Page 6 The newsletter of Webster Groves Public Library Vol. 17 no. 7 — March 2022

KIDS' EVENTS

Tuesday Story Time:

A new Story Time is posted to our Facebook page every Tuesday.

March Take 'n' Make Craft: Salted shamrock. Pick

up kits in the Library foyer.



Tiny Art Show

On display in the Children's Room through March. These works were created by our patrons from our February Take & Make Craft.



Watch out in April! Villains Invade the Library!

Details coming soon . . .

LIBRARY HOURS

Monday – Thursday Friday & Saturday Sunday 9 a.m. - 9 p.m. 9 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. 2 p.m. - 5 p.m.

MASK OPTIONAL

With cases of COVID steadily decreasing, the CDC relaxing its guidelines, and St. Louis County letting its mask mandate expire, Webster Groves Public Library is mask optional beginning March 1. This means that visitors may decide whether or not to wear a mask while in the Library.

You may recall that briefly in the summer of last year, we were mask optional. During that time, most everyone who visited the Library wore a mask anyway.

But then the Delta variant exploded, and, in the confusion of the state and county governments' disagreements on mandates, we began requiring masks again in July.

With our revised rules, there are a few things to note:

-Some staff members may continue to wear a mask. This is just a matter of personal comfort.

-We would hope that unvaccinated individuals especially consider wearing masks.

-When patrons using computers ask for

GOING REMOTE

During the recent winter storms, libraries in the region had to close for several days. So did schools—but some schools closed outright, while some went to online learning. They became comfortable doing this during the pandemic, and now that they know how, they can offer online learning on snow days, rather than closing.

But something interesting to note is that for years, libraries have been able to offer remote access, even when our physical buildings are closed. There are many thousands of books available to check out and read as e-books, or listen to as audiobooks, as well as movies, our help, it often involves being quite near them for an extended period. Staff members may ask you to put on a mask in those instances.

We are also changing the rules for using our Meeting Room. Groups using the room may decide individually if they will require masks, and they may once again serve refreshments if they choose.

We hope that this relaxation of our diligence lasts this time. I think we are all tired of wearing masks.

We also want to thank the Webster Groves community for being such good citizens in general and not causing too many problems regarding our mask requirement. We hear horror stories from other local libraries as well as libraries across the state about arguments, police intervention, threatened lawsuits and more. None of that has happened here, and we very much appreciate it.

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music, magazines and more, all available with your Webster Groves Public Library card.

Many patrons are already familiar with these services. We are even aware that quite a few patrons use *only* our online services.

To access our digital collections, visit our website at www.wgpl.org. In the Materials menu, you'll find Libby/OverDrive, Hoopla, and Kanopy. These are our main digital services. If you want some help getting started, call the Reference Department at 314.961.7277.



TOP REQUESTS

- 1. The Lincoln Highway, by Amor Towles
- 2. The Paris Apartment, by Lucy Foley
- 3. The Maid, by Nita Prose
- The Seven Husbands of Evelyn Hugo, by Taylor Jenkins Reid
- 5. Nothing to Lose, by J. A. Jance
- 6. Diablo Mesa,
- by Douglas Preston
- 7. The Sentence, by Louis Erdrich
- 8. Something to Hide, by Elizabeth George
- 9. One Step Too Far, by Lisa Gardner
- 10. The Horsewoman,
- by James Patterson & Mike Lupica
- 11. Wish You Were Here, by Jodi Picoult
- 12. Atlas of the Heart, by Brené Brown

UPCOMING ELECTION

April 5 is election day in St. Louis County. As usual, the Library will be a polling place. This is an important election, as residents will be electing a mayor, three councilmembers, and three school board members and voting on two propositions.

If you are not registered to vote, the deadline to register for this election is March 9. You can get registration forms at the Library.

WEBSTERARTS EXHIBIT

The March exhibit in our gallery is *Small Works* XV, an exhibit sponsored by Webster Arts. Over the years, these have been some of the most popular exhibits in our gallery. Works from a variety of artists in several different media will be on display.

There will be an opening reception for this exhibit Friday, March 4 from 6 to 7:30.



BOOK DISCUSSIONS

Saturday, April 2 at 2 p.m.

This meeting is scheduled to be held in the Library's Meeting Room. Face masks are optional. For more information, contact Debbie Ladd at <u>dladd@wgpl.org</u>.



Hamnet, by Maggie O'Farrell

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.

MISSOURI DIGITAL HERITAGE COLLECTION

In a recent search for information about a Webster Groves-related subject, we happened to 'google' the name we were searching, and came up with a document we had put online. It was great to see.

A few years ago, the Webster Groves Historical Society loaned us the Kate Moody Collection, one of their prize archives. Moody was a librarian who spent her life in Webster Groves, collecting newspaper articles, clippings, brochures, and other documents detailing local history. The collection runs to 20 boxes full of material. For a few years, we have been photocopying and transcribing it, and putting it online at Missouri Digit-tal Heritage, a service run by the State Library. Those documents are starting to show up in searches about items of local interest.

If you are interested, you can go directly to the Missouri Digital Heritage site at <u>https://www.sos.mo.gov/mdh/</u>. A simple search of 'Webster Groves' yields hundreds of results, or you can type in other keywords of interest to you.

FRIENDS NEWS

Thank you to all who have joined the Friends or renewed their memberships! Your generosity provides funding for large print books, book club kits and activities for children and young adults. So far this year, the Friends have underwritten the new bike repair station and will support children's activities for the month of April—we don't want to reveal the surprise! All interested members are invited to attend Board meetings. Our next meeting will be on March 8 at 7:00 p.m. in the Library meeting room. We will be working on final plans for activities for the year. A Book Sale will be held again this year in



October and we will let everyone know what's needed for book donations.



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