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The newsletter of Webster Groves Public Library
Vol. 13 no. 4 — December 2017



KIDS' EVENTS

Gingerbread House Contest Begins!

Friday, December 1 (last day to enter is Friday, December 15)

Story Time with Katie RAH!

Tuesday, December 5 at 10 a.m.

Thursday, December 7 at 10 a.m.

Tuesday, December 19 at 10 a.m.

Thursday, December 21 at 10 a.m.

Webster Rocks!

Kindness Rock Painting Club (ages 7 and up)

Wednesday, December 6 from 3 - 4:15 p.m.

Marble Roller Coaster STEM Program

Saturday, December 9 at 11 a.m.

Make & Take Craft Day (Holiday Cards & Tags)

Saturday, December 9 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Baby Story Time with Miss Phyllis

Thursday, December 14 at 9:30 a.m.

Thursday, December 28 at 9:30 a.m.

Book to Movie: *The Polar Express*

Saturday, December 16 at 12:30 p.m.

Christmas Story & Craft Time (with WG High School Students)

Saturday, December 16 at 2:30 p.m.

Pajama Story Time with Emily

Tuesday, December 26 at 6:30 p.m.

TEEN EVENTS

Teen Advisory Board Meeting

Tuesday, December 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 Wednesday, Dec. 13, for Staff Training Day, Sunday, Dec. 24, and Monday, Dec. 25, for Christmas, and Sunday, Dec. 31, and Monday, Jan. 1, for the New Year.

WEBSTER GROVES CENTENNIAL

For a few months now I have been indexing all the articles in the *Webster-Kirkwood Times*, beginning with its first issues in 1978. I am currently working in 1996, which, if you are familiar with your Webster Groves history, was the centennial of our incorporation as a city. There were quite a few stories about it and about various celebrations and commemorations that took place in town.

One thing that happened at the Library during the centennial year was the creation of a Centennial Quilt. I found photos with biographical information about all the women who worked on the quilt. I am not that familiar with quilting, but even I can tell that it is a beautiful specimen of this minor art form. Sewn within elaborate borders in deep earth tones are scenes of well-known buildings and events that evoke Webster Groves: City Hall, Hawken House, Loretto Hall, Community Days fireworks, children playing soccer, and many more. It still hangs on the

wall in our main Reading Room, though several years ago we had to cover it with a UV protective sheet to keep it from fading.

But a funny thing occurs midway through the centennial year observance in 1996. In an editorial in the *Webster-Kirkwood Times*, Webster Groves is referred to as Queen of the Suburbs. A week later the same paper carried a letter from a correspondent who was greatly miffed at this misapplication of the sobriquet. Kirkwood, he insisted, is the real Queen of the Suburbs, and offered a litany of documentation to that effect.

I continued indexing newspapers through the next several weeks, expecting to see a response from a Webster Groves patriot, now that this gauntlet had been thrown down. It hasn't come. I have worked in this town long enough to know that at one time this was a hotly debated issue. Perhaps it no longer is?

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NEW COUNTY LIBRARY AGREEMENT

The Board of Trustees of Webster Groves Public Library recently approved a new agreement with St. Louis County Library, allowing residents of Webster Groves free access to County Library locations.

The change was spurred by County Library's decision, taken at its September board meeting, to eliminate the transactional fees associated with reciprocal borrowing agreements, and allowing the provision of free library cards to all patrons of St. Louis Public Library, St. Charles City-County Library, and the nine Municipal Library Consortium member libraries.

'We wanted to waive the fee to promote libraries across the region,' said St. Louis

County Library Director Kristen Sorth. 'We're looking at ways to remove barriers to access, and we felt the fee was a barrier.'

In 2015, Webster Groves Public Library withdrew from a previous reciprocal borrowing agreement, citing the associated fees and the high cost of maintaining it. Since that time Webster Groves residents who wanted to use St. Louis County Library locations were asked to pay a \$50 annual non-resident fee.

The agreement will be effective as of January 1, 2018, and from that date forward, Webster Groves residents will no longer have to pay those fees.

TOP REQUESTS

1. *Little Fires Everywhere*,
by Celeste Ng
2. *The Rooster Bar*,
by John Grisham
3. *Two Kinds of Truth*,
by Michael Connelly
4. *A Gentleman in Moscow*,
by Amor Towles
5. *The Midnight Line*,
by Lee Child
6. *Origin*,
by Dan Brown
7. *Manhattan Beach*,
by Jennifer Egan
8. *Grant*,
by Ron Chernow
9. *Deep Freeze*,
by John Sandford
10. *The Rules of Magic*,
by Alice Hoffman
11. *End Game*,
by David Baldacci
12. *Hardcore Twenty-Four*,
by Janet Evanovich

GINGERBREAD HOUSE CONTEST

Our popular Gingerbread House Contest returns for December! Register at our Children's Desk and get busy!

All entries must be homemade: **no store-bought kits**. All visible house contents must be edible (gingerbread, cookies, candy, icing and other decorations). Non-edible items may be used, but only as support, and must be covered up.

No peanut butter or nuts can be used due to allergies.

Bring in your decorated house December 1 - 15. All entries will be displayed in the Library's atrium. Vote for your favorite house December 16 - 22.

Winners will be called and prizes handed out on December 23 in each of three categories: Children (ages 8 - 15), Adult (16 and up) and Families.



OTHER CHILDREN'S ROOM EVENTS

WINTER COLORING CONTEST

Pick up one of our ten different coloring sheets in the Children's Room, and take part in our Winter Coloring Contest.

Participants are encouraged to be as creative as they like in coloring the sheets. Entries must be turned in by January 10 to be eligible

for judging.

There will be prizes in four age categories: 2 - 5, 6 - 9, 10 - 13, and 14 - 18. Prizes will be awarded January 31.



FRIENDS NEWS

The Friends 'mini' Book Fair was a great success with many new Friends helping out. We grossed over \$900! We were pleased at the response to running it as an all-day/both-days bag sale. Thank you to all who came by to help and to those of you who came by to shop. Many books went to fine new homes. We hope to have another sale in the spring of 2018.

Membership forms for new members or renewals will be mailed out soon. Have a wonderful holiday season and look for exciting new opportunities in the New Year.

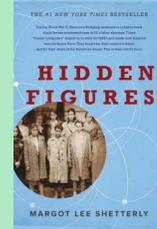
BOOK DISCUSSIONS

Tuesday, January 2 at 6 p.m.



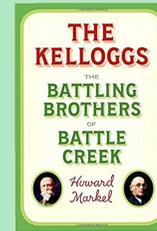
Cancer Ward,
by Aleksandr
Solzhenitsyn

Saturday, January 6 at 2 p.m.



Hidden Figures,
by Margot Lee Shetterly

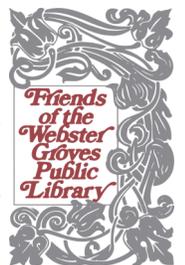
Wednesday, January 10 at 6 p.m.



*The Kelloggs: The Battling
Brothers of Battle Creek*,
by Howard Markel

ENJOY HOLIDAY MUSIC BY *THE TREBLE MAKERS*

Visit the Library's atrium the afternoon of Saturday, December 23, to hear the clarinet trio the Treble Makers as they serenade us with holidays classics. Begins at 3:15 p.m.



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