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The newsletter of Webster Groves Public Library
Vol. 11 no. 6 — February 2016



KIDS' EVENTS

Story Time with Miss Phyllis

Tuesday, February 9, 10:00 a.m.
Thursday, February 11, 10 a.m.
Tuesday, February 23, 10 a.m.
Thursday, February 25, 10 a.m.
Saturday, February 27, 2:30 p.m.

Baby Story Time with Miss Phyllis

Thursday, February 4, 9:30 a.m.
Thursday, February 18, 9:30 a.m.

Pajama Story Time with Miss Phyllis

Wednesday, February 10, 6:30 p.m.

Minecraft Club

Friday, February 12
Meets at 4:45 p.m. after the library closes.
Participants must have PC/Mac version.
(ages 9 - 17)

LEGOMANIA!

Saturday, February 13, 2 - 4 p.m.

Whiskers & Tales

Thursday, February 18, 7 - 8:30 p.m.

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

Monday, February 22, 6 p.m.
*What We Found in the Sofa and
How It Saved the World*,
by Henry Clark



TEEN EVENTS

Teen Advisory Board Meeting

Tuesday, February 9, 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, February 15 for Presidents' Day.

ST. VALENTINE'S DAY

Of all the holidays on the calendar, the one libraries are perhaps most ambivalent about is Valentine's Day.

And no, it's not because librarians are all bitter old spinsters, despite the persistent stereotype in popular culture. Remember *It's a Wonderful Life*? When George Bailey visits the world where he never existed, Mary is not a married, happy wife and mother, but—*gasp!*—a librarian! In reality many of us are just as happily married as most people.

Our problem is that to encourage romance in the library—and romance is what Valentine's Day is all about—is rife with problems. We already find the occasional need to patrol the non-fiction stacks to discourage amorous activity between high-schoolers. What is it about row upon row of bookshelves that makes a person (or two) feel invisible?

We also, being a public building, have to occasionally remind some over-eager Lothario that the library is not a singles bar. Despite what you may read in those 'where to meet single people' articles in *Cosmo* or *Redbook*,

most people come to the library to seek quiet time to study and read, not to field pickup lines from strangers.

Some libraries have even done literary speed dating events. Rows of men face rows of women and talk about books for a few minutes before moving onto the next person. I guess the idea is to see if you might have compatible reading tastes and form a romantic bond based on that. I've also heard the comment from women too used to the singles bar circuit that this is a way to at least ensure that he *can* read.

For a while we have pushed February as *Love Your Library Month*, which is kind of self-serving, and never seems to catch on at any rate. People either love their library or they don't, and I don't think naming a month in our own honor can change that.

So here's to a happy St. Valentine's Day. May we suggest that you just check out a good romance novel to read that day?

tcooper@wgpl.org

GIRL SCOUTS PROVIDE HOLIDAY CHEER

On December 5, Edgar Road Girl Scouts gathered at Webster Groves Public Library to make Christmas ornaments and practice their caroling before caravanning to Laclede Groves Senior Living Center. Since 2013, the girls have enjoyed spreading holiday cheer to the center's residents. This year nearly 50 scouts, representing five troops gathered together to share their crafts and spend some time visiting and singing half a dozen holiday favorites including "Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer" and "Santa Claus is Coming to Town".

Since its opening in a newly renovated building with a large meeting room, Webster Groves Public Library has hosted many Girl Scout meetings, and we're proud to provide a space where great activities like this happen.



Girl Scouts working on Christmas ornaments

TOP REQUESTS

1. *My Name is Lucy Barton*,
by Elizabeth Strout
2. *Rogue Lawyer*,
by John Grisham
3. *The Guilty*,
by David Baldacci
4. *The Nightingale*,
by Kristin Hannah
5. *The Past*,
by Tessa Hadley
6. *Between the World and Me*,
by Ta-Nehisi Coates
7. *Brotherhood in Death*,
by J. D. Robb
8. *The Lake House*,
by Kate Morton
9. *The Japanese Lover*,
by Isabel Allende
10. *The Life-Changing Magic of Tidying Up*,
by Marie Kondo
11. *Fates and Furies*,
by Lauren Groff
12. *Tricky Twenty-Two*,
by Janet Evanovich

ADULT EVENTS



Saturday,
February 20,
1:30 – 3:30 p.m.
Coloring Club,
ages 12 to adult

Join us for a few peaceful hours of quiet stress relief. We provide the materials, you provide the creativity.

Friday, February 26, 7 p.m.
Irish American Writers and Artists Salon

Poetry, prose, live music and art, all with an Irish-American flavor.



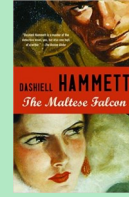
Friday, March 11, 7 p.m.
Join us for a Star Party!

Members of St. Louis Astronomical Society will give basic instruction in how to use a telescope. Then we will go outside to view objects in the night sky.



BOOK DISCUSSIONS

Wednesday, February 24 at 7 p.m.



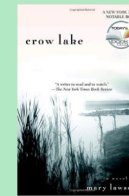
The Maltese Falcon,
by Dashiell Hammett

Tuesday, March 1 at 6 p.m.



Let's Pretend This Never Happened,
by Jenny Lawson

Saturday, March 5 at 2 p.m.



Crow Lake,
by Mary Lawson

WEBSTER ARTS HOLDS FIRST CURATED EXHIBITION AT LIBRARY



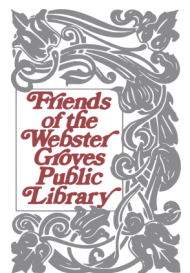
From March 4 to April 1 the Library's gallery will feature an exhibit of small artworks from various artists. This is the first curated exhibition undertaken by Webster Arts. Interested artists may find information about exhibiting at the Webster Arts Website, www.webster-arts.org, or by e-mailing Webster Arts Executive Director Jeane Vogel at j.vogel@webster-arts.org.

There will be an opening reception for the exhibit on Friday, March 4 from 6 – 8 p.m. The reception is open to the public and free of charge. Refreshments will be served.

Webster Groves Public Library established a gallery in summer 2014. We have featured exhibits by several regional artists. Anyone interested in displaying their work in the Library's gallery should visit the Library for an application. For more information, call Tom Cooper at 314.961.3784

FRIENDS NEWS: MEMBERSHIP DRIVE STARTS SOON

The Friends have mailed new membership brochures to Webster Groves residents and are looking forward to renewals and, we hope, some new memberships! We are excited about the new sidewalk, paving and seating for the Reading Garden, which has been jointly funded by the Friends and the Bronner Family Foundation. As soon as the weather is warm enough for planting, the landscaping will be installed and the Library will have a new outdoor space for reading and relaxing. Be sure to come to the third visit of the Irish-American Writers and Artists on Feb. 26—the Friends will be providing hospitality for the evening. Look for our next Book Blitz on April 30. We will be setting up in the evening on April 29—come join us for some work and some fun! In the meantime, check out the Friends' book cart at the Library or, if you're at the Rec Center, the Library on Ice!



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