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The newsletter of Webster Groves Public Library
Vol. 12 no. 7 — March 2017



KIDS' EVENTS

Baby Story Time with Miss Phyllis

Thursday, March 2 at 9:30 a.m.
Thursday, March 16 at 9:30 a.m.
Thursday, March 30 at 9:30 a.m.

Kids Coloring Club (ages 5 to 12)

Saturday, March 4, 1:30 - 3:30 p.m.

Story Time with Miss Phyllis

Tuesday, March 7 at 10 a.m.
Thursday, March 9 at 10 a.m.
Saturday, March 11 at 2:30 p.m.
Tuesday, March 21 at 10 a.m.
Thursday, March 23 at 10 a.m.

Pajama Story Time with Miss Phyllis

Wednesday, March 8 at 6:30 p.m.

Minecraft Club

Friday, March 10—Meets at 4:45 p.m., after the library closes. (Players must have PC/Mac version)

LegoMania!

Saturday, March 25, 2 - 4 p.m.



TEEN EVENTS

Teen Advisory Board Meeting

Tuesday, March 14 at 6:30 p.m.

Teen/Adult Coloring Club (ages 12 to adult)

Saturday, March 18, 1:30 - 2:30 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.

NOW, MORE THAN EVER...

Once a month I attend the meeting of the board of the Friends of the Library. I usually update them on Library news, new plans and initiatives, and new challenges, and I also suggest projects we might work on together in the upcoming months. When I say 'projects we might work on together' to the Friends, I mean 'projects I hope you'll pay for.'

Since its inception, the Friends group has given hundreds of thousands of dollars in materials, building improvements, program support, and more to the Library. The dues they collect from members, the money they raise from book sales and other fundraisers, as well as individual donations that come into their account, all add to our ability to serve you better.

At the last meeting of the Friends, I pointed out a sad reality. In the past few years, several funding sources for public libraries have dried up or been postponed or reduced. E-rate, a federal program which has paid about half of our telephone bills for the past ten years, is no longer available to us. Grants from the Missouri Arts Council, which could fund things like visiting musicians and storytellers, have been frozen. Aid from the State, which previously

sent us around \$23,000 per year, has been withheld by the governor. A set-aside from the State Athletes & Entertainers tax, meant to go to public libraries, has been redirected. Even funding to the REAL program, which is what makes fast Internet connections available in most public libraries in Missouri, is in serious jeopardy.

The Missouri Library Association and individual librarians across the state spend a good deal of time communicating to our legislators about the importance of public libraries within our communities, hoping to make them understand the true value and importance of supporting this service.

In the meantime, the support we get voluntarily from our Friends is more important than ever. Yes, of course we are tax supported, and the lion's share of our funding comes through local taxes. But as with many public libraries, some of the best services are paid for by that extra little bit that's left over after all the bills are paid.

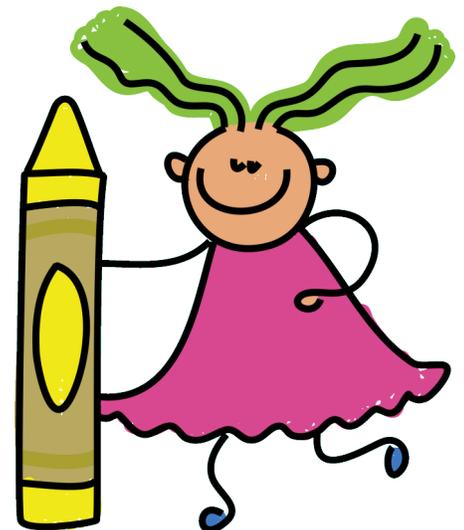
Now more than ever, I am so grateful that we have a vigorous, involved Friends of the Library group.

ccooper@wgpl.org

KIDS' COLORING CLUB!

Last year, noticing a popular trend in America, we started a Teen/Adult Coloring Club. This is a chance for people to come in, relax, and destress by simply coloring for a few hours. It has been pretty popular, and there is a core group of folks who come each month.

But we have also had a number of requests for a kids' group, so starting this month, we will have one. It will also be held on a Saturday afternoon (starting March 4 at 1:30), and run for two hours. We will provide the coloring books and the coloring materials; all you need to bring is your creativity.



TOP REQUESTS

1. *Hillbilly Elegy*,
by J. D. Vance
2. *The Whistler*,
by John Grisham
3. *The Dry*,
by Jane Harper
4. *A Man Called Ove*,
by Fredrik Backman
5. *Lincoln in the Bardo*,
by George Saunders
6. *Never Never*,
by James Patterson
7. *Hidden Figures*,
by Margot Lee Shetterly
8. *The Undoing Project*,
by Michael Lewis
9. *Echoes in Death*,
by J. D. Robb
10. *The Girl Before*,
by JP Delaney
11. *A Gentleman in Moscow*,
by Amor Towles
12. *Moonglow*,
by Michael Chabon

SAMBA BOM!

Celebrate Brazilian music with us on Saturday, March 11 at 2 p.m. Samba Bom, a professional Brazilian music ensemble, will visit the Library and present a program of live Brazilian music! This program will be fun for kids and adults, and will end with a *Batucada!* where they pass out percussion instruments to the audience so they can play along. Don't miss it! Call 314.961.3784 for more information.



IAW&A SALON

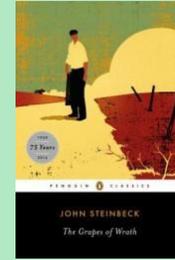
The Irish American Writers & Artists Salon on Friday, February 24 was enjoyed by all!



Thanks to Eimear & Conor Arkins, Katy Gordon, Liam Cassidy, Virginia Guneyli, Fran Fanning, Layla Goushey, and Ron Ebest for their great music, great poetry and great prose! And thanks to the Friends for the delicious refreshments.

BOOK DISCUSSIONS

Saturday, April 1 at 2 p.m.

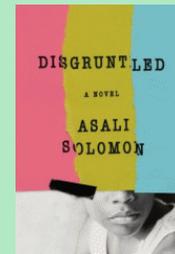


The Grapes of Wrath,
by John Steinbeck

Opera Theatre of St. Louis will be presenting the opera *The Grapes of Wrath* from May 27. A docent from Opera Theatre will visit to discuss the production with us.

OPERA THEATRE **OTSL** of SAINT LOUIS

Tuesday, April 4 at 6 p.m.



Disgruntled
by Asali Solomon

LIBRARY JOBS?

We get asked pretty frequently about working at the Library. While our work force is pretty stable, we do have some turnover once in a while and need to hire.

One of the main questions we hear is, 'where do you advertise library jobs?' The fact is, we almost never advertise. In the rare occasions

when a position comes open, we already have enough applications on file that advertising is unnecessary.

We hire high school students to work as shelvers, adults to work as clerks on the front desk, college graduates to staff our Reference Desk and Children's Room, and the occasion-

al professional librarian. All positions require people who are available to work flexible schedules including weekdays, evenings, and weekend hours. We have no real need for 'summertime only' employees.

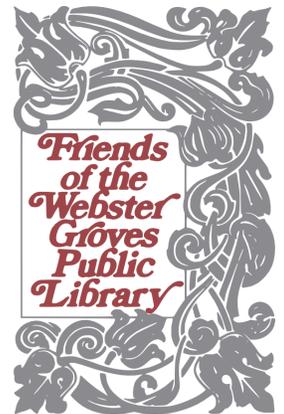
Applications are available at our front desk. We keep them on file for 6 months.

FRIENDS NEWS

Thanks to everyone who made the Irish American Writers & Artists Salon another success, especially those members who contributed refreshments! Please let Nancy Hiatt (bahiatt@sbcglobal.net) or Laura Wehrenberg (lwehrenberg@sbcglobal.net) know if you'd like to help at any Friends event. The next one coming up will be the Book Blitz on May 5 and 6.

The Friends will be helping to stock three Little Libraries at Blackburn, Southwest and Larson Parks. These were made by the Men's Woodworking Club at Laclede Groves and donated to the Webster Groves Public Library.

Thanks to the Parks & Recreation Department who installed the Little Libraries! They are located near the children's play area in each of the parks.



WEBSTER GROVES
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