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The newsletter of Webster Groves Public Library  
Vol. 13 no. 9 — May 2018



## KIDS' EVENTS

**Baby Story Time with Miss Phyllis**

Thursday, May 3 at 9:30 a.m.

Thursday, May 17 at 9:30 a.m.

Thursday, May 31 at 9:30 a.m.

**Story Time with Katie RAH!**

Tuesday, May 8 at 10 a.m.

Thursday, May 10 at 10 a.m.

Tuesday, May 22 at 10 a.m.

**Make & Take Craft Afternoon—**

**Mother's Day Cards**

Wednesday, May 9, 3:30 - 4:30 p.m.

**Story Time with Emily**

Monday, May 14 at 10 a.m.

**LegoMania!**

Saturday, May 19, 1:30 - 3:30 p.m.

**LIBRARIES™** SUMMER  
**★ ROCK! ★** READING  
BEGINS!  
Monday, May 21

**"Webster Rocks!"—Kindness Rock Painting  
Club (ages 7 and up)**

Wednesday, May 23, 3:00 - 4:15 p.m.

**Pajama Story Time with Emily**

Tuesday, May 29 at 6:30 p.m.

## TEEN EVENTS

**Teen Advisory Board Meeting**

Tuesday, May 8 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.

The Library will be closed Sunday and Monday,  
May 27 & 28, in honor of Memorial Day.

## FORTY ACRES & SANBORN MAPS

One of the more mysterious places in Webster Groves history is the area known as 'Forty Acres,' located at the corner of South Elm Avenue and East Glendale Road, currently the site of Webster Groves Recreation Center, Moss Field, and Hixson Middle School. In years of research, we have only seen one photo of the area, from the early 1900s, showing it as a quarry of some sort, with many laborers, multiple mule-drawn wagons, and large buildings in the background.

We recently uncovered the Sanborn map for this area, and it was very revealing. Created between the 1860s and the 1950s, Sanborn maps were surveys of the built environment in U.S. metropolitan areas, created to help insurance companies assess fire risk. Kind of the original Google Maps!

The Sanborn map that includes part of Forty Acres shows a large structure labeled 'Clay

Shed,' and also says 'Hydraulic Press Brick Company: Shady Side Clay Fields.'

Now we know that clay mining went on here, probably part of the Cheltenham Seam that ran through St. Louis City and County. The clay was produced for Hydraulic Press Brick Company, a major producer of bricks in the early part of the 20th century.

After the clay was mined out, the area sat as a dump until after World War II, when major municipal projects in the city began, including development of Memorial Field. Later, the School Board bought part of the land to build Moss Field and Hixson Junior High.

Our Reference Room staff found a dozen Sanborn maps from Webster Groves in the early 20th century, and had them printed in large format. Check them out the next time you're in the Library—they're very interesting.

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## CHILDREN'S ROOM MASCOT TO BE REVEALED!

For several weeks now, the Children's Room has been expecting—a new live mascot! We are very excited to get our new baby, who will make its home in the Librarian's office where everyone can see it. It has just been



born, and we will get it as soon as it is old enough to leave its mother. Can you guess what it might be?

Starting May 1, we will give hints about what it is. Check for those in the Library, or on our Facebook and Instagram pages.

We will reveal the mascot at a Summer

Reading Meet & Greet on Saturday, May 26 at 2 p.m. We will also have a *Name the Mascot* contest starting that day. Submissions will be accepted from both children and adults through June 15. It will be very exciting, so don't miss it!

This year's theme for Summer Reading is 'Libraries ROCK!', so get ready to do some rockin' and readin'! As usual there are reading clubs for children, teens, and adults, with fun prizes and premiums.



## TOP REQUESTS

1. *The Great Alone*,  
by Kristin Hannah
2. *An American Marriage*,  
by Tayari Jones
3. *A Higher Loyalty*,  
by James Comey
4. *Alternate Side*,  
by Anna Quindlen
5. *Educated*,  
by Tara Westover
6. *The Flight Attendant*,  
by Chris Bohjalian
7. *The Woman in the Window*,  
by A. J. Finn
8. *Tangerine*,  
by Christine Mangan
9. *Before We Were Yours*,  
by Lisa Wingate
10. *The Punishment She Deserves*,  
by Elizabeth George
11. *You Think It, I'll Say It*,  
by Curtis Sittenfeld
12. *Twisted Prey*,  
by John Sandford

## COMING SOON: CREATOR STATIONS

Soon the Library will add a new feature in our lower level Reference Room: two Creator Stations. These are computers dedicated to helping you create and edit your own video, music, photo and other content.

Each computer has the Adobe Creative Cloud on it, which includes Photoshop, Illustrator, Premiere (video editing), After Effects (special effects software), InDesign (desktop publishing), and more.

Once the computers are in place, we will conduct some workshops on what they can be used for and how to use them. Watch this newsletter and our Website for those announcements soon. You may also make an appointment at any time to have a librarian give you an orientation to the Creator Station computers.

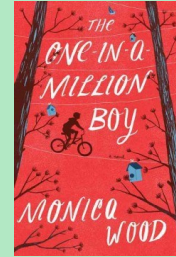
If you have any questions, please call the Reference Department at 314.961.7277.



## BOOK DISCUSSIONS

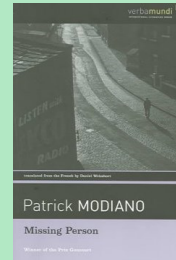
The History through Biography book group is currently on hiatus.

Saturday, June 2 at 2 p.m.



*The One-in-a-Million Boy*,  
by Monica Wood

Tuesday, June 5 at 6 p.m.



*Missing Person*,  
by Patrick Modiano

## TRICIA COYLE EXHIBIT IN OUR GALLERY

Our May gallery exhibit will be paintings and photographs by Tricia Coyle. Tricia has had work in several juried exhibits, and won awards for her abstract photography.

She has artwork for sale at Webster Art & Picture Framing and Divinemoira Studio in St. Louis.

Of this exhibit, she says, 'I'm intrigued by

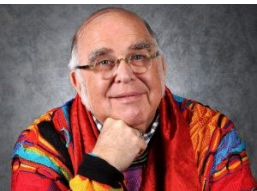
minimal photography and finding simplicity in the ordinary. The photographs exhibited are categorized by the abandoned, old, and color. The abstract acrylic paintings are my interpretations of the photographs.'

There will be an opening reception for the exhibit on Friday, May 4, at 6 p.m.

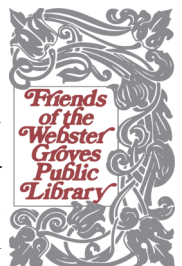


*Broken*, by Tricia Coyle

## FRIENDS NEWS



Put Friday evening, June 8, on your calendar to attend our Annual Friends Meeting. It will be a time to meet and vote on the slate of officers for the coming year. Even more exciting, it will be the first of our new speaker series inviting special guests to answer questions about the books, libraries, and literary influences in their lives. On June 8, the winner of the *St. Louis Post-Dispatch's* Best St. Louis Stage Director for 2018 and current artistic director of the Repertory Theatre of St. Louis, Steve Woolf, will be in the hot seat. Also, don't forget to check out the basket of literary-related goodies we will be offering as an attendance prize.



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