

CHAPTERS

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE SHREWSBURY PUBLIC LIBRARY — SUMMER 2022



Library staff pose with roses presented by the Friends of the Library in recognition of National Library Week.

A letter from Library Director Priya Rathnam:

In this newsletter, I plan to sing the praises of the Friends of the Library! The Friends of the Library is a non-profit organization dedicated to supporting the mission of the library and providing funding for library programs and activities. The board, led by Vanessa Hale, is comprised of officers and at-large members who selflessly volunteer their time and expertise to organize an annual book sale, regularly communicate with about 200 members, publicize library events, manage donations, and generally advocate for the library. They, along with library staff, manage a booth at the Spirit of Shrewsbury, collaborate with Parks and Recreation to sponsor summer concerts at Dean Park, provide flowers and decorations to make the library festive during the holidays, award a scholarship to a qualifying high school student, and celebrate the work of librarians during National Library Week.

During the past two years, library staff members have been innovative and creative while planning programs for children, teens, and adults. It's been imperative to think outside the box, and we're very grateful that the Friends went along with all of our plans. If you've enjoyed the StoryWalk® at Lake Street Park that we developed in partnership with the Parks and Recreation department, you can thank the Friends for supporting us. The success of that StoryWalk® inspired us to work with town center businesses to develop another StoryWalk.® The Friends supported us with this endeavor, too. Weekly or bi-weekly take-home crafts that became extremely popular during the pandemic, initiatives such as 1,000 Books Before Kindergarten, virtual summer and winter reading programs, raffle prizes for March Literary Madness, honorariums for authors and other speakers, musicians' fees, yoga and other wellness

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programs, historical reenactments, and social justice-themed programs — all these have been funded by the Friends.

The Friends are a group of hard-working individuals championing the cause of the library. If you wish to be a part of this dynamic group, becoming a Friends member is easy. There are forms you can pick up at the library, or you can visit their website: shrewsburypubliclibrary.org/get_involved/spl-friends/. The Friends' main revenue sources come from memberships and book sale proceeds, so your contribution would be very valuable. The Board is seeking a dedicated volunteer to help with the book sale. Please review the description on the opposite page and send in your application if you love the library and want to do some rewarding and meaningful work.

Sincerely,

Priya Rathnam

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 2021/2022 Sunday season from October 2021 through May 2022.

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

If you are interested in sponsoring a Sunday next season, please contact Library Director Priya Rathnam at 508-841-8537 or prathnam@shrewsburyma.gov

Providing eight Sundays:

- Shrewsbury Federal Credit Union

Providing two Sundays:

- Dr. B. Dale and Mrs. Melanie Magee
- Dr. Anne Larkin and Peter Larkin

Providing one Sunday:

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

- In memory of James Heedles
- In loving memory of Buckie Somers
- Bette Ann Kirby in memory of Bonnie L. O'Brien
- John P. Collins and Nancy Hughes in memory of Dr. John P. Collins
- Maureen Fujimori in honor of Eileen Mooney Evans
- The Bachini Family in honor of Ruth Seward
- The Del Dotto grandchildren: Drea, Dylan, and Devin
- Central One Federal Credit Union
- Avidia Bank
- Rotary Club of Shrewsbury
- Shrewsbury Garden Club
- Dean Park Grill & Pizza
- The Friends of the Library in honor of Dean Gillam
- One anonymous donor
- Please contact Library Director Priya Rathnam at (508) 841-8537 or email prathnam@shrewsburyma.gov if you wish to provide a sponsorship or need more information.

Friends of the Library Seeking Book Sale Chair

Volunteer Job Opportunity — Book Sale Chair

The Shrewsbury Public Library Friends Board of Directors announces the position of Book Sale Chair for a two-year board term. The volunteer will partner with the incumbent Book Sale Chair to implement the 2022 sale. In 2023, the volunteer will assume the Book Sale Chair responsibilities with outgoing incumbent as partner and coach.

The Book Sale Chair will plan, manage, and implement activities and processes over several months leading up to the book sale, which will be held at the library and is scheduled for Thursday, October 13th through Sunday, October 16th, 2022. This four-day event is the Friends' primary fundraiser for the year.

Responsibilities:

Includes coordinating all event logistics and volunteer recruitment, managing the sorting of materials (year-round), working closely with board publicity chair, communicating with staff/board members, and collaborating with book vendors.

Qualifications:

Retail business experience a plus. Must be able to manage time and resources efficiently. Familiarity with Microsoft applications, as well as Sign-Up Genius (for volunteer scheduling) is helpful. Customer-friendly attitude and a desire to work with the public is essential. Candidates must have scheduling flexibility, as evening and daytime hours are involved. Must be available and present during most of the book sale. The physical aspects of this assignment include frequent periods of standing in addition to possessing the ability to handle some heavy lifting and cart pushing within the building.

Please send a letter of interest to Claire Nagle at crn160@hotmail.com by June 17th, 2022.

Summer Concerts at Dean Park in July

The Friends of the Library are joining forces with Parks and Recreation to sponsor three concerts in July at the Dean Park bandstand.

Sunday, July 3rd, 6:00–8:00 p.m. Beatles for Sale is an award-winning, New England-based Beatles tribute band recreating the sounds of the Beatles. This concert is supported in part by a grant from the Shrewsbury Cultural Council, a local agency, which is supported by the Massachusetts Cultural Council, a state agency.

Tuesday, July 19th, 6:00–8:00 p.m. Rain Date: Thursday July 21st

Hit the Bus Summer Concert: Dave and Eric formed Hit the Bus back in 2008 and have played throughout New England. They play an eclectic mix of music ranging from the 50s through today's hits.

Tuesday July 26th, 6:00–8:00 p.m. Rain Date: Thursday, July 28th

Lori Diamond and Fred Abatelli, award-winning Northborough musicians with their favorite special guest, Anelise will deliver their memorable, soul-stirring originals along with a vast array of your favorite songs from the 60s-90s wrapped in harmonious delight. Anelise is perhaps best known for her Quarantine Sessions on social media. With a fresh and joyous approach, she gleefully provides musical nostalgia like nobody else.

Summer Reading Program 2022

The library is excited to host the Summer Reading Kickoff Carnival for the first time in two years on **Thursday, June 23rd, from 2:00–5:00 p.m.** Sponsored by the Friends of the Library.

Local Author Showcase: If you're a published author from Massachusetts, please contact Michael Zeller at mzeller@cwmares.org to reserve your spot.

Summer Reading Program for all ages: **June 27th–August 27th**

Participate in the summer reading program by reading or listening to books and entering the raffle for a chance to win exciting prizes!

ADULT SERVICES & PROGRAMS

Yoga with Bindu

**Saturdays, June 4th,
11th, 18th, and 25th
9:00–10:00 a.m., virtual**

Join from home as certified yoga instructor Bindu Gupta guides participants through an hour long Hatha yoga practice. Hatha yoga brings physical, emotional, and spiritual awareness while reducing stress. In this class, participants will use yoga poses and breathing techniques to strengthen the body and mind.

Sponsored by the Friends of the Shrewsbury Public Library.

Henna Art Workshop

**Tuesday, June 14th
6:30–8:30 p.m., virtual**

Learn the basics of this traditional art form and create an amazing henna art masterpiece!

Presented by local artist Bindu Gupta, this workshop will introduce participants to henna, a new way for participants to explore their creativity by designing beautiful flowers and motifs. This is a beginner level class where participants will learn the basic, step-by-step method to create their own designs, as well as get professional tips on implementing various artistic techniques and creating fine detail effects.

No experience is necessary to participate in this class. For ages 12 and above.

Sponsored by the Friends of the Shrewsbury Public Library.

Climate Justice

**Thursday, June 16th
7:00–8:00 p.m., virtual**

Join social justice educator and climate activist Nia Keith as she examines the connection between societal inequities and climate impacts. She will also discuss ways to support the most dynamic climate justice initiatives today, led by youth and People of Color around the world.

This program is brought to you with federal funds provided by the Institute of Museum and Library Services and administered by the Massachusetts Board of Library Commissioners.

Meditation as Medication, A Doctor's Perspective

**Tuesday, June 21st
7:00–8:00 p.m., virtual**

Can meditation improve high blood pressure, anxiety, depression, or pain? Join Matthew Raider, MD, a clinical physician and coordinating director of the Geriatric Teaching Program in Family Medicine at Middlesex Hospital in Connecticut as he explains how meditation can have a profound effect on a practitioner's life.

Women Redefining Wealth

**Wednesday, June 22nd
6:00–8:00 p.m., in-person**

Join the team from RetirementAdvisers.net for this informative program where representatives will discuss income challenges faced by retirees, focusing primarily on the unique challenges facing women. They will also explain how to create retirement income roadmaps and how to plan for potential retirement income gaps.

Microadventures in Massachusetts

**Thursday, June 23rd
7:00–8:00 p.m., in-person**

Massachusetts is full of history, spectacular scenery, wildlife, and wonderful opportunities for adventure. The best part is that most of these places are hidden in plain sight: in our state parks and accessible nature preserves. Get inspiration for summer day trips and adventures in one program! Learn about opportunities to explore waterfalls, rivers, islands, and abandoned towns, go mountain biking, spot wildlife, and more! This program includes images and maps showing the sites described, and is free, open to the public, and suitable for all ages.

Sponsored by the Friends of the Shrewsbury Public Library.

Tax Planning in Retirement

**Thursday, June 30th
6:00–8:00 p.m., in-person**

Join the team from RetirementAdvisers.net for this important talk on retirement tax strategies. Topics covered will include changes to retirement tax law, retirement tax risks, and creating tax-efficient income.

Meditation for Dealing with the Stress of Modern Life

**Thursday, July 7th
7:00–8:00 p.m., virtual**

There are many physical, emotional, and spiritual benefits that come from meditation. During this engaging workshop, participants will learn a simple, time-tested meditation technique. Please join Arlene Samsel, long time meditator, for this powerful program.

Adult Summer Reading

Summer Reading isn't just for kids. Beginning in late June through August, fill out a raffle ticket for each book you read, and we'll draw winners for prizes every week!

**Registration is
required for most
programs.**

Homeless Shelter Secrets: The Hidden World of Homelessness

Thursday, July 14th
7:00–9:00 p.m., virtual

Ever wondered what it's like to be homeless? Ryan Dowd has spent most of his life working in homeless shelters. Now he travels the world training law enforcement, nonprofits, libraries, and curious individuals. After this workshop, participants will understand homelessness better than 99.9% of the population.

This program is brought to you with federal funds provided by the Institute of Museum and Library Services and administered by the Massachusetts Board of Library Commissioners.

Ukulele with Julie

Thursday, July 21st
7:00–7:50 p.m., in-person

Want to try playing a fun and easy instrument? Join Julie Stepanek as she demonstrates the fundamentals of ukulele playing. Participants will learn how to tune, strum and read chords. After a short lesson, attendees will be able to play full songs! No experience necessary. Bring a ukulele or borrow one of Julie's.

Sponsored by the Friends of the Shrewsbury Public Library.

Paul Newman: Star of Stage, Screen, and Salad Dressing

Thursday, July 28th
7:00–8:00 p.m., in-person

Beloved Hollywood actor Paul Newman had an Academy Award, a happy marriage to Oscar-winner Joanne Woodward, Broadway success, and a set of blue eyes that could melt the most cynical moviegoer. As the star of such classics as *The Hustler*, *Hud*, *Cool Hand Luke*, *Butch Cassidy and the Sundance Kid*, and *The Sting*, his status as screen icon is cemented in film history. But despite his success on the stage, screen,

and race car tracks, Paul Newman was most passionate about his philanthropic work with gravely and terminally ill children. Come hear about his life and career with film lecturer Frank Mandosa. There will be trailers, free handouts, and chances for movie-themed door prizes.

Sponsored by the Friends of the Shrewsbury Public Library.

Beginner's Chess for All Ages

Tuesday, August 16th
7:00–8:00 p.m., in-person

This class teaches the fundamentals of chess as a strategy game and the most popular game in the world. In one hour, attendees will learn the basics of playing chess including setting up chess pieces, using pawns, how chess pieces move to win, special moves, 10 tips for playing a better game, and how to win a game of chess in four moves. Chess sets will be provided.

Sponsored by the Friends of the Shrewsbury Public Library.

Healthy Garden Recipes

Thursday, August 18th
7:00–8:00 p.m., in-person

Fresh is best! Learn how to prepare healthy meals with the ingredients from a backyard garden. Presented by Kate Donovan of Blackstone Valley Veggie Gardens.

Sponsored by the Friends of the Shrewsbury Public Library.

Find the Love Within, Share the Love with All

Thursday, August 25th
7:00–8:00 p.m., virtual

Learn how to tap into an unlimited source of love and peace through the transformative power of meditation. Join Jim Rose, retired executive of a Fortune 100 Company who has been practicing meditation for over 30 years. At this workshop, participants will have a chance to experience this time-tested, life-changing technique.

English Conversation Circle

Four weekly sessions are offered: On Zoom **Tuesdays from 3:00–4:30 p.m. and on Saturdays from 10:30 a.m.–12:00 p.m., in person at the library on Wednesdays from 10:30 a.m.–11:30 a.m., and in person at St. Anne's Church on Fridays from 10:00 a.m.–11:00 a.m.** These sessions are for adults who wish to practice their English conversational skills. The facilitators make the sessions engaging, interactive, and fun. To register, send an email to splreference@cwmars.org.

Memory Café

Our Good Day Memory Café meets on the **first and third Friday of the month from 2:00–3:30 p.m.** A memory café is a welcoming place for people in the early stages of Alzheimer's or other forms of dementia and their care partners. Facilitators and volunteers enliven the meetings with conversation, music, or other activities to entertain guests.



Children's Room

Weekly Programs

Book Beats

Tuesdays at 10:00 a.m.

A lively early-literacy music and movement program for ages 2–4 years with a caregiver. Siblings welcome. Admittance tokens required.

Babies, Books, and Bubbles

Wednesdays at 10:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m.

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

Wiggle Words

Thursdays at 10:00 a.m.

Join us for singing, dancing, and stories. For walkers up to three years with a caregiver. Siblings welcome. Admittance tokens required.

Tinker Time

Fridays at 10:30 a.m.

Tinker Time is a fun, hands-on learning program for older toddlers and preschoolers. Caregivers and children can explore a variety of age-appropriate stations such as science, technology, engineering, art, and math (S.T.E.A.M.), as well as early-literacy. This is a drop-in program, but space is limited.

Infant Explorers

Monday, June 6th, July 18th, August 1st, and August 15th at 10:00 a.m.

A new program for our littlest patrons to explore the world around them! This sensory program will have children 0–2.9 years old explore through touch, sight, and sound. This program is intended for caregivers to engage one-to-one with their children. Registration is required.

Little Kid Creative Drama

Saturday, June 18th and July 16th at 10:00 a.m.

Come get silly with little ones! Creative drama is a process-focused form of theater that establishes the building blocks of performance. This class will focus on senses, feelings, and movement through fun and imaginative play. Children build confidence, social awareness, empathy, and problem solving skills. Each class has an early literacy component and is aligned with state standards for theater education. This class is for ages 2–5 and a caregiver. Space is limited. Please pre-register starting two weeks prior to the program date.

Summer Reading Kickoff Party!

*Thursday, June 23rd
2:00–4:00 p.m.*

Welcome in summer and reading with this afternoon, all-ages library party!

Join us for the following fun:

Local Author Showcase:
2:00–4:00 p.m.

Lawn Games: 2:00–4:00 p.m.

Children's Activities:

2:00–3:30 p.m.

Teen Games: 2:00–3:30 p.m.

Ice Cream from Uhlmans:

2:00–3:00 p.m.

Magic with Scott Jameson:

3:30–4:20 p.m.

This program requires admittance tickets. Tickets will be available for the program the day before and up to the show, while supplies last.

Summer Reading 2022: Read Beyond the Beaten Path

The challenge starts Monday, June 27th, and goes through Saturday, August 27th

Kids in kindergarten through sixth grade are encouraged to log the minutes they read this summer for a chance to earn cool online badges and specially themed weekly prizes! Reading is tracked online. Register by going to <https://shrewsburyma.beanstack.org>.

Each week this summer, programs and activities will be based around special camp themes. Programs will include Solar Oven S'More Making, an Encanto Party, Engineer a Story, Stuffed Animal Sleepover, themed take-home kits, and so much more! Check our online calendar for a detailed schedule.

Week 1: Camping & Survival Camp

Week 2: Sports & Recreation Camp

Week 3: Art Camp

Week 4: Music Camp

Week 5: Fantasy Camp

Week 6: STEM Camp

Week 7: Spooky Camp

Week 8: Nature & Animals
Camp

Week 9: Eco Camp

AND everytime kids visit the Children's Room during Summer Reading, they can spin the wheel for fun prizes and enter a raffle for a chance to win a Summer Reading Grand Prize!

Career Day with Violet the Clown

Thursday, July 21st
4:15 p.m.

Ever wonder what it would be like to be a clown? This fun, all-ages program will teach you all about it! Violet the Clown will arrive dressed as a person and transform right before your eyes. After Violet has put on her makeup and shoes, she will treat the audience to a comedy magic show. This program requires admittance tickets. Tickets will be available for the program the day before and up to the show, while supplies last.

Ukulele with Julie for Kids

Thursday, July 21st
6:00 p.m.

Want to try an instrument that is fun and easy to play? Join Julie Stepanek as she shows the fundamentals of ukulele playing. Participants will learn how to tune, strum, and read chords, and after a short lesson, attendees will be able to play songs. No experience necessary. Bring your own ukulele or borrow one of Julie's. This program is geared for kids ages 8 to 12. Registration is required.

ImagArena

Wednesday, August 3rd
6:30 p.m.

Much more than a typical building workshop, ImagArena combines the spirit of an art program, the materials of a building workshop, and the framework of a video game to provide an experience that engages everyone. Over the course of the camp, kids ages 7–12 will build a wide variety of creations with materials like Lego,[®] art and crafts materials, and more. Space is limited. Registration is required.

1,000 Books Before Kindergarten

The Shrewsbury Public Library is taking part in this exciting national literacy program for kids ages 0+ and their families. Read to your child, log reading activity, and win free books and a t-shirt upon completion! For more information and to see how you can register your little one, visit our website at <https://bit.ly/3KWf6ID>.

StoryWalk[®]

Visit the StoryWalk[®] at Lake Street Park — 430 Lake Street in Shrewsbury — and stroll through a new picture book every month. Don't forget to look for additional special activities when you're there!

For more information about these programs and more:

Sign up for our Children's Services e-newsletter for exclusive content: <https://bit.ly/3gQ5edS>

Check out our online events calendar: <https://bit.ly/3iz89YT>

Follow us on Facebook: <https://bit.ly/2PLwfU7>

Follow us on Instagram [@SPLChildrensRoom](https://www.instagram.com/SPLChildrensRoom)

Summer Reading Program 2022

Monday, June 27th through
Saturday, August 27th

Keep your reading streak going this summer! Participate in challenges, collect badges, compete with friends, and earn prizes. Sign up on Beanstack at <https://bit.ly/3mr0nDw>. For grades 5–12.

Choose Your Own Adventure Storywalks

Monday, June 27th through Friday,
July 29th and Monday, August 1st
through Friday, August 26th

Take a walk and have an adventure at Lake Street Park! Play through two stories as you walk around and make choices until you reach a triumphant end... or realize you've made a big mistake. No registration necessary. For grades 5–12.

3-D Model Design Workshop

Monday, August 1st
2:00 p.m.

Smartphone amplifier, articulated slug, ultra-loud whistle, keychain, chainmail — you can 3-D print all of these! Taught by an expert from the Rhode Island Computer Museum, this workshop will teach participants how to design 3-D models using BlocksCAD. For grades 5–12. Registration is required.

Escape the Haunted Library

Wednesday, August 10th,
10:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m.
Thursday, August 11th,
10:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m.
Friday, August 12th,
10:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m.

Join us for the latest installment in our popular escape room series! Do you have what it takes to find the clues, solve the puzzles, and escape before you're trapped in the haunted library forever? For grades 5–12. Registration is required.

See the library's calendar for more details and registration info: <https://bit.ly/2JNk89F>

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CHAPTERS

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE SHREWSBURY PUBLIC LIBRARY — SUMMER 2022

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Library Hours

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Fri. 10:00 a.m.—5:00 p.m.
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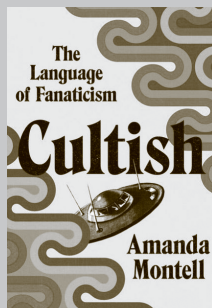
Contact Information

Phone: 508-841-8609
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www.shrewsburypubliclibrary.org

SHREWSBURY
PUBLIC LIBRARY

Cultish: The Language of Fanaticism by Amanda Montell

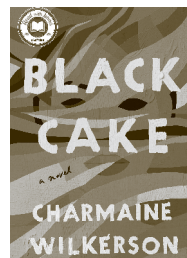
Through its insightful exploration of groups ranging from archetypal extremist cults to social media influencers, public companies, and various communities, *Cultish* offers a fascinating and informative examination of language and its ability to empower, alienate, influence, and subjugate. Why do people join? How are people influenced? Is “brainwashing” a real thing? Incisively witty and darkly humorous, this book answers all of these questions and more, ultimately demonstrating how cultish language pervades society — and all of our lives — on a daily basis.



—STAFF PICKS—

Black Cake by Charmaine Wilkerson

Black Cake is a page-turning, mysterious historical fiction work that spans generations and examines the meaning of origin, history, tradition, and identity. An immersive tale surrounding an estranged family brought together by the matriarch’s death, the novel moves back and forth in time, drawing the reader in as it slowly unfurls its complex and shocking secrets.



Lugosi: The Rise and Fall of Hollywood's Dracula by Koren Shadmi

This graphic biography chronicles the life of famed actor Bela Lugosi, best known for his masterful portrayal of Count Dracula in the legendary 1931 film, *Dracula*. Opening in the latter portion of Lugosi’s life, the book delves into his fraught early life in Hungary, tumultuous relationships, immigration to America, Tinseltown failures and successes, and professional and personal decline. A sad yet fascinating examination of an icon and a must-read for classic horror enthusiasts.



~Reviews by Amanda