
Southwick Public Library

95 Feeding Hills Road • Southwick, MA 01077 • 413-569-1221

Library Hours

Mondays and Tuesdays, 10 a.m. to 8 p.m.

Wednesdays, 1 p.m. to 8 p.m.

Thursdays & Fridays, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Saturdays, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. • Closed Sundays

On Town website: www.southwickma.org/library
Independent Library website: www.southwicklibrary.info

Library Links

Southwick Public Library

February 2010

Member of the Western Mass Regional Library System ([WMRLS](http://www.wmrls.org))

Friends Mailing To Support Library Budget Increase

Friends of the Southwick Public Library voted to send a mailing to all members endorsing a level funded 2011 budget for the library, which is currently operating under a 6.9% decrease mandated for FY 2010. According to President Peter Heap, a letter will be sent explaining that the FY 2011 budget calls for a 10% decrease from the existing 2010 budget. The letter will outline the budget situation along with the benefits of being a Friend. A post card addressed to the town's Selectmen explaining members' concerns with space to personalize those concerns will be enclosed.

Heap noted that the existing budget will result in perceivable decreases on the shelves by June 30, and the 2011 one will impact even further on materials, and other library operations items including supplies and programming. The matter is set to go before the *Finance Committee* February 20, 2010 at 11a.m. in the Land Use Room, Town Hall. All Friends are invited.

Job & Career Accelerator **Available At Library/Remotely**

A comprehensive online job search system will be available beginning February 1, 2010 at the Southwick Public Library or remotely to help overwhelmed job seekers find employment. The innovative online resource provides job seekers everything they need to find their next job, all in one easy-to-use application. The online program funded by the *Friends of the Southwick Public Library* is available to patrons at no charge with their library card and can be accessed at the library or from any internet enabled computer. (continued on page 2)

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Go to www.southwickma.org/library and link to the library. The resource provides personalized step-by-step assistance for job seekers at all experience and education levels. Users can create professional resumes and cover letters, master interviewing and networking techniques, improve work-related skills, and prepare for occupation-related exams.

Annual Report Notes Successes

The 2009 Annual Report of the *Southwick Public Library* shows increased participation in its annual Suntime Reading Program in all categories - Adults, YAs (Young Adults), and Children. Adults broke all records of entries made by logging 310 entries during the six-week course of their 7th Annual Suntime Reading Program compared to the 239 logged in 2008. The YAs and Children showed a similar increase with 1338 visits outdoing the 1183 noted in 2008. The figures break down as 345 children and 65 YAs making a total of 1220 and 118 visits respectively.

Library statistics proved interesting. While our computer usage of 3870 in 2009 did not trump the 3905 of 2008, reference questions for 2009 of 3200 did outdo the 3141 seen in 2008, and the 2009 high of 708 new patrons bested the 664 seen in 2008.

In August of 2009 the library was able to acquire *Value Line*-a resource made up of more than a dozen print products which are used by more than half-a-million investors for timely information on stocks, mutual funds, special situations, options and convertible. It goes hand in hand with the library's development of a Business and Career Center.

Also, the *Southwick Cultural Council*, a division of the Massachusetts Cultural Council, led the pack of library contributors by making possible six programs involving all-aged children, one family program, and one adult program. *Shurtleff Children's Services* funded a children's grant which promoted love of the earth and awareness of alternative means of preserving natural resources, while funding from *Sarah Gillett Services for the Elderly, Inc.* supported the funding of current retirement and financial guidance materials.

The *Community Partnership Council* funded two children's programs, and the Friends of the Library's support of a magic program allowed the initiation of 220 kindergarteners to the library, while their funding of an adult workshop on Chinese low-fat cooking was a big hit with attendees who tasted the specialties.

February Events

February 3	Adult Book Discussion, 6:30 pm
February 9 16* 22	Storytimes for 2s, 10:30 am
February 11-13	Valentine Drop-In-Craft.
February 17 *	Bedtime Storytime, 6:30 pm
February 18*	Bagalope Workshop Gr. 4-6, 10:30am
February 19*	Robert Rivest Healthy Choices Program, 1:30 p.m. *School Vacation Activities

The Library will be closed President's Day, Feb. 15

In The Display Case

American Legion Post 338 memorabilia through March 2010

In the Laporte Gallery

Gloria Woodall, oil & acrylic

Book Group To Discuss Stein Book, Plan For Caruso Book Talk

The Adult Book Discussion group will take up Garth Stein's book *The Art of Racing in the Rain* during its Wednesday, February 3, 2010 meeting at 6:30 p.m. in the library's Community Room. The March offering will be a book talk by Amy Liptak Caruso who will discuss her mystery novel *The Black Squirrel Ball* beginning at 6:30 p.m. on Wednesday, March 3, 2010. The talk will be followed by a question and answer period, and a book signing.

Caruso of Southwick combines local history (think Stanley Park), her creative imagination, and her family's tall tales in her work.

All are invited to attend these book discussions and book talks.

CHILDREN AND TEEN NEWS

NEW MATERIALS

Adult Books

How Not To Make A Wish, Mindy Klasky; *The Black Squirrel Ball*, Amy Liptaktak Caruso; *The Love Ceiling*, Jean Davies Okimoto; *A Single Rose*, Barbara Delinsky; *Sizzle*, Julie Garwood; *Deeper Than Dead*, Tami Hoag; *The Honor Of Spies*, W. E. B. Griffin; *Remarkable Creatures*, Tracy Chevalier; *Fired Up*, Jayne Ann Krentz; *Committed*, Elizabeth Gilbert

Adult CD Books

Ice, Linda Howard; *Rise & Shine*, Anna Quinlin; *Say Goodbye*, Lisa Gardner; *Where Men Win Glory*, Jon Krakauer.

Adult DVDs

G I Joe (PG-13), Night At The Musuem (PG), Seven Pounds (PG-13), X Men Origins Wolverine (PG-13)

Childrens DVDs

The Game Plan (PG), The House Without A Christmas Tree (NR), Shrek The Halls (NR), Tinkerbell (G)

New Young Adult

Dragonfly, Julia Golding; *The walls have eyes*, Clare B. Dunkle; *Calamity Jack*, Shannon and Dean Hale; *Back home*, Julia Keller; *Mirrorscape*, Mike Wilks; and *Clash of the demons (Last Apprentice series)*, Joseph Delaney.

New in Children's Room

Elephants cannot dance!, by Mo Willems; *Cork & Fuzz: Finders keepers* by Dori Chaconas; *Good Dog, Aggie*, by Lori Ries; *Bones and the roller coaster mystery* by David A. Adler; *Bears in Chairs*, by Shirley Parenteau; *Come to the Fairies Ball*, by Jane Yolen; *Floramel and Esteban*, by Emilie Buchwald.

Teen Center to Open February 24

The Community Room will be open as a Teen Center on Wednesday February 24th from 3-4 p.m. for 7th – 12th graders. Teens will be able to play games (board games, Wii system games) and socialize with their friends. In January, we discussed with the teens what other activities they would like to have available. In the future, we plan on implementing some of these ideas. All 7th-12th graders are invited.

February Storytimes

Children (ages 2-5) and their parents/caregivers are invited to come to the Children's Room on Wednesday evening, February 17th at 6:30 p.m. for our fun-filled Bedtime Storytime. Children may come dressed in their pajamas to listen to their favorite stories and to do an easy craft. Registration is not necessary for this program.

Time for Twos is for 2-year olds on Tuesday, February 9, 16 and 22. Stories and crafts about penguins, trains and more. Pre-register in the Children's Room or call 569-1221.

Healthy Choices with Mime Robert Rivest

"Healthy Choices" is a high-energy comedy program in which health and humor go hand in hand at Southwick Public Library on Friday February 19 at 1:30 pm. Robert Rivest's humorous insights connects deeply children, teens, and adults, moving them to make mindful choices about food. Shurtleff Children's Serv. Inc. is funding this program.

Teen Volunteer Training Begins February 9

The library will be holding training sessions for teens interested in volunteering at the library on Tuesday, February 9th and Wednesday, February 10th from 3:00-3:45 pm. This program is available to students in grades 7-12. Participants must attend both training sessions to participate.

After completing training, the volunteers will be scheduled weekly for one hour from March through the end of school to help primarily with shelving books. Certificates will be provided to all volunteers, which they may use to verify hours of community service. If you have any questions, please call or visit the *Reference Desk*.

Create-A-Bagalope Workshop for Teens

Teens are invited to attend a fun workshop in the *Community Room* on Thursday, February 18th from 2:30-3:30 to make bagalopes, little bags made from an envelope and used to "gift wrap" items such as gift cards, money, candies, cookies and other small items. Teens will use a scoring tool, rubber stamps, embossing tools, ribbon and other embellishments to create these unique items. A sample will be available at the Reference Desk beginning in February.