

Page 6 |

The newsletter of Webster Groves Public Library
Vol. 13 no. 12— August 2018



KIDS' EVENTS

Tie-Dye with Sharpie Markers (ages 8 and up)
Saturday, August 4, 2 - 3 p.m.

Garden Reads with Katie RAH!
Tuesday, August 7 at 9:30 a.m. – Fun with Water Squirters!

STEM Lab
Games & kits available for individual/group STEM learning & fun (1st grade & up)
Wednesday, August 8, 1 - 2 p.m.

Baby Story Time with Miss Phyllis
Thursday, August 9 at 9:30 a.m.
Thursday, August 23 at 9:30 a.m.

LegoMania!
Saturday, August 11, 1:30 - 3:30 p.m.

Story Time with Miss E
Friday, August 17 at 10 a.m.
Monday, August 27 at 10 a.m.

Back to School Snow Cone Party!
Saturday, August 18, 1:30 - 3:30 p.m.
Donate school supplies and get a free snow cone!

Pajama Story Time with Miss E
Tuesday, August 21 at 7:30 p.m.

Story Time with Katie RAH!
Tuesday, August 28 at 9:30 a.m.
Thursday, August 30 at 9:30 a.m.

TEEN EVENTS

Teen Advisory Board Meeting
Tuesday, August 7 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.

CHILDREN'S LITERATURE LEGACY AWARD

Last month there was something of a tempest in Libaryland, because the American Library Association (ALA) renamed an award they give out. The award honors an author or illustrator whose books, published in the United States, have made a significant and lasting contribution to children's literature. The first award was given to Laura Ingalls Wilder, and thus the award has been called the Laura Ingalls Wilder Award. It has been renamed the Children's Literature Legacy Award.

The change comes because many people, for many years, have been deeply troubled by instances of racist language in Wilder's books, particularly, but by no means exclusively, against American Indians. Often cited is the passage in one of her books, which she subsequently changed, that read, 'there were no people there in those days, only Indians.' There are quite a few other instances of insensitive speech and portrayals of people of color.

The resulting uproar about the name change claimed, without basis in fact, that this was censorship. There was no suggestion by the

ALA to withdraw Wilder's books from libraries, or to change the texts. There was just the name change to an award which, notably, is going this year to Jacqueline Woodson, an African-American author. It is also an award which many of the critics of the name change had probably never heard of prior to this news.

It has long been the advice of librarians that parents who choose to share Wilder's beloved stories with their children use the less tasteful passages as teaching moments, time to discuss why people might have talked or thought this way in the past, and why we know different now. It is not about forgetting our history, or trying to change it to something it was not, but about putting things in perspective.

We can still love the books of Laura Ingalls Wilder. But when we give an award honoring the work of authors of a variety of ethnicities and races, it is only right that we don't attach to that award the name of an author who was insensitive to their backgrounds.

What do you think?

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ANIMAL TALES

On Saturday, July 28, we had a visit from some very special friends. Tristan Arnold, a naturalist with Animal Tales, brought some animal friends to the Library. It was an opportunity for children to meet, hold, and pet a number of exotic animals, including hissing cockroaches, a New Guinea singing dog, a California king snake (named Elvis), a cute baby coatimundi, and many others.



A crowd of nearly 50 kids and parents had an excellent time interacting with and learning about the animals.



TOP REQUESTS

1. *The Death of Mrs. Westaway*,
by Ruth Ware
2. *Educated*,
by Tara Westover
3. *Clock Dance*,
by Anne Tyler
4. *Shelter in Place*,
by Nora Roberts
5. *Eleanor Oliphant is Completely Fine*,
by Gail Honeyman
6. *Calypso*,
by David Sedaris
7. *The Perfect Couple*,
by Elin Hilderbrand
8. *There There*,
by Tommy Orange
9. *The President is Missing*,
by Bill Clinton & James Patterson
10. *All We Ever Wanted*,
by Emily Giffin
11. *When Life Gives You Lululemons*,
by Lauren Weisberger
12. *The Summer Wives*,
by Beatriz Williams

BACK-TO-SCHOOL FINE AMNESTY

The new school year starts this month, and in order to help students begin the year on the right foot, we are again featuring a back-to-school fine amnesty.

During the month of August we will excuse any fines on a juvenile card (under 18 years of age) when you visit the Library and present the card.

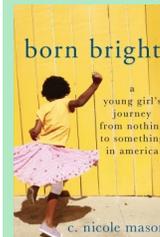
A library card is one of the important resources in the hands of students. Make sure yours is free of fines and ready to use.

You may find that you are getting fewer fines than in years past. This is because several months ago all the libraries in the Municipal Library Consortium—including Webster Groves Public Library—started using auto-renew, a new feature of our computer system that tracks the due dates of your checked-out items and renews them before they are overdue. Most items will renew, the exceptions being things that someone else has requested, or things that have already been renewed three times.



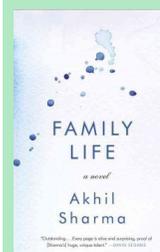
BOOK DISCUSSIONS

Saturday, September 1 at 2 p.m.



Born Bright: A Young Girl's Journey from Nothing to Something in America,
by C. Nicole Mason

Tuesday, September 4 at 6 p.m.



Family Life,
by Akhil Sharma

REMEMBER, THE LIBRARY IS A POLLING PLACE

Webster Groves Public Library will be a polling place once again on Tuesday, August 7. We will show up at 5 a.m. that morning so the volunteers from the Board of Elections can come in and get set up. Parking may be at a premium that day, especially in the morning and at rush hour, so plan your library use accordingly.

Also remember that you can always register to vote at the Library. As of today (August 1) there are 71 days left to get registered for the November 6 midterm elections. The past few years have been very contentious politically, with everyone having an opinion about almost everything. Be sure to make your opinions count by getting registered and voting!

You can register almost any time we're open, but it is advisable to call before you come in to make sure one of our voting registrars is working that day.



GATEWAY ORCHESTRA PROGRAM



On Friday, July 28 we were visited by members of the Gateway Orchestra. The musicians played music, and introduced children to different musical styles, the instruments in a string quartet and more. A good group of children and their parents attended. We will probably have more visits from the group, so watch our calendar!



WEBSTER GROVES
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Webster Groves, MO 63119
314.961.3784
www.wgpl.org

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