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The newsletter of Webster Groves Public Library
Vol. 18 no. 3 — November 2022



KIDS' EVENTS

Story Time with Miss Margaret

For ages 2 and up
November 1, 10 - 10:30 a.m.

Story Time with Miss Margaret

For ages 2 and up
November 3, 10 - 10:30 a.m.

Story Time with Miss Margaret

For infants to age 2
November 8, 10 - 10:30 a.m.

Feathers & Scales

November 12, 2 - 3 p.m.
Meet some amazing animal ambassadors to learn about the differences and similarities between reptiles and birds. Presented by the World Bird Sanctuary.



Story Time with Miss Margaret

For ages 2 and up
November 15, 10 - 10:30 a.m.

Story Time with Miss Margaret

For ages 2 and up
November 17, 10 - 10:30 a.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.

The Library will be closed Friday, November 11, for Veterans' Day, and Thursday and Friday, November 24 & 25, for Thanksgiving.

FOCUS GROUP MEETINGS

Webster Groves Public Library is in the midst of a round of strategic planning. In pursuit of that, we held four focus group sessions last week.

It was an interesting process. To begin, the consultants we hired to conduct the focus groups sent e-mails to many Library users inviting them to participate in a focus group. In response, many people called us, wondering if this was another online scam. So sorry that we live in such suspicious times!

They eventually recruited the groups they were looking for. There were two groups of regular Library users, and two groups of Library non-users, drawn from different areas of the city. The sessions went well, and participants both learned much about the Library and offered quite a few suggestions for improving Library services, which is the main focus of this round of strategic planning.

But I did want to take a moment to dispel

some of the incorrect impressions people may have. When people were calling about the process, a few asked if we were planning on expanding the Library building again. No, there has been zero discussion of this. We have the building we need, and we hope it lasts us another forty or fifty years.

There was also one phone call about whether we were planning a tax levy campaign. This is also something about which there has been no discussion. Our last tax levy increase was in February, 2008, coming up on 15 years ago, and it is still funding the Library's services well.

All we are seeking at this time is community input on how to improve services over the next several years. We should have a full report on the focus groups from our consultants soon, and can begin the discussion of next steps.

tcooper@wgpl.org

JULIUS HUNTER VISITS THE LIBRARY



Saturday, November 19, at 2 p.m., author and former newscaster Julius K. Hunter will visit the Library to discuss his new book, *Professor Julius K. Hunter's Stuff You Never Knew about St. Louis History*. The book is a tour of

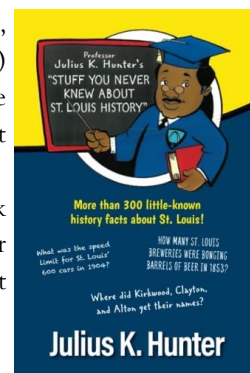
strange and fascinating facts about St. Louis, compiled and commented on by the author.

This will be Julius Hunter's second appearance at the Library, and we look forward to once again experiencing the inimitable charm and storytelling ability of one of our

area's long-time great personalities. Mr. Hunter has written several books, in fields as diverse as local history, architecture, family history, and historical fiction.

Written for adults who are interested in the history of St. Louis, *Stuff You Never Knew about St. Louis History* is also appropriate for younger audiences, and (hint, hint) would make a nice holiday gift for almost anyone!

Copies of the book will be available for sale at the event (cash/check only).



TOP REQUESTS

1. *Our Missing Hearts*,
by Celeste Ng
2. *The Boys from Biloxi*,
by John Grisham
3. *Lucy by the Sea*,
by Elizabeth Strout
4. *Verity*,
by Colleen Hoover
5. *The Winners*,
by Fredrik Backman
6. *Demon Copperhead*,
by Barbara Kingsolver
7. *Lessons in Chemistry*,
by Bonnie Garmus
8. *The Bullet that Missed*,
by Richard Osman
9. *Killers of a Certain Age*,
by Deanna Raybourn
10. *No Plan B*,
by Lee Child
11. *It Starts with Us*,
by Colleen Hoover
12. *Carrie Soto Is Back*,
by Taylor Reid Jenkins

YOUTHART SHOW

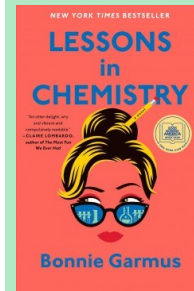
The November exhibit in our art gallery is work by young people from Webster Groves. Oil paintings, watercolors, drawings, collage, and a variety of other media are represented in this display that highlights the talent of students in our area.

This is the 2nd Annual Library Youth Art Show. The works will be up through the end of November.



BOOK DISCUSSIONS

Saturday, December 3 at 2 p.m.



Lessons in Chemistry,
by Bonnie Garmus

BIG WINTER READ



Anna Karenina,
by Leo Tolstoy

This winter, our Classics Book Club will read this masterpiece of Russian literature. We will meet at 6 p.m. on November 29 for an initial discussion, and follow up at 6 p.m. on January 31 to conclude our discussion.

PAINT AND SIP

Our next Paint and Sip event will be held in the meeting room on Sunday, November 13 from 2:30 to 5 p.m. We will supply the paints, canvases, and easels, as well as 'mocktails' and snacks. All you need to bring is your creative imagination!

Come with a friend or family member for a fun, relaxing afternoon of painting.

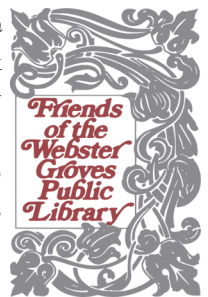
This activity is for Library patrons 15 years old and up.



FRIENDS NEWS

FOR MEMBERS ONLY! Sunday, November 20, at 2:00 p.m. at the Library, Patrick Murphy will talk about his book, *Irish In St. Louis: From Shanty to Lace Curtain* at our annual meeting. Copies of the book will be available for purchase (cash or check only, please). Space is limited, so reserve a spot by calling Debbie Ladd, 314.961.3784. Not a member? Join the Friends now and you can come, too!

Thank you, everyone, for making the Book Sale a success! From volunteers who helped sort, staff, and clean up to community members who came to buy, you all made this year's sale a wonderful event! We made \$1,200 to support children's activities, large print books and other needs for the Library.



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