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The newsletter of Webster Groves Public Library  
Vol. 14 no. 3— November 2018



## KIDS' EVENTS

**Baby Story Time with Miss Phyllis**  
Thursday, November 1 at 9:30 a.m.  
Thursday, November 15 at 9:30 a.m.  
Thursday, November 29 at 9:30 a.m.

**Story Time with Katie RAH!**  
Tuesday, November 6 at 9:30 a.m.  
Thursday, November 8 at 9:30 a.m.  
Tuesday, November 20 at 9:30 a.m.

**Story Time with Miss E**  
Friday, November 9 at 10 a.m.

**Saturday Movie: *Up* (Rated PG)**  
Saturday, November 10 at 2 p.m.



**Nanny-Manny-Mommy-Daddy Café**  
Wednesday, November 14, 10 - 11:30 a.m.  
A time for young children and their caregivers to network & socialize while enjoying age appropriate toys, crafts and special treats like coffee, tea, crackers, cookies and juice boxes.

**LegoMania!**  
Saturday, November 17, 1:30 - 3:30 p.m.

**Whiskers & Tales**  
Monday, November 19, 7 - 8:30 p.m.

**Leftover Make 'n' Take Crafts**  
Wednesday, November 21, 2 - 4 p.m.

**Pajama Story Time with Miss E**  
Tuesday, November 27 at 7:30 p.m.

## TEEN EVENTS

**Teen Advisory Board**  
Tuesday, November 13 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, November 11, for Veterans' Day, and Thursday and Friday, November 22 & 23, for Thanksgiving.

## THE INFORMATION BUSINESS

This summer I took a tour out west, going to the usual places—Mt. Rushmore, Yellowstone, Glacier National Park. I arrived in Deadwood, South Dakota one morning, just to see where Wild Bill Hickok was shot and Calamity Jane met her end. One can take a bus tour that ends with a visit to the cemetery where they're buried.

But I also noticed, while roaming the streets of this historic old town, that they have a Carnegie Library. I just had to visit. The young woman at the front desk greeted me, and I asked, how old is this building? 'I don't know.' Oh. Has it always been a public library? 'I don't know.' She knew so little about the library, in fact, that I began to wonder if she really worked there.

It's a problem when you visit a business of any kind and find staff members who cannot answer basic questions about it. But in a library? We're in the information business! We should have the information.

I watched a segment on a late night show recently in which someone approached people on the street with a map of the world. The map had no names on the countries, and people were asked to point out and name a country—

any country—on the map. It was shocking how many adults they found who could not name a single country. Many people decry this sort of thing, but as librarians, we had to spring into action. We now have a large world map in our foyer, and every week we highlight an international news story and ask people to find the country where it occurred. We hope it helps.

As this rather contentious voting season winds to its conclusion, we are happy to provide people with information about how to register to vote, and with League of Women Voters guides to the election. An informed electorate is always important—just another kind of information we provide.

But it's not just about informing our users and testing their knowledge: it's about whether we live up to our own belief in the importance of information. We recently completed a revised procedure manual for staff members who work at our desks. Part of that manual is a section on basic information about the history of the Library. Next time you're in, ask a question, and see what kind of answer you get. I hope it's a good one!

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## OCTOBER CHILDREN'S ACTIVITIES

On Saturday, October 27, the Children's Room hosted a *Día de los Muertos* celebration. We had crafts and activities, treats, and stories read in English and Spanish. Della Almind, a student at Webster University, volunteered to read stories in Spanish, and children had fun making Day of the Dead masks, lollipop spi-

ders, and creepy hands.

In the future, we hope to have more story times featuring readings in other languages, to introduce children to other world cultures.

On Tuesday, October 16, kids 10 and up decorated gingerbread men in zombie shapes (gingerDEAD men, please forgive the pun). It was a fun and colorful—if somewhat gruesome—activity. Perfect for the Halloween season!



## TOP REQUESTS

1. *Fear: Trump in the White House*,  
by Bob Woodward
2. *Unsheltered*,  
by Barbara Kingsolver
3. *Educated*,  
by Tara Westover
4. *Dark Sacred Night*,  
by Michael Connelly
5. *The Reckoning*,  
by John Grisham
6. *A Spark of Light*,  
by Jodi Picoult
7. *The Witch Elm*,  
by Tana French
8. *Where the Crawdads Sing*,  
by Delia Owens
9. *Transcription*,  
by Kate Atkinson
10. *Lethal White*,  
by Robert Galbraith
11. *Eleanor Oliphant Is Completely Fine*,  
by Gail Honeyman
12. *The Library Book*,  
by Susan Orlean

## AUTHOR EVENT

Join us Saturday, November 24  
at 2 p.m. for a visit with  
Lorenzo Gonzalez, author of

### *To Return to Cuba*

This biography traces his evolution from a teenage revolutionary through his college years in Hungary.



As a Cuban revolutionary soldier, Gonzalez experienced first-hand the Bay of Pigs and the Cuban Missile Crisis, eventually fighting a harrowing battle for his own freedom.

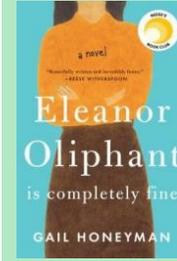


Lorenzo Gonzalez is now an instructor of political science at the University of Missouri-Columbia.

The event is free and open to all. There will be copies of the book, in both English and Spanish, for sale.

## BOOK DISCUSSIONS

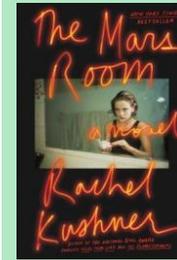
Saturday, December 1 at 2 p.m.



*Eleanor Oliphant is Completely Fine*,  
by Gail Honeyman

The Tuesday Evening Book Discussion Group does not meet in December.

Tuesday, January 8 at 6 p.m.



*The Mars Room*,  
by Rachel Kushner

## PARKING ON ORCHARD AVENUE

Orchard Avenue runs along the west side of the Library and is one of the best places for people using the Library to park. However, for quite a while all of those parking spaces have been taken up before the Library is even open.

This month, the City of Webster Groves put up new signs restricting parking in those spots

to two hours only from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m., Monday through Friday. Since the signs were posted, some of those spaces are available at almost any time of day during the week.

On the other side of Orchard, parking has been restricted for years. There you may not park at all from 8 to 9 a.m. or 2 to 3 p.m. on

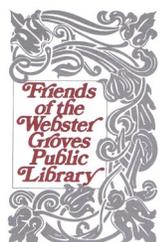
school days. These spaces are available for people coming to check out books, study, or attend events in our Children's Room or Meeting Room.

There may still be peak times at the Library when parking is an issue. We regard that as both a problem, and a measure of success.

## FRIENDS NEWS



On October 26 and 27, the Friends of Webster Groves Public Library held a book fair. We featured thousands of hardcover & paperback books, both vintage and like-new, as well as CDs and DVDs that have been donated to us over the past year. Sales were brisk, and many people visited to take advantage of the low prices and great selection. We want to thank all the volunteers who gave of their time and energy to make this event possible. Nothing happens without great volunteers!



We usually hold two book fairs each year. Watch this newsletter and the Friends' Facebook page for announcements of upcoming sales!

WEBSTER GROVES  
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