

# BEAMAN BROWSER

## *What's new at Beaman Memorial Public Library*

8 Newton Street, West Boylston, MA 01583 ~ 508.835.3711 ~ [www.beamanlibrary.org](http://www.beamanlibrary.org) ~ [beaman@cwmar.org](mailto:beaman@cwmar.org)

Spring Library Hours: Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday: 10:00 a.m.-8:00 p.m., Friday, Saturday: 10:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m.

Holiday Closing: Saturday, May 25

Dear West Boylston Library Community,

Greetings to each and every one of you from the heart of our vibrant town! It has been a wonderful journey since stepping into the role of Library Director on December 11th. In the few months that have passed, I have been deeply impressed by the incredible sense of community that defines our Library.

Your voices are crucial in shaping the direction of Beaman Library, and I am committed to ensuring that this space remains a dynamic and responsive resource for everyone. The Library belongs to all of us, and I welcome your feedback, thoughts, suggestions, and ideas. Together, let's continue to enhance our community space and make it a hub for knowledge, cultural discoveries, and community connections.

As we transition into the blossoming days of spring, I'm genuinely excited about the future as we map out the journey for our Library. For those who already frequent its shelves, our Library is a special place, and I'm eager to explore new ways to enhance its appeal. Let's work together to cultivate Beaman Library into a lively hub for everyone.

This edition of the Beaman Browser highlights an exciting lineup of programs and events coming this spring. Whether you're a familiar face or a newcomer, I extend a warm invitation to you to visit the Library this spring and immerse yourself in the range of activities we have planned for the coming months.

I'm thankful for the opportunity to work with our dedicated staff and engage with each of you in the time ahead. Let's build on the strong foundation we have and continue making our Library an even more cherished and welcoming space for everyone.

Thank you for being an integral part of our library family. Here's to a spring season filled with shared stories, exciting discoveries, and the continued growth of our beloved Beaman Library!

Warm regards,

Michael Long  
Library Director  
Beaman Memorial Public Library



**Board of Trustees Meetings**  
*All meetings are at 5:00 p.m.*  
**Please contact the Library**  
**for location details.**  
Tuesday, March 12  
Tuesday, April 9  
Tuesday, May 7

**Friends Meetings**  
*All meetings are at 6:00 p.m.*  
**Please contact the Library for**  
**location details.**  
Tuesday, April 16

**Endowment Update**  
The February 14, 2024  
balance at Greater Worcester  
Community Foundation was  
\$283,513.94

**Newsletter Staff**  
Director: Mike Long  
Co-Editors:  
Lauren Espe  
Sandie Kelly  
Jessica Wright

# Adults

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Visit [beamanlibrary.org](https://beamanlibrary.org) to register for events online!  
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## Backyard Chickens

Thursday, March 7 at 6:00 p.m.



Have you ever wanted to keep your own flock of chickens? A representative from Poulin Grain will present on the basics of backyard chickens and answer your questions.

## Libby 101: Accessing Digital Library Books

Saturday, March 9 at 10:00 a.m.

Hands-on assistance with the Libby installation process and app set up will be provided. Please include the type of device you will be bringing in the comment section of the online registration form.

## Italian Conversation Circle

Saturdays at 10:00 a.m.

March 9 and 23, April 13 and 27, May 11 and 18

Join us to speak Italian exclusively for two hours!

## Stress Reduction and Relaxation Yoga with

Carol McGuiggan

Wednesdays at 6:30 p.m.

March 13, April 10, and May 8

Experience the benefits of gentle yoga stretches, calming breath techniques, and the value of meditation. Dress for movement. Bring your yoga mat or a thick towel.

*\*Registration will open the month before the program.*

## Pi Day

Thursday, March 14 (3.14) - *While Pies Last!*

Celebrate one of the greatest numbers of all time! When you stop by the Library and complete a logic puzzle, we'll give you a pie in honor of Pi Day! Thank you to Worcester-based Table Talk Pies for the donations.

## Mindful Meditation with Carol McGuiggan

Wednesdays at 6:30 p.m.

March 20, April 17, and May 15

This class is open to individuals wishing to develop inner awareness, health, and well-being. Bring a yoga mat or sitting cushion and a receptive attitude. *\*Registration will open the month before the program.*

## Book Discussion Group

Thursdays at 12:30 p.m.

Join us to discuss a selected title. Books will be available one month prior to the meeting date.

March 21: *Every Note Played* by Lisa Genova

April 18: *Beryl Blue, Time Cop* by Janet Raye Stevens

May 16: *The Art Thief* by Michael Finkel

## Technology Office Hours

Thursdays from 2:15 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.

March 21, April 18, and May 16

During this 45-minute appointment, get help with your device or technology-related questions! Please call the Library to reserve your time slot.

## Stewarding Native Plant Communities

Thursday, March 21 at 6:00 p.m.

This workshop will review the importance of native plants and the role they play in sustaining healthy ecological functions in our communities. We will look at different scales of stewardship, from public lands to backyards, and provide attendees the tools to make an environmentally conscious impact at home.

## Nonfiction Book Discussion Group

Fridays at 1:00 p.m.

Join us to discuss a nonfiction title. Books will be available one month prior to the meeting date.

March 29: *438 Days: An Extraordinary True Story of Survival at Sea* by Jonathan Franklin

April 26: *River of the Gods: Genius, Courage, and Betrayal in the Search for the Source of the Nile* by Candice Millard

May 31: *The Case Against Sugar* by Gary Taubes

## Seed Swap

Saturday, April 6 at 10:30 a.m.



Swap flower and/or vegetable seeds with your fellow local gardeners.

## Up-Cycled Pressed Flower Lantern

Thursday, April 11 at 6:30 p.m.

Make your own beautiful, pressed flower lantern using an up-cycled glass jar. A perfect addition to your spring and summer tablescape!

## Book Discussion with Janet Raye Stevens

Thursday, April 18 at 12:30 p.m.

Join Janet Raye Stevens, author of the *Beryl Blue, Time Cop* series, to discuss the first book in the series. *Beryl Blue, Time Cop* is available at the circulation desk now to give all a chance to read it. We recommend placing a hold on the item to ensure getting a copy.

## Relax with Watercolors

Thursday, May 9 at 6:30 p.m.

Experience not needed! Follow a tutorial to create a beautiful watercolor design. All materials are provided.



Friends members get exclusive access to the annual fall book sale before it opens to the public. Join or renew your Friends membership to take advantage of this special offer.

Visit <https://beamanlibrary.org/get-involved/friends-of-beaman-library/> to join or renew!

# Teens

Ages 12-18

Visit [beamanlibrary.org/events/categories/teen/](http://beamanlibrary.org/events/categories/teen/)  
to register for events online!

## Settlers of Catan

**Saturdays, March 2, April 6, and May 4 at 2:00 p.m.**

Join other teens to play Catan, a board game that requires strategic resource management as you settle a new world and attempt to create the largest kingdom.

## Writing Workshop

**Wednesdays, March 20, April 17, and May 15 at 6:00 p.m.**

Gather with other teens who enjoy creative writing! Participants will explore writing prompts, share current works, provide and receive constructive feedback, and engage in lively discussions with friendly, supportive peers. Occasional local author visits are scheduled too!

## Play Commander

**Saturdays, March 23 and April 27 at 2:00 p.m.**

Play the Commander format of ***Magic: The Gathering!*** This is not a teaching program; knowledge of the game is required. Two decks will be provided by the Library if needed, but bringing your own deck is preferable.

## Karaoke Night!

**Thursdays, March 28, April 25, and May 23 at 6:30 p.m.**

Join West Boylston Middle High School's Tri-M Music Honor Society for an evening of karaoke! Light refreshments will be served. *All ages are welcome!*

## The Golden Ticket

**Ongoing in April and May**

*"Wouldn't it be something, Charlie, to open a bar of candy and see a Golden Ticket glistening inside!"* (Dahl, 1964, p. 21). During the months of April and May books in the Teen collection will have Golden Tickets hidden inside. If a Golden Ticket is found inside an item you check out, you will receive a chocolate bar (or other delicious snack)! But, keep in mind, tickets are limited...

## The Tiny Art Show Returns!

**Kits Available Throughout the Month of April**

To participate, register online to reserve an art kit. Bring your kit home to create your tiny masterpiece. *Return your work to the Library by April 26 so that it may be included in the Library's Tiny Art Show display between May 1 and May 31.* Participating artists will be entered into an art-related prize drawing!

## Teen Advisory Group

**Tuesdays, April 2 and May 7 at 4:00 p.m.**

Join the Teen Advisory Group (TAG) and advise the Teen Librarian about programming offered by the Library, collection development (i.e. book and video game purchases), and more all while eating snacks! Volunteer hours will be awarded to attendees.

## Open Play After Hours Gaming Event

**Friday, April 5 at 6:00 p.m.**

One Up Games is back with another three hour video game free play event! Explore virtual worlds with the Oculus Quest, or play the latest titles on Xbox Series S, PlayStation 4, and Nintendo Switch! Bring a friend! *For ages 10 to 17.*

## Nintendo Switch Gaming

**Fridays, April 12 and 26, May 10 and 24 at 3:00 p.m.**

Come to the Library to play Nintendo Switch games on our huge SMART Board! One Nintendo Switch and a selection of games to play will be provided.

## Craft and Chat

**Tuesdays, April 16 and May 21 at 3:00 p.m.**

Stop by the Library to have a space to chat with friends while completing a simple craft. Shrinky Dinks will be available in April and Perler beads will be available in May.

## Worcester Youth Poet Laureate, Serenity Jackson

**Wednesday, April 17 at 6:00 p.m.**

Beaman Library is excited to welcome the newly appointed Worcester Youth Poet Laureate Serenity Jackson! Serenity will join our writing workshop for an evening focused on the craft of poetry. This is an exciting opportunity for teen writers - register early!

## Oatmeal Cookie Day

**Tuesday, April 30 at 4:00 p.m.**

Today is Oatmeal Cookie Day! Come to the Library to learn how to make a single-serve chocolate chip oatmeal cookie to celebrate this great day!

## Enchanted Book Garden

**Friday, May 3 at 1:00 p.m.**

What better way to give life to an old book than by turning it into an enchanted garden! All materials will be provided. As an added bonus, this would make a great Mother's Day gift for an important person in your life.

## Percy Jackson Trivia for Tweens

**Friday, May 17 at 1:00 p.m.**

Are you a Percy Jackson superfan? Test your knowledge of demigods, monsters, and Greek myths with a trivia challenge competition! *For ages 9-12.*





# Children

Birth to Age 11

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Visit [beamanlibrary.org](http://beamanlibrary.org) to register for events online!  
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## Dr. Seuss Day Story Time

**Saturday, March 2 at 11:00 a.m.**

Would you, could you, at the Library? Join us for a special story time celebrating the life and work of Dr. Seuss! *All ages welcome.*

## Dr. Seuss Story and Craft

**Wednesday, March 6 at 10:15 a.m.**

No registration required.



## Homeschool Hangout

**Wednesday, March 13 at 1:00 p.m.**

Homeschooling families are invited to meet up and make connections at the Library. We'll share snacks, games, and make new friends as we plan for more homeschooling adventures to come. *All ages.*

## Pi Day Story and Craft

**Wednesday, March 13 at 2:00 p.m.**

Pi Day is on 3/14, so we'll use this afternoon to get ready! We'll make play-dough pies to take home and learn more about the fascinating mathematical concept of pi. *Ages 8-11.*

## St. Patrick's Day Dance Celebration

**Thursday, March 14 at 5:00 p.m.**

Enjoy St. Patrick's Day with an Irish step-dancing demonstration from Jazziaks Dance School! *All ages.*

## Spring Wreath Making

**Friday, March 15 from 11:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.**

Celebrate the return of warmer weather by making a beautiful spring wreath to welcome the season. Sign up at the Library for a timeslot for your family. *Ages 3 and up.*

## First Day of Spring Story and Craft

**Wednesday, March 20 at 10:15 a.m.**

No registration necessary.

## National Crayon Day

**Wednesday, April 3 at 2:00 p.m.**

The Library's crayons have all quit and gone on vacation! Help us find them with a scavenger hunt around the Library before we welcome them home with a crayon party! *All ages.*

## Movement and Music with Ms. Meredith

**Saturday, April 6 at 11:00 a.m.**

Join Ms. Meredith as she shares her love of music and movement with you and your children. The class will have stretching exercises, dancing, and fun moves everyone can do (even the parents and caregivers). This is a drop in class, no registration needed.

## Let's Go On an Adventure Story and Craft

**Wednesday, April 10 at 10:15 a.m.**

No registration required.

## »»» School Vacation Week «««

### Potions Class

**Tuesday, April 16 at 1:00 p.m.**

In this Harry Potter inspired workshop, we will mix a little of this and a little of that for some exciting potions! *Ages 8-11.*

### Peep Creations

**Wednesday, April 17**

**10:30 a.m. for ages 2-5; 2:00 p.m. for ages 6 and up**

Make a "Peep-Tastic" artsy display inspired by this classic marshmallowy treat!

### Beaman Bakers Baking Extravaganza

**Thursday, April 18 at 2:00 p.m.**

The Beaman Bakers will show off their skills with a final presentation of baked goodies! All are welcome to come and taste their creations.

### Earth Day Grass Heads

**Friday, April 19 at 2:00 p.m.**

Hello Spring! We'll make whimsical grass-head creatures to celebrate new growth and springtime fun! *Ages 4-8.*

### Earth Day Story and Craft

**Wednesday, April 24 at 10:15 a.m.**

No registration required.

### Homeschool Hangout: Fire Safety and the History of Fire

**Thursday, April 25 at 1:00 p.m.**

Meet with a local firefighter and learn about the history of humankind's relationship with fire and how to manage it safely. *All ages.*

### Babe Ruth Day

**Saturday, April 27 at 11:00 a.m.**

Get ready to play ball! Learn more about the life of baseball legend Babe Ruth with a baseball story time and craft. *All ages.*

### LEGO Challenge

**Ongoing Throughout May**

Stop by the Library for a bag of LEGO to take home and make a creation. On May 22, bring in your LEGO creations for all to see. *Ages 5 and up.*

### A Visit with Local Author Andrew Hacket

**Friday, May 3 at 2:00 p.m.**

Local author Andrew Hacket will visit to read his new picture book *Ollie, the Acorn, and the Mighty Idea* with snacks and activities to follow. *All ages.*

### Star Wars Day

**Saturday, May 4 at 11:00 a.m.**

Join us for this special Saturday morning story time all about Star Wars! We'll read a story and do a craft. *All ages.*

### Insects Are Our Friends Story and Craft

**Wednesday, May 8 at 10:15 a.m.**

No registration required.

### Kurru with Kate Cooking Class

**Saturday, May 11 at 1:00 p.m.**

Kate will teach us some of her amazing curry recipes - bring your appetites! *Ages 7-12 with an adult.*

### A Visit with Local Author Loree Griffin Burns

**Thursday, May 16 at 6:00 p.m.**

Join local author Loree Griffin Burns as she shares her new book, *One Long Line: Marching Caterpillars and the Scientists Who Followed Them*. Elementary school-aged kids and their families who are interested in asking questions and finding answers—science!—are invited to join us.

### Teddy Bear (and Friends) Picnic

**Friday, May 17 at 11:00 a.m.**

Bring a stuffed animal friend and a lunch from home to the Library for a picnic, story, and activities. *Ages 0-5.*

### Percy Jackson Trivia for Tweens

**Friday, May 17 at 1:00 p.m.**

Are you a Percy Jackson superfan? Test your knowledge of demigods, monsters, and Greek myths with a trivia challenge competition! *Ages 9-12.*

### Sheep and Wool Story Time

**Saturday, May 18 at 11:00 a.m.**

Sheep, goats, llamas, and alpacas are taking off their winter coats! Let's transform some of their wool into something beautiful! *All ages.*



### We Love Turtles Story and Craft

**Wednesday, May 22 at 10:15 a.m.**

No registration required.

### National Turtle Day Take-and-Make Craft Kit

**Thursday, May 23, All Day**

This loveable reptile is "turtley" awesome! Pick up your take-and-make craft kit at the Library while supplies last!

### Homeschool Hangout: Composting Day

**Wednesday, May 29 at 1:00 p.m.**

Learn about the food cycle and how soil is made - with the help of some hard working-worms! *All ages.*

## MONTHLY PROGRAMMING

### Cookies 'n Crochet Club

**Fourth Tuesday of every month at 6:00 p.m.**

**March 26, April 23, and May 28**

Want to get "hooked" on crocheting? Join Ms. Sue to learn how to crochet while relaxing and enjoying cookies. *For patrons in grades 4-8.*

### Book Eaters Book Club

**Second Wednesday of every month at 4:00 p.m.**

**March 13, April 10, and May 8**

Join us to swap book suggestions, see what fun reads are in the Children's Room, and enjoy crafts and activities to go along with our book themes. Participants do not need to read a specific book each month to attend. A snack will be provided. *For patrons in grades 3-5.*



### Pokémon Club

**Third Wednesday of every month at 6:30 p.m.**

**March 20, April 17, and May 15**

Join your friends to swap, trade, play, and talk about Pokémon! Register at [beamanlibrary.org](http://beamanlibrary.org) to receive your reminder email!

## WEEKLY PROGRAMMING

### Books and Blankies: Tuesdays at 10:15 a.m. and 11:15 a.m.

Weekly story, craft, and music program for caregivers and children ages 18 months to 3 years.

- Session 4: March 5, 12, 19, 26, April 2, 9
- Session 5: April 30, May 7, 14, 21, 28, June 4

### Mother Goose: Thursdays at 10:15 a.m.

This gentle literacy program is for families with young children ages 0 through 5. There will be songs, stories, simple sign language, lap bounces, connections to other parents, and play. Families may register to receive program updates, or simply drop into a session to join in the fun!



- Session 4: March 7, 14, 21, 28, April 4, 11
- Session 5: May 2, 9, 16, 23, 30, June 6

### Lunch Bunch: Thursdays at 11:30 a.m.

Four and five-year-olds are invited to bring a lunch to enjoy with friends, listen to a story, and engage in crafts and activities to support school readiness skill development. Caregivers are not required to attend but must remain on the Children's floor.

- Session 4: March 7, 14, 21, 28, April 4, 11
- Session 5: May 2, 9, 16, 23, 30, June 6

### Drop-In Saturday Story Time at 11:00 a.m.

Stop by, hear some fun stories, and dance around a bit!

# Beaman Browser

FRIENDS OF THE BEAMAN MEMORIAL PUBLIC LIBRARY  
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WEST BOYLSTON, MA 01583

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\*\*\*\*\*ECRWS\*\*\*

RESIDENTIAL CUSTOMER  
WEST BOYLSTON, MA 01583

## A Message From the Friends of the Beaman Library:

For more than 40 years, the Friends of the Beaman Library have generously supported the Library. Donations to the Friends make a difference in programming, technological enhancements, museum passes, and so much more! We sincerely appreciate your contribution no matter the amount! See the Friends page on the Library website (<https://beamanlibrary.org/get-involved/friends-of-beaman-library/>) or ask a librarian to find out how to join or renew your membership. Let's keep the Beaman Library vibrant and strong!

And now for some fun...

A Friends contest for anyone who likes to write!

- Submit an **original piece of writing (short prose, poem, or haiku)** about your appreciation of the Beaman Library.
  - Entries can be given to any librarian and are due by 4/15/2024.
- **1st Prize:** your entry will be in the summer issue of the Beaman Browser, and you choose 3 items from the Friends ongoing book sale for free.\*
- **2nd Prize:** you choose 2 items from the ongoing book sale for free.\*
- **3rd Prize:** you choose 1 item from the ongoing book sale for free.\*  
*\*Specially priced items are not included.*

On behalf of the Friends Board,  
Ann Elizabeth Ramminger  
Friends Secretary

The Beaman Library has many Friends,  
They give a little when then can,  
It keeps our community strong,  
With books, games and even song!

The Beaman Memorial Public Library is an equal opportunity provider. In accordance with Federal law and U.S. Department of Agriculture policy, this institution is prohibited from discriminating on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, age, or disability. (Not all prohibited bases apply to all programs.)

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