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The newsletter of Webster Groves Public Library
Vol. 22 no. 2 — October 2026



KIDS' EVENTS

Storytime

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

Babytime

Thursdays, 10 – 10:30 a.m.
Recommended for ages 0 – 2.

Happy Hands

Friday, October 2, 16, & 30, 3:30 – 4:30 p.m.

Tween Paint and Sip

Sunday, October 11, 2:30 – 4:30 p.m.
Recommended for ages 8 – 14.

Toddler Tunes

Monday, October 12, 10 – 10:30 a.m.

Pokémon Trading Card Event

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

Princess Party

Friday, October 23, 1:30 – 3:30 p.m.
Recommended for ages 2 – 5.

Pumpkin Slingshots

Saturday, October 24, 1:30 – 3:30 p.m.
Recommended for ages 9 and up.

Homeschool Hour

Monday, October 26, 1 – 2 p.m.
Recommended for ages 6 – 11.

Mini Pumpkin Decorating

Monday, October 26, 6 – 7 p.m.
Recommended for ages 5 and up.

DIRECTOR'S CORNER

October is here, which means it is once again time for me to write about Banned Books Week.

This year, Banned Books Week runs from October 4 – 10. It's a week when, yes, I get to wear my fun "I'm With the Banned" T-shirt featuring titles by authors like George Orwell, Harper Lee, and John Steinbeck. Those names sound familiar, right? Classics. Books many of us read in school. And all books that have faced challenges or bans at one point or another.

But more importantly, Banned Books Week gives us an opportunity to talk about why the freedom to read matters so much.

One of the pillars of the public library is intellectual freedom: The idea that people should have the opportunity to seek out information, explore ideas, and make their own decisions about what they choose to read.

Books have an incredible way of opening up entirely new worlds. They allow us to walk in someone else's shoes and see life from perspectives we may never experience ourselves. Stories can help people feel seen. They can build empathy. They can challenge us to think differently. They can help us learn from the past so we can hopefully build a better future.

In my opinion, books make the world a better

place.

Trying to remove certain books or perspectives takes something away from all of us. Too often, it starts with the idea that I don't like this, I don't agree with this, or I don't understand this—and therefore no one else should have access to it. I don't think that's fair.

Not every book in the library is going to be for every person. In fact, I would be a little worried if it were. A public library serves an entire community, made up of people with different backgrounds, beliefs, experiences, interests, and ideas. There should be something here for everyone which inevitably means there will be things here that aren't for you. And that's okay.

At Webster Groves Public Library, we celebrate Banned Books Week because we believe in the freedom to read. We believe our patrons have the right to decide for themselves what they read, what ideas they explore, and which stories they choose to pick up or choose to put back on the shelf.

Your reading choices belong to you and that's a freedom worth celebrating.

Cheers,
Madison
mmorris@wgpl.org

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.



TOP REQUESTS

1. *Whistler*,
by Ann Patchett
2. *The Calamity Club*,
by Kathryn Stockett
3. *Theo of Golden*,
by Allen Levi
4. *Yesteryear*,
by Caro Claire Burke
5. *Mad Mabel*,
by Sally Hepworth
6. *Big Little Truths*,
by Liane Moriarty
7. *Exit Party*,
by Emily St. John Mandel
8. *Land*,
by Maggie O'Farrell
9. *Hollow Bones*,
by Jodi Picoult
10. *The Pirate Queen*,
by Ariel Lawhon
11. *We Chase Shadows*,
by Richard Osman
12. *Regime Change*,
by Maggie Haberman & Jonathan Swan

ART GALLERY



October's art gallery exhibit is Small Works XXIV – People's Choice by Webster Arts. Once again, the winner of this exhibit is determined by the public so come and vote for your favorite!

COMMUNITY SURVEY

We want to hear from you! Please take a few minutes to tell us how you use the Library, what we are doing well, where we can improve, and what you would like to see in the future. Your feedback will help guide Library services, programs, resources, and future improvements to the building. [Please click here](#) to complete the survey. Thank you for helping us continue to strengthen the Webster Groves Public Library.

BOOK DISCUSSIONS

See the next page for book discussion information.

ADULT PROGRAMS

Board Game Nite

Thursday, October 1, 6 – 8 p.m.

Bedazzle-A-Book

Tuesday, October 6, 6 – 8 p.m.

Mahjong Night

Thursday, October 8, 6 – 8:30 p.m.

Board Game Day

Saturday, October 10, 9 – 4 p.m.

Monday Matinee – *Project Hail Mary*

Monday, October 12, 1:30 – 4 p.m.

The Secret to a Perfect Cup of Tea

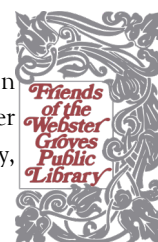
Thursday, October 29, 6 – 7:30 p.m.

Registration is required.



FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY

The Friends of the Webster Groves Public Library are hosting their Annual Book Sale this month! Stop by to browse a great selection of gently used books, find some new-to-you favorites, and support the Friends and the Library. The sale will be open Friday, October 16, from 5 – 8 p.m.; Saturday, October 17, from 9 a.m. – 4 p.m.; and Sunday, October 18, from 1 – 5 p.m. We hope to see you there!

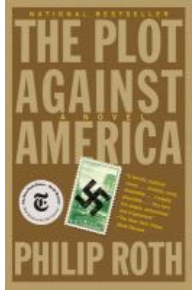


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and the Missouri Evergreen Consortium
mlc.modiscovery.org
missourievergreen.org



BOOK DISCUSSION GROUPS



The Plot against America

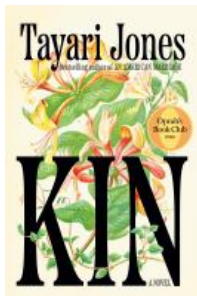
by Philip Roth

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

Something Wicked This Way Comes

by Ray Bradbury

Wednesday, October 28, 2026 at 6:30 p.m.



Kin

by Tayari Jones

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

The Guest List

by Lucy Foley

Tuesday, November 10, 2026 at 7:00 p.m.



All book clubs are for ages 18 and older.

Diamond Jubilee Celebration


75th

You're Invited to a Birthday Party!

November 7, 2026

**Our grand old Library building is turning 75!
Come celebrate with us Saturday, November 7th!**

**1:30 pm - 4:30 pm
Happy Birthday Crafts**

**We'll have craft stations in the Young Adult area
and Children's Library. Cupcakes in the atrium!**

**4:30 pm - 6:30 pm
75th Birthday Party**

**Join us in the evening for a party with light appetizers, drinks and
lots of stories to share. Library card contest winners announced!**



**WEBSTER GROVES PUBLIC LIBRARY
301 E LOCKWOOD AVE**