



#### A letter from Library Director Ellen Dolan

I started working in Shrewsbury in the spring of 2005. I was lucky to know a few people in town professionally, and many West Boylston families had relatives or friends in Shrewsbury, and these "Shrewsburians" offered me a warm welcome when I arrived. While naturally nervous about a new job, new responsibilities, new traditions to learn and lots of new people to get to know, it was actually a personal concern that was at the forefront of my thoughts. I was thinking of my parents. My mother was suffering from Alzheimer's disease. Though in the moderate stage, she was declining. My father and I cared for her and worked to manage the many challenges of the disease, while trying to find enjoyment and continued engagement with the world outside of home.

As anyone who has cared for someone with the disease can attest, as the condition progresses it becomes more challenging to go out in public, for the person with dementia and for the care partners. While working in West Boylston, my parents and I made it a practice of having lunch out together a few times per week. I had some "safe" lunch places where my Dad and I knew people would be understanding. They knew there were reasons we always had to get a cup of tea almost as soon as we sat down. Wait staff were never judgmental of the worn old sweater that Mom refused to take off. And they were kind when Mom, who still loved to engage in conversation with others, asked the same question a number of times. So one of the first things I needed to do was find that "safe" lunch place here in Shrewsbury. Luckily, someone recommended Dean Park Grill and Pizza. They said the food was good and people were kind. The first day we tried it, the owner's mother stopped over to talk and immediately made us feel welcome. She was the kind of person who had a real interest in people, and was upbeat and friendly. Mom was immediately at ease, and Dad and I sat back and relaxed. So Dean Park became our lunch place and I went on to worrying about work matters, knowing that one piece of my work life balance was in place. I was so grateful for that comfort during my first year of employment here.

After about a decade of working in Shrewsbury, and having worked with my staff on services to address a variety of community needs (such as early literacy, low employment and adult language and technology learning) I was invited to attend a new group started by Walter Rice of the Shrewsbury Council on Aging. Walter's group, called the "Community Partnership," was meant to open lines of communication between various town agencies and departments to better support seniors. Our Assistant Director Priya Rathnam and I started attending the meetings, and continued to learn more about the issues facing seniors. One thing that struck us was the widespread need for socialization opportunities for the elderly, especially for those caring for a loved one with dementia. We learned that once basic needs (food, safety)

#### Continued On Next Page...

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are met, adding socialization opportunities can positively impact overall mental health and well-being. With our newly expanded and renovated library set to open soon, which had gracious and fully accessible public meeting spaces, we knew we were well suited to help address this one need. So with guidance from the COA, we wrote a grant to fund a Memory Café. And we were successful! The grant was approved in the summer of 2016 and we launched our Good Day Memory Café in October 2016.

Our Memory Café meets the first and third Friday of each month from 2-4PM. We always have some sort of activity, whether it be a music performance, a visit from a therapy dog, or a hands-on craft project. We serve coffee, tea and something good to eat, but the major emphasis is on relaxed conversation among members. The program is free and open to all on a drop-in basis. As one of the members with dementia told us, "it's a place where I can have fun and be happy. I am not sad while I am here." We feel proud to be able to offer this program, as it allows people who might have stopped using the library, who might be isolated by dementia or caregiving responsibilities, continue to make use of their library and stay engaged with others in the community.

The Shrewsbury Council on Aging is now going beyond the Community Partnership. They have recently been awarded a grant to bring "dementia friendly" initiatives to town. The Dementia Friendly Communities program is a nationwide effort to ensure that "each and every part of the community can work towards becoming dementia friendly. As each sector takes its own steps to foster support, a community that is informed, safe and respectful emerges to foster quality of life for those living with dementia and their care partners." I applaud COA Director Sharon Yager and Outreach Worker Walter Rice for their work on this program.

I encourage those living with dementia or caring for a loved one to visit our memory café, to enjoy the relaxing social atmosphere. I also urge people across the community, in all sorts of settings, to watch for the surveys, training and other initiatives from the COA's Dementia Friendly Community Program. Shrewsbury truly is a great place to work and live, and making it even more dementia friendly helps ensure it's working for all!

Sincerely,

Ellen Dolan

Visit the library on Sundays—from 1-5PM, thanks to the generosity of these individuals, civic groups and businesses. If you know these people or frequent their businesses, please be sure to thank them for their generosity!

As of this writing on 11/15/2017, we have 26 of the 31 Sundays funded. Only 5 sponsorship slots remain!

#### **Providing Three Sundays Each:**

- Dr. B. Dale and Mrs. Melanie Magee
- Robert (Chief Joseph) Terkanian

#### Providing one Sunday each are:

- Central One Federal Credit Union
- Bill & Nancy Robbins, in Memory of Dorby Thomas
- Mount Olivet Lutheran Church, in Memory of Dorby Thomas
- In Remembrance of Harry Der Harootunian
- Rotary Club of Shrewsbury
- In memory of James A. Heedles, from Carmella Heedles

• Jay Somers, in memory of Buckie Somers

## Providing Two Sundays Each:

- Daniels Insurance Agency, Inc.
- Dean Park Grill and Pizza
- 2401
- Shrewsbury Garden Club, in honor of Earth Day
- In honor of Natalie and Allen Cramer, from Susan and Zak Cramer
- The Hyde Family
- David & Kathleen Rocheleau
- Olivia, Peg and Don Harbert
- One anonymous donor

You can help us reach a full season of Sundays (October 1, 2017 through May 20, 2018). The cost for sponsoring one Sunday is \$650. Please contact the Library Director at (508) 841-8537 or edolan@shrewsburyma.gov if you wish to provide a sponsorship or need more information.

# FRIENDS

# TIME TO JOIN THE FRIENDS

Do you love library programs, museums passes and more? Do you look forward to children's or teen activities? If so, you can help ensure those great programs and activities continue. All you need to do is join the Friends of the Shrewsbury Public Library today! The new membership year starts January 1, so it's time to renew OR BECOME a member of the Friends of the Shrewsbury Public Library.

Sign up on line at: Shrewsbury-ma.gov/library or stop by the Library's main service desk and pick up a Membership envelope. Membership fees are tax deductible. Membership fees start at \$5.00 per year!

# HOLIDAY OPEN HOUSE

Saturday, December 2, 2017 12:00 to 2:30pm (Santa arrives at 12:30) Celebrate the season at our Free Annual Holiday Open House. Featuring crafts, games, stories and refreshments. Fun for the whole family.

## 9TH ANNUAL FEBRUARY FOREIGN FILM FESTIVAL

*Every Sunday in February at 2 pm at the Shrewsbury Public Library. Open and free to all. Popcorn provided. Bring your own beverage.* 



	The Wedding Plan PG-Israel – 2016.				
Feb. 4	After her fiancé calls off their wedding a month before the ceremony, a woman decides to keep the reservation and trusts God will provide her with a husband. Ophir Awards for Best Actress, Screenplay and Costume Design. In Hebrew with English subtitles 110 min				
	The Deep Not Rated- Norway- 2012.				
Feb. 11	The film is based on the true story of a fisherman who survived in the freezing ocean after his boat capsized off the south coast of Iceland. The film was selected as the Icelandic entry for the Best Foreign Language Oscar at the 85th Academy Awards. In Icelandic with English subtitles 104 min				
	<b>Baran</b> PG- Iran - 2001.				
Feb. 18	The story of Afghan refugees told through the eyes of an Iranian teenage boy named Lateef. His devotion to a person he barely knows leads him to the choice that will change his life forever. Academy Award nominated director Majid Majidi ("Children of Heaven"; "Color of Paradise") delivers a heartbreaking story of unrequited love. In Persian with English subtitles 94 min				
	The Taste of Others R- France - 1999.				
Feb. 25	Romantic comedy of manners set in France's rustic Provence. An unpolished and ultra-pragmatic industrialist reluctantly attends a play in order to see his niece play a bit part. He is taken with the play's strangely familiar-looking leading lady. He remembers that he once hired and then promptly fired the actress as an English language tutor. He immediately goes out and signs up for language lessons. Thinking that he is nothing but an ill-tempered philistine with bad taste he is rejected, but soon charms her off her feet. In French with English subtitles 113 min				

#### SAVE THE DATE:

In the spring you can look forward to the Annual Book Sale—Friday April 6 through Sunday April 8. More details in next newsletter.

# ADULT SERVICES & PROGRAMS

#### Memory Café

It's about a year since we launched "Good Day Memory Café<sup>"</sup> to provide socialization opportunities for people diagnosed with Alzheimer's disease, other forms of dementia and their care partners. The Café has been meeting twice a month and participants have enjoyed a relaxed afternoon of conversation and camaraderie; and games and music in a supportive, safe environment. We will continue to meet on the first and third Friday of the month from 2-4 PM. This program has been made possible because of an LSTA (Library Services and Technology) grant administered by the MBLC (Massachusetts Board of Library Commissioners). No registration required.

#### **English Conversation Circle**

Want to improve your Englishspeaking skills? Join the English Conversation Circle for adults. We offer five sessions a week, four at the library and one at St. Anne's Catholic Church. These meetings, led by experienced ESL teachers and dedicated individuals, are for adults who wish to practice speaking English in a safe environment. To learn more and to register, please call Priya Rathnam at 508-841-8531 or email prathnam@cwmars.org.

#### Shrewsbury Readers Book Club

This group is about a good book and a good discussion! The club meets on the first Thursday of the month, 7-8:30 PM. New members are welcome. Copies of the books will be available at the main desk.

We will be reading and discussing the following titles in the winter.

December 7th – *My Italian Bulldozer* by Alexander McCall Smith

January 4th – *The Perks of Being a Wallflower* by Stephen Chbosky

February 1st – The Worst Hard Time: the untold story of those who survived the dust bowl by Timothy Egan

#### Coloring Club for Adults – Second Saturday of the month, 10-11 AM

Join other coloring aficionados and color your way to calm! Coloring pages and coloring supplies will be provided. A drop-in program.

#### Reading Glasses Dates: Monthly, TBD 7pm @ O'Connor's Restaurant, Worcester

Reading Glasses is a books n' brews reading group for 20-30 (ish) somethings. Join us at O'Connor's Restaurant in Worcester one Wednesday per month to discuss books from a wide variety of genres. Dates are chosen a month in advance to best suit participating members. Find us at Reading Glasses Collaborative on Facebook or email Caitlin at cmckeon@ cwmars.org if you're interested!

#### Shrewsbury Stitch Lab December 12 @ 7:00-8:45 Learning Lab

Calling all sewists, sewers, fabric artists, seamers, sewing enthusiasts, or whatever you call yourselves. Join us in the Learning Lab for an evening of sewing collaboration! Bring in your latest WIP (work in progress) and supplies (including your machine) and work on it together with us! Sewers of all levels and styles are welcome, however, formal instruction will not be provided. Attendees are welcome to share their knowledge!

#### Greenhouse for Entrepreneurs –Thursdays, December 21, January 18, February 15, 6:30-8 PM

Join our networking group of aspiring entrepreneurs and successful business owners. In partnership with Krosslink. org, the Shrewsbury Library holds monthly meetings where budding entrepreneurs can share their ideas, gain insights from experts and brainstorm with other participants. If you have an idea for a startup or a small business, you are welcome to attend the meetings.

#### Spanish for Beginners – Mondays starting December 4 at 7 PM

This class, for adult learners, will be taught by Janine Hess, an experienced Spanish teacher. The dates for the winter session are December 4, 11, 18; January 8, 22, 29; February 5, 12, 26. Please make sure you can attend all the classes. Registration is required. Sponsored by the Friends of the Library.

#### Knitting Club – Sundays, December 10; January 14 and 28; February 11 and 25, 2-4 PM

Do you knit? Do you do any other crafting? Join us to work on whatever you have on your needles/hooks. Gentle instruction amongst each other is provided, but this is not a beginners' class. Drop in!

#### Pranayaam Yoga with Bindu-Tuesdays, January 23, 30; February 6 and 13, 9-10 AM

A traditional hatha yoga class exploring a range of yogic breathing exercises designed to leave you feeling relaxed and revitalized. Bindu Gupta has been learning and practicing yoga since her childhood. She has been teaching here at the library for over a year.

Only for adults. Registration required for each class. Please bring a mat.

#### Namibia: A Desert Paradise – Sunday, January 21, 2-3 PM

Bob DeCoteau will be doing a travel presentation on the southwestern African nation of Namibia, which he describes as a Desert Paradise. He will be talking about the strong German influence that dominates this country as well as its culture and geography. He will take you to the giant sand dunes of Sussusvlei National Park and to the eerie shipwreck Skeleton Coast in the northwest. He will also discuss and display his remarkable photographs of tribal living (Himba tribe) trying to hold onto its almost extinct culture.

Registration required. Sponsored by the Friends of the Library.

#### NEW Cookbook Book Group – Thursday, January 25 and February 22, 6:30-8 PM

An informal evening of good food and good conversation! Cynthia Carlson, a Shrewsbury resident, will coordinate this book group. A cookbook will be selected and participants will each make a recipe from that cookbook and bring it to the library to share with others in the group. Copies of the cookbook will be available for checkout at the library. The library will provide paper plates, cups, napkins and plastic utensils; cooks will bring serving utensils. Bring extra containers for leftovers!

The January cookbook is The Smitten Kitchen by Deb Perelman and the February cookbook is Fresh Happy Tasty by Jane Loxwell.

If you are interested in joining the group, please call Priya Rathnam at 508-841-8531 or email her at prathnam@ cwmars.org. The group will be limited to 10 people.

# ADULT SERVICES & PROGRAMS

#### Mindfulness for Stress Reduction – January 4, 11, 18, 25, 6:30-7:30 PM

An introduction to mindfulness and meditation for stress reduction! Mindfulness meditation is one of the best tools we have to counter the brain's negativity bias, release accumulated stress, foster positive experiences and intentions, and enjoy the peace of present moment awareness. A large body of research has established that having a regular meditation practice produces tangible benefits for mental and physical health. Please join Aaron Champagne from GROW Mindful for an introduction to mindfulness meditation. Here is a link to his website: http://www.growmindful. net/

#### Author talk: Ted Reinstein New England's General Stores: Exploring an American Classic, Tuesday, December 12, 7-8 PM

Ted Reinstein has been a reporter for "Chronicle," WCVB-TV/Boston's awardwinning—and America's longestrunning, locally-produced, nightly news magazine since 1997. He has written this book with his wife, Emmy award-winning journalist, Anne-Marie Dorning. The book looks at how the humble general store helped shape New England, and how today, in the era of the big box store, it continues to be a focal point and a gathering place for towns all across the region. No wonder that, like the diner, the general store is enjoying a resurgence

# TEEN PROGRAMS

#### The Escape Room 3: Mad Hatter's Terrifying Tea Party

Running multiple sessions over winter break, our extremely popular Escape Room series returns with a literary twist! The world of Alice in Wonderland will be turned into an intense escape room experience. Does your group have what it takes to crack codes, solve puzzles, and maybe drink a little tea at a tea party like no other? Oh, and saving the world as we know it is on the line!

Register online starting December 4th. There will be multiple sessions and they will fill up fast! For ages ten and up. Some sessions will be teen only, and the other family and friends sessions.

We have many other fun things planned for teens! Sign up for our e-mail event list for the most up to date program and volunteer opportunities:

http://bit.ly/2wAiOLu



#### **PowerPoint for Beginners**

Tuesday, January 9th, 5:30-6:30pm

Learn the basics of Microsoft PowerPoint, including formatting slides, adding images, customizing transitions, and running slideshows.

#### **Understanding Library eBooks**

Tuesday, February 13th, 5:30-6:30pm

Get a crash course on how to use the various eBook downloading services the Shrewsbury Public Library offers, including Overdrive, Freading, the Commonwealth eBook Collections, and Hoopla.

# Registration is required for all computer classes

Registration required. Sponsored by the Friends of the Library.

# **COMPUTER INSTRUCTION**

#### **Introduction to 3D Printing**

Tuesday, December 5th, 5:30-7:00pm

Get an introduction to 3D design and printing in this interactive workshop. Participants will learn how to use Tinkercad's 3D modeling software to create basic designs they can print with the library's 3D printer (finished designs will be printed at a later date).

## **Google Docs & Google Drive**

Wednesday, January 10th 6:30-7:30pm

Learn how to use Google's popular services for creating and storing documents within the cloud. This class will cover creating Google docs and Google sheets, as well as using Google drive to save and share files such as pictures and music.

## **Microsoft Excel for Beginners**

Tuesday, December 19th 5:30-6:30pm

Learn the basics of Microsoft Excel including designing spreadsheets, formatting cells, rows, and columns, and implementing basic formulas.

## **Microsoft Word for Beginners**

Tuesday, January 23rd, 5:30-6:30pm

Learn the basics of MS Word including how to modify text, how to form a paragraph, and how to save and open files.



## Book Discussions:

## Hanukkah Celebration Sunday, Dec. 3 2:45 PM

Join us for a Hanukkah celebration!

Learn about this festive holiday of lights as we read a book, do a craft and have a snack.

This event is designed for 3-8 year olds.

Space is limited, registration begins November 20.

This program is presented in partnership with the PJ Library Program of the Jewish Federation of Central Massachusetts.

# **Storytimes:**

#### Preschool Storytime Monday, 1 pm

Dec. 4, 11, 18 Jan. 8, 22, 29 Feb. 5, 12, 26

#### Wiggle Words Thursday,10 am

Dec. 7, 14, 21, 28 Jan. 4, 11, 18, 25 Feb. 1, 8, 15

## PJ Storytime Thursday, 6 pm

Jan. 11 For 2-5 year olds

## Books, Babies and Bubbles

## Wednesday, 10:30 am

Dec. 6, 13, 20 Jan. 3, 10, 17, 24, 31 Feb. 7, 14, 28 For birth – 2 years old

## **Movement:**

#### Music & Motion Tuesday, Dec. 19 10 am

Miss Wendy is back with her songs and dances!

Thank you to the Friends of the Shrewsbury Public Library for sponsoring this program.

This program is a free drop-in, however, we do require tokens for admission. Tokens will be available at the Children's Room desk on a first-come, firstserved basis starting at 9 am on the day of the program and will be available until they run out (and/ or the program has already begun). Every participant must have a token for admission.

#### Book Beats Tuesday, 10am

Dec. 5, 12 Jan. 2, 9, 16, 23, 30 Feb. 6, 13, 27

> \* See website for registration details for all programs.

#### Run Along with Doug Adams Thursday, Dec. 28 11 am

A one-man, oneguitar, 5,000-step musical stage show for children to promote exercise, goal-setting, and positive family fun.

Space is limited, registration begins Dec. 12.

This program is sponsored by the Friends of the Shrewsbury Public Library.

## Special Presentations:

#### Spinning Yarns with Nancy Bell Wednesday, Feb. 21 10 am

Beloved Storyteller, Shepherdess, and Handspinner Nancy Bell brings Rumplestiltskin, Sleeping Beauty, and many other fairy tales to lífe with her antique spinning wheels, crafts, and stories. Audiences of all ages will delight in this magical mix of folklore, fairytales, and fun as she sings, spins, and weaves wonderful old tales in a way you have never heard before.

Space is limited, registration starts Feb 7th. This program is sponsored by the Friends of SPL.

#### New Year's Eve Party Hats Friday, Dec. 29,10am-3pm

We are making FUN and FESTIVE New Year's Eve Party Hats! Dropin from 10am-3pm. Ages 3 and up with an adult. Children under 5 must be supervised making the craft. Adults: you can make a hat for yourself too!! No registration required. This program is free and open to the public.

## Gingerbread Houses Monday, Dec. 4, 6 pm

Sweet!

We provide the gingerbread house, you provide the creativity!

We request that everyone please bring a bag of candy to share for decorating and a can of frosting for your own use.

Space is limited, registration opens two weeks before the program.

## **Garden Club**

Bring the outdoors in with the Shrewsbury Garden Club Junior Members

Thursday Dec 14 at 5:30

January date to be determined Monday Feb 12 at 5:30

### Movies for Soldiers Monday, Jan. 8, 6:30 pm

Join us for a screening of the family friendly film – "Valiant" to kick off our Movies for Soldiers campaign. Requested donation: a new or gently used DVD – (that our troops would enjoy) which we will then send to troops that are currently serving in the armed forces. Donation boxes for DVDs will be available at the library throughout the month.

#### Thom Worcester Early Intervention Presents a Toddler Play Group

Mondays Dec 4, 11, 18 Jan 8, 22, 29 Feb 5, 12, 26 9:30 to 11 am

A Toddler play group which will focus on early literacy, attention and focus skills, language stimulation, social skills and exposure to books. For ages 18 months to 3 years.

This program is a free drop-in, however, we do require tokens for admission. Tokens will be available at the Children's Room desk on a first-come, first-served basis starting at 9 am on the day of the program and will be available until they run out (and/or the program has already begun). Every participant must have a token for admission.

Kate Comeau SLP- a Licensed speech therapist and Jill Thurso Lenkarski DS- a developmental Jan 25 therapist will be running the Feb 22 group. 6 pm

## Thom Worcester Presents an Infant Massage Workshop

Fridays 10 am Dec 8, 15, 22 Jan 5, 12

Come and learn how to massage your infant to increase and improve circulation, improve overall skin health, stimulate organs and body function, reduce stress, improve social skills in your infant and to further bond with your baby. To receive the most benefit from this workshop, we request that you plan to attend the complete series. Registration opens November 24th.

# Learn Through Fun:

## **Preschool French**

Mondays, 4pm Dec 4, 11, 18 Jan 8, 22, 29 Feb 5, 12, 26

A very casual approach to learning French for preschoolers (age 3-6) AND their caregivers.

## **Play with Your Food**

Create edible art! For Grades 5-8 Wed Dec 27 at 1pm Monday Jan 29 at 6pm Monday Feb 26 at 6pm

## Dash & Dot

Learn how to code with robots!

For Grades 2-6 Thursday Dec 7 Jan 25 Feb 22 6 pm

## Lego Club

Tuesday, 4:30 pm Dec 19, Jan 16, Feb 20

## Mandarin for All Tuesdays 6:30pm

Learn how to speak Chinese Mandarin in a relaxed and fun atmosphere.

This class is for ages 3 and up. Families and adults welcome!

## Audio Book Club Tuesday 6:30pm

Dec 26 Jan 30

Feb 27

A new and unique book club for busy families looking to do something fun together during the winter months. The concept: listen to the book together - in the car, at home, wherever. The club will meet on the selected dates to talk about the chosen book for that month. Books will be appropriate for students in grades 4 through 6. Parents, grandparents, guardians are all welcome to participate. Please note: we will have a special guest on January 30 - Mike Zeller, our Electronic Resources Librarian. Mike will provide information on how to access to free audiobooks available through your library card account. Space is limited. Registration opens one month before each meeting.



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## **Library Hours**

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Fri.	10am -		5рм	
Sat.	9ам -		5рм	
Sun.	1pm -		5рм	(Ост

**Contact Information** 

Phone: 508-841-8609 Fax: 508-841-8524 www.shrewsbury-ma.gov/library





# **Eclectic Browsers Book Group**

Book group meetings will be held on the third Wednesday of the month (\*except where noted due to holidays) at 10:00am at the Shrewsbury Public Library (please note change in day, time and place from previous years). All are welcome. Refreshments are provided. The following book choices have been selected by the members and are available at the circulation desk one month prior to the date of the meeting.

Dec. 20 - The Boys in the Boat, Daniel James Brown (Nonfiction) Jan. 17 - Theft By Finding, David Sedaris (Autobiography) Feb. 21 - The Nightingale, Kristin Hannah (Fiction) Mar. 21 - The Black Arrow, Robert Louis Stevenson (Classic) Apr. 18 - American Heiress, Jeffrey Toobin (Biography) May 16 - Claire DeWitt & the City of the Dead, Sara Gran (Mystery) Jun. 20 - The Zookeeper's Wife, Diane Ackerman (Nonfiction)