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The newsletter of Webster Groves Public Library  
Vol. 12 no. 2 — October 2016



## KIDS' EVENTS

### Story Time with Miss Phyllis

Tuesday, October 4 at 10 a.m.  
Thursday, October 6 at 10 a.m.  
Tuesday, October 18 at 10 a.m.  
Thursday, October 20 at 10 a.m.

### Baby Story Time with Miss Phyllis

Thursday, October 13 at 9:30 a.m.  
Thursday, October 27 at 9:30 a.m.

### Pajama Story Time with Miss Phyllis

Wednesday, October 19 at 6:30 p.m.

### Tween/Teens Zombie Cookies Attack!

Thursday, October 20, 5 - 6 p.m.

### LegoMania!

Saturday, October 22, 2 - 4 p.m.



### Minecraft Club

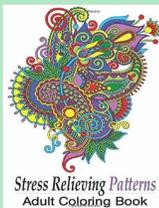
Friday, October 21—Meets at 4:45 p.m., after the Library closes. (Players must have PC/Mac version)

### LIFE Meeting

Saturday, October 29 at 10 a.m.  
Library Information/Family Education

### Coloring Club (Ages 12 to Adult)

Saturday, October 29, 1:30 - 3:30 p.m.



### Teen Advisory Board Meeting

Tuesday, October 11 at 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.

## INSTITUTIONAL MEMORY

September saw the retirement from the Library of Elise Fortman, who has worked here since 1988 and been our business manager since 1989. She has overseen many changes at the Library, been second-in-command for quite a while, and even stepped up to run things during times when new directors were being sought. She will be missed.

But the fact is, it's not so much her business skills that we will miss, though of course she has been a wise and careful custodian of library funds, and kept our books and accounts straight for a long time. But those kinds of skills can be replaced. There are a lot of good bookkeepers out there who need work.

What we will miss most is her large store of institutional memories. As one of the longest-serving library employees, she remembers things nobody else does. Past employees, past programs, why we made certain changes and never chose to make others, what was the basis for decisions that impacted the Library—all of these are things that we count on long-time employees to remember.

As a public body, one charged with maintaining archival information, we should have rec-

ords of everything. But records are faulty. Our best source of library history is the minutes of monthly Library Board meetings. I have read every set of minutes from 1928 to the present, and I am often shocked at what is missing.

As an example, when the current building at 301 E. Lockwood was being built, there were three proposed plans. At its December, 1949 meeting, the Board voted to accept a two-story design. That is most definitely not what we got, but there is no record of why the plan changed so completely. Official minutes are nice, but they often miss things of crucial importance.

This incident predates Elise's tenure. She was as surprised as I was to learn of it. But she has been of great importance—and often—when there were other questions to be answered. There are other long-serving employees at the Library, and I feel the need to get all the information from them that I can while I still can.

It seems funny to say that I've only been here for eleven years, but when you work in a library that has existed in one form or another since 1884, institutional memory is long, and always important.

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

## HALLOWEEN FILM SERIES

During the month of October we will be featuring scary movies on Friday nights. The schedule is:

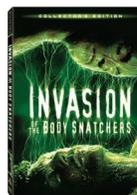
Friday, October 7th at 7 p.m.

*The Haunting*  
1963 (G)



Friday, October 21st at 7 p.m.

*Invasion of the Body Snatchers*  
1978 (PG)



Friday, October 28th at 7 p.m.

*The Others*  
2001 (PG-13)



This will be the third in our ongoing film series. In April we featured classic comedy films, and in September we had movies about elections and the presidency, in honor of the current election year. Movies are free, and there's always popcorn and soda. For more information, please call 314.961.3784.

## TOP REQUESTS

1. *A Great Reckoning*,  
by Louise Penny
2. *Commonwealth*,  
by Ann Patchett
3. *The Woman in Cabin 10*,  
by Ruth Ware
4. *Truly Madly Guilty*,  
by Liane Moriarty
5. *The Underground Railroad*,  
by Colson Whitehead
6. *A Man Called Ove*,  
by Fredrik Backman
7. *The Girl with the Lower Back Tattoo*,  
by Amy Schumer
8. *Hillbilly Elegy*,  
by J. D. Vance
9. *Love Warrior*,  
by Glennon Doyle Melton
10. *Arrowood*,  
by Laura McHugh
11. *Here I Am*,  
by Jonathan Safran Foer
12. *Hungry Heart*,  
by Jennifer Weiner

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### CALLING ALL STUDENTS!

#### HOW TO DO RESEARCH AT THE PUBLIC LIBRARY



Thursday, October 6th at 6 p.m.  
Learn the best ways to find books, to use the Internet to find good information, to find magazine articles using online databases, to cite your references, and much more. No appointments needed, just show up.

### MAKE A DIFFERENCE DAY

#### PLANTING A BUTTERFLY GARDEN!

Saturday, October 22 is Make a Difference Day in Webster Groves & Shrewsbury. As the service project here at the Library, we will plant a butterfly garden in the west parking lot.

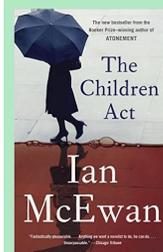
We will start at 9:00 that morning, and it should take 3 or 4 hours to get it all done.

Anyone who wants to help out should call Tom or Debbie at 314.961.3784 for more information.



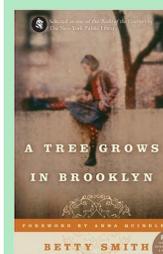
## BOOK DISCUSSIONS

Tuesday, November 1 at 6 p.m.



*The Children Act*,  
by Ian McEwan

Saturday, November 5 at 2 p.m.



*A Tree Grows in Brooklyn*,  
by Betty Smith

## GET READY FOR BIG CHANGES IN CHECKOUTS!

In response to input we received during a community survey last year, we have been working on changing some of our circulation policies, to bring them more in line with people's needs and the way they live today. Some of these changes will be coming soon, so we are offering a preview of what to expect:



1. The standard checkout period for items will increase from 2 weeks to 3 weeks.
2. You will still be allowed 3 renewals of items, so your total time to keep items will be 12 weeks rather than 8 weeks.
3. The 50¢ per day fine for overdue DVDs, Blu-rays, and video games will be reduced to 15¢ per day.
4. All other overdue fines will increase from 10¢ to 15¢ per day.

We are working on a calendar of when to introduce these changes, and will try to make timely announcements so everyone knows. Other changes are being considered, and we will work to let you know when those changes come too.

## FRIENDS NEWS

The Friends will be having a Fall Book Blitz on Friday, October 14 from 5 p.m. to 8 p.m. and on Saturday, October 15 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. in the Library's meeting room. We will have hundreds of items for sale, including books, DVDs and CDs. Most will be priced from \$0.50 to \$2.00. Come check it out. You might find the perfect holiday gift at a bargain price!



WEBSTER GROVES  
PUBLIC LIBRARY  
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www.wgpl.org

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