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The newsletter of Webster Groves Public Library
Vol. 13 no. 7 — March 2018



KIDS' EVENTS

Story Time with Katie RAH!

Thursday, March 1 at 10 a.m.
Tuesday, March 13 at 10 a.m.
Thursday, March 15 at 10 a.m.
Tuesday, March 27 at 10 a.m.
Thursday, March 29 at 10 a.m.

Baby Story Time with Miss Phyllis

Thursday, March 8 at 9:30 a.m.
Thursday, March 22 at 9:30 a.m.

LegoMania!

Saturday, March 10, 1:30 - 3:30 p.m.

STEM Lab (1st grade and up)

Wednesday, March 14, 3:15 - 4:30 p.m.
Games and kits will be available for group/
individual STEM learning fun.

Whiskers & Tales

Monday, March 19, 7 to 8:30 p.m.



Milk & Cookies Book Club (grades K and up)

Wednesday, March 28, 3:30 -
4:15 p.m.
Mrs. Piggle-Wiggle,
by Betty MacDonald

TEEN EVENTS

Teen Advisory Board Meeting

Tuesday, March 6, 6:30 p.m.

Teen & Tween Ice Cream Social & Movie

Saturday, March 17 at 1:30 p.m.
Ant-Man, 2015, PG-13



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.

SHADY—KIRKHAM—BRENTWOOD?

In February 2001, Webster Groves Councilmember Gregory Haug proposed that the name Kirkham Ave. be changed to Webster Groves Blvd. The council was split in its opinions on the matter.

Councilmember Dotty DeLassus agreed that there should be a street named Webster Groves in town, but didn't see why it should be Kirkham. Others thought the change would cause too much confusion for people.

Kirkham resident Tedford Lewis, speaking against the idea, detailed some of the street's history. It was originally called Shady Creek Ave., or just Shady Ave., after the creek that it parallels. But that was changed in 1929; he thought it was because the term 'shady' might be seen as a racial reference to the residents of North Webster. He didn't know where the name 'Kirkham' originated.

Neither do we. Here's the interesting thing: the road was always called Kirkham from

west of Elm until it dead ends at Sappington in Glendale. This is borne out in maps we have on file from as early as 1867. So the name change of Shady Ave. really just extended the Kirkham name. But who Kirkham was, or why he or she deserved a street so named is a puzzle.

The name of the street was changed in 2009 to S. Brentwood Blvd. This was done at the request of a developer who was proposing a complex of office buildings along the road. The name changed applied from the city's border to Elm. After that, it's still Kirkham. Whatever happened to that proposed office complex is also a matter of some historical mystery.

So is Kirkham. For almost every street in Webster Groves, we can find a person, family, historical or geographical reason for the name. But this one is still unexplained.

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WEBSTER ARTS

In March we will feature *Small Works IX*, an art exhibit juried by Webster Arts. A reception to meet the artists will be held on Friday, March 9, from 6 to 7:30 p.m. It is free and open to the public.

We have worked for a few years with Webster Arts, and have found the partnership very beneficial, both in getting great exhibits in our gallery, and in consulting with them about other



Portrait on a Lake,
by Favian Anello

artists to feature. Recently, Webster Arts achieved a long-time dream and opened their own gallery. It occupies a space in Schultz Hall on the Eden Seminary Campus. Check their Website at webster-arts.org for upcoming displays and events.



Purple Sky, by John Schnellman



TOP REQUESTS

1. *The Great Alone*,
by Kristin Hannah
2. *Little Fires Everywhere*,
by Celeste Ng
3. *Fire and Fury*,
by Michael Wolff
4. *The Woman in the Window*,
by A. J. Finn
5. *An American Marriage*,
by Tayari Jones
6. *Manhattan Beach*,
by Jennifer Egan
7. *Sing, Unbuired, Sing*,
by Jesmyn Ward
8. *Force of Nature*,
by Jane Harper
9. *Before We Were Yours*,
by Lisa Wingate
10. *Robicheaux*,
by James Lee Burke
11. *Educated*,
by Tara Westover
12. *White Houses*,
by Amy Bloom

PASSPORT FEE INCREASE

We have been notified by the U.S. Department of State that as of April 1, the execution fee for a passport application will increase from \$25 to \$35. This is the fee that the acceptance agency (your library or post office) collects in addition to the actual passport fees.

If you've been putting off getting your passport, March might be a good time to get it done.

AUTO-RENEW SERVICE

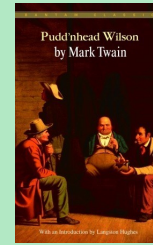
As of last month, the libraries of the Municipal Library Consortium began a service called auto-renew. In the past, when you had items that were near to being overdue, you received an email letting you know.

Now, those items will be renewed, and you will receive an email letting you know. If the item has already been renewed 3 times, or if someone else has requested the item, it cannot be renewed.

At renewal, the full loan period is added to the due date, to maximize the time you have the item.

BOOK DISCUSSIONS

Tuesday, April 3 at 6 p.m.



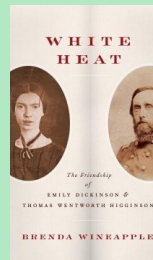
Pudd'nhead Wilson,
by Mark Twain

Saturday, April 7 at 2 p.m.



The Little Foxes,
by Lillian Hellman

Wednesday, April 25 at 6 p.m.



White Heat: The Friendship of Emily Dickinson and Thomas Wentworth Higginson,
by Brenda Wineapple

OPERA THEATRE VISITS SATURDAY AFTERNOON BOOK CLUB

For the April selection of the Saturday Afternoon Book Club (April 7 at 2 p.m.), we will be reading *The Little Foxes*, by Lillian Hellman. Something of a departure for us, this is not a novel, but a play.

The main reason we are reading this is because, in its summer 2018 season, Opera Theatre of St. Louis will be performing the opera

Regina. Composed by Mark Blitzstein, the opera is based on Lillian Hellman's scathing play about ambitious Regina Giddens, who fights her two avaricious brothers for control of the family fortune.

A docent from the Opera Theatre will present a lecture to offer insight into the production.

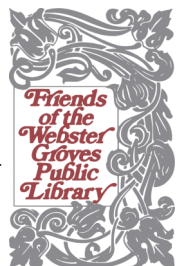
Also, for members who have time, you may want to read Hellman's play *Another Part of the Forest*, which tells earlier chapters in the story of the Giddens family.

OTSL
OPERA THEATRE of SAINT LOUIS

FRIENDS NEWS

The Irish American Writers and Artist Salon will be back on Friday, March 2, at 7 p.m. Eimear Arkins, who performed last year with her brother, will be singing again. As always, the Friends will provide refreshments and hospitality for the event. We hope you can join us as a good time will be had by all.

Though June seems months away, the Friends Board is already working on plans for a fun event at our annual meeting. Meanwhile, we encourage you to (figuratively and literally) check out the book club kits the Friends purchase for the Library.



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