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The newsletter of Webster Groves Public Library
Vol. 21 no. 2 — October 2025



KIDS' EVENTS

Story Time with Miss Margaret

Tuesdays, 10 – 10:30 a.m.

Recommended for ages 2 and up.

Read to a Therapy Dog

Wednesday, October 1 & 15, 3:30 – 4:30 p.m.

Recommended for ages 5 and up.

Saturday Story Time

Saturday, October 4 & 18, 10 – 10:30 a.m.

Recommended for ages 2 and up.

Infant Story Time with Miss Margaret

Thursday, October 9 & 23, 10 – 10:30 a.m.

Recommended for infants to age 2.

Paint and Sip—Tween Style

Sunday, October 12, 2:30 – 4:30 p.m.

Recommended for ages 8 and up.



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.

DIRECTOR'S CORNER

October 5–11 is Banned Books Week!

This year, Banned Books Week takes place from October 5th through the 11th. I've written about this for the past two years, and I will continue to write about it every year because Banned Books Week is incredibly important. Talking about it—and about the freedom to read—is vital.

The freedom to read is a foundational pillar of the public library and is also essential to our democracy. Yet, it has been continuously challenged. People's rights to express themselves, to choose, to speak, and to read have been questioned, restricted, and even suppressed both historically and in recent times.

This is why we must continue to talk about the freedom to read and why we can't stop.

I truly believe that books and stories play an integral role in our society and in the world. Books do more than entertain or inform us—they help us see ourselves reflected in their pages, and they help us understand others as well. The freedom to read allows us to walk in someone else's shoes. It builds empathy and understanding, mitigates fear, encour-

ages open-mindedness, and allows us to think and feel more broadly. It helps us look beyond ourselves and care more deeply for others and for the world.

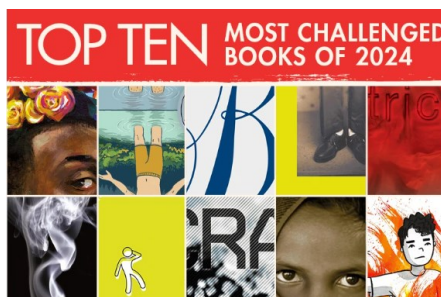
At the public library, we strive to create and maintain collections that offer access to diverse materials representing a range of content and viewpoints. We also continually work to foster creativity, belonging, learning, innovation, growth, and community.

It is always my hope that anyone who walks into the library feels welcomed and that they can easily find something that interests them, helps them, or excites them.

Banned Books Week is a reminder of why the freedom to read is so vital. It reminds us where we've been, the challenges we continue to face, and the importance of protecting this freedom in our everyday lives.

To learn more about intellectual freedom and the freedom to read, visit [ALA.org](https://www.ala.org).

Cheers,
Madison
mmorris@wgpl.org



All Boys Aren't Blue, Gender Queer. The Bluest Eye, The Perks of Being a Wallflower, Tricks, Looking for Alaska, Me and Earl and the Dying Girl, Crank, Sold, Flamer

TOP REQUESTS

1. *The Impossible Fortune*,
by Richard Osman
2. *The Correspondent*,
by Virginia Evans
3. *The Secret of Secrets*,
by Dan Brown
4. *Atmosphere*,
by Taylor Jenkins Reid
5. *Buckeye*,
by Patrick Ryan
6. *A Marriage at Sea*,
by Sophie Elmhirst
7. *These Summer Storms*,
by Sarah MacLean
8. *Katabasis*,
by R. F. Kuang
9. *107 Days*,
by Kamala Harris
10. *The Academy*,
by Elin Hilderbrand
11. *The Hallmarked Man*,
by Robert Galbraith
12. *My Friends*,
by Fredrik Backman

ART GALLERY

During the month of October our art gallery will display Small Works XXII, an exhibit put on by Webster Arts. A reception will be held on Friday, October 3, from 6 to 7:30 p.m.



ONLINE RESOURCES SPOTLIGHT

We've recently expanded our online collection with some unique local history!

A [1964 St. Louis Magazine feature](#) on Webster Groves is now available—a three-part series that explores the city's history, its mid-'60s character, and profiles two residents, including the husband of comedian Phyllis Diller.

We've also added the [nomination documents](#) for Webster Groves' historic districts and buildings listed on the National Register of Historic Places. Previously hard to find on a state website, these are now easily accessible through our site in one convenient location.

BOOK DISCUSSIONS

See the next page for book discussion information.

ADULT PROGRAMS

Board Game Nite

Thursday, October 2, 6 – 8:30 p.m.



Knitting and Crocheting Club

Tuesday, October 28, 1:30 – 3 p.m.

Fall Book Sale!

Preview—Friday, October 17 \$5 admission per family
5:00 pm to 8:00 pm

Saturday, October 18 9:00 am to 4:00 pm

Sunday, October 19 10:00 am to 3:30 pm

In the Library's Meeting Room

Books are \$5 per bag. (We supply the bags.) Cash or checks only.

FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY

Celebrations are in order! October 19 – 25 is National Library Friends week, recognizing Friends groups throughout the country! We also celebrated our 50th anniversary as a Friends group at Eden Commons on September 18! Many Friends members, past officers and directors, Library staff and Director Madison Morris, retired Director Tom Cooper, and Webster Groves Mayor Laura Arnold all helped mark the occasion. A silent auction raised over \$1,000 to support the Library's children's programs. Kudos to Nancy Leahy, Friends President Sue Gold, and the rest of the planning committee for a great evening!



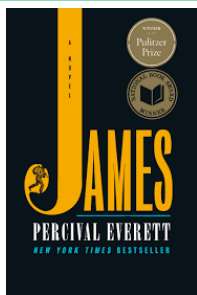
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www.mlc-stl.org
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Book Discussion Groups



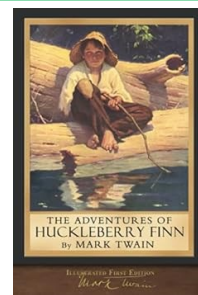
James

by Percival Everett, and

The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn

by Mark Twain

Saturday, October 4, 2025 at 2:00 p.m.



Mansfield Park

by Jane Austen

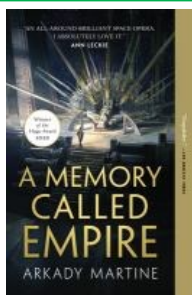
Tuesday, October 7, 2025 at 6:00 p.m.



Home before Dark

by Riley Sager

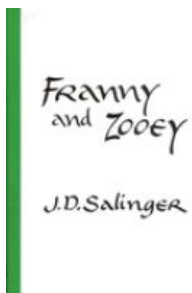
Tuesday, October 14, 2025 at 7:00 p.m.



A Memory Called Empire

by Arkady Martine

Wednesday, October 22, 2025 at 7:00 p.m.



Franny and Zooey

by J. D. Salinger

Tuesday, October 28, 2025 at 6:00 p.m.