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The newsletter of Webster Groves Public Library
Vol. 14 no. 5—January 2019



KIDS' EVENTS

Gingerbread House Contest Ends

Saturday, January 5. Voting runs from Monday, January 7 to Friday, January 11.

Milk & Cookie Time: *The Gingerbread Man*

Wednesday, January 9, 3:45 - 4:15 p.m. (all ages)

Story Time with Katie RAH!

Tuesday, January 15 at 9:30 a.m.

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

Tuesday, January 29 at 9:30 a.m.

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

Story Time with Miss E

Friday, January 18 at 9:30 a.m.

Movie Event: *Christopher Robin* (PG)

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

Nanny-Manny-Mommy-Daddy Café

Wednesday, January 23, 10 - 11:30 a.m.

Pajama Story Time with Miss E

Thursday, January 24 at 7:30 p.m.

Board Game Day

Saturday, January 26, 10 a.m. - 3 p.m.

LegoMania!

Saturday, January 26, 1:30 - 3:30 p.m.

STEM Lab

Wednesday, January 30, 3:30 - 4:30 p.m.

Games & kits will be available for group or individual STEM learning fun. (1st grade and up)

TEEN EVENTS

Teen Advisory Board (TAB) Meeting

Tuesday, January 8 at 6:30 p.m.

Teen Movie: *Doctor Who: 2 episodes*

Saturday, January 12, 1 - 3 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 Monday, Jan. 21 for Martin Luther King's Birthday.

100 YEARS . . . 100 MOVIES

About a year ago I decided that I would watch every movie on the American Film Institute's (AFI) 100 Years . . . 100 Movies list. I am now down to the final ten, doing a bit of a countdown. It has been quite an experience.

I should point out that the list was first compiled in 1998, and revised in 2007. With many movies going off the list and new ones being nominated, there are actually 124 movies, if you intend to see them all. I had seen 68 of the movies enough times, or recently enough, that I did not need to see them again. Many were new to me.

The oldest movie on the list is *The Birth of a Nation*, from 1915, and the most recent one is *The Lord of the Rings: The Fellowship of the Ring*, from 2001. (*The Birth of a Nation*, with its heinous storyline, fell off the list in 2007, though D. W. Griffith's other masterpiece, *Intolerance*, is still on.)

There are some great surprises. I dreaded working my way through the seven silent

films. But every one of them was a joy. I was nearly sore from laughter at the end of *The General* (1927) starring Buster Keaton.

There were a number of movies that make you wonder how they could have made the list. My top choice to remove? *Easy Rider* (1969). Director David Lean has three movies on the list, *The Bridge on the River Kwai*, *Lawrence of Arabia*, and *Dr. Zhivago*. Of these, only *The Bridge on the River Kwai* deserves a place on the list. Just my opinion.

The most important thing I have learned in this experiment is how great libraries are. I have been able to get every single movie right here at Webster Groves Public Library or one of our partner libraries in the Municipal Library Consortium.

If you think it sounds like something you'd like to try, it's reassuring to know we've got you covered. I just wonder when the list will be revised again, and I'll have to start over!

tcooper@wgpl.org

SNOWFLAKES!



Our January gallery exhibit will be snowflake photographs by Rick Walters. He is one of a handful of snowflake photographers in the world.

Rick says it is true that no two snowflakes are identical. The ways the water molecules are arranged is nearly infinite.

Technically, says Walters, a snowflake is a bundle of snow crystals. Their variety depends on the temperature and amount of water in the atmosphere at the time they are forming.

Rick began his fascination with snowflakes as a boy, growing up on a farm in Pennsylvania. He would look at snowflakes on the sleeves of his coat and think about how beautiful they are.

These days, he ventures out in the quiet of snowy evenings to catch snowflakes on a piece of black velvet. If handled just right, a snow crystal can last up to ten minutes, long enough for him to take it into the detached garage where he has his camera set up.

Rick's work has been published in 20 magazines in eight languages, and in a number of science and biology textbooks. Don't miss this special exhibit, running through January.

TOP REQUESTS

1. *Becoming*,
by Michelle Obama
2. *Nine Perfect Strangers*,
by Liane Moriarty
3. *The Reckoning*,
by John Grisham
4. *Unsheltered*,
by Barbara Kingsolver
5. *Where the Crawdads Sing*,
by Delia Owens
6. *Dark Sacred Night*,
by Michael Connelly
7. *Fear: Trump in the White House*,
by Bob Woodward
8. *Past Tense*,
by Lee Child
9. *Kingdom of the Blind*,
by Louise Penny
10. *The Witch Elm*,
by Tana French
11. *Educated*,
by Tara Westover
12. *Long Road to Mercy*,
by David Baldacci

CHRISTMAS FUN

On December 8 we had our *Cobweb Christmas*, a special storytime featuring Frau Sittman, who read stories in English and German. We also did special holiday crafts.



Frau Sittmann reads Christmas stories to the children.

On December 22 we had a Young Hearts program, where seniors from Bethesda Orchard retirement home visited with children to celebrate the Christmas holidays.

Over 35 people came to create holiday crafts and decorate Christmas cookies.



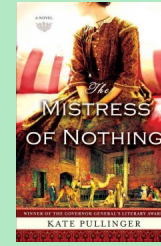
Santa made a surprise visit!



Friends young and old work together on Christmas crafts.

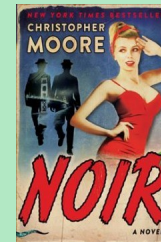
BOOK DISCUSSIONS

Saturday, February 2 at 2 p.m.



The Mistress of Nothing,
by Kate Pullinger

Tuesday, February 5 at 6 p.m.



Noir,
by Christopher Moore

BOOK TREE COMES DOWN! WE HAVE A WINNER!

During December we featured a Christmas 'tree' made out of books in our entry foyer. We held a contest for people to guess how many books it took to make the tree. There were many entries, and they ranged from a low guess of 65 to a high guess of 1,289! We didn't know until we took it down this week and counted. In the end, our winner guessed the number of books—272—exactly! He won a \$20 Amazon gift card.

Because many people asked, we should point out that all of the books were withdrawn library books, which will now be displayed for sale on our book sale racks.



FRIENDS NEWS

Save the date—Sunday, January 6, 2019—for the next in our *Beyond the Page* series when we offer an afternoon with playwright Kenneth Jones. Mr. Jones' play *Alabama Story* centers on the true story of Emily Wheelock Reed, a determined librarian who faced off against a

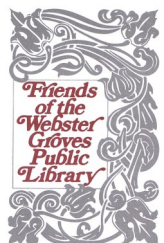
segregationist senator over an innocent children's book in 1959 Montgomery.

Alabama Story, directed by Paul Mason Barnes, will be the mainstage play at the Repertory Theatre of St. Louis from January 2 to 27.

Join us for a conversation about books, libraries, and what attracted Kenneth

Jones to Emily Wheelock Reed's story. The event will be in the Library Meeting Room at 3:00 p.m.

To save your seat contact Debbie Ladd by January 3, 2019 at 314.961.3784 or dladd@wgpl.org



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