

# 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)

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

Dear Patrons -

What is your definition of a Friend? Here at the Library we see many people we call Friend ... people we grew up with, family, patrons, and a group of people who are truly friends to every Beaman Library patron ... The Friends of the Beaman Library.

The Friends group was formed about 40 years ago as a 501c3 to raise money for programs, items, and supplies that are not covered by the municipal budget. This means that the cost of every program and all programming supplies are covered by the Friends. In addition to programming, museum passes, hot spots, newsletter mailings, pet food and supplies, a SmartBoard for programming use and many other expenses are paid for by the Friends.

How can you help the Friends support the Library? It's simple!

1. Renew your Friends membership or become a member for the first time. Use the membership form on this newsletter, the renewal form you receive in the mail, or PayPal on the Friends' page of our website.
2. Volunteer to help the Friends as a committee member or event helper.
3. Help with the Friends' online book sale.
4. Purchase books or other items the Friends have for sale at the Library or Annual Book Sale.

We are so grateful to our Friends group for all they do for us and the Library community. I would especially like to thank the entire book sale team for their year-round efforts to organize the Annual Book Sale, the Friends' biggest fundraiser aside from memberships. It is a major undertaking, and they manage it every year from start to finish with amazing organization, flexibility, and good humor.

Thank you for your support of the Friends. Your donation will contribute directly to the programming and resources offered by our Library!

We hope to see you soon.

Lauren Espe  
Acting Director

**Board of Trustees Meetings**  
**All meetings are at 5:00 p.m.**  
**Please contact the Library**  
**for location details.**  
Tuesday, December 12  
Tuesday, January 9  
Tuesday, February 13

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

**Endowment Update**  
The September 30, 2023  
balance at Greater Worcester  
Community Foundation was  
\$259,968.55

**Newsletter Staff**  
Lauren Espe  
Sandie Kelly  
Jessica Wright

# Adults

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Visit [beamanlibrary.org](http://beamanlibrary.org) to register for events online!  
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## Italian Conversation Circle

Saturdays at 10:00 a.m.

December 2 (at Holy Cross) and 16, January 13 and 27, February 10 and 24

Join us to speak Italian exclusively for two hours! Please note, the December 2 meeting will take place at Holy Cross. All other meetings will take place at Beaman Library.

## A Cup of Christmas Tea with Carol McGuigan



Wednesday, December 6 at 6:30 p.m.

Join Carol McGuigan for a reading of Tom Hegg's *A Cup of Christmas Tea* followed by an opportunity to reminisce. Bring along a favorite teacup if you would like to share its significance.

## Winter Fun with Mass Audubon

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

Join Mass Audubon to discuss all the ways to have fun at Mass Audubon sanctuaries in the wintertime. Information about winter birdwatching, snowshoe rental, cross country skiing trails, winter events and activities will be shared.

## Stress Reduction and Relaxation Yoga with Carol McGuigan



Wednesdays at 6:30 p.m.

December 13, January 10, February 14

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.*

## Mindful Meditation with Carol McGuigan

Wednesdays at 6:30 p.m.

December 20, January 17, February 21

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.

**December 21: *And Every Morning the Way Home***

***Gets Longer and Longer*** by Fredrik Backman

**January 18: *Tomorrow, and Tomorrow, and Tomorrow***

by Gabrielle Zevin

**February 15: *This Time Next Year We'll be Laughing***

by Jacqueline Winspear

## Technology Office Hours

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

December 21, January 18, February 15

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

## NASA's New Mission to the Moon



Tuesday, January 16 at 6:00 p.m.

Join NASA Ambassador MJ Johnson for a discussion of NASA's Artemis program and its goal of establishing a long-term human presence on the moon. If it is a clear night, we will observe the moon through telescopes on the Library lawn. Bundle up!

## 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.

**January 26: *The Omnivore's Dilemma: A Natural***

***History of Four Meals*** by Michael Pollan

**February 23: *The Pirate's Wife: The Remarkable True***

***Story of Sarah Kidd*** by Daphne Palmer Geanacopoulos

## Homebrewing 101



Thursday, February 1 at 6:30 p.m.

Have you ever wanted to brew your own beer at home?

Learn the basics, along with a bit of history, of the enduring art of homebrewing beer. *Must be 21+ to attend.*



## Love Your Library Month Ongoing Throughout February

Write us a note about what you love about our Library. We will share a selection with our locally elected officials.



# Teens

Ages 12-18

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Visit [beamanlibrary.org](http://beamanlibrary.org) to register for events online!  
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## Settlers of Catan

Saturdays at 2:00 p.m.

December 2, January 6, February 3



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.

## Melted Crayon Ornaments

Thursday, December 14 at 4:00 p.m.

Learn how to give new life to all of those broken crayons you have laying around! Using the materials provided, participants will create an ornament that will add some fun colors to your holiday décor.

## Dungeons and Dragons

Saturdays at 2:00 p.m.

December 16, January 20, February 17



Join us for a two-hour session of your favorite role-playing game! These sessions will feature a series of adventures related to a single campaign so participants should plan to commit to all 3 sessions, if possible. Space is very limited!

## Sweets Decorating

Wednesday, December 20 at 5:00 p.m.

Come to the Library and decorate some sweet treats. Share your creative confections with others to add a bit of sweetness to their holiday season.

## The Snack Pack

Tuesdays at 4:00 p.m.

January 2 and February 6

What are you reading? Do you love it? Despise it? We want to know! Join Jessica to chat about your current read while enjoying some snacks.

## Unwind with Watercolors

Wednesday, January 17 at 5:00 p.m.



Exams are in full swing. Take a few moments to allow yourself to relax and unwind with a very casual, but surprisingly satisfying, watercolor painting. All materials will be provided.

## Sushi Candle

Thursday, January 25 at 4:00 p.m.

Learn how to make sushi-inspired candles using beeswax honeycomb sheets. Not only are these candles simple to make, but they are also absolutely darling. Share the results with friends or keep them for yourself!

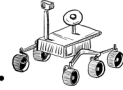
## Open Play After Hours Gaming Event

Friday, January 26 at 6:00 p.m.

One Up Games is back with another 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.*

## Battlebots

Tuesday, January 30 at 6:00 p.m.



Take your coding skills to the MobileQuest arena and modify a Dash robot with balloons, skewers, plastic straws, and more, preparing your robot for battle. Work together in a team, battling the other robots until the last, and best, bot is left standing! Will it be your bot?

## The Snack-It Bracket is Back!

Ongoing Through February

Help us determine the best Oreo! Stop by the Library's main floor to request your taste test snack pack. After performing your scientific taste test, cast your vote for your favorite Oreo that week. A new snack pack will be available at the beginning of each week until we complete our Snack-It Bracket! *\*While supplies last; one snack pack per teen per week.*

## Anti-Valentine's Day Zombie

Wednesday, February 14 at 6:00 p.m.



Instead of the traditional Valentine's Day paraphernalia of chocolate, flowers, and cards, let's make zombie plushies! Local business owner Michelle will teach participants how to hand sew their own anti-Valentine's Day zombie using the materials provided. Sure to be a treat!

## Felting Workshop

Wednesday, February 21 at 4:00 p.m.

Tweens and Teens! Follow along with a tutorial created by Rachel Benson in which she demonstrates how to create Totoro using the items included in our felting kits. The result will be a darling decoration to enjoy year-round! Participants must register no later than February 13. *Each participant will be asked to contribute \$10 towards the cost of the felting kits.*

## 100 Books Before Graduation

Ongoing Year Round



Don't forget about Beaman Library's 100 Books Before Graduation reading challenge! Visit Beaman Library's Beanstack page (<https://beamanlibrary.beanstack.org/reader365>) and register for the **100 Books Before Graduation** challenge. When you complete the challenge you will be awarded a personalized prize package!

# Children

Birth to Age 11

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Visit [beamanlibrary.org](http://beamanlibrary.org) to register for events online!  
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## Letters to Santa

**December 1 through December 20**

Santa's magical mailbox returns to the Children's Room on December 1. Write your letter on our special stationery to be magically delivered to Santa. All letters are due by December 20.



## Celebration of Lights Grab-and-Go Craft

**Tuesday, December 5**

Many cultures hold a celebration of lights in the winter. This grab-and-go craft will help bring light into your home during the darkest time of the year. Stop by the Library to pick up your kit *while supplies last!*

## Wreath Decorating

**Wednesday, December 6**

Sign up at the Library for a time to make a festive wreath for your door. Bring your creativity and holiday spirit!



## Santa Visit

**Saturday, December 9 from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.**

Santa Claus is coming to town! Santa will be arriving by fire truck promptly at 11:00 a.m. Visit with Santa and let him know if you've been naughty or nice. Sign up at the Library when you arrive.

## Decoration Stations

**Tuesday, December 12 through Friday, December 15**

Join us any time during the week to make up to 3 decorations to share with your family. Stations will be set up with directions and an example. Make them our way or put your own creative spin on it!

## Gingerbread Men in a Jar

**Tuesday, December 19 at 6:00 p.m.**

What happens when you let a gingerbread man out of the jar? Read a few stories to find out before putting the ingredients for a gingerbread man in a jar. Bake your cookies at home or give the jar as a gift. *For ages 7 and up.*

## Hibernation Day

**Thursday, December 21 at 4:30 p.m.**

Celebrate the first day of winter with a story, craft, and hot cocoa! Come dressed in your pajamas and we'll get ready for winter in cozy style!



## Winter Gnomes

**Friday, December 22**

**10:30 a.m. for ages 2-5; 3:00 p.m. for ages 6 and up**

Gnomes know how to stay warm in the winter. We will read some books and then make a gnome of our own.

## Count Down to Noon Year

**Friday, December 29**

We're counting down to 2024! Stop by the Library to pick up your Happy Noon Year's kit. There will only be 30 kits, so get one before they are gone, just like 2023.

## National Bird Day

**Friday, January 5 at 10:30 a.m.**

On National Bird Day we'll read about birds native to our area and then build bird feeders to hang at home. Who will stop by for a snack? *For ages 3-5.*



## Arteca Karate

**Friday, January 12 at 4:00 p.m.**

Master A will be coming to the Library to teach another class filled with basic moves, inspirational mantras, and board breaking. Classes fill quickly so register soon!

## MLK Service Project Week

**Tuesday, January 16 through Saturday, January 20**

Join us for a week-long service project in celebration of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. We'll be making fleece blankets for Annie's Kindness Blankets, placemats for local senior citizens, and cards for service members.

**Our week culminates on Saturday, January 20 at 11:00 a.m.** with a visit from Project 351 Ambassadors, stories, and snacks as we learn more about Dr. King.

## National Popcorn Day

**Friday, January 19**

Who doesn't love popcorn? Did you know that it isn't just for eating? Join us anytime on Friday for some fun-filled STEAM stations. Visit each station and see how many different things you can do with popcorn.

## Beaman Bakers 101

**Wednesdays at 6:00 p.m.**

**January 24, February 28, March 27**

During this 3-part series learn the basics of baking. On April 18 we will have a Baking Extravaganza to show everyone what we have learned. *For ages 7 and up.*



## Inspire Your Heart with Art Painting Class

**Wednesday, January 31**

**10:15 a.m. for ages 2-5; 6:30 p.m. for ages 6 and older**

You don't have to be an artist to have fun painting. Join us while we paint along with a step-by-step tutorial on how to paint a beautiful picture.

## Hedgehog Day

**Friday, February 2 at 4:00 p.m.**

Everyone always celebrates the groundhog but what about the hedgehog? February 2 is also Hedgehog Day. We will read some stories and make a fun craft to celebrate the hedgehog.

## Parents' Night Out

**Friday, February 9 from 5:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.**

Let us entertain your child(ren) while you enjoy an evening out. We will have games, crafts, and a small snack. The cost is \$10.00 per family; all children must be potty trained.

## Celebrate Lunar New Year

**Saturday, February 10 at 11:00 a.m.**

February 10 is the start of the new Lunar New Year, the Year of the Dragon. Join us to hear stories, make a craft, and leave with food to enjoy at home.



## February Vacation Week

### Mini Golf

**Tuesday, February 20, All Day**



We are transforming the Children's Room into a mini golf course! Sign up for a 30-minute tee time to work on your short game!

### Fairy Tale Engineering Challenge

**Wednesday, February 21 at 2:00 p.m.**

Grab your friends and work together to help a fairy tale character solve their problem. Teams of 4 are recommended.

### Candy Bar Bingo

**Thursday, February 22**

**10:30 a.m. for ages 2-6; 3:00 p.m. for ages 7 and up**

The morning session will be picture BINGO for our younger patrons and the afternoon session will be good old-fashioned BINGO for our older patrons. Please bring a pair of NEW pajamas as your entrance fee.

### Escape Rooms

**Friday, February 23, All Day**

Get trapped inside the Library! We will have escape room challenges for all ages. You can do it alone or with a team. Sign up for a time slot and let the challenge begin.

### Leap Year Celebration

**Thursday, February 29**

**10:30 a.m. for ages 2-5; 4:30 p.m. for ages 6 and up**

Leap Year only happens every once 4 years so let's celebrate with leaping games, contests, and a cupcake treat!



## MONTHLY PROGRAMMING

### Cookies 'n Crochet Club

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

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. *Begins December 26*



### Book Eaters Book Club

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

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. *Begins January 10*

### Pokémon Club

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

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.**

- Session 3: January 9, 16, 23, 30, February 6, 13

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

- Session 3: January 11, 18, 25, February 1, 8, 15



**Lunch Bunch (formerly known as Books and Blankies Seniors): 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 3: January 11, 18, 25, February 1, 8, 15

### Friday First Chapters

Join Miss Jessie as we read the first chapter of four selections from the Children's Room collection; two from our green reading level and two from our yellow reading level. Stop by our YouTube page for all of our Friday First Chapters videos, and find your new favorite book!

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

The Board of the Friends of the Beaman Library invites you to become a Friend! The Friends is a group of citizens of West Boylston and other towns who understand the importance of library service to the community. They work in a variety of ways to improve the Library by funding programming, technology, the Library Pass Program, and other expenses not covered in the municipal budget. They also are important advocates for the Library.

It is easy to become a Friend and there are many membership options to choose from (see the membership information in this newsletter, visit the Friends section of the Beaman Library website: <https://beamanlibrary.org/get-involved/friends-of-beaman-library/>, or ask a friendly, helpful Librarian!)

On behalf of the Friends of the Beaman Library I invite you to enrich our community!

Thank you!

Ann Elizabeth Ramming, Secretary

# Beaman Browser

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

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PERMIT  
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\*\*\*\*\*ECRWS\*\*\*  
RESIDENTIAL CUSTOMER  
WEST BOYLSTON, MA 01583

## Friends Membership 2024

- \_\_\_ Senior (over 60) \$10.00
- \_\_\_ Individual \$15.00
- \_\_\_ Family \$25.00
- \_\_\_ Supporter \$50.00
- \_\_\_ Sponsor \$100.00
- \_\_\_ Benefactor \$250.00



## Thank You for your Membership and Support 2024



## Receipt

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
City, State, Zip: \_\_\_\_\_  
Email \_\_\_\_\_

**Please make checks payable to: The Friends of the Beaman Library, 8 Newton Street, West Boylston, MA 01583 or pay online using the Friend's library page (<https://beamanlibrary.org/get-involved/friends-of-beaman-library/>).**

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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