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The newsletter of Webster Groves Public Library  
Vol. 11 no. 5 — January 2016



## KIDS' EVENTS

### Story Time with Miss Phyllis

Saturday, January 2, 2:30 p.m.  
Tuesday, January 5, 10 a.m.  
Thursday, January 7, 10 a.m.  
Tuesday, January 19, 10 a.m.  
Thursday, January 21, 10 a.m.

### Baby Story Time with Miss Phyllis

Thursday, January 14, 9:30 a.m.  
Thursday, January 28, 9:30 a.m.

### Pajama Story Time with Miss Phyllis

Wednesday, January 20, 6:30 p.m.

### Minecraft Club

Friday, January 15  
Meets at 4:45 p.m. after the library closes.  
Participants must have PC/Mac version.

### LEGOMANIA!

Saturday, January 16, 2 - 4 p.m.

### 'Be-Tween the Lines' Book Club for Ages 9-12

Monday, January 25, 6 p.m.  
*Mouseheart*, by Lisa Fiedler



## TEEN EVENTS

### Teen Advisory Board Meeting

Tuesday, January 12, 6:30 p.m.

## LIBRARY HOURS

Monday - Thursday	9 a.m. - 9 p.m.
Friday & Saturday	9 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.
Sunday	2 p.m. - 5 p.m.

The Library will be closed Monday, January 18 for  
Martin Luther King, Jr. Day.

## SELF HELP

Well, it's a brand new year. At least it is according to the Gregorian Calendar we're currently using. In times past the New Year usually started around March 1, or at the spring equinox. In Ancient Egypt it began in August, with the flooding of the Nile. We start our year in January, when the weather is miserable. Why do we do this to ourselves?

There is an old ritual we go through in libraries. Around January 1 we set up displays of books about weight loss, smoking cessation, improving intimate relationships, getting a better job, and all manner of self-help subjects. People come in and browse these displays. We see their eyes alight with determination as they select the book they need.

When they check it out, we don't pry. We don't say 'so, you're planning to quit smoking, Mrs. Jones?' We are discreet. Often the patron will let us know just the same. Of course that's why we put the display up in the first place, and all we can do is wish them good luck.

We also set up these displays because of a basic difference between how libraries and

bookstores operate. In bookstores they have a section called 'Self Help,' which includes books on all manner of subjects. In libraries, it depends on what you're helping yourself do. Books on quitting smoking are in 616.86, a health number. Books on weight loss are also in health, but earlier, in 613. But books on relationships are in 306, which is a sociology number.

At this time of year, when it seems that people are determined to help themselves do *something*, we put out a bunch of the books to make it easier for them to find.

Few of these books are ever renewed. Often within a few days they are returned in the outside book drop, like a quiet secret between us. Resolutions are hard to keep. I think it's because we observe the New Year in January, when it's cold and bleak and most people are happy to just stay indoors, consume too many carbs, and read long novels. Not exactly the time of year to be changing life-long bad habits.

[tcooper@wgpl.org](mailto:tcooper@wgpl.org)

## HAVE YOU DISCOVERED ZINIO YET?

A few years ago the libraries of the Municipal Library Consortium began subscribing to an online magazine service called Zinio. It enables you to download current issues of over 75 popular magazines to your computer, or to your phone, pad or other device using the Zinio app.

**These are not loans—once you download the magazine, it's yours!** There are no hold queues, no waiting, just find the magazine you want—whether it's *Newsweek*, *Cosmopolitan*, *O*, or many others—and download it. In some instances, such as *National Geographic*,

the online issue is enhanced with digital features not available with the print issue.

If you haven't started using Zinio yet, visit our Website at [www.wgpl.org](http://www.wgpl.org) and check it out. For more information and help with getting started, contact Julia at 314.961.7277.



## TOP REQUESTS

1. *Rogue Lawyer*,  
by John Grisham
2. *Fates and Furies*,  
by Lauren Groff
3. *The Guilty*,  
by David Baldacci
4. *The Secret Chord*,  
by Geraldine Brooks
5. *The Lake House*,  
by Kate Morton
6. *The Crossing*,  
by Michael Connelly
7. *The Japanese Lover*,  
by Isabel Allende
8. *The Nightingale*,  
by Kristin Hannah
9. *The Promise*,  
by Robert Crais
10. *A Banquet of Consequences*,  
by Elizabeth George
11. *All Dressed in White*,  
by Mary Higgins Clark
12. *Between the World and Me*,  
by Ta-Nehisi Coates

## LIBRARY BOARD INFORMATION

Once in a while it is helpful to remind library users of how the Library Board works. As an independent taxing district, the Library is governed by its own Board of Trustees, nine citizen volunteers who are appointed to 3-year terms by the Mayor and City Council.

The board meets on the third Wednesday of each month (except December) at 7 p.m. An agenda is posted within the Library a few days prior to the meeting. If you have any comments, suggestions, or even complaints, it is best to send a letter or e-mail to the library director, Tom Cooper (tcooper@wgpl.org). Written communications are shared with the Board at the monthly meetings. There is also a Public Agenda portion at the beginning of each meeting, for anyone who would like to address the Board.

If you would like to serve on the Library Board of Trustees, you may fill out a Boards and Commissions Application at the City Clerk's Office in City Hall, #4 East Lockwood. You may also find the application at the City's Website, [www.webstergroves.org](http://www.webstergroves.org).

If you ever have any questions about the Library's Board of Trustees, send them to Tom Cooper at [tcooper@wgpl.org](mailto:tcooper@wgpl.org).

## BOOK DISCUSSIONS

Wednesday, January 27 at 7 p.m.



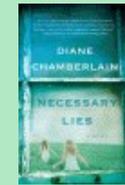
*Open Season*,  
by C. J. Box

Tuesday, February 2 at 6 p.m.



*The Buried Giant*,  
by Kazuo Ishiguro

Saturday, February 6 at 2 p.m.



*Necessary Lies*,  
by Diane Chamberlain

## FIRST ADULT COLORING CLUB A SUCCESS—LET'S DO IT AGAIN!



We had the first meeting of our Adult Coloring Club on Saturday, December 26. A nice group of people came and found relaxation and stress relief in spending a few hours coloring.

A program meant for ages 12 and up, Adult Coloring Clubs have been growing in popularity in libraries across the country. The next meeting will be Saturday, January 23 from 1:30 to 3:30 p.m. There is no need to pre-register, you just have to come in ready to let those creative juices freely flow! We provide the coloring materials and the coloring sheets.

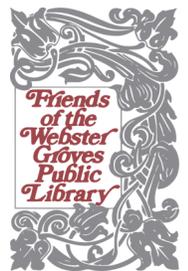
For more information, please contact Michelle or Emily at 314.961.7262.

## FRIENDS NEWS: MEMBERSHIP DRIVE STARTS SOON

The Friends of the Library have always done a membership drive in fall, sending applications to all current members. This year, we decided to wait until January to do so, in the hopes of bringing our membership drive more in unison with the calendar year. If you are a current member and have been wondering where your renewal application is, you should expect to see it soon.

The Friends of the Library is a non-profit group whose purpose is to raise funds to support special library programs, and to provide volunteer opportunities throughout the year for people who love their library.

If you have any questions about membership, please contact Debbie Ladd at 314.961.3784 or [dladd@wgpl.org](mailto:dladd@wgpl.org).



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