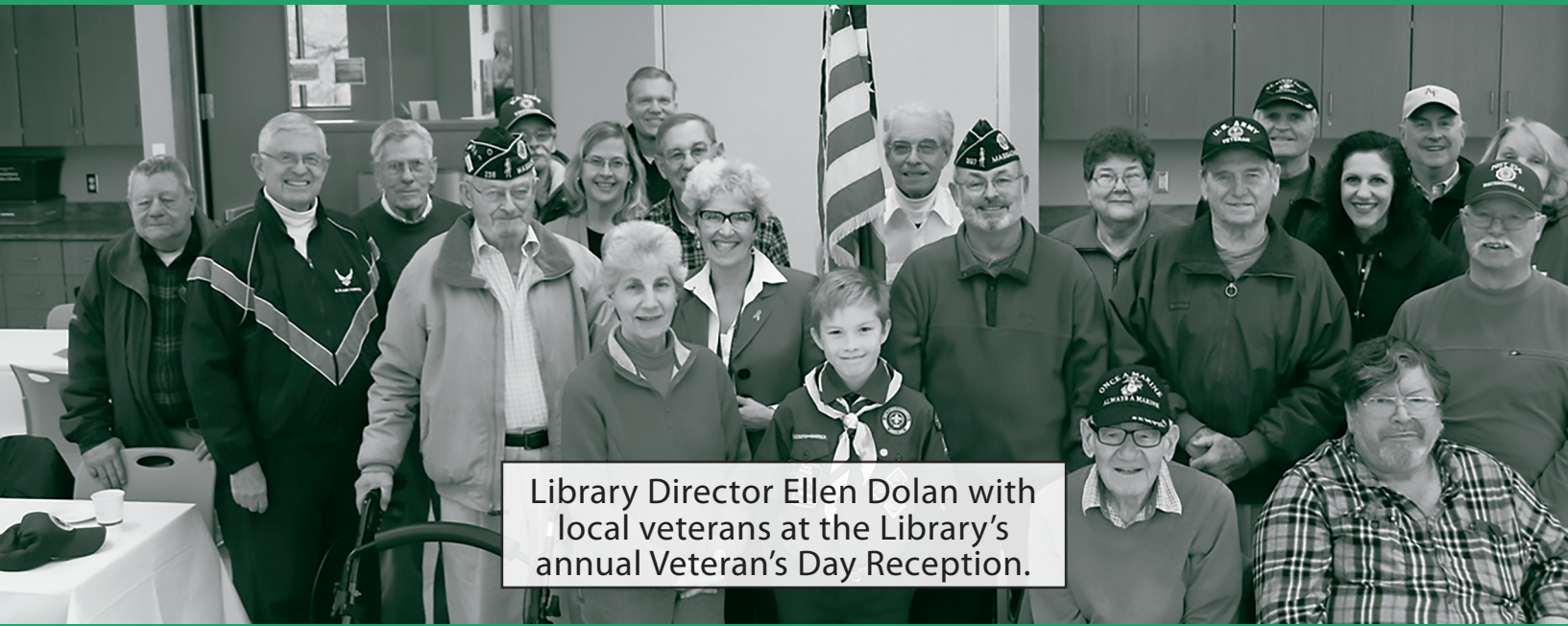


CHAPTERS

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE SHREWSBURY PUBLIC LIBRARY - SPRING 2019



Library Director Ellen Dolan with local veterans at the Library's annual Veteran's Day Reception.

A letter from Library Director Ellen Dolan:

I write this letter on January 16, 2020, at the start of a new year and new decade. It is also a new stage of life for me, as I will be retiring on April 3, 2020, after having served as Library Director at Shrewsbury Public Library for 15 years.

These past 15 years have flown by, and have been filled with much exciting and challenging work. There have been all sorts of projects and events, but as I look back over the years, what stands out is having worked with, beside and for so many wonderful people. While it's true that SPL is known for some outstanding accomplishments — a lovely new building, innovative programs and services, impressive technology use, robust grant and private funding use, etc. — what makes us remarkable is the many people who have been or are involved in making all of this happen.

I must start with our staff. We truly have one of the most dedicated and compassionate group of employees around. They work hard to ensure our library meets patron needs, and do so in a welcoming and kind way. We have a volunteer team that contributes countless hours and truly makes this building hum with excitement and success. Our Trustee Board is

committed to the single and unified mission of ensuring that our library can provide excellent service to all. Our Friends of the Library group members are tireless in their efforts to raise funds to host hundreds of programs for children, teens, and adults each and every year. Our Foundation Board is dedicated to building the framework to ensure a bright future for our library. And town officials and the people of Shrewsbury have been remarkably supportive of the library and its mission. All of these people and forces working together have made SPL an outstanding library. Understandably, I leave with mixed emotions. It is hard to leave so many people whom I have come to respect and love.

I do however feel very good knowing that SPL's success will continue. During my tenure at SPL, I was always fortified by reflecting upon the tradition of excellence our library has known. I was ever aware that such excellence was shaped by the people who loved this institution over the many years of its existence. It started in 1872 when the town voted to establish a public library in a single room within Town Hall. That tradition was upheld when the town determined that the residents' needs had outgrown the single room and thus voted to

(continued on next page)

build a separate building for the library. With generous support from local jewelry maker Jubal Howe, a gracious new library building was built in 1903. And just 20 years later, the tradition was continued with the building of the Artemas Ward Annex, which included a separate children's room and historical archive. In 1959 excellence was once again confirmed when the town decided to launch a bookmobile, which was later replaced by an outreach van. And just four years ago in 2016, the town undertook a major effort to enlarge and update our building. Behind all that were people who have been passionate and committed to this institution.

As our library continues to find innovative and important ways to meet people's needs, I am certain that the passion for our library will continue and grow. Our new Library Director Priya Rathnam, will be starting in the spring. Many of you already know Priya, our current Assistant Director and Head of Adult Services. Priya has shared the work on all the library's major developments over the past decade, including the building project, the capital campaign, grant pursuit, strategic planning efforts, and staff recruitment and development. In her quiet and steadfast manner, Priya has been a key partner in creating a culture of excellence at SPL. I am certain Priya will maintain that focus on excellence!

Continued excellence is also made certain by the Library Foundation's current and upcoming efforts. Originally organized to provide funds for the renovation and expansion of the library building, the Shrewsbury Public Library Foundation is now dedicated to ensuring that our library's capabilities and resources remain strong through the coming years. They are working on developing an endowment fund to sustain our library's progressive approach to services, collections, programs, and facilities by providing financial support beyond that provided by the town. Please watch for their plans on building that endowment fund. I hope you can support their efforts and help us sustain excellence.

So in this letter, my final to the community, I wish to thank all who have helped me sustain Shrewsbury Public Library's excellence in my role as Library Director. And I thank you for the kindness and support you have given me through the years. I feel blessed to have ended my career at such a fine institution!

Sincerely,

Ellen M. Dolan

Turning the Page

April 3rd marks the end of an important chapter in the history of the Shrewsbury Public Library. On that day, we will bid farewell to Ellen Dolan, who is retiring as the SPL Director after 15 years of dedicated service to the community. Ellen's retirement marks the end of her 40+ year career as a librarian, beginning in her native Marlborough and culminating in her tenure as the SPL Director from 2005–2020.

Ellen's years with SPL have been marked by transformative changes. The most obvious change has been the renovation and expansion of the old library into the modern, technologically-advanced building that the community enjoys today. Behind the scenes, this transition required herculean efforts by Ellen and her staff as they moved the library into and out of temporary quarters with minimal disruption to library services. Ellen and her staff have also kept pace with the significant digital transformations occurring in libraries. SPL patrons are now able to access more than 90,000 electronic materials and to request materials from the C/W MARS network of libraries. One of Ellen's most important contributions to the library, however, may be the recruitment and

mentoring of a talented and highly professional staff who have initiated exciting new programs that serve the community.

On a personal level, Ellen will be greatly missed. Ellen has been a strong but unpretentious leader who is sensitive to the needs of others. During her time in Shrewsbury, she has made many friends across the community. Speaking for the Board of Trustees, we wish Ellen all the best as she opens a new chapter in her personal life. At the same time, the Library will open a new chapter as we welcome Priya Rathnam as Director. Priya has worked closely with Ellen for many years and has demonstrated her own strong skills, ensuring that the library has a bright future.

Clare O'Connor

Chair of the Shrewsbury Public Library Board of Trustees

Ellen Dolan's Retirement Party

Sunday, March 8th, 2:00–4:00 P.M.

Presentations will be made from 2:30–3:15 P.M.

Ellen requests that, in lieu of gifts, checks be made out to "Shrewsbury Public Library Foundation". They can be mailed to 609 Main Street, or visit the Foundation website at <https://foundationspl.org/ways-to-give/>.

THANK YOU TO OUR SUNDAY SPONSORS

Thank you to our generous Sunday sponsors who provided funds to keep the library open on Sunday afternoons the entire 2019/2020 Sunday season from October 6th, 2019 through May 24th, 2020.

If you know any of these sponsors or frequent their businesses, please be sure to voice your appreciation!

Providing Five Sundays:

- *Dr. B. Dale and Mrs. Melanie Magee*

Providing Three Sundays:

- *Daniels Insurance Agency*

Providing Two Sundays Each:

- *Olivia, Peg, and Don Harbert*
- *The Olive I. and Anthony A. Borgatti, Jr. Donor-Advised Fund of the Greater Worcester Community Foundation*

Providing One Sunday Each:

- *The Rotary Club of Shrewsbury*
- *St. Mary's School*
- *Harold (Bill) and Jean Stuart*

- *The Shrewsbury Education Foundation*
- *In memory of James Heedles*
- *In loving memory of Buckie Somers*
- *Central One Federal Credit Union*
- *Maureen Fujimori in honor of Eileen Mooney Evans*
- *Pam Osborn in memory of Harry Der Harootunian*
- *Selectman Beth Casavant*
- *The Del Dotto grandchildren: Drea, Dylan, and Devin*
- *The Matthews family*
- *The Bachini family*
- *Dean Park Grill & Pizza*
- *David & Kathleen Rocheleau*
- *Jeffrey & Priscilla Billingham*
- *In memory of Dr. John P. Collins from the Collins Family*
- *In memory of Dr. John P. Collins from John P. Collins & Nancy Hughes*
- *Pat Silvestri in memory of Elizabeth Woodring*
- *The Wensky family*
- *One anonymous donor*

ADULT SERVICES & PROGRAMS

Grant Awards

We are very happy to share the news of two grant awards from the Greater Worcester Community Foundation. We were awarded \$5,000 for the English Conversation Circle for the eighth consecutive year and \$2,500 for the Memory Café for the second year in a row! We are very grateful to the foundation for helping us sustain these two impactful programs. Hats off to the indefatigable facilitators, too! For program schedule details, please call Priya Rathnam at 508-841-8531 or email prathnam@cwmar.org.

Women's Suffrage Celebration

A series of talks and presentations has been planned to commemorate the 100th anniversary of the passing of the women's right to vote! Sponsored by the Friends of the Library.

Leave No Stone Unturned, Especially Lucy! Talk by Dr. Regina Edmonds

Saturday, March 7th, 2:00 P.M.

In her time, Lucy Stone was known as the "Morning Star" of the women's rights movement.

Dr. Regina Edmonds will explore how Lucy, who grew up on a rural, Central Massachusetts farm, became the most sought-after women's rights advocate. Why is Lucy not as well known to us now as other period activists? What factors buried this precious Stone so deeply in history's rocky ground?

Susan B. Anthony performed by Sheryl Faye

Tuesday, March 10th, 7:00 P.M.

In 2020 we celebrate 100 years since the ratification of the 19th Amendment and Susan B. Anthony's 200th birthday!

Worcester's First Women Voters Talk by Lisa Cook

Thursday, March 12th, 7:00 P.M.

Lisa Connelly Cook is a co-founder and first President of the Worcester Women's History Project and a Professor of History/Political Science at Quinsigamond Community College. Her presentation on the history of the women's suffrage movement in Worcester during the 19th and early 20th centuries will be followed by a question and answer session

Registration is required for each of these events.

Cultural Council Grants

The following programs are supported in part by a grant from the Shrewsbury Cultural Council, a local agency supported by the Massachusetts Cultural Council, a state agency.

Irish Music with Roger Tincknell

Sunday, March 15th, 2:00 P.M.

Let's commemorate St. Patrick's Day with Roger Tincknell's music! Registration required.

Jumpin' Juba with Steve Hurl guitar and vocals and Bruce Ward on the piano

Saturday, April 18, 2:00 P.M.

This group mixes regional blues from Chicago, Memphis, and New Orleans with roots-y rock and roll, jazz, calypso, and Latin flavors. Steve is a songwriter and veteran of the Boston folk scene. His guitar playing draws from the great acoustic blues fingerpickers and roots-y string benders of the 1950s. Bruce's burly piano work recalls such greats as Professor Longhair, Otis Spann, and Albert Ammons. Registration required.

Upcycling Workshop

Wednesday, April 22nd, 6:30-8:30 P.M.

Celebrate Earth Day with a workshop on upcycling with Lou. Participants will learn about upcycling plastic bags through the fusing process. Each participant will complete a wallet or pouch project using the fused textile. Please save household cereal and cracker bags and any other plastic bags and wrappers and bring them to use or donate. If you need assistance, guidelines can also be found on Lou's website: <http://www.lousupcycles.com/donate-recycle-upcycle/>. Registration required.

Writing Workshop with Giulietta Nardone

Saturday, May 2nd, 10:00 A.M.

Join local writer Giulietta "Julie" Nardone for a writing workshop! Topics covered will include: mining your life for stories, finding the universal truth, pitching to editors, and developing a healthy relationship with rejection. Bring a beverage, notebook, and pens. Registration required.

Art

Artist Trading Cards

Thursdays, March 12th, April 9th, May 14th, 11:00 A.M.-12:30 P.M.

Would you like to join the Artist Trading Cards (ATC) group that will meet on the second Thursday of the month? ATCs are fun, miniature art pieces that are created and traded with other artists. Just like the classic baseball trading card, they measure 2-1/2 x 3-1/2 inches. If you like to be creative and play with art, come join this group. No art skills needed. All supplies will be provided. The group will be led by Barbara DePalo. Limited spots available, so registration is required.

Tile Art Coasters Workshop

Thursday, April 16th, 6:00–8:00 P.M.

In this workshop led by Bindu Gupta, participants will make their own tile art coasters. An assortment of magazine pictures, maps, etc. will be available for you to create your own custom coasters, or you can bring your favorite images from home like printed family photos.

Please note that the coasters will have to be sealed and participants will pick them up at the library a few days after the workshop. Sponsored by the Friends of the Library. Limited spots available, so registration is required.

Health

Intermittent Fasting

*Wednesday, April 15th,
7:00–8:00 P.M.*

Dr. Donald Pelto will introduce the topic of intermittent fasting and will detail its effectiveness, its health benefits, who should or should not participate, and how it aids with weight loss and diabetes. He will also present personal and professional examples of successful intermittent fasting, typical fasting schedules, and helpful tips. Dr. Pelto is a podiatrist in Worcester Massachusetts. He treats patients who struggle with weight loss, injury, and diabetes. Registration required.

Fuel Your Health Documentary Screening

Thursday, May 14th, 7:00 P.M.

Fuel Your Health is a new documentary about the healing power of food and lifestyle. The movie deep-dives into subjects like the gut microbiome, the fat myth, the fermentation revolution, lifestyle medicine, and the optimum diet for the body and the brain. Watch nutrition experts, medical doctors, farmers, research scientists, and best-selling authors share their inspiring, healing stories.

Drew Scott Pearlman is a Boston area filmmaker. He has directed and produced three documentaries in a series about food, natural healing, and longevity. Drew also works privately with clients as a Functional Medicine Health Coach and Certified GAPS (Gut and Psychology Syndrome) Practitioner. Registration required.

Yoga with Bindu

*Wednesdays, May 6th, 13th, 20th,
27th, 9:00–10:00 A.M.*

Hatha yoga brings a physical, emotional, and spiritual awareness to one's body and mind. It also helps to relax the mind and relieve stress. In this class, we will use yoga poses and breathing techniques to strengthen the body and mind.

Please bring a mat. This is a four-week session and registration is required for each session. Sponsored by the Friends of the Library.

Music of the Baroque Era

*Wednesdays, May 13th, 20th, 27th,
6:30–8:00 P.M.*

The Baroque period (1600–1750) saw a marvelous flowering of both instrumental and vocal music, reaching its pinnacle in the works of composers such as Antonio Vivaldi, George Frideric Handel, and Johann Sebastian Bach. This three-part series will focus on the lives, music, and careers of these three masters, and will include music samples. Robert Oakan, Ph.D., has previously given popular presentations on the music of Mozart, Beethoven, and Haydn. Registration is required for each week.

Travel

Myanmar (Burma): Land of Breathtaking Pagodas

Sunday, April 26th, 2:00 P.M.

Bob DeCoteau, a Shrewsbury world traveler, will give a travel presentation on the Southeast Asian nation of Myanmar, which has recently opened to tourism. No Myanmar trip would be complete without experiencing a hot air balloon ride over Old Bagan, a preserved archeological zone containing 2,000 pagodas.

Registration required. Sponsored by the Friends of the Library.

Come and Learn about Road Scholar with Donna Brock

*Thursday, May 21st,
7:00–8:00 P.M.*

Do you love to travel, enjoy learning and exploring interesting places, and like to meet people who share your love of adventure? Come and learn about Road Scholar, America's first and the world's largest educational travel organization for adults. The organization offers more than 5,500 programs in all 50 states and 150 countries worldwide.

Donna Brock is a member of the Road Scholar Volunteer Speakers Bureau, an Ambassador Program. She is a seasoned Road Scholar participant who gives informative and enthusiastic presentations about the educational travel adventures available through Road Scholar. Registration required.

We now subscribe to *The Washington Post*, a daily newspaper, and *The Guardian Weekly*, a weekly news magazine. You can find both titles in the periodicals section of the library!

Children's Room

Weekly Programs Wiggle Words

Thursdays at 9:45 & 10:15 A.M.

Join us for singing, dancing, and stories. For walkers up to 3 years old who love to move. Admittance tokens required.

Literacy and Play Time

Mondays at 9:30 & 11:30 A.M.

This play group focuses on early literacy and language stimulation through exposure to books and play. It is geared to children ages 18 months to 36 months. Registration required.

Book Beats

Tuesdays at 10:00 A.M.

Join us for a lively early literacy music and movement program for ages 2-4 years with caregivers (siblings welcome). Admittance tokens required.

Babies, Books, and Bubbles

Wednesdays at 10:00 & 11:00 A.M.

Enjoy songs, fingerplays, and books with the littlest listeners. Babies from birth to 24 months are welcome along with their caregivers. Admittance tokens required.

Tinker Time

Fridays, 10:30–11:30 A.M.

Drop by for a STEAM-friendly program for preschoolers and their grownups. Explore various interactive stations at a self-guided pace.

Lego Build It!

Mondays, 5:00–7:00 P.M.

Lego builders are welcome to drop by and build in this low-key program. Take on our challenge or build to your heart's content. Adult supervision required.

March Programs Monster Party

Tuesday, March 3rd, 2:00–4:00 P.M.

Calling kids who love to hang with all types of monsters! Join us on this half-day of school for silly monsters, cute monsters, and monster trucks! For

kids of all ages and their families. No registration required.

Holi Crafternoon

Sunday, March 8th, 1:00–3:00 P.M.

Create crafts inspired by the Indian festival Holi. For kids of all ages with adult supervision. No registration required.

Engineer a Story: Catch a Leprechaun!

Tuesday, March 10th, 6:00 P.M.

Can you capture a leprechaun? Kids grades K-3 can join us for this STEM program as we figure out contraptions to trap our little friends. No registration required.

Stuffed Animal Sleepover

Friday, March 20th, 2:00–4:30 P.M.

Would your stuffed animal love to spend the night at the library? Kids of all ages are welcome to drop off one beloved stuffed animal for a night of fun and mischief. Then on Saturday, March 21st between 9:30-10:30 A.M., stop by to pick

up your stuffed animal, enjoy a light breakfast, and watch a slideshow of all the fun.

3D Printing for Kids

Tuesday, March 24th, 4:00–5:30 P.M.

Are you or someone you know a kid who loves to make things? Have you ever been curious about how the 3D printer in the Library works? Then come to this interactive workshop to get an introduction to 3D design! Participating kids in grades 2-4 will learn how to use the 3D modeling software Tinkercad to create basic designs they can print with the Library's 3D printer. All attendees will be able to submit one small design of their own creation for printing at a later date.

April Programs Eggs-travaganza!

Tuesday, April 7th, 2:00–4:00 P.M.

Kids ages 4+ can join us on this half-day of school for a crafternoon all about the mighty egg! Adult supervision required. No registration required.

PJ Storytime

Thursday, April 9th, 6:30 P.M.

Wear your pajamas to the library and bring your favorite stuffed animal, doll, or blankie. We will eat bedtime snacks, sing lullabies, make crafts, and read fun bedtime stories. Geared to preschool children and their families. Registration required.

April School Vacation Week we will celebrate our amazing Earth. Join us for a nature hunt, Teddy Bear Picnic, seed planting, and more! Stay tuned for details.

May Programs

Mother's Day Gift Crafting

Tuesday, May 5th, 2:00–4:00 P.M.

Join us for Mother's Day gift crafting. For kids 4+ with adult supervision. No registration required.

Mom's Night Out

Thursday, May 7th, 7:00 P.M.

Calling only moms! Celebrate Mother's Day early with a fun, relaxing night out getting crafty with other moms! Registration required.

FRIENDS

Friends of the Library Annual Used Book Sale

Thursday, March 26th, 12:00–8:30 P.M.

Friday, March 27th, 10:00 A.M.–4:30 P.M.

Saturday, March 28th, 9:00 A.M.–4:30 P.M.

Sunday, March 29th, 1:00–4:30 P.M.

Shrewsbury Public Library, 609 Main Street
Shrewsbury, MA 01545

Check or cash payments only (no cards).
Please "BYOB" — Bring Your Own Bag.

Area teachers, watch for a special offer just for you during the upcoming book sale.

To become a member of the Friends organization, go to <https://splfriends.weebly.com/become-a-friend.html>.

To volunteer to be a book organizer, cashier, or set-up assistant, contact Claire Nagle at crn160@hotmail.com 508-479-4664 or Patricia Segerson at psegerson@verizon.net 508-842-1123.

Watch for more information online, onsite, and in local news.



YOUNG ADULT PROGRAMS

Improv Skills for Teens

Wednesdays, March 4th, 11th, 18th, 25th,
8:00–8:45 P.M.

Led by Meredith Charles of Drama Out of the Box, this improvisation workshop is designed to challenge and inspire students to stretch their brains and limits. This is a great class for both seasoned performers and those new to the theatre world. For grades 7–12. Registration required starting February 19th.

Weekend Math/Science Help

Saturdays, March 7th–May 30th,
11:30 A.M.–1:00 P.M.

Need a little extra help with your chemistry homework? Struggling to nail the latest chapter in pre-calc? Drop in for our volunteer-led help sessions! For grades 7–12. No registration required.

Throwback Thursdays

Thursdays, March 12th, April 9th, May 14th, 3:30–4:30 P.M.

On the second Thursday of each month we'll be trying out different retro eras. We'll have '90s crafts, '50s gameshows, '70s snacks, and more! For grades 5–12. No registration required.

SPLAT Meetings

Mondays, March 16th, April 27th, May 18th, 8:00–8:45 P.M.

Young adults in grades 5–12 are invited to join SPLAT (Shrewsbury Public Library Advisory Team)! How do you join? Just show up! Being part of SPLAT is a great opportunity to contribute to the library community, expand your teamwork and leadership skills, and earn some volunteer hours! No registration required. Snacks will be served!

Microwave Meals in a Mug

Wednesday, April 22nd, 2:00–3:00 P.M.

Local wellness coach Julie Manning will teach attendees how to use a few simple ingredients, a mug, and a microwave to create a delicious snack! For grades 5–12 Registration required starting April 8th.

SHREWSBURY PUBLIC LIBRARY
609 Main Street
Shrewsbury, MA 01545

Non-Profit Organization
US Postage Paid
Permit #192
Worcester, MA 01613

CHAPTERS

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE SHREWSBURY PUBLIC LIBRARY - SPRING 2020

ECRWSS
Resident Customer
Shrewsbury, MA 01545



Library Hours

Mon.-Thurs. 9:00 A.M. - 9:00 P.M.
Fri. 10:00 A.M. - 5:00 P.M.
Sat. 9:00 A.M. - 5:00 P.M.
Sun. 1:00 P.M. - 5:00 P.M.
(OCT-MAY)

Contact Information

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

COMPUTER INSTRUCTION

Digital Privacy Primer

Tuesday, March 10th,
5:30-6:30 P.M.

Join us for a brief introduction to digital privacy and how to better protect your information online.

Introduction to 3D Printing

Tuesday, March 17th,
5:30-7:00 P.M.

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.

Microsoft Word for Beginners

Tuesday, April 14th,
5:30-6:30 P.M.

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

PowerPoint for Beginners

Tuesday, April 28th,
5:30-6:30 P.M.

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

Microsoft Excel for Beginners

Tuesday, May 19th,
5:30-6:30 P.M.

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

No Registration. First come, first served.