You may be familiar with the fact that every year, we prepare a historical display about Webster Groves and premier it during the 4th of July parade. Though it is a holiday, we open the morning of the parade for people to come in and see the new display. Okay, most people come in to use our bathroom, but most of them stop for a few minutes to see the display. We also keep the displays up for the whole month of July, so everyone has plenty of opportunity to see them.

We have done displays on subjects such as the history of Community Days, Webster Groves Then and Now, and the history of Webster Groves parks. They are always interesting to work on, and we learn so much. It also requires working with other organizations to get the information and the photographs we need. We always rely on help from Webster Groves Historical Society. But we have also needed input from the Webster Groves Lions Club for the Community Days display, and the Parks Department for the parks display.

This year, we need your help. Our display is called ‘Vanished Webster Groves,’ and it features things that used to be here but are no more. Like the Bristol Building, Lockwood Pond, the area called Forty Acres, or the Armory Building at the high school.

We have a list of things, but we’re wondering what are some others that people can think of? Remember, we’re not talking about businesses that have changed hands, but about buildings, geographical features, and other things that were once here but are just gone. Also remember that if there is not a photograph, or at least a reliable drawing of it, it’s not much use to us.

If you can think of anything we should cover, let us know!
tcooper@wgpl.org

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**RICK WALTERS PHOTOS IN OUR GALLERY**

This month’s exhibit in our gallery is a series of nature photographs by photographer Rick Walters. Dr. Walters, who practiced dermatology in Webster Groves for several decades, has also been taking pictures for over 40 years, and his photos have been featured in National Geographic, Audubon, Discover, and Ranger Rick.

Concentrating on the tiniest details of nature, his intriguing, colorful photos capture intimate moments of insect reproduction, the infinite variety of snowflakes, the myriad shapes and patterns of lichen and fungi, and much more. These breathtaking photographs will be on display through the month of April. Be sure to make time to stop by and take a look.
Though the weather seems to be disagreeing, it is spring. So many things are happening at the Library and the Friends continue to give support.

Things you will want to get on your calendar are the April Fool’s film series, events during April for National Poetry Month, the Summer Reading Program (summer will be here sooner than we think), and our Annual Meeting.

We are creating a new speaker series especially for Friends and will have our first one at this year’s Annual Meeting. More information will follow about the meeting but please put Friday, June 8 on your calendar.

Meanwhile, thank you to all who purchased dedicated pavers in the Reading Garden. It is very special to read the names as I go to and from the Library.

**TOP REQUESTS**

1. The Great Alone, 
   by Kristin Hannah
2. The Woman in the Window, 
   by A. J. Finn
3. An American Marriage, 
   by Tayari Jones
4. Educated, 
   by Tara Westover
5. Fire and Fury, 
   by Michael Wolff
6. The Flight Attendant, 
   by Chris Bohjalian
7. Alternate Side, 
   by Anna Quindlen
8. Before We Were Yours, 
   by Lisa Wingate
9. The Punishment She Deserves, 
   by Elizabeth George
10. Sing, Unburied, Sing, 
    by Jesmyn Ward
11. White Houses, 
    by Amy Bloom
12. Little Fires Everywhere, 
    by Celeste Ng

**PASSPORT FEE INCREASE**

As of April 2, the U.S. Department of State increased the fee that a passport acceptance agency collects for processing a passport application from $25 to $35. This is the fee payable to the post office, library, or other agency that processes and submits your application, and applies to applications taken here at Webster Groves Public Library.

All other fees will remain the same.

**APRIL FOOL FILM SERIES**

Please join us for some laughs on Friday nights in April, when we will be showing classic comedy films in our Meeting Room. All movies are at 7 p.m. and are free and open to everyone. The schedule is:

April 13: Ruggles of Red Gap, unrated
April 20: The Pink Panther Strikes Again, PG
April 27: What’s Up, Doc?, G

Popcorn and soda will be provided. For more information please call 314.961.3784.

**BOOK DISCUSSIONS**

**OPERA THEATER 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.

**FRIENDS NEWS**

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