

# 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@cwmmars.org](mailto:beaman@cwmmars.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 Neighbors,

As the weather turns colder and routines shift into winter mode, our Library stays bright and busy. This is the time of year when many people look for a cozy place to read, a familiar face at the desk, or something on the calendar that gives them a reason to get out of the house. I'm excited to share some of the events coming to the Library this winter.

Inside this newsletter you will find a full lineup of programs for kids, teens, and adults. Families can visit with Santa on December 6th, enjoy holiday and family movie nights, and ring in 2026 a little early at our Noon Years Party with Bluey. Keep busy during February vacation week in our bustling Children's Room, which will offer a lotion lab, history talk, karaoke program, and even indoor mini golf. Teens can take over the Library after hours for One Up Games, join a Wicked sing along, and help curate our "Fan Favorites" display by nominating the books, manga, and graphic novels they love. Adults will see the return of our Souper Bowl and our meditation and yoga programs, along with a new Tax Talk Series, technology office hours, and hands-on sessions that range from rethinking your vegetable garden to learning the basics of sourdough.

The winter is also a good time to explore Fiero Code, our online coding platform for kids and teens. Whether someone wants to experiment with game design, learn a new skill, or try a small creative project, Fiero Code is a simple way to get started. Head to [beamanlibrary.org](http://beamanlibrary.org) with your library card number handy to get started.

As the days get shorter and the weather gets colder, we are warmed by the kindness you bring with you when you visit the Library. We look forward to seeing you at the Library this winter and wish you a healthy and happy holiday season.

I look forward to seeing you at the library soon!

-Mike Long, Director



### Important Dates

- December 24th - Closing at 3:00 p.m.
- December 25th - Closed for Christmas Day
- December 31st - Closing at 5:00 p.m.
- January 1st - Closed for New Year's Day

### Save the Date!

The Beaman Endowment is planning a fundraising event on the evening of Friday, April 10th. If you are interested in becoming a sponsor or donating an item for the silent auction, please contact the Library for more information.

The Friends of the Library is a nonprofit that raises funds to support the Library's ongoing programs and regular operations. The Endowment is a subgroup of the Friends, focused on long-term projects and improvements.

#### Board of Trustees Meetings

**All meetings are at 5:00 p.m. and are hybrid.**

Tuesday, December 9  
Tuesday, January 13  
Tuesday, February 10

#### Friends Meetings

**All meetings are at 6:00 p.m. at the Library.**

Tuesday, January 20

#### Endowment Update

The September 30, 2025  
balance at Greater Worcester  
Community Foundation was  
\$353,166.97

#### Newsletter Staff

Director: Mike Long  
Co-Editors:  
Jess Collette  
Lauren Espe  
Sandie Kelly  
Jessie Trowbridge

# Adults

Visit [beamanlibrary.org](http://beamanlibrary.org) to register for events.

## Tax Talks with Greg Zakarian, EA

Tuesdays at 6:00 p.m.

**Jan. 6: Your Tax Document Checklist: Don't Forget a Thing!**

**Feb. 3: Giving Back: Tax Strategies for Charitable Giving**

Join Enrolled Agent Greg Zakarian for sessions on a range of tax topics, including income tax, retirement taxes, estate planning, and more. Each session runs about 45 minutes and is followed by a Q&A period.

## A Cup of Christmas Tea with Carol McGuiggan

Wednesday, Dec. 3 at 6:00 p.m.

Join Carol McGuiggan 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.

## Mindful Meditation with Carol McGuiggan

Wednesdays at 6:30 p.m.

Dec. 10, Jan. 14, and Feb. 11

This practice includes techniques to improve clarity of mind, relaxation, and self-awareness.

## Italian Conversation Circle

Saturdays at 10:00 a.m.

Dec. 13 and 27, Jan. 10 and 24, and Feb. 14 and 28

Join us to speak Italian exclusively for two hours!

## Holiday Movie Series

**Tuesday, Dec. 16 at 6:00 p.m.: The Nightmare Before Christmas**

**Saturday, Dec. 20 at 1:00 p.m.: How the Grinch Stole Christmas**

**Tuesday, Dec. 23 at 6:00 p.m.: Elf**

## Stress Reduction and Relaxation Yoga

with Carol McGuiggan

Wednesdays at 6:30 p.m.

Dec. 17, Jan. 21, and Feb. 25

Experience the benefits of gentle yoga stretches, calming breath techniques, and the value of meditation.

## Book Discussion Group

Thursdays at 12:30 p.m.

**Dec. 18: *The Wedding People*** by Alison Espach

**Jan. 15: *North Woods*** by Daniel Mason

**Feb. 19: *The Berry Pickers*** by Amanda Peters

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

## Technology Office Hours

Thursdays from 2:00 - 4:15 p.m.

Dec. 18, Jan. 15, and Feb. 19

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

## Nonfiction Book Discussion Group

Fridays at 1:00 p.m.

Jan. 30 and Feb. 27

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

## Libby 101: Accessing Digital Library Books

Saturday, Jan. 3 at 10:30 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.

## From Garden Fails to Flourishing Food

Thursday, Jan. 8, at 6:00 p.m.

Join Reimagined Roots to reimagine your vegetable garden for a fail-free spring! In this interactive session, we'll explore how planting flowers alongside your veggies can boost pollination, repel pests, and create a balanced ecosystem. Learn how to design a beautiful and productive garden and dive into simple steps to prep your beds for spring planting. You'll leave inspired and ready to turn your garden "fails" into flourishing success stories.

## West Boylston Old Town Series Part 2: French Hill with Paul Marrone

Thursday, Jan. 15 at 6:00 p.m.

Travel back in time with us to the West Boylston of 1896 in the second part of Paul Marrone's West Boylston Old Town Series. Together we'll explore the 15 acres of French Hill, a private residential area, before it was vacated during the construction of the Wachusett Reservoir.

## Sourdough Starter Class

Tuesday, Jan. 27 at 6:00pm

Join Nicholas D'Alessandro from the Hearthstone Artisan Bakery as he uses his decades of sourdough baking experience to teach the steps to maintain and use a sourdough culture at home. Take-home sourdough starters are available in exchange for a donation. Please bring your own container if you plan to take one home.

## Wicked Sing-Along

Saturday, Jan. 31 at 1:00 p.m.

It's finally here! Come sing along to the hit movie, *Wicked*. Bring your voice and your enthusiasm for this 3-hour long musical matinee! *This program is for teens and adults.*

## Souper Bowl

Saturday, Feb. 7 at 12:30 p.m.

Join us for a community meal! Please bring your favorite crockpot soups, chilis or appetizers to share with other patrons. If you would rather, you can bring your favorite breads, rolls or chips for dipping. We will supply all the bowls, napkins and plasticware.

## Cookbook Club

Thursday, Feb. 12 at 6:00 p.m.

Join us to sample recipes from *Jubilee* by Toni Tipton-Martin. Choose a recipe, prepare it at home, then bring it to the Library to share while discussing the book. Registration required.

# Teens

Ages 12-18



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## Recurring Programs

### Nintendo Switch Drop-In Gaming

**First and Third Tuesday of Each Month at 3:00 p.m.**

Come hang out at the Library and play Nintendo Switch games on our giant SMART Board! We'll have the Switch set up with a variety of games to choose from, plus snacks to keep you going while you play. No registration required, just drop in and join the fun.

### TAG (Teen Advisory Group)

**Tuesdays at 4:30 p.m.**

**Dec. 2, Jan. 6, Feb. 3**

Join the Teen Advisory Group (TAG) and help shape the future of teen services at the Library! Share your thoughts on programs you'd like to see, suggest books and materials for the collection, and weigh in on ideas for making the Teen Space even better. It's a relaxed, informal way to get involved—and yes, there will be snacks. Volunteer hours will be awarded to participants.

### Settlers of Catan

**Saturdays at 2:00 p.m.**

**Dec. 6, Jan. 3, Feb. 7**

Join other teens for a round (or two) of Catan, the classic board game where strategy, negotiation, and a little bit of luck determine who builds the most successful settlement. Gather resources, trade with your rivals, and race to become the dominant force on the island. Whether you're a seasoned player or new to the game, all experience levels are welcome.

### Dungeons and Dragons II

**Thursdays at 5:30 p.m.**

**Dec. 18, Jan. 15, Feb. 19**

Join us for a two-hour session of your favorite role-playing game, where you'll create characters, battle monsters, and shape the story together each month. Space is very limited and this campaign fills up fast, so don't wait to claim your spot!

### Fan Favorites

**Ongoing Through January**

We're gearing up for the month of February by showing some love to the books/audiobooks/graphic novels/manga that you love to read! Stop in and submit a title that you love and we'll add it to our February display in the Teen Space!

### Study Buddies

**Thursdays, Jan. 22 and Feb. 5 at 5:30 p.m.**

Are you looking for a place to study, get some homework done, or work on other projects? Then come on down to the Library. We'll provide music, snacks, and a calm space for you to get out of the house and get some work done for 2 hours. Bring pillows from home with you if you'd like to spread out on the floor. Whether solo studying or doing group work, you're all welcome here.

### Karaoke Night

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

**Jan. 29 and Feb. 26**

Join members of West Boylston Middle High School's Tri-M Music Honor Society for an evening of karaoke at the Library! Whether you're ready to belt out your favorite song or just want to cheer on your friends, it's a fun and low-pressure way to enjoy music together. All ages are welcome and no registration is required—just bring your voice (or your enthusiasm) and drop in!

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### Gingerbread Workshop

**Thursday, Dec. 11 at 6:00 p.m.**

Let's turn up the heat by making a spiced winter treat! Stop on by to learn how to make your own batch of gingerbread dough that you can take home, cut into any shapes you want, and bake.

### Nightmare Before Christmas Movie Night

**Tuesday, Dec. 16 at 6:00 p.m.**

Get ready to ring in the holiday season with this stop-motion classic! Sign up and join in on the fun! *This program is for teens and adults.*

### Open Play After Hours Gaming Event

**Friday, Dec. 19 at 6:00 p.m.**

One Up Games is back at the Library for another three-hour video game free-play event! Explore a variety of consoles and experiences, including the Oculus Quest for virtual reality gaming, Xbox Series S, PlayStation 4, and Nintendo Switch. No matter what you're into, there's something for every kind of gamer. This event is ages 10 to 17—come ready to play!

### Winter Slime Workshop

**Wednesday, Jan. 7 at 6:00 p.m.**

Let's get crafty by learning how to make our own glitter slimes! The snow might melt, but your sparkling creations, made using glue and colorful glitter, can be re-activated and played with all year long.

### Level Up Your Hot Cocoa

**Wednesday, Jan. 28 at 6:00 p.m.**

Winter is a great time for warm blankets and hot drinks. But if you're getting a little bored of the same hot cocoa packets you always use, stop on in and learn how to upgrade your hot cocoa using things you can find in your pantry at home!

### Wicked Sing-Along

**Saturday, Jan. 31 at 1:00 p.m.**

It's finally here! Come sing along to the hit movie, *Wicked*, as we celebrate the end of finals. Bring your voice and your enthusiasm for this 3-hour long musical matinee! *This program is for teens and adults.*

### Sock Gnomes

**Thursday, Feb. 12 at 6:00 p.m.**

Back by popular demand is another sock gnome workshop! Using a pair of socks, some rice, and a little bit of hot glue, you'll make a colorful weighted (and pretty soft) friend to take home and display.



# Children

Birth to Age 12 Visit [beamanlibrary.org](http://beamanlibrary.org), stop in, or call 508-835-3711 to register.

Registration is required for all Children's events

unless otherwise noted.

REGISTER



## Recurring Programs

### Makerspace Challenge

**Wednesday, Dec. 10 from 11:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.**

**Friday, Jan. 23 from 11:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.**

**Friday, Feb. 13 from 11:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.**

Join us for some fun and imaginative problem-solving. We present a problem or an unusual scenario and you solve it with the available supplies. Please sign up for a 30-minute time slot.

### Homeschool Hangout

**Wednesdays at 1:00 p.m.**

**Dec. 17: Gingerbread Man in a Boat STEAM Challenge**

**Jan. 28: Pottery Throw-Down**

**Feb. 25: America's 250th Birthday**

Homeschoolers of all ages meet monthly to have fun, go deep on some interesting topics, and connect with others. Come to learn about the topic of the month or connect with friends old and new! *Registration is required.*

### Movie Matinees

**Tuesday, Dec. 23 at 1:00 p.m.: Happy Feet\*\***

**Friday, Jan. 2 at 1:00 p.m.: Lilo and Stitch (Live Action)**

**Saturday, Feb. 21 at 11:00 a.m.: Dog Man**

*Registration is required.*

*\*\*For the Dec. 23 movie only, caregivers of children 8-12 can drop them off at 12:45 p.m. and pick them up at 3:00 p.m.*

### Music and Movement with Ms. Meredith

**Saturdays**

**Jan. 3 at 11:00 a.m.**

**Feb. 7 at 10:30 a.m.**

Ms. Meredith is back to stretch, dance, and hop around to fun, kid-friendly music to get energized! *Registration is required.*

### Kids' Chess Club

**Saturdays at 1:00 p.m.**

**Jan. 3 and Feb. 7**

Whether you are a beginner or want to practice your skills, join us! Ages 6-12. *Registration is required.*

### Story and Activity Hour

**Wednesdays at 10:30 a.m.**

**Jan. 7 and 21, Feb. 11 and 25**

Join us on select Wednesdays for a story and craft! We'll have fun while getting creative and building communication skills. All ages. *Registration is not required.*

### LEGO Club

**Saturdays at 1:00 p.m.**

**Jan. 10 and Feb. 14**

Come build with other LEGO enthusiasts and tackle our monthly build challenges! All ages. *Registration is required.*

### Pokémon Club

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

**Jan. 14 and Feb. 25**

This club is for anyone who likes to battle, trade, and learn about Pokémon. Come if you want to learn to play! We will also learn about other Pokémon games, tips, and tricks. Ages 5 and up. *Registration is required.*

### Stories with Shadow

**Saturdays at 11:00 a.m.**

**Jan. 24 and Feb. 28**

Shadow, our favorite EMS therapy dog, is ready to hear some more stories. Bring your favorite book to read to Shadow, or pick one out when you visit the library. Sign up for a 15-minute time slot. For ages 5 and older.

### Book Snackers & Book Eaters Book Clubs

**Snackers (ages 5-8) at 1:00 p.m., Eaters (ages 8-11) at 2:00 p.m.**

**Saturday, Jan. 24 and Feb. 28**

This monthly book club is a chance for kids to meet up with other readers, swap book recommendations, and engage in crafts and activities based on book themes chosen by the kids. Readers do not have to read a specific book each month to participate! *Registration is required.*

### Cookies and Crochet

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

**Jan. 27 and Feb. 24**

Want to get "hooked" on crocheting? Join Ms. Sue once a month to learn how to crochet...while enjoying cookies! Ages 7-15. *Registration is required.*

### Letters to Santa

**Dec. 1 - Dec. 17**

Santa's magical mailbox returns to the Children's Room on December 1st! Write your letter on our special stationery to be magically delivered to Santa. All letters are due by December 17th.

### Santa Visit

**Saturday, Dec. 6, 11:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.**

Santa is coming to Beaman Library...on a fire truck! Sign-up for a time slot when you arrive on the day of the event. Santa is always on time - arrive early to see him arrive on the fire truck! *Register in person at the event.*

### Santa's Underwear Storytime

**Saturday, Dec. 13 at 11:00 a.m.**

Santa tries to find the perfect holiday undies until he gets a surprise from his considerate team of reindeer. Join us for this super silly holiday story and craft! Please bring a package of new children's underwear or socks for Cradles to Crayons. All ages. *Registration is required.*

### Top Secret Gift Workshop

**Tuesday, Dec. 16 at 6:00 p.m.**

No peeking! Kid crafters will make three top-secret gifts for the holiday season. Ages 6-10. *Registration is required.*

### **Noon Years Party: Bluey Counts Down to 2026!**

**Wednesday, Dec. 31 at 11:00 a.m.**

It's time for a Bluey Noon Year's Party - for real life! Grab your Grannie Mobiles and get ready to connect with other Bluey fans and ring in 2026! All ages. *Registration is required.*

### **Beaman Bakers: All About Dough - Part 1**

**Wednesday, Jan. 7 at 6:00 p.m.**

A New Year means a new skill! We will learn all about the science behind dough and make some sourdough starter. Ages 7-12. We recommend participants attend both Parts 1 and 2. *Registration is required.*

### **Arteca Karate**

**Friday, Jan. 16 at 3:45 p.m.**

Master Jared is coming back to share his wisdom on focusing, listening, and respecting others as well as ourselves. This class is always fun and educational for our younger patrons. There will be music, exercise and even board breaking. Ages 5-12. *Registration is required.*

### **Gerald & Piggie Learn-to-Draw**

**Tuesday, Jan. 20 at 6:00 p.m.**

We'll be learning to draw and paint some beloved Mo Willems characters, and our masterpieces will be displayed in the Library until the end of February! Ages 7-11. *Registration is required.*

### **Scrap Wood Snowman Craft**

**Wednesday, Jan. 28 at 6:00 p.m.**

Don't know what to do with your scrap wood? We do! Let's make a snowman! Ages 7-12. *Registration is required.*

### **Popcorn Party**

**Saturday, Jan. 31 at 1:00 p.m.**

We'll take popcorn to the next level with surprising flavors and taste testing! Ages 5-10. *Registration is required.*

### **February Pajama Drive**

**All Month**

It's that time of year again! Our annual P.J. drive in conjunction with the Bruins and Cradles to Crayons. We will be collecting NEW pajamas all month. Each person who donates will be given a raffle ticket to enter our raffle for a Limited Edition Boston Bruins Pajama Drive Hockey Puck.

### **Beaman Bakers: All About Dough - Part 2**

**Wednesday, Feb. 4 at 6:00 p.m.**

We'll use our sourdough starter to make some dough to take home for more delicious treats! Ages 7-12. *Registration is required.*

### **Winter Tic-Tac-Toe Craft**

**Wednesday, Feb. 11 at 6:00 p.m.**

What do you do with a large round piece of wood? Make a Tic-Tac-Toe board of course! With some tape, paint and unique playing pieces we will make the game of Tic-Tac-Toe come alive in a beautiful winter scene. Ages 7-12. *Registration is required.*

## **February Vacation Week**

### **Tween Lotion Lab**

**Tuesday, Feb. 17 at 1:00 p.m.**

In this program just for tweens, we'll make some DIY recipes for lotions and scrubs using all natural ingredients. Join us for some hands-on self-care science! Ages 9-13. *Registration is required.*

### **A Printmaking Visit with Old Sturbridge Village**

**Wednesday, Feb. 18 at 1:00 p.m.**

OSV is coming to help us learn about American History. During this program we will learn about Mary Katherine Goddard, who published the Declaration of Independence, then try some printmaking of our own! Ages 7-14. *Registration is required.*

### **P.J. Karaoke**

**Thursday, Feb. 19 at 3:00 p.m.**

Get your pajamas on, warm up your voices and be ready to win some prizes! Please bring a new pair of pajamas for our pajama drive. All ages. *Registration is required.*

### **Putt-Putt Pups Mini Golf**

**Friday, Feb. 20 from 10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.**

Try your hand at our indoor mini-golf course featuring famous storybook dogs! *Register for a tee-time.*

## **Early Literacy Program Series**

Session runs January 6 through February 12

*Registration is required.*

**Tuesdays at 10:15 a.m. - Toddler Time 1**

**Tuesdays at 11:15 a.m. - Toddler Time 2**

*Ages 2 to 4*

*6-week sign up*

A 6-week program with stories, music, and STEM activities to help your child enjoy books, build pre-reading skills, develop social skills, and have fun.

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

*Ages birth to 5 with an adult caregiver*

*No registration required*

This gentle literacy program is for families with young children. There will be songs, stories, simple sign language, lap bounces, connections to other parents, and play.

**Thursdays at 11:30 a.m. - Lunch Bunch**

*Ages 4 and 5*

*6-week sign up*

Weekly story, craft, and school readiness sessions with lunch from home. Caregivers are not required to attend but must remain on the Children's floor.

Please note that food items provided during programming are prepared in the Library and/or kitchen of a Library staff member, not a professional kitchen. While staff members follow basic food safety procedures (washing hands, disinfecting surfaces), the Health Department has not inspected our materials.

# Beaman Browser

FRIENDS OF THE BEAMAN MEMORIAL PUBLIC LIBRARY  
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Please help support our Library programming!

## Friends Membership 2026

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



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

**Please make checks payable to: The Friends of the Beaman Library,  
8 Newton Street, West Boylston, MA 01583**

## Book Sale Friends Night Invitation

### 2026



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.)

To file a complaint of discrimination, write to USDA, Director, Office of Civil Rights, 1400 Independence Avenue, S.W., Washington, D.C. 20250-9410, or call (800)795-3272 (voice) or (202)720-6382 (TDD). USDA is an equal opportunity provider employer, and lender.