

Page 6 |

The newsletter of Webster Groves Public Library
Vol. 15 no. 4 — December 2019



KIDS' EVENTS

Story Time with Katie RAH!

Tuesday, December 3 at 9:30 a.m.
Thursday, December 5 at 9:30 a.m.
Tuesday, December 17 at 9:30 a.m.
Thursday, December 19 at 9:30 a.m.

Chinese Story Time with Xi

Saturday, December 7 at 10:30 a.m.

Milk & Cookies Time

Wednesday, December 11, 3:45 p.m.
All ages welcome!

Baby Story Time with Miss Phyllis

Thursday, December 12 at 9:30 a.m.
Thursday, December 26 at 9:30 a.m.

Legomania!

Saturday, December 14, 1:30 – 3:30 p.m.

Cupcake Decorating with Margaret

Saturday, December 21, 1 – 2 p.m.

Treble Makers—Holiday Music!

Saturday, December 21, 3 – 4 p.m.

Board Game & STEM Play Day

Friday, December 27, 10 a.m. – 2 p.m.

Video Game Afternoon (ages 8 and up)

Saturday, December 28, 2 – 4 p.m.

TEEN EVENTS

Teen Advisory Group (TAG)

Monday, December 2, 6:30 – 8 p.m.

YA Book Club: *A Curse So Dark and Lonely*

Thursday, December 5, 6 – 7 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.

We will be closed Wed., Dec. 18 for Staff Day,
Tues. & Wed., Dec. 24 & 25 for Christmas, and
Tues. & Wed., Dec. 31 & Jan 1, for New Year's.

THANKFUL FOR VOLUNTEERS

In November, the Library completed a refinancing of its outstanding bonds, achieving better interest rates and some cash savings as we complete the payment schedule. When we start a project such as this, Library Board trustees are called on to attend meetings, respond to many emails, and show up to sign way too many documents. But as always, we are lucky to have active, involved trustees, deeply interested in the work of the Library.

A library literally cannot function without volunteers—we need nine citizens who volunteer their time and effort to serve on the board. But beyond that, we are fortunate to have volunteers who help with things throughout the year. In 2019, we finished a huge weeding project of our book collection, removing many old and worn books, making room for new ones. Much of this work was handled by a volunteer. When we visit retirement facilities in town, we count on volunteer help from their residents. The Teen Advisory Group (TAG) is a group of young people who volunteer to advise on Young Adult

collections and help plan programming.

No group of volunteers is more helpful than the Friends of the Library. I was talking to another library director this week who lamented that she has never had a friends group. Believe me, I know how lucky we are. Whenever anyone asks me what they can do to help the Library, I tell them that the best way is to become active with the Friends. Throughout the year they hold various fundraisers—mostly book sales. We turn to them when we need help planning a reception, open house, and other events.

Recently the Friends of the Library purchased video transfer equipment, so our patrons can take their old VHS tapes and transfer the content to DVDs. This is a program we might have been able to afford, but it is so much easier when it is paid for by the Friends.

I find it fitting, with this last newsletter of the year, to once again thank everyone who has volunteered to help us this year!

tcooper@wgpl.org

GINGERBREAD HOUSE CONTEST

One of our most popular winter programs is coming again soon—the Gingerbread House Contest. This will be the fourth year for this competition, and each year just keeps getting better.

Sometime between December 14 and January 4, bring in your house. The rules are the same as in past years:

- Must be homemade: **no store-bought kits.**
- Visible house contents **must** be edible (gingerbread, cookies, candy, icing and other decorations). Non-edible items may be used but only as support and must be covered up.

- No peanut butter or nuts can be used due to allergies.
- **Size restriction:** no larger than 2ft. x 2ft. x 2ft.

Vote for your favorite house January 5 – 10. There are 3 categories: Children (ages 8 – 15), Adult (16 and up) and Families. Don't forget to register at the Children's Department desk or main circulation desk.



TOP REQUESTS

1. *The Dutch House*,
by Ann Patchett
2. *The Night Fire*,
by Michael Connelly
3. *Olive, Again*,
by Elizabeth Strout
4. *Blue Moon*,
by Lee Child
5. *The Guardians*,
by John Grisham
6. *The Giver of Stars*,
by Jojo Moyes
7. *The Water Dancer*,
by Ta-Nehisi Coates
8. *The Testaments*,
by Margaret Atwood
9. *A Minute to Midnight*,
by David Baldacci
10. *The Rise of Magicks*,
by Nora Roberts
11. *Nothing to See Here*,
by Kevin Wilson
12. *Twisted Twenty-Six*,
By Janet Evanovich

PUZZLE FINISHED!

We recently set out a jigsaw puzzle on a table for folks to work on as they passed through the Library—and that they did! Quite a few of you stopped by the table to put some pieces in place, and on Monday, November 25, Library user Don Vieth put the last several pieces in place.



A new puzzle is now in place, so check it out!

HAT & MITTEN TREE

Through the holiday season, we are co-sponsoring a Hat & Mitten Tree with the Webster Groves Arts Commission. Bring in hats and mittens to donate and hang them on the big tree in our main foyer. All the hats & mittens will go to kids in the Webster Groves School District.



BOOK DISCUSSIONS

Saturday, January 4, at 2 p.m.



The Woman in the Window,
by A. J. Finn

Classics Book Club

Tuesday, January 21, at 7 p.m.



Ceremony,
by Leslie Marmon Silko

YA Book Club

Saturday, January 25, at 2 p.m.



Spin the Dawn,
by Elizabeth Lim

PHOTOGRAPHER EVELINA YULIANOVA IN OUR GALLERY IN DECEMBER



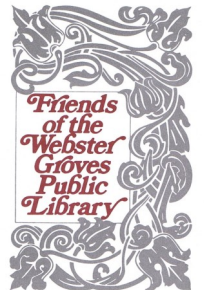
The Library gallery in November features photographs by Evelina Yulianova. This is the second time we have been pleased to host an exhibit by Evelina. This time she features black & white photography in a show she is calling *Chapter 1. Flora: monochrome mood with a splash of color.*

We still have three months open in the gallery in 2020. If you know of any artists or photographers who would be interested, they can visit the Library for an application.



FRIENDS NEWS

Tired of having VHS tapes from past holidays sitting on your shelves? The Webster Groves Public Library can help bring those tapes to new life: visit the Library between 2 and 4 p.m. on Saturday, December 7 for a holiday open house and a demonstration of the Library's new video transfer equipment! The transfer process takes as much time as the original videotape to complete, so Library staff members will only be demonstrating the equipment on December 7. After December 7, the equipment will be available for transferring VHS tapes to DVDs. The best part? There is no charge for doing the transfer! You'll be able enjoy past holidays without having to pay any fees, other than supplying blank DVD's for the transfer. The video transfer equipment was purchased by the Friends of the Webster Groves Public Library, who are hosting the open house from 2 - 4 p.m. on December 7. Information about Friends membership will be available at the open house.



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