6-8. Registration required.

TEEN ADVISORY MEETINGS

Mon. March 16 & April 27, 8-8:45 pm

Connect with the library and make your voice heard! Earn a volunteer hour by attending monthly meetings, filled with snacks, fun activities, and conversation. Registration required.

CAT PARK: DISINFORMATION AND MEDIA LITERACY

Sat. May 16, 9:30-11 am

Learn about disinformation and how to spot it while we play Cat Park, a game about misinformation. Your job is to turn the public against the park by using common disinformation techniques. Cat Park is intended for ages 15+, and is not likely to be perceived as graphically shocking. While the game's scenarios are entirely fictional, it does contain references to real-world themes.

TECH TUESDAYS

Every other Tues., 9:30-11:30 am

Bring your own device, or use a library computer to get assistance with computer issues and questions. *No registration required.*

TEENS TAKE OVER THE KITCHEN:

DUMPLINGS

Mon. May 4, 6-7:15 pm

Experiment with ingredients, learn new skills, and leave the program with a cookbook filled with dumpling recipes you can make at home! **Registration required.**

MOSAIC CD BIRD BATHS

Tues. May 12, 6:30-7:30 pm

Make a bird bath out of recycled CDs! It's a sustainable project that the birds will appreciate! **Registration required.**

JAPANESE BOOK BINDING

Thurs. May 28, 6:30-7:30 pm

Learn the art of Japanese Book Binding and leave with your very own bound journal! **Registration required.**



PAPER QUILLING

Tues. March 24, 5-6 pm

Craft something beautiful using paper quilling! We'll teach you the basics and provide all the supplies you'll need.

Registration required.

PAPER MAKING FOR TEENS

Mon. April 6, 6:30-8 pm

Learn how to make paper from torn up papers, fibers, dryer lint and pressed flowers! You'll make your own screen frame for paper making as well!

Registration required.

CREATE TOGETHER: TREASURE

CANDLES

Mon. April 13, 6:30-8 pm

We'll use a plant-based wax blend and non-leaded wicks to make beautiful, non-toxic candles with hidden treasures inside! Make them as gifts, or rewards for a future you! For teens and their favorite adult.

Registration required.

TAKE-HOME GARDENING KIT

Tues. April 21, While Supplies Last

Drop by the Teen Room and grab a take-home gardening kit, complete with a pot, soil, and seeds to grow your own plant!

MARIO KART TOURNAMENT

Tues. April 21, 1:30-3 pm

Compete in a Mario Kart tournament for a chance at a small prize!

Registration required.

CREATE TOGETHER: MOTHER'S DAY TEA

Fri. May 1, While Supplies Last

Take and Make an everlasting bouquet of paper flowers that also hold tea! Make one in secret for your own mother to give on Mother's Day, or create together for anyone in your lives who has served a mothering role. Available in the Young Adult Room.

COMMUNITY-WIDE READ EVENTS

ESSAY CONTEST: MY LIFE IN 13 ITEMS

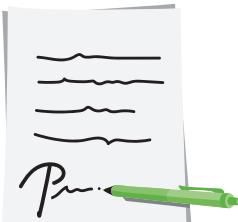
The month of April

Tell us about your life through the story of 13 items. Submit your essay to Cailey at splteens@cwmars.org. At the end of the month, a winner will be chosen and earn a prize!

BLANKET MAKING FOR WARL

Sun. April 12, 2-3:30 pm

Make blankets for cats and dogs at the Worcester Animal Rescue League! Bring old towels that you'd like to use.



A LETTER FROM THE DIRECTOR

The library takes its role of inspiring learning and empowering our communities seriously. We offer diverse collections of materials representing all perspectives suitable for recreational and scholarly pursuits. We also invite contemporary fiction and non-fiction writers, thought leaders, philosophers, and subject experts to speak on topics that might appeal to a wide swath of community members.

Since 2021, the Shrewsbury Public Library Foundation has been sponsoring one or two lectures annually, as part of its Distinguished Speaker series. We partner with the public and private schools and host the author talks at one of the school auditoriums to accommodate a larger audience.

On Wednesday, April 8th, we are honored and excited to welcome Jill Lepore, distinguished historian and law professor to Oak Middle School. Lepore is the David Woods Kemper '41 Professor of American History at Harvard University and Professor of Law at Harvard Law School. A prolific writer, her books include, *These Truths: A History of the United States*, *The*

Secret History of Wonder Woman, *The Whites of Their Eyes: The Tea Party's Revolution and the Battle for American History*, and the most recent, *We the People: A History of the U.S. Constitution*. She is sure to appeal to lovers of history, law and politics.

Another beloved author and naturalist that we will host at Oak Middle School on Tuesday, April 14th is Sy Montgomery. Through her books for children and adults, she explores the underwater world of the octopus, narrates her experiences working in a hospital with abandoned turtles, shares her wonder of all animals from cute hummingbirds to predatory hawks, and writes of a pig named Christopher Hogwood, who came to her in a shoebox, and that she raised to be "a 750-pound Buddha master adored by adults and children alike." Montgomery will be sharing insights into the hidden lives of octopuses, and our connection to the natural world. At both events, books will be available for sale and signing.

In conjunction with Sy Montgomery's visit, we are encouraging everyone in the community to read her books as part of our community-wide reading project throughout April. This project complements the themes in her work with a series of related programs, including visits from Animal Adventures and the Turtle Rescue League, as well as participation in the town-wide Arbor Day event.

By inviting well-known authors and commentators to address our community, SPL continues to be a literary and civic hub and endeavors to enrich the lives of our residents.

~ Priya Rathnam
Library Director



Thank you to our Sunday Sponsors

THANK YOU TO THE GENEROUS DONORS WHO HAVE DONATED TO THE CURRENT SEASON OF SUNDAYS

BECOME A SPONSOR:

Thank you to the generous donors who have donated to the current season of Sundays from October 2025-May 2026. You too can be a part of the library's Sunday sponsorship program! The cost for sponsoring one Sunday is \$850.

Please contact the Library Director at **(508) 841-8537** or email prathnam@shrewsburyma.gov if you wish to provide a sponsorship or need more information.

PROVIDING SIX SUNDAYS:

Shrewsbury Federal Credit Union
Dr. Dale Magee and Mrs. Melanie Magee

PROVIDING TWO SUNDAYS:

Webster Five Bank
Vanessa Parks and James Amorello
Shrewsbury Education

PROVIDING ONE SUNDAY:

In memory of James A. Heedles
The Bachini Family in memory of Ruth Seward
Board of Library Trustees in honor of former trustees,
Moe Boisvert & Jeff Billingham
John P. Collins and Nancy Hughes in memory of Dr. John P. Collins
The Del Dotto grandchildren: Drea, Dylan, and Devin

Olivia, Peg and Don Harbert

Kathleen and David Rocheleau

Katie and Todd Brill

Richard and Alison Ricker

Tara Kumaraswami, in memory of Nancy Kumaraswami

Erin Cathcart

Olive I. and Anthony A. Borgatti, Jr., Donor-Advised Fund of Greater Worcester

SELCO

Dora M. Capite-Tkal, in remembrance of Oleh Tkal

One anonymous donor

CHAPTERS

The Newsletter of the Shrewsbury Public Library – Spring '26

609 MAIN STREET • SHREWSBURY, MA 01545

PHONE: 508-841-8609 • SHREWSBURYPUBLICLIBRARY.ORG

Mon.-Thurs. 9 am-9 pm

Fri. 10 am-5 pm

Sat. 9 am-5 pm

Sun. 1 pm-5 pm (*October-May only*)



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Have you been to the Makerspace for a class or a program yet? Holly Penttila is our new Digital Services Librarian, running tech classes such as Introduction to Canva and Cat Park: Disinformation and Media Literacy. Running Makerspace Orientations and Trained Maker Appointments is William Cates (goes by Cates). Be sure to stop by and say hi!



SUPPORT THE FRIENDS!

The Friends of the Library is a nonprofit organization dedicated to supporting ongoing library events and programs. We need your support to continue funding the dynamic enrichment of the community! Learn more about the Friends here: shrewsburypubliclibrary.org/friends

ECRWSS
Resident Customer
Shrewsbury, MA 01545

CHAPTERS

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GARDEN PROGRAMMING

INVASIVE PLANTS: THE DEVIL IS IN THE DETAILS: Wed. March 11, 7-8 pm

Learn about high-profile invasive plants that should be of concern to gardeners and highlights the most prevalent species in Shrewsbury and their management.

SEED LENDING LIBRARY REOPENING: Fri. March 20, 9 am, while supplies last

Families are welcome to grab up to 10 seed packs, with up to 2 of the same variety.

HEALTHY SOILS: Wed. April 15, 7-8:30 pm

We will cover soil basics and learn about creating healthy soil in your back yard. Learn what to look for and how to provide your soil with a great start for the Spring!

TEEN SUMMER VOLUNTEER INFORMATION

INFORMATION SESSION DATES

Tues. May 5, 8-8:45 pm; Thurs. May 7, 8-8:45 pm; Mon. May 11, 8-8:45 pm

Want to volunteer at the library this summer? Come to an info session to learn how! It is important for anyone who wants to be a volunteer - even those who have volunteered during previous summers - to attend an info session. At the info sessions we'll discuss the volunteer roles available this summer, requirements for applicants, how applying will work, training, scheduling, and more. For rising grades 7-12.

Registration is required.



MOVIES

SAVING LUNA (2007)—Not Rated

Wed. April 29, 2 pm

Popcorn will be provided.

Meeting rooms A&B. 92 minutes.

HAMNET (2025)—Rated PG-13, Tues. May 3, 2 pm

Popcorn will be provided.

Meeting rooms A&B. 125 minutes.

FILM DISCUSSION CLUB

1st Tue. each month, 7 pm

Just like a book club, but for movies! WATCH THE MOVIE ON YOUR OWN... then come to the club to discuss it. For a list of movies, check out the library's online calendar.

March 3: I'm Still Here (2024)

April 7: Her (2013)

May 5: TBA