

## About the HBO Alzheimer's Project

One of the most devastating forms of memory loss is Alzheimer's disease, an irreversible and progressive brain disorder that slowly destroys memory and thinking skills. Today, Alzheimer's is the second most-feared illness in America, following cancer, and may affect as many as five million Americans. As the baby-boom generation moves through retirement, that number could soar to more than 11 million by 2040, and have a huge economic impact on America's already fragile healthcare system.

While there is no cure for the disease, THE ALZHEIMER'S PROJECT shows there is now genuine reason to be optimistic about the future. Created by the award-winning team behind HBO's acclaimed "Addiction" project, this multi-platform series takes a close look at groundbreaking discoveries made by the country's leading scientists, as well as the effects of this debilitating and fatal disease both on those with Alzheimer's and on their families.

For further information, visit  
<http://www.hbo.com/alzheimers/>

*Special thanks to Karen Ganis and the Hudson Valley Chapter of The Alzheimer's Association for bringing these important films to the Mahopac Public Library. For more information about Alzheimer's Disease, visit [www.alz.org](http://www.alz.org).*

Additional Health Film Screenings  
@ Mahopac Public Library

### **"Dying to Have Known"**

A film presenting alternatives to traditional cancer treatment  
Tuesday, September 29, 7 pm

### **"Simply Raw: Reversing Diabetes in 30 Days"**

Thursday, October 15, 7 pm

Registration for these programs is requested. Register online at [www.mahopaclibrary.org](http://www.mahopaclibrary.org), or call 845-628-2009, ext 100.

## Mahopac Public Library

668 Route Six  
Mahopac, NY 10541

Phone: 845.628.2009  
[www.mahopaclibrary.org](http://www.mahopaclibrary.org)

# ALZHEIMER'S DISEASE

*A series of films and discussions for children, families and caregivers.*



Presented at the Mahopac Public Library in cooperation with the Hudson Valley Chapter of The Alzheimer's Association.

**A film for children ages 8 & up**  
accompanied by a parent or caregiver

**Tuesday, August 11, 1-2 pm**

**“Grandpa, Do You Know Who I Am?’ With Maria Shriver”**

*an HBO documentary*

This film tells five stories of children, ages 6-15, who are coping with grandfathers or grandmothers suffering from Alzheimer's disease.



Maria Shriver provides commentary and delivers valuable "lessons" for the kids, urging them not to blame themselves for what their grandparents do or say.

"We are all children of Alzheimer's," says Shriver, sympathetically making it clear that "if it's too painful to visit, you don't have to go."

Ultimately, the film shows how important it is to "go with the flow," offering up a variety of perspectives on how kids can handle a grandparent's loss of memory through kindness, patience and compassion.

*Film is approximately 30 minutes; followed by a question & answer session led by a representative from the Alzheimer's Association.*

*Suggested reading: "What's Happening to Grandpa?" by Maria Shriver; illustrated by Sandra Speidel, 2004.*

**A film for families**  
**Tuesday, September 22, 7-8:30 pm**

**“The Memory Loss Tapes”**

*an HBO documentary*

While there is hope for the future as science gains momentum, millions of Americans are currently affected by the painful and deadly consequences of Alzheimer's. This documentary profiles seven people living with the disease, each in an advancing state of dementia, from its earliest detectable changes through death.

Among the emotionally gripping stories: a mother who holds on fiercely to her simple lifestyle, yet recognizes that her memory failures are making it more difficult to do so; a onetime computer whiz who keeps a blog to chronicle his activities while he still can; and a father who no longer can remember his family.



Says film director Shari Cookson: "It was moving and life changing that people let us into their lives while this intense experience was happening. You see how much the disease takes from a person, how everything you've learned and been in your life is stripped away—yet you still get these glimmers of the person."

*Film is approximately 85 minutes; followed by a question & answer session led by a representative from the Alzheimer's Association.*

**A film for caregivers**  
**Thursday, October 8, 7-8:30 pm**

**“Caregivers”**

*an HBO documentary*

There are currently 10 million Americans providing 8.5 billion hours of unpaid care to people with Alzheimer's disease or other dementias, according to an estimate from the Alzheimer's Association. Seventy percent of people with Alzheimer's live at home, cared for by family and friends.



Alzheimer's can take a great toll on the physical and emotional well-being not just of the patient, but of the caregiver as well. **Caregivers** is a collection of five portraits, each of which highlights the sacrifices and successes made by people experiencing their loved one's gradual descent into dementia. "Successful caregivers don't do this out of a sense of obligation," notes director, Bill Couturié. "They truly love their father or wife and get a sense of joy from giving to the person. They also learn to live in the present...a but-



terfly, a cloud in the sky – these folks learn to appreciate that."

*Film is approximately 48 minutes; followed by a question & answer session led by a representative from the Alzheimer's Association.*

Registration is requested for each film you would like to attend. Register online at [www.mahopaclibrary.org](http://www.mahopaclibrary.org), or call 845-628-2009, ext 100.