One of the hottest trends in libraries for the past several years has been ‘makerspaces.’ While the term is much used, it can mean many different things at different libraries. From simple craft projects, to robotics, to other STEM-related activities, makerspaces are designed to encourage library patrons to come in and create things.

As part of a Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA) Grant, Webster Groves Public Library has added two new computer terminals in our Reference Room which hold the Adobe Creative Cloud. This is a software suite that includes Photoshop, Illustrator, Premiere Pro, After Effects, Dreamweaver, and several other applications that enable users to edit video, music, photos, and more. Anyone who is interested may come in and use the terminals to create, edit, and do whatever their media-related project is. This service is for patrons of all ages.

Our Creator Stations also include new scanning equipment, which was given to us through a grant from the Rotary Club of Webster Groves. We will be using the scanners mostly to scan historical photos and other documents of local history that are currently on loan to us from the Webster Groves Historical Society, creating a digital archive of those things. But library patrons may want to use the scanning equipment for projects of their own.

If you have ever wanted to try photo, video, or audio editing, now is your chance to learn how it's done. Librarians are available to assist in getting you started, though you will need to spend time learning the advanced applications. If you would like an orientation, just call the Reference Department at 314.961.7277 and make an appointment.

tcooper@wgpl.org

Friends Members and anyone else who is interested are invited to our first event, featuring Artistic Director of The Repertory Theatre of St. Louis, Steve Woolf, who will answer questions at our Annual Meeting on Friday, June 8.

Light refreshments will be served starting at 5:30, there will be a very short business meeting at 5:50, and then at 6:00 Steve will be in the hot seat. At 7:00 there will be a drawing for our door prize, a basket of book-related goodies that is currently on display at the Library. The event is open to official and non-official Friends alike. Please join us for this enjoyable evening.

If you would like to join the Friends of the Library, membership applications are always available at the Library’s front desk, and they will be available at the Beyond the Page event. Questions about membership may be directed to Debbie at 314.961.3784.
Many people use eScrip to support their school, club, or other organization, but did you know that Webster Groves Public Library is also registered to receive eScrip donations? When you sign up to use eScrip and select the Library as your beneficiary, a small percentage of your purchase price is donated to us every time you shop at Schnuck’s. eScrip applications are always available at our front desk. For more information about how the program works, visit their Website at www.escrip.com.

TOP REQUESTS

1. Educated, 
   by Tara Westover
2. The Great Alone, 
   by Kristin Hannah
3. The Overstory, 
   by Richard Powers
4. A Higher Loyalty, 
   by James Comey
5. Alternate Side, 
   by Anna Quindlen
6. Calypso, 
   by David Sedaris
7. Twisted Prey, 
   by John Sandford
8. You Think It, I’ll Say It, 
   by Curtis Sittenfeld
9. The Outsider, 
   by Stephen King
10. Before We Were Yours, 
    by Lisa Wingate
11. Shelter in Place, 
    by Nora Roberts
12. Natural Causes, 
    by Barbara Ehrenreich

NO HARD FEELINGS . . .

On Saturday, May 26, the Library hosted a performance by poet David Clewell and musician/composers Paul DeMarinis and Kim Portnoy. They called their musical settings of several Clewell poems ‘No Hard Feelings.’ It was an exciting afternoon of sounds and thoughtful poetry.

IDENTIFYING FAKE NEWS

This month we will have a class on the best strategies to spot and understand fake news. It will first be held on Saturday, June 16, from 11 a.m. to 12 p.m., and repeated on Thursday, June 21, also from 11 to 12. Both sessions are free and open to everyone. There is no need to register. If you have any questions, call Julia in our Reference Department at 314.961.7277.

DISPLAY SPACE IS ALWAYS AVAILABLE . . .

Do you have an interesting hobby? A collection of something unique? Are you a member of a club that needs to announce its presence or let people know what it does? Webster Groves Public Library has display space available in its front foyer, and you can use it for any of the above purposes. The cases are lighted, and they are locked, providing a safe place to show your precious items.

We have the usual policies about what can be shown, such as nothing overtly political or religious, nothing in poor taste, but aside from that, all interests are welcome!

If you would like to display something, or learn more about how to do so, please call Debbie at 314.961.3784.

eSCRIP FOR THE LIBRARY

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BOOK DISCUSSIONS

The History through Biography book group is currently on hiatus.

Saturday, July 7 at 2 p.m.

The Picture of Dorian Gray, 
by Oscar Wilde

Tuesday, July 10 at 6 p.m.

Sing, Unburied, Sing, 
by Jesmyn Ward