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The newsletter of Webster Groves Public Library  
Vol. 15 no. 11 — July 2020



## KIDS' EVENTS

### JUST IMAGINE MONOPOLY GAMES

Do you love fantasy and science fiction books? Then these JUST IMAGINE Monopoly games are for you! They can be played as a game or use it for ideas for summer reading.



JUST IMAGINE even comes with a list of book choices for Chance and Community Chest cards. Print it off and let your imagination run wild. Comes in picture books, juvenile fiction, and young adult.

Find them on our Website, [www.wgpl.org](http://www.wgpl.org), in the Children's section.

### SUMMER READING CLUB NEWS

We are at the midway point in our online summer reading club, Imagine Your Story. It is not too late to enter, log your times read, and earn valuable raffle tickets!

All reading types are acceptable for logging summer reading including e-books, audiobooks, watching our virtual story times, etc.

All prize winners will be notified by mail.

To sign up, visit the Online Summer Reading 2020 link on our Website.



## 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 Saturday, July 4 for Independence Day.

## OUR PHASED REOPENING

In mid-May we began reopening for business. First we only did curbside service, checking out the items people had requested and taking them out to their cars. We did that for a few weeks, and people seemed to like it.

As a matter of fact, when we moved to our next phase of reopening, letting people come in the building to browse and check out, many people asked anxiously for us to continue providing curbside service, because they found it convenient. The problem was that to provide curbside service we had totally rearranged how we were set up inside. Doing that and checking out at the desk were at odds, but we found a way to make it work for a while yet, as we transition to full inside service again.

For a few weeks now we have been having people come inside. We have put away all of the seating in the Library, except in front of some of the computers in the computer area, so people can use those. But we are discouraging sitting and reading, studying, several of the things people have always done in a li-

brary. We don't even put out the newspapers in the morning.

Our hours have been limited for these first few weeks, 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday through Saturday. Beginning next week, we hope to open for full, regular hours, though we will still be limiting some of the things we once did. There is still no passport service, no one-on-one computer help, no test proctoring, faxing, copy machine use, et cetera. These are all high-contact, high touch services that do not seem safe yet. We continue to monitor Library usage and will add these services when they seem safe.

And we will still be requiring that everyone wear a mask. We are thankful that very few people entering our building have had to be reminded, or made an issue of it. This is important, as the health of the Library staff, as well as everyone who uses the Library is important to us. It is only by working carefully and safely on each step in the process that we will achieve an orderly and safe reopening of the Library.

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## MORE GRANTS PROVIDE TIMELY MATERIALS

We recently were awarded a grant to make the entire collection of RBdigital magazines available to our patrons. Visit the RBdigital tab under the Materials section of our Website to download the latest issues of hundreds of popular magazines, including *The Economist*, *The New Yorker*, *US Weekly*, *O, the Oprah Magazine*, and so many more!

We also got another grant to buy a Charlie Cart. Charlie Carts are portable kitchens that include everything needed to cook a wide variety of things. They were developed to help young people learn about the importance of cooking and nutrition. Our ap-

plication for the grant stressed programming to help young people with developmental disabilities be more independent by learning cooking skills. We still hope to hold most of that programming, though much of it will be postponed due to the COVID-19 crisis.

These grants were made possible by funds from the Institute for Museum and Library Services (IMLS), a federally funded program administered by the State Library and the Missouri Secretary of State's office.



## TOP REQUESTS

1. *American Dirt*,  
by Jeanine Cummins
2. *Camino Winds*,  
by John Grisham
3. *White Fragility*,  
by Robin DiAngelo
4. *All Adults Here*,  
by Emma Straub
5. *The Vanishing Half*,  
by Brit Bennett
6. *Fair Warning*,  
by Michael Connelly
7. *The Ballad of Songbirds and Snakes*,  
by Suzanne Collins
8. *Such a Fun Age*,  
by Kiley Reid
9. *Hideaway*,  
by Nora Roberts
10. *The Room Where It Happened*,  
by John Bolton
11. *Rodham*,  
by Curtis Sittenfeld
12. *Masked Prey*,  
by John Sandford

## DIGITIZED NEWSPAPERS AND MORE

We recently worked with Newspapers.com to have our microfilm collection of old Webster Groves newspapers digitized. Many years of the *Webster Times*, *Webster Groves Times*, *Webster News*



*-Times* and *Webster Advertiser* are now online for you to search. It is a treasure trove of local history and interest, and can be searched now by keyword. Articles can be clipped, printed, or shared to your own e-mail. The newspapers can be accessed

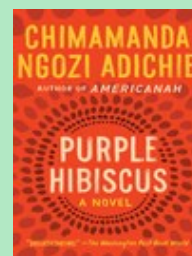
freely within the Library, or at home by anyone with a Newspapers.com subscription.

We are also working to have our microfilms of old Webster Groves tax records and building permits digitized, though this may take a few more months to complete. For years these have been available to search on the microfilm machine in our reference room. Digitization will ensure that they remain available for years to come.

## BOOK DISCUSSIONS

BOOK DISCUSSIONS WILL RESUME WHEN THE COUNTY AGAIN ALLOWS LARGE GROUPS TO GATHER.

**Saturday Afternoon Book Club: Date to be announced**



*Purple Hibiscus*,  
by Chimamanda  
Ngozi Adichie

### BOOK CLUB KITS—

Remember, during this time when we can't hold book discussions at the Library, that we do have book club kits available for your home group. Each kit includes 10 copies of the book and a discussion guide, and can be checked out for 6 weeks.

Look them up in our catalog under the title BOOK CLUB KIT.

## THE LIBRARY GALLERY

For the last several years, one of our most cherished programs has been our art gallery. We have been fortunate to feature works by painters, photographers, and artists in a variety of media. We have also had our own exhibits of aspects of Webster Groves History, such as The Mayors of Webster Groves, Webster Groves Then and Now, and Vanished Webster Groves.

During the current health crisis, all that has come to a halt. Because the gallery is an area that encourages groups, even crowds of people browsing near to one another for extended periods, it will be one of the last services we reopen.

When we do, we will again advertise for interested artists to apply to exhibit. We always have the application at our front desk, for anyone interested.

## FRIENDS NEWS

While the Friends have been staying home, we have still have been able to give people alternatives to the Library and to celebrate a milestone for one of our Board members. On June 5, several Board members did a drive-by parade and driveway celebration (see photo) in honor of Nancy Hiatt's retirement from the Board. Nancy has been our Book Sale maven and event chairperson over the years. She has served in virtually every capacity on the Friends Board, including many years as president. She led a major fundraiser for the Friends, creating a Designer Show House across Orchard from the Library. We wish her much happiness and well-deserved rest in retirement!



The Friends also stocked several outdoor tables of donated books on Mondays and Fridays through May and early June for "Shelter-in-Place" reading.

Many thanks to the Book Sale committee who came up with this brilliant idea and who hauled the books out and brought them back in over the weeks: Kathy Mandel, Sue Gold, Ann Hannan, Cricket Vandover, Dorothy Heltibrand and Debbie Ladd. We are all very happy that the Library is now open!



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