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The newsletter of Webster Groves Public Library
Vol. 21 no. 5 — January 2026



KIDS' EVENTS

Story Time with Miss Margaret

Tuesdays, 10 – 10:30 a.m.
Recommended for ages 2 and up.

Little Connections

Thursday, January 8 & 22, 10 – 11 a.m.

Happy Hands Preschool Activity Club

Friday, January 9 & 30, 10 – 11 a.m.

Saturday Story Time

Saturday, January 10, 10 – 10:30 a.m.

Pokémon Card Trading

Wednesday, January 14, 3:30 – 4:30 p.m.
Recommended for ages 6 – 12.

Infant Story Time with Miss Margaret

Thursday, January 15 & 29, 10 – 10:30 a.m.
Recommended for infants to age 2.



Read to a Dog

Wednesday, January 21, 3:30 – 4:30 p.m.
Recommended for ages 5 and up.

AN ANNIVERSARY YEAR

In 2026 we have something to celebrate. 75 years ago on November 5, 1951, the Webster Groves Public Library building at 301 E. Lockwood Ave. opened its doors. To commemorate this milestone, throughout the year we will have various displays, events, and further historical tidbits in this newsletter, all building up to a birthday party in November. Everyone is invited.

This anniversary also provides a good occasion to celebrate the even deeper roots the Library has in our community. Our 75-year-old building is in truth the Library's fifth location, as we can trace our lineage in an unbroken line to a public library and reading

room started in 1884 in a somewhat ramshackle building located on the dusty corner of Lockwood and Church (now N. Gore) Avenues. In between we've been housed at the 1st Congregational Church (1893 – 1911), the Monday Club (1911 – 1928), and the high school (1928 – 1951). We will be sharing more about that fuller history as well in the coming weeks and months.

We hope you enjoy what we have planned for our Diamond Jubilee this year because it's as much your celebration as it is ours.

Written by John Egel



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 Monday, January 19, for Martin Luther King, Jr. Day.

COMING SOON

February 1st -28th

2026

GOING FOR GOLD!

WINTER READING CHALLENGE

180 minutes

300 minutes

90 minutes

All ages may participate!

TOP REQUESTS

1. *The Correspondent*,
by Virginia Evans
2. *Buckeye*,
by Patrick Ryan
3. *The Black Wolf*,
by Louise Penny
4. *Heart the Lover*,
by Lily King
5. *Nobody's Girl*,
by Virginia Roberts Giuffre
6. *The Widow*,
by John Grisham
7. *The Loneliness of Sonia and Sunny*,
by Kiran Desai
8. *The Secret of Secrets*,
by Dan Brown
9. *Flesh*,
by David Szalay
10. *1929*,
by Andrew Ross Sorkin
11. *Wreck*,
by Catherine Newman
12. *Nash Falls*,
by David Baldacci



ART GALLERY



Webster Groves Women's Garden Association is celebrating its 100th anniversary! Throughout the month of January, revisit the garden club's history and explore highlights from its past century in the Library's Gallery.

THANKYOU

We are sincerely grateful for the remarkable support shown by the Webster community throughout the holiday season. Through our Holiday Wish Trees, every youth in Epworth's Residential Services program had a Christmas gift wish fulfilled, and essential supplies were provided to support the important work of Epworth's Therapy team.

In addition, holiday food drives held in November and December, in partnership with Webster-Rock Hill Ministries, helped provide support to local families in need. Our sincere thanks go to all those whose generosity made these efforts possible.

BOOK DISCUSSIONS

See the next page for book discussion information.

ADULT PROGRAMS

Board Game Nite

Thursday, January 8, 6 – 8:30 p.m.

Paint & Sip

Saturday, January 24, 1:30 – 4:30 p.m.



Jigsaw Puzzle Race

Saturday, January 31, 1:30 – 3:30 p.m.



FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY

It is the beginning of a new year with the Library Friends membership drive taking place this month. Membership brochures for 2026 will be mailed by the end of January. We hope that past members will renew their membership and new members join in support of the Library. Member donations enable the Friends of the Webster Groves Public Library to provide additional resources and programs in support of our library. Your generous donations are appreciated and put to good use in support of our valued community library.

Welcome to the 2026 Friends Board and officers: Nancy Leahy, president; Sue Jagler, vice-president; Gary Gray, treasurer; Debbie Ladd, secretary; Renee Petty, membership, and at-large members: Debra Knox Deiermann, Sue Gold, Ann Hannan, Dorothy Heltibrand, Ellen Jost, Terry Pirrong, and Stacy Skelton.



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Member of the Municipal Library Consortium
and the Missouri Evergreen Consortium
www.mlc-stl.org
www.moevergreenlibraries.org





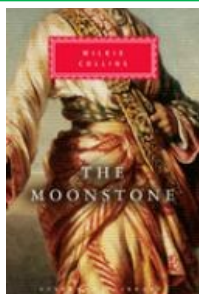
Book Discussion Groups



The Overnight Guest

by Heather Gudenkauf

Tuesday, January 13, 2026 at 7:00 p.m.



The Moonstone

by Wilkie Collins

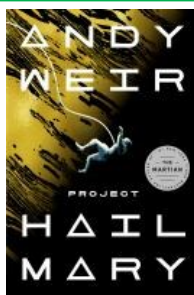
Tuesday, January 20, 2026 at 6:00 p.m.



The Radetzky March

by Joseph Roth

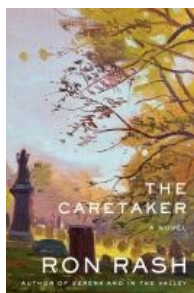
Tuesday, January 27, 2026 at 6:00 p.m.



Project Hail Mary

by Andy Weir

Wednesday, January 28, 2026 at 7:00 p.m.



The Caretaker

by Ron Rash

Saturday, February 7, 2026 at 2:00 p.m.