The newsletter of Webster Groves Public Library  
Vol. 18 no. 2 — October 2022

KIDS’ EVENTS

Story Time with Miss Margaret  
(Ages 2 & up)  
Tuesday, October 4, 10 – 10:30 a.m.  
Thursday, October 6, 10 – 10:30 a.m.  
Tuesday, October 18, 10 – 10:30 a.m.  
Thursday, October 20, 10 – 10:30 a.m.  
Story & Activity Time for ages 2 and up!  
These events may be indoors in our children’s department or outdoors on the Library lawn depending on weather and the planned activity. Bring a towel or blanket just in case.

Story Time with Miss Margaret  
(Infants to age 2)  
Tuesday, October 11, 10 – 10:30 a.m.  
Story & Activity Time for infants to age 2.  
This event is indoors in our Children’s Department story time area.

Frankenslime Story Walk  
Watch for a story walk to appear on the Library’s lawn this month, featuring the book Frankenslime by Joy Keller and Ashley Belote.

THE BEST FRIENDS GROUP

Webster Groves Public Library is entering an interesting time. Next spring, I will retire after more than 17 years as Library director. We recently posted a job ad for my position, and resumes have already started coming in.

This is an anxious time for Library staff, as it would be for any employees learning that they are about to get a new ‘boss.’ The Board of Trustees is focused on making the transition as smooth as possible, and they have gotten an early start on the process of hiring my successor.

But at the same time, things seem to go on pretty much as normal. We have a few interesting authors and speakers scheduled for the upcoming months. The Children’s Room just held a fun and well-attended A Day at Hogwarts event. And our circulation figures—how many items we check out to patrons—continue to increase.

Another thing that continues as always is the support of our Friends of the Library. Ever since I have been here, their work has been essential to the well-being of the Library. I can’t say enough about the dedicated group of people who work so hard to plan programs, work those programs, raise funds, and use the money for the good of the Library.

Last week, the Meeting Room was recarpeted. With many groups using the room, many of them serving refreshments, that carpet certainly takes a beating, and though we have it cleaned a few times a year, it was time to replace it. The Friends are paying for it—which means that anyone who has chosen to be a member of the Friends of the Library and paid dues this year had a hand in it.

Our Friends group is simply the best, and I will always be thankful for their hard work and support.
tcooper@wgpl.org

A DAY AT HOGWARTS

On Saturday, September 24, a crowd of aspiring young wizards visited the Library for our A Day at Hogwarts program. The day of fun and mischief started with the wand station to decorate your own wand. Next, visitors chose a sorting hat to see what house they were in. Can’t attend Hogwarts without playing Quidditch! Along the main floor the pixies escaped and the wizards had to capture them and bring them back to see who captured the most pixies. In the last game, everyone was challenged to use their wands to put escaped owls back into the owlery.

There were also photo opportunities with the Hogwarts castle and props, and a dragon egg craft to take home.

It was no coincidence that our Harry Potter themed event came during Banned Books Week, since J. K. Rowling’s series of books have been the most challenged books of the twenty-first century.
TOP REQUESTS

1. Verity, by Colleen Hoover
2. Lessons in Chemistry, by Bonnie Garmus
3. Lucy by the Sea, by Elizabeth Strout
4. The Bullet That Missed, by Richard Osman
5. Reminders of Him, by Colleen Hoover
6. The It Girl, by Ruth Ware
7. The Marriage Portrait, by Maggie O’Farrell
8. The Hotel Nantucket, by Elin Hilderbrand
9. Killers of a Certain Age, by Deanna Raybourn
10. Carrie Soto is Back, by Taylor Jenkins Reid
11. The Divider, by Peter Baker
12. Horse, by Geraldine Brooks

BOOK SALE! October 14 – 16 in the Library Meeting Room: Friday 5 – 8 p.m., Saturday 9 a.m. – 4 p.m., Sunday 11 a.m. – 2 p.m.! We will be sorting and arranging books on October 11, 12, and 13 and are always looking for help—join us in the Library Meeting Room anytime from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. If you’d like to help at the sale or with take-down, call Sue Gold at 314.488.1155 for details.

ANNUAL MEETING! Sunday, November 13, 2:00 p.m. Patrick Murphy will be there to talk about his new book, Irish in St. Louis: From Shanty to Lace Curtain, and the 2023 slate of officers and Board members will be presented.

SMALL WORKS XVI

The October exhibit in our gallery is Small Works XVI, an exhibit curated by Webster Arts. Webster Arts is a foundation committed to promoting the arts. All of the Small Works exhibits have been shown at Webster Groves Public Library, starting with Small Works I in 2016. There will be a reception to meet the artists on Friday, October 21 at 6:30 p.m.

CLIMATE CHANGETALK

On Thursday, October 6 at 7 p.m., Climate Reality Project leader Gary Leabman will be at the Library to discuss how you can help climate change by lowering your own carbon footprint.

RHEUMATOID ARTHRITIS ROADMAP

Join us Saturday, October 8 at 2 p.m. to hear Dr. Donica Liu Baker introduce her book The Rheumatoid Arthritis Roadmap: Navigating an Integrative Approach.

Dr. Baker is a rheumatologist at St. Luke’s Hospital. Her book provides an overview of contemporary and holistic approaches to managing arthritis, and honors the intricate connection between mind, body, and spirit. This approach stays open-minded towards natural approaches to managing chronic pain and fatigue, including the anti-inflammatory diet. She will answer questions about navigating an immunosuppressed status from autoimmune disease during the COVID-19 pandemic, including ways to protect your immune system beyond the basics of wearing a mask and using hand hygiene.

There will be copies of the book to purchase at the event.

BOOK DISCUSSIONS

Tuesday, October 25 at 6 p.m.

The Pastures of Heaven, by John Steinbeck

Wednesday, October 26 at 6 p.m.

The Invention of Nature, by Andrea Wulf

Saturday, November 5 at 2 p.m.

The Personal Librarian, by Marie Benedict and Victoria Christopher Murray

FRIENDS NEWS

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