

Page 6 |

The newsletter of Webster Groves Public Library
Vol. 17 no. 1 — September 2021



KIDS' EVENTS

Garden Reads Story Time:

Tuesday, September 7, 14, 21, and 28, at 9:30 a.m. (weather permitting)

September Take & Make Craft:

Fall Tree Bubble Wrap Craft (while supplies last!)



The Scoop. Do you like seeing your name in print? Scan and [e-mail](#) us your originals with Your Name and Contact information for our new WGPL Youth biannual e-source. Produced by our fantastic Teen Advisory Group. For ages 2 - 18.

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.

* starting Tuesday, September 7

We will be closed Sunday, September 5 and Monday, September 6 in observance of Labor Day.

BACK TO FULL HOURS

Beginning Tuesday, September 7, the day after our Labor Day break, Webster Groves Public Library will return to its full, regular hours. That means that in addition to the hours we have been open for the past several months, we will also be open until 9 p.m. Monday through Thursday.

We hope people will use the Library in these hours. Tracking data shows that after mid-afternoon, there is a steep drop-off in how many people visit the Library to check out. This may only be because they are used to us closing earlier than normal, and that once we are open until later, people will come in not only for checking out, but for studying, computer use, visiting the Children's Room, and everything else.

This also means that our Meeting Room will be open later hours. For the past few months we have booked some groups to use the room, but only in those hours we're open.

If you would like to use the Meeting Room,

FINE AMNESTY FALL!

This fall we will have several ways for patrons to have library fines waived—and do some good in our community!

Any **juvenile card holder (18 and under)** who visits the Library from September 7 to 19 may have fines on their cards waived. Just present your card at the Children's Desk or the Front Desk.

Also during September, October, November, and December, for any unopened personal care item you donate—soap, toothpaste, boxes of tissues, toilet paper, diapers, etc. OR for every non-perishable food item donated OR for any donation of new warm winter items such as hats, gloves, socks, coats, and

please note that for now, we are limiting attendance to groups of 40 and under, and we are not allowing refreshments to be served. As usual, you can find our Meeting Room policy and a calendar of times that are open at our website under the Using the Library tab.

We will continue to hold Garden Reads Story Times, to hand out craft kits for families, and we are even planning another Halloween drive-thru in October; inside, in-person Children's Room programming will be postponed until further notice. It is too risky to pack in groups of this largely unvaccinated population. We hope to resume in-person programming later this year.

It has been a trying time for our community, and for communities all across the country (and the world!) You have all been most understanding and helpful through it all, and we very much appreciate it.

tcooper@wgpl.org

scarves, we will waive \$1 in fines for every item donated. This applies to all cards.



Any donations we receive will be sent to one of two organizations: Youth in Need, a family services agency that is dedicated to building positive futures for the community's most vulnerable children, teens and families, or to Webster-Rock Hill Ministries, which has been serving families in need in our area since 1982.

TOP REQUESTS

1. *The Madness of Crowds*,
by Louise Penny
2. *The Last Thing He Told Me*,
by Laura Dave
3. *Malibu Rising*,
by Taylor Jenkins Reid
4. *A Slow Fire Burning*,
by Paula Hawkins
5. *The Paper Palace*,
by Miranda Cowley Heller
6. *People We Meet on Vacation*,
by Emily Henry
7. *Blind Tiger*,
by Sandra Brown
8. *Golden Girl*,
by Elin Hilderbrand
9. *Lightning Strike*,
by William Kent Krueger
10. *The Cellist*,
by Daniel Silva
11. *While Justice Sleeps*,
by Stacey Abrams
12. *Bloodless*,
by Douglas Preston & Lincoln Child

DWIGHT BITIKOFER POETRY READING



On Thursday, September 9, at 7 p.m., we will host a poetry reading featuring Dwight Bitikofer reading from his first book of poems, *Square Miles & Roundabouts*. Bitikofer, who spent his career as a publisher and editor of local newspapers, most notably the *Webster-Kirkwood Times*, retired a few years ago to concentrate on his lifelong passion for writing poetry. He describes this book as being about places he has lived, traveled, or experienced. It includes photos taken by the poet.

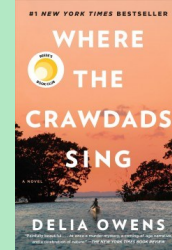
There will also be readings from fellow poets Maria and Alex Balogh and Kim Lozano.

Reservations will not be required. There will be books for sale at the event. For more information, please call 314.961.3784.

BOOK DISCUSSIONS

Saturday, October 2 at 2 p.m.

This meeting is scheduled to be held in the Library's Meeting Room. Masks required, and social distancing will be observed. For more information, contact Debbie Ladd at dladd@wgpl.org.



Where the Crawdads Sing,
by Delia Owens

BOOK CLUB KITS—

Remember that while book discussions at the Library aren't quite back to normal, we do have book club kits available for your home group. Kits include 10 copies of the book and a discussion guide, and can be checked out for 6 weeks.

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

WEBSTER GROVES NATURE STUDY SOCIETY DISPLAY



The September display in our gallery is from Webster Groves Nature Study Society (WGNSS). In 2020, WGNSS published the book *100 Years of the Webster Groves Nature Study Society*, which tells the story of how the society came to be, describes the work of its various nature study groups, their influence on the St. Louis region, and mentions some of its most influential members. The display offers a pictorial view into the history of the society, one of the oldest clubs in our community.

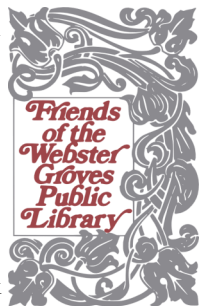
Today, WGNSS advertises itself as 'a group for nature lovers in the St. Louis region and beyond, organizing nature walks and programs about entomology, ornithology, botany and nature photography.' Their website can be found at www.wgnss.org.

FRIENDS NEWS

Volunteer to sort books by contacting Ann Hannan, to.ann.w@gmail.com. The Book Sale committee will get back to you with dates and location for sorting. Help set up on Thursday, October 14 and Friday, October 15 at the Library. The sale opens Friday, October 15 at 5:00 p.m. and closes at 4:30 p.m. on Saturday, October 16. Cashiers will be needed! Takedown is on Sunday, October 17 and Monday, October 18.

The Friends Annual meeting will be on Sunday, November 7, at 2:00 p.m. in the Library Meeting Room.

Your gifts and memberships support the Library's collection of large print books. So far in 2021, 210 new large print books have been purchased through your generosity. Thank you!



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