



A Letter from the Director

In the last issue of the newsletter I told you of our plans to apply for a new construction project grant—and listed the members of the new Library Building Committee. In this issue I'd like to describe all that they've accomplished in a few short months. First, after the required advertising and legal postings, the committee reviewed written proposals from ten architectural firms. Four of those firms were invited to provide formal presentations to the committee, and from that group, Lerner, Ladds + Bartels of Providence RI was selected to create the designs for the new grant program. As required by law, the committee also hired an Owner's Project Manager, selecting Design Technique Inc. of Newburyport to provide professional guidance during the design process. The committee created a very aggressive planning and design schedule, to assure that we have time to seek review and commentary from the Mass. Board of Library Commissioners, the funding agency of this Public Library Construction Grant Program.

In September, the architect presented six design concept drawings for three possible sites. (These design concept drawings precede schematic drawings, providing a very basic site plan showing the proposed building footprint and parking layout.) The first site option is a parcel of land on Maple Avenue, adjacent to the Police Station. Site two is the existing Library property. Site three is the existing Library property with the addition of the parcel of land currently owned by the Shrewsbury Federal Credit Union. For this third site, the architect presented three building footprint and parking options. After careful consideration and much discussion, the committee voted to instruct the architects to proceed with designs for site three, including the Library and Credit Union property as one site. The town is currently assessing the Credit Union parcel and starting to develop a possible purchase price for the town consideration.

In discussions of the various site options, the committee noted a number of benefits to the combined Library/Credit Union site. First, the acquisition of this parcel will allow a much improved traffic pattern and greatly expanded parking. Under the grant program, this purchase would be a reimbursable expense, with the grant covering approximately 45% of the purchase price. Keeping the library in the town center means our busy facility can continue to serve as an anchor to the businesses located here. Remaining on Main Street maintains a municipal and historic presence on town common area. It also means that two important properties, the library and the credit union, will not be left vacant during this time of economic recession and real estate slow-down. Cost considerations were also important factors in the decision. The committee realized that costly repairs to the current Library building would be needed to make it viable for leasing or sale to another owner. The construction grant program would not pay for these repairs if the building were not used as a library. This expense would be left to the local taxpayer, with no state or donor support.

Finally, the committee was concerned about what might replace the library at this important corner, if we moved to a new location. Many committee members voiced concern that a commercial entity could negatively impact the historic and small town feel of the center. The committee asked the architects to begin design work on the new larger site, with a few important directives. They instructed the architects to maintain ample green space at corner of Boylston and Main Streets. They also cautioned that the new design shouldn't overwhelm the original 1903 Jubal Howe building in scale or mass. The committee also pointed out that the design should respect the historic nature of the Howe building and should avoid too contemporary a style. The architects were also told that the design must provide for efficient use of staff.

On October 7, the architect returned with drawings that answered these directives. He provided three design concepts or schemes for the committee to consider. Scheme A placed the proposed addition to the upper north corner of the property, (towards Boylston Street and the Congregational Church. Scheme B placed the addition towards the southeast, towards the current credit union property. Scheme C offered a more symmetrical approach, placing the addition a bit to the rear and on either side of the original 1903 Library building. The committee asked the architects to provide more study on schemes B and C. At the close of the October 7 meeting, committee members seemed pleased with the advancement of the concepts and eager to see how the drawings would progress by the next meeting.

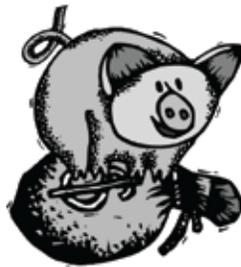
In closing, I'd like to tell you how pleased I am with the status of the project. For those who have been following the effort for a number of years, you know it's been a long journey. I can confidently tell you that the delay has brought tremendous improvements. Besides the benefits noted in the last newsletter (a much larger grant award, the chance to integrate new technologies and green design elements, and the opportunity to design a more conservative project) I see many other enhancements. Clearly, the possibility of resolving parking and traffic flow with the additional land parcel is a great improvement. I am also extremely pleased with the expertise and the commitment of the Library Building Committee. They have demonstrated a determination to recommend a project that is both fiscally sound and will serve the community well. Finally, the growing support of town officials and community members will strongly benefit our new grant application. In this case, the old adage was correct; good things come to those who wait.

Sincerely,
Ellen M. Dolan

practical money \$kill\$

The Art of Budgeting Saturday, Dec. 11th, 12PM

Most of us learn money management skills by trial and error. We welcome back Bibek Das, MBA, and a Shrewsbury resident who works for Prudential. Free and open to all adults and teens who are interested. Registration is required as space is limited.



special family events

mark your calendars!

FAMILY GINGERBREAD HOUSE WORKSHOP

**Monday,
December 6th,
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. 22nd. Participants will be asked to bring some supplies and refreshments to share.

Holiday Music Concert

Tuesday, Dec. 7th, 7PM

Local vocalist Li Yuanyuan will present a concert of classical and traditional holiday music for your enjoyment. She is a recent graduate of the University of Nevada, where she majored in voice and piano. Free and open to the general public.

DRAGON HUNT

A SCAVENGER HUNT
EVENT FOR THE
WHOLE FAMILY!

Friday, January 14th - TWO SESSIONS

In celebration of national appreciate a dragon day (it exists), the SPL has a great event planned for the entire family. You've learned how to train them. Your parents know about a girl with a tattoo of one of them. Now learn how to find them hidden in our Library! For years they have made a shelter for themselves among our stacks of books. Now that we're running out of room for all of our materials, we need your help getting them out and finding them another home. If you help us, you could even win a great prize. Team up with a friend and a parent/guardian and join one of the two hunting expeditions listed below!

Expedition One - 6:00PM / Expedition Two - 7:30PM

Each team **must** consist of one youth (3rd-12th grader) and one adult (18+). One additional youth per team if desired. Register at the Children's Desk starting December 14th - limited space available, and registration is required!

reference resources

look what's new!



Using this free online software (accessible only with a Shrewsbury Public Library card), you can learn a variety of foreign languages - also helpful for ESL learners. For both beginner and advanced speakers. Funded with federal Library Service and Technology Act funds through the Massachusetts Board of Library Commissioners

Did you know you can access full-text issues of some of the most popular magazines out there from the comfort of your own home? Atlantic, Banker and Tradesman, Bloomberg Business Week, Boston Business Journal, Boston Magazine, Christian Century, Forbes, Fortune, Inc, National Review, New York Times, Science News, Time, and others are available by simply searching our catalog and clicking.



adult events calendar

French Conversation Circle

Second Mondays at 4PM

Fourth Mondays at 6:30PM

No matter your level, this is a perfect opportunity to practice conversing in French.

Roses Are Read

Sunday, Dec. 5th, 2:30PM

Local narrator Bruce Andrews will read from the poetry of Robert Frost. This is family entertainment and history and legend combined in the form of "ear candy!" Free and open to all.

Shrewsbury Genealogy Club

Monday, Dec. 27th

Monday, Jan. 24th

Monday, Feb. 28th

Open to anyone interested in genealogy and family history. No dues, no ongoing commitment, lots of sharing, learning, and enjoyment!

Eclectic Browsers Book Club - Wednesdays at 10:30AM - Open to All

Dec. 15th

A Blue and Gray Christmas

Joan Medlicott

Jan. 26th

Glass Castle

Jeannette Walls

Feb. 23rd

Deep South

Nevada Barr

FREE COMPUTER CLASSES

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

Intro to Word

Mon., Dec. 13th, 2:30PM

An introduction to the word processing program Microsoft Word, part of the Microsoft Office Suite.

Intro to Powerpoint

Wed., Jan. 12th, 10:30AM

Learn the basics of the popular presentation and slide show software Microsoft Powerpoint. Part of the Microsoft Office Suite.

Intro to Excel

Wed., Jan. 26th, 2:30PM

A brief introduction to Microsoft Excel, a powerful spreadsheet program. Part of the Microsoft Office Suite.

Digital Cameras 101

Mon., Feb. 7th, 10:30AM

A digital camera workshop intended for those with little photography experience. Bring your camera and directions along.

CRASH COURSE

Mon., Feb. 28th, 10:30AM

A quick introduction to the basics of computers. Intended for those with little or no computer experience.

ECC @ SPL

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

Participate in Free **English Conversation Circles**. The following schedule is for December, January, and February. For more information, call Reference Librarian Priya Rathnam at 508-841-8533. Sessions run for one hour.

MONDAYS AT 5PM

Dec. 6, 13

Jan. 3, 10, 24, 31

Feb. 7, 14

TUESDAYS AT 2:30PM

Dec. 7, 14

Jan. 4, 11, 25

Feb. 1, 8, 15

THURSDAYS AT 5PM

Dec. 2, 9, 16

Jan. 6, 13, 27

Feb. 3, 10, 17

SATURDAYS AT 10:30AM

Dec. 4, 11, 18

Jan. 8, 15, 29

Feb. 5, 12, 19

Find us on Facebook! Just search "ECC at SPL" and find our page!

special event

NO IMPACT CAMP

FOR YOUTH IN GRADES 5-12

Using Curriculum Inspired by the Book and Movie "No Impact Man"

This special program will run during Winter Vacation week, and is open to students in grades 5-12. Each day from **Dec. 27th-31st (10:30AM-12:30PM)**, students will come to the Shrewsbury Public Library and learn how to reduce their footprint on the environment, and learn tips on how to live a 'green' lifestyle. The topics covered will include: Consumption, Food, Energy, Travel, and Water. In addition to learning this valuable information, there will be special guest speakers, and Trader Joe's, Borders, and Dunkin' Donuts gift cards raffled off! **Only fifteen slots are available.** Registration is free, but a \$5 deposit will be collected and then returned upon completion of the program. All students who complete the five-day camp will earn a special certificate.

Call 508-842-0081 ext. 5 to register!

Haunted Valentine's Tours

Friday, February 25th

Family Tour (Less Scary) - 6PM

General Tour (Scary) - 7:30PM

SPLAT presents the second haunted library. Not Halloween you say? Well, the monsters also come out after Valentine's Day, and they'll be roaming around this February whether you like it or not! Come in costume (optional) and join one of the two tours posted above. Register at the circulation desk. All ages welcome!



SPLAT Members Wanted

SPLAT is a group for 5th-12th grade students to volunteer at the library and help shape the Young Adult department. Our upcoming meetings are:

Fundraising - Thursday, December 16th at 4PM

Events Team - Friday, December 17th at 4PM

**Holiday Party - Thursday, December 23rd at 4PM
(Registration Required)**



children's events calendar

Pre-K to Grade 4

winter reading challenge

Starting Wednesday, December 8th

Register during library hours on Wednesday, December 8 in the Children's Room. The first 20 to register will receive a special prize. After December 8, sign up in person in the Children's Room or online at <http://www.readsinma.org/shrewsbury>. For more information about the Challenge go to www.shrewsbury-ma.gov/library and follow the links under Children's Services.

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 skills. For children in Grades K – 4. 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.



winter vacation

Become a Knight

Tuesday, Dec. 28th, 1:30PM

Learn how to become a knight. Make a costume and play some "knightly games." Space is limited. Please register starting Dec.15th.

Princess Party

Wednesday, Dec. 29th, 2:30PM

Join Lisa Ewick and learn how to become a princess. Dress in your best outfit, listen to a "Fancy Nancy" story, do a "clean" craft, and enjoy a princess tea. Registration begins Dec. 15th.

Pumpernickel Puppets

Thursday, Dec. 30th, 2PM

A special show featuring Sir George and the Dragon. Space is limited. Free tickets available starting Dec. 15th.

february vacation

Lovin' Lego® @ the Library

Tuesday, Feb. 22th, 2PM

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. Space is limited. Sign up beginning on Feb. 8th.



Talent Show

Thursday, Feb. 24th, 6:30PM

Join us for our winter talent show for school age children. Do you have a special talent you would like to share? Do you sing, dance, juggle, play an instrument? Sign up beginning Feb. 1st.

Celebrate Hanukkah

Wed., Dec. 1st, 10AM-4PM

Drop in and do a very special holiday craft.

Creativity Month!

Fridays in Jan., 10AM-4PM

January is International Creativity Month. Be creative!

Chinese New Year

Thurs. Feb. 3rd, 10AM-4PM

Do a craft to celebrate the year of the rabbit.

Card Holder Making

Fri. Feb. 11th, 10AM-4PM

Stop by and make a Valentine's Day card holder.

story times



Baby & Me

Designed for pre-walkers with an accompanying adult. Siblings welcome. Space is limited, so there will be a lottery.

Tuesdays at 10:30AM

Jan. 4, 11, 18, 25
Lottery: Dec. 14-21

Feb. 1, 8, 15, 22
Lottery: Jan. 18-25

Toddler Time

For new walkers through age 2 1/2.

Wednesdays at 1:30PM

Dec. 1, 8, 15
Jan. 5, 12, 19, 26
Feb. 2, 9, 16, 23



Preschool Time

Listen to stories and do a craft.

Thursdays at 10:30AM

Dec. 2, 9, 16
Jan. 6, 13, 20, 27
Feb. 3, 10, 17, 24



Music 'n Motion with Robin

Fridays at 10AM. Jan. 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.

Shrewsbury Public Library
609 Main Street
Shrewsbury, MA 01545



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Worcester, MA 01613



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ECRWSS
Resident Customer
Shrewsbury, MA 01545

Library Hours

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

Contact Information

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

*Thank you to all of our donors for another full season of Sunday Sponsorships.
Look for news on the new program for sponsoring Saturday hours during the summer months.*

sunday sponsorships

4 sundays

Shrewsbury Federal Credit Union

2 sundays

Webster Five Cents Savings Bank

In Memory of Ellen Salmon Ryder &
Ellen Dolan Killelea

Central One Federal Credit Union

Shrewsbury Lions Club

Shrewsbury Education Association

DID YOU KNOW...

Quarterly Newsletter Facts

- The quarterly newsletter requires months of preparation before it arrives in your mailbox.
- The library staff begin writing their articles and program descriptions two months in advance of each mailing.
- Staff members Dan Barbour and Dennis Holtgreffe then have three weeks to get all of the design and editing work done, as well as prepare all of the postal documents required for the large town wide mailing (on top of their regular duties.)
- The printer has two weeks to complete their job, and then our good friends at the Glavin Center have two weeks to fold, seal, and sort over 14,000 newsletters according to the town mail routes.
- We thank our dedicated staff and the many residents of the Glavin Center who bring you our newsletter each season.

1 sunday

Shrewsbury Firefighters Association
Jeff & Priscilla Billingham
Katherine Canney
Shrewsbury Women's Club

The Polito Development Corporation
Laurie & Matt Hogan
Shrewsbury Social Club
Britton Funeral Home
Yu-Bin Liang & Wei Kong Yeoh
Amica Insurance

In Memory of James A. Heedles
David & Johanna Musselman
Julia Gallagher & Jon Grayzel
Erik Bakken, in honor of his birthday, in
lieu of birthday presents
Three Anonymous Donors