



THE BEAMAN BROWSER

Published quarterly by The Beaman Memorial Public Library, West Boylston, MA 01583

Volume XX, No. 3, Summer 2009

Website: <http://www.beamanlibrary.org>



How to reach us:

Main Desk: 508.835.3711

Children's: 508.835.2980

Fax: 508.835.4770

TTY: 508.835.4936

Library Hours:

Tues.: 10 a.m. – 8:00 p.m.

Wed.: 6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.

Thurs.: 10 a.m. – 8:00 p.m.

Fri.: 1 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.

Closed Sat., Sun. & Mon.

“Libraries will get you through times of no money better than money will get you through times of no libraries”,

*Natalie Design
ALA, 1991*



These are strange times for library supporters and officials. Individuals, businesses, and community groups continue to strongly support the library with donations and with their time; yet, at the same time, town officials struggle valiantly to fund the community's library. Library use is up while the library budget is reduced. There is a constant battle waged against the reality of local library services and the notion that libraries are somehow obsolete or non-essential.

For the majority of people in West Boylston, the Library shares the essential nature of other municipal and community organizations. Communities that are thriving, even just surviving within today's economic challenges, are made up of many such successful groups, a single fabric from many threads.

In 1912 this community received a gift of inestimable value from a humble, yet successful farmer George Calvin Rice. On September 6, 1912 the dedication of the Beaman Memorial Public Library took place. At that time the library was open to the public for 22 hours each week and by 1929, with the Great Depression looming, the library was open for 26 hours per week.

While times have changed and libraries are very different places in 2009 than they were in 1929, the economic challenge facing West Boylston and its citizens at this time is equally great. The Trustees and staff will have to struggle to maintain the current level of services and hours within the reduced budget for FY2010, but we know we are all in this together and we will rise to the challenge.

A strong and vibrant library is necessary for continued community sustainability as an educational institution for all citizens and as a worthy partner for other public and private entities such as: schools, businesses, and organizations. Our supporters recognize that we each need to cherish and promote all our public places, public services, and public professionals. We all need to remain strong in order for West Boylston to continue to be perceived as a great place to live and raise our families and as a wonderful place to retire. With your continued support, we will be here to help make that happen.

Public Meetings:

Beaman Memorial Public

Library Board of Trustees will

meet on June 2, 2009 at 7 p.m.

in the Muriel Stiles Meeting

Room.

**The public is always
welcome.**

Did You Know?

We now have the Select Board

Meetings recorded on DVD.

Just ask at the desk if you

would like to borrow one.



We are a charter member of the
Central Massachusetts Regional
Library System.

Louise Howland
Director

ADULT EVENTS

Adult Book Group

Have you considered joining our Book Discussion Group? It's an easy-going group with interesting discussions. Extra copies of the selected books are available at the circulation desk one month in advance. BDG is typically held on the third Thursday of the month from 12:30 to 1:30 p.m. The book selected for June 18 is The Kindness of Strangers by Katrina Kittle. July 16 the title is: The Alchemist by Paulo Coelho and on August 20, we will discuss Eat, Pray, Love by Elizabeth Gilbert. Join us for one book, the books that interest you, or every month!

Adult Summer Reading Program

Join our annual Summer Reading Program. Adults may read or listen to any books in the library and then submit chances for gift certificates donated by local restaurants. No registration required, just read and enjoy! The adult program will start on June 23 and ends on August 21.

Family Reading & Ice Cream Social

Thursday, August 20 from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m.


Join us for our Annual Family Reading Night. Just pledge to read together on this evening and join families across West Boylston as they discover the pleasure of reading. After you have enjoyed your books, join us at the front steps of the Library for an old-fashioned ice cream social. If you prefer, bring your blankets or lawn chairs and read together on our front lawn. Please be sure to register for this evening of community fun.

Understanding Fibromyalgia: a Holistic Approach to Chronic Pain and Fatigue Workshop

Speaker: Mike Mitchell a volunteer for the Foundation for Wellness Professionals
Wednesday, June 17 from 7 to 8 p.m.


People who are suffering with fibromyalgia are desperate for relief from the constant nagging symptoms, pain and fatigue. This workshop will educate the audience about safe, effective and natural alternative methods for addressing fibromyalgia and chronic pain symptoms.

Butterflies of the Northeast

Speaker: John Root, naturalist/educator
Wednesday, June 24 from 6:30 to 8 p.m. 


This workshop offers enchanting images of butterflies throughout their life cycles. ... audience will learn the distinguishing characteristics of butterfly families, their ranges, habitats, seasons of activity, host plants and adaptations. Handouts will be available at the conclusion of the program.



The Finest Hour with author Mike Tougias
Tuesday, July 14 from 6 to 8 p.m. 

On February 18, 1952, an astonishing maritime event began when a ferocious nor'easter split in half a 500-foot long oil tanker, the *Pendleton*, approximately one mile off the coast of Cape Cod, Massachusetts. Mike Tougias, co-author of *The Finest Hours*, will use slides of the storm, the sinking tankers, the rescues, the victims, the survivors and the heroes to tell the story of this historic event.



Job Hunting Workshop
Presenter: Louise Howland
Wednesday, July 22 from 6:30 to 8 p.m. 

Just laid off? Need to get back into the job market? Don't know where to start? Sometimes all it takes are a few tips and the job search process takes off! Join Louise as she presents an overview of some of the many reliable websites and describes some of the local support available to people on the hunt for a job. This workshop will not be "hands on."

How to Request Materials Online from C/WMARS

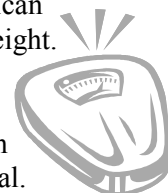
Presenter: Louise Howland
Tuesday, August 11 from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m.

Find it! Request it! Receive it! It is simple to do; just follow just a few easy steps. While you can't use our library's card in the C/WMARS system, you're not blocked from the convenience of online browsing. Stop by and find out just how easy it can be.

Five Secrets to Permanent Weight Loss

Speaker: Mike Mitchell a volunteer for the Foundation for Wellness Professionals
Wednesday, August 19 from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m.

This presentation covers three of the most serious concerns for the American public: looking better, feeling better, and feeling younger while losing weight. This presentation will educate the audience about how the body and metabolism works; why most diets don't work; the true value of being healthy and fit; how food, water, and medication play a roll in their health and how pain limits a person from achieving his or her full health potential.



COMMUNITY

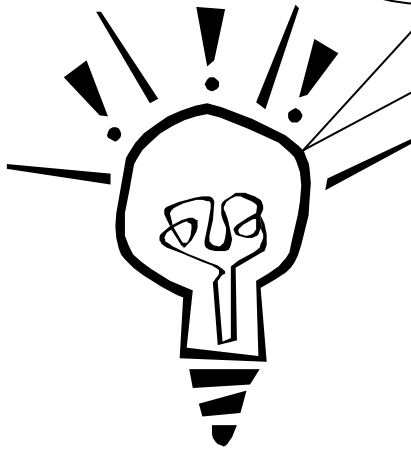
The Beaman Library thanks the townspeople of West Boylston for their support through this difficult budget process. We would like to share some of our patrons' comments which were recorded during "Library Lovers Month."

"The library is West Boylston's Community Center! It's my favorite place in town!"

"I also love it for the comfortable atmosphere and fun activities. I love the Pizza & Pages Book Group, movie nights and random fun events."



"A library is a community's intellectual resource center. The sense of community that is enhanced by the local library can never be replaced by the internet."



"There are great activities going on. The library is the most wonderful place in town (second to home)!"

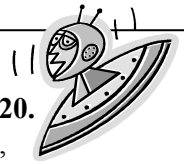


"The library is the most awesome place ever! There is no other place like it."

"I watch our children at the library become absorbed in their selections. They sit down and are engrossed in a book in no time. The Beaman Library has made our children avid readers."



TOTALLY FOR TEENS



Out of This World Contests

Throughout the summer, the library will have space-related contests for you to try. They will quiz your knowledge of space movies, music and trivia. Prizes will be given to the winner of each contest. Ask at the desk for details or look for them online at: <http://www.beamanlibrary.org/TeenSpaceQuiz.html>



Step up to the Plate

People of all ages are encouraged to use the print and electronic resources available at the library to answer a series of trivia questions designed for their age group and inspired by the history and diversity of our national pastime. One grand-prize winner will receive a trip for two in October to the Hall of Fame's World Series Gala event in Cooperstown, N.Y.! Stop by the library for more information!

The Middle School Book Discussion Group will be held during the summer. Any student entering 6th through 8th grade are welcome to join in! Call the library for more details.

High School and Middle School Summer Reading Program

Registration begins Tuesday, June 23 and ends on Thursday, August 20.

It's time for the Teen Summer Reading Program! This summer's program, "Find Out What's Out There at the Library," is based on a space theme. Come into the library to sign up, or keep track of your reading online by registering and logging your books at: www.readsinma.org/wboylston. Each book you read over the summer entitles you to a chance in both the weekly raffle for movie tickets and the end-of-the-summer raffle for gift certificates to great stores! Prize donations are most welcome! This summer's program is sponsored by your local library, the Massachusetts Regional Library Systems, and the Massachusetts Board of Library Commissioners.

WBMHS Summer Reading Books will be available at the library after mid-June. They have a shorter (2-week) loan period and are not renewable in order to allow more students to have access to the books throughout the summer. We encourage you to check out only what you can read in two weeks and return them promptly. ☺

Spaceopoly/Monopoly Marathon

Thursday, June 25 from 12 – 3 p.m.

Stop by and space out a bit at the library during an afternoon Monopoly & Spaceopoly Marathon. We will have multiple game boards and snacks to help keep your energy up!

See What's Out There – On Your Computer! With Bruce Irving.

Tuesday, July 21 from 6:30 – 8 p.m.

The Hubble Space Telescope has fresh batteries and new instruments. The Mars Rovers are still roving Mars after 5 years. It's been 40 years since Apollo 11 landed on the Moon, and the Space Shuttles are still flying, though only for another 18 months or so. NASA is exploring the solar system, and with the help of free simulators on your computer, you can "See What's Out There" too. JPL Solar System Ambassador Bruce Irving will show you how in this exciting presentation! Each attendee will participate in a drawing for space-related prizes, including a chance to try your hand at landing a simulated space shuttle. Sign up required. Limited to 20 participants, grade 6 to adult.



Book Lovers' Video-casting

Tuesday, August 4 from 10 – 3 p.m.

Be the STAR of your own Book Review Video. Come to the library on August 4 with one or more of your favorite book(s) and make a recording about why it was great! Or if you'd rather, record your video from home and submit it to the library. Final recordings will be posted on our teen website page. Get more details at the library.

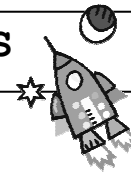
Star Trek at the library

Thursday, August 13 from 6 – 9 p.m.

Come with some friends and "beam down" to the cool meeting room to watch the Star Trek (hopefully, the new one), or some other space movie. Popcorn and freeze dried ice cream will be provided! Alien-ware is optional. Please sign up for this program.

Don't forget to sign up for the wonderful programs planned for this season. The pencil symbol in the newsletter means that we recommend you sign up ahead of time for the program. For some programs, sign-up is mandatory. **Town residents are given priority for all program sign-ups. Non-residents will be wait-listed for all programs and admitted if space allows.**





Take a Story Book Character on Vacation

The Children's Room has acquired several storybook characters through the years and each summer we offer them to children going on vacation. All we ask is that you take pictures of your character (and yourself) on vacation and possibly send us a postcard. It makes a great display! Join the fun as we watch how far our characters travel each year. Some have gone as far as the Grand Canyon and Paris, France. Thank you to the Friends of the Library and patron donations of our furry friends!

**Drop-In Story Time
Thursdays, July 2, 16, 23 & 30 at 11:00-11:30 a.m.**

Join volunteers Becky O'Brien or Tammy Bourque for an informal 1/2 hour of fun-filled stories in the Children's Room every Thursday morning. There is no registration so come once, twice or as many times as your schedule permits.

**Sue's Super Summer
"Make-it, Take-it,
Drop-in Craft"**

**Tuesday, July 7 & 14,
all day**

Stop in anytime on July 7 to make a bookmark and July 14 to make a key chain. All materials will be supplied!

**Summer Reading Program
June 23 – August 11**

It's that wonderful time of year again – fun programs and great prizes! This year's program, **"Starship Adventure at your Library"** is sponsored by Beaman Library, the Massachusetts Regional Library System, and the Massachusetts Board of Library Commissioners. To participate, children young and old can register anytime starting June 23 in the Children's Room. Children can start logging books that day to get a head start on summer! The Friends of the Library, local businesses and patrons provide financial support for the prizes, activities and programs. For details or to donate, stop by the Children's Room or call 508-835-2980.

Prizes, Prizes, Prizes

Families wishing to donate a prize for our Summer Reading Program may do so by dropping it off in the Children's Room or by making a donation and we'll shop for the prizes.



SUMMER READING PROGRAM KICKOFF

"TOE JAM BAND IN OUTER SPACE" – AT THE BANDSTAND!

Wednesday, June 24 at 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. (In case of rain, a limited number of people will be able to attend the program in the Stiles Meeting Room.)

Zip into outer space with Zip from the planet Blip in search of an original Toe Jam and "Ice Cream from Another Planet". You'll travel around the planets in our solar system and in other galaxies. You'll even meet a few aliens along the way. Dance the Big Dipper and the Moon Rock with the Toe Jam Crew on an asteroid far, far away. Sign up now!

"Freebie" Thursday – July 9

Stop in all day. Check out 5 or more books and receive your "freebie"! You'll enjoy a surprise treat only while supplies last, so come in early!

17th Annual Children's Pet Show

WHO: Any pet, real or otherwise

WHEN: **Wednesday, July 15 at 6:30 p.m.**

RAIN DATE: Wednesday, July 22 at 6:30 P.M.

WHERE: Town Common; COST: \$.50 per pet at registration

REGISTRATION: June 9 – July 10 in the Children's Room or register at the Pet Show



DON'T FORGET--LAST DAY TO LOG BOOKS IS TUESDAY, AUGUST 11!!!

We will notify prizewinners by phone starting Thursday, August 13.

**Family Reading Night & Ice Cream Social
Thursday, August 20 at 6:30-7:30 p.m.**

Bring a blanket and join us on the front lawn for some quiet "family "reading time. At 7:00 we'll bring out the ice cream and toppings, and have a sweet ending to a relaxing evening. Register at the adult or children's desk.



CLASSES COMING SOON...

Preschool Story Time Registration

Beginning Tuesday, August 18 we will begin registering children ages 3 & up for *Preschool Story Time* with classes starting in September. Any child, who turned 3 BEFORE August 31, 2009 and does not yet attend kindergarten, is eligible to register for this program. The schedule is: September 15, 22, 29 & October 6, 13, 20 from 6-6:45 p.m.

Next Newsletter... Watch for information on our Mother Goose baby class and our Books and Blankies toddler class!

Beaman Memorial Public Library
8 Newton Street
West Boylston, MA 01583

Non-Profit Organization
U.S. Postage Paid
Permit # 80
West Boylston, MA
01583

****ECRWSS****
Residential Customer
West Boylston, MA 01583

Printing of the newsletter is sponsored by donations from the public. Mailing is sponsored by the Friends of the Library

Books may be deposited anytime in the book return box on Newton Street. Please do not deposit audio or videotapes overnight, or CDs at any time.
Printed by the **Central Massachusetts Regional Library System**.
Newsletter Staff: Director: Louise Howland; Co-Editors: Jackie Pruneau, Cecile Lindberg, and Denise Donoghue; Design: Sue Gomes.



Today's message is simply one of thanks. After an active few months of writing letters, signing petitions and attending town meetings, the townspeople of West Boylston have been heard, and the Beaman Library remains open and (nearly) fully funded for another year. It became clear to our town leaders that our library is a precious resource that we are NOT willing to give up, regardless of the difficult financial challenges the town is facing. I am so grateful to all of you, to our calm and tireless Director and her magnificent staff, and to the relentless Friends' Board and Trustees, who respectfully spoke up and made their feelings known in so many ways, and who did not surrender when things looked the bleakest.

You will be seeing and hearing more from the Friends through this next year, as we have realized the importance and ongoing need for creative and impactful ways to advocate and generate funding on behalf of the Beaman Library.

In humble gratitude,

Sally J. Phelps
President
Friends of the Beaman