

## What's New?

### Helen E. Ellis Case:

January: *In a Far Away Galaxy*, Lego Star Wars exhibit by Ed Micale

February: *What Did We Do Before TV?* Chris Bucolo shares sewing and crocheting created by her grandma and great-grandma.

March: *My Home is My Castle* A collection of miniature castles is shared by Anne Marie Faria.

## Tech Bytes

Meet **Libby**, the new app from Overdrive. From the new home page, navigate between searching the catalog and accessing your shelf, where loans, holds and history are consolidated. With one tap, renew or return your materials.

## Services

Free Wi-Fi Wireless access available  
Magnifiers for Visually Impaired  
SAILS Library Network 24/7 borrowing  
Commonwealth Catalogue  
Homebound Delivery Service  
Children's Programs  
Genealogy: Ancestry.com/HeritageQuest  
Manton Community Room  
Library Bridge Club  
Library Book Club  
Westport Needleworkers  
Museum Passes  
Cast Offs  
**Call the Library for more info...**

## Library Hours

Monday & Thursday	12:00-8:30
Tuesday, Wednesday & Friday	10:00-5:00
Saturday	9:00-4:00
Sunday	CLOSED

408 Old County Road, Westport, MA

Phone 508-636-1100

[sbranco@sailsinc.org](mailto:sbranco@sailsinc.org)  
[www.westport-ma.com/westport-free-public-library](http://www.westport-ma.com/westport-free-public-library)



## Perspectives:

**"Without libraries, what have we? We have no past and no future." Ray Bradbury**

On behalf of the Board of FOWL, I wish you all a very happy and healthy New Year. Last year was a great year for FOWL and we look forward to continuing to build our support for the Library and for the Westport community in 2018.

The Southcoast was fortunate in avoiding most of the destructive effects of the hurricanes of late 2017, which affected Texas, Florida, and, to a devastating degree, Puerto Rico and the U.S. Caribbean. Due to the awareness and advocacy of our treasurer, Ned Daniels, FOWL and the Library organized an effort to raise funds for the American Library Association's Disaster Relief Fund, through a donation jar on the circulation desk and through sales at Michael's Bookstore for the months of November and December. @ the Library goes to press in December, so only November figures were available for this issue; \$561.35 was raised that first month. I am in awe of the community's generosity for this most worthy cause to help the libraries which truly serve as essential centers for their communities at this dire time. Information on the ALA Disaster Relief Fund is available at [www.ala.org](http://www.ala.org).



**Denise Micale, President, FOWL**  
[dsmicale@gmail.com](mailto:dsmicale@gmail.com)

## Your Library Connections:

**Warm blankets and coffee-table books go together....**

Call it an occupational habit: I have always skimmed through writings, looking for information in a timely manner. And, while friends assume that I must also read for pleasure, I unfortunately tend to rush through the pages and often need to reread what I have just read. Therefore, my recreational reading tends to be one or two book chapters at a time before my eyes lose the battle.

So, on a Sunday afternoon, when delving into the best-seller crime novel may not be an option, I tend to browse through coffee-table books, which are generally lovely but often too pricey to purchase. Luckily, our library's substantial collection of "oversized" coffee-table books covers topics such as gardening, home décor, history, sports, travel, art (many of these books are donations), wildlife, and others. For example, the Library recently received a donation of *Harley-Davidson: the Complete History* by Darwin Holmstrom.

I say, let's enjoy these cool evenings with a soothing beverage, comfy socks, and our favorite blanket; just the ticket for disappearing between the pages. The Danes, widely perceived as the happiest population on Earth, call this type of relaxation: Hygge (pronounced HOO-GA), which is sometimes defined as "coziness of the soul." Enjoy these quiet winter months.



**Sue Branco, Library Director**  
[sbranco@sailsinc.org](mailto:sbranco@sailsinc.org)

Happy

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## Kids' Corner

## Preschool

**I Wrote You a Note**

Lizi Boyd

Readers will delight in following a note's unexpected journey and encounter a cast of charming characters along the way.

**City Moon**

Rachael Cole

A little boy and his mother take a nighttime walk to search for the moon in this gentle, keenly observed bedtime book.

**Windows**

Julia Denos

Walking his dog at dusk, one boy catches glimpses of the lives around him in this lovely ode to autumn evenings.

**Charlie & Mouse & Grumpy**

Laurel Snyder

Two brothers enjoy a special visit from their grandpa, Grumpy.



## Grades K-4

**Hero Dog!**

Hilde Lysiak

This series is part of *Scholastic's* early chapter book line *Branches*, aimed at newly independent readers.

**Great Animal Stories**

Michael Morpurgo, editor

**Waylon! Even More Awesome**

Sara Pennypacker

Waylon thinks most problems can be solved with science. But when it comes to having to share a dog, science may not be very helpful.

## Grades 5-8

**The Perfect Score**

Rob Buyea

A cast of unforgettable characters who discover that getting the perfect score, both on the test and in life, is perhaps not so perfect after all.

**A Dog Like Daisy**

Kristin Tubb

Poignant middle grade novel told from the humorous, thoughtful perspective of a rescued pit bull as she trains to be a service dog for an injured veteran.



## Young Adult

**Turtles All the Way Down**

John Green

Sixteen-year-old Aza never intended to pursue the mystery of fugitive billionaire Russell Pickett, but there's a hundred thousand dollar reward at stake and her best friend, Daisy, is eager to investigate.

**How to Disappear**

Sharon Roat

Sometimes being the person you think you want to be isn't as great as being the person you truly are.



## Juvenile Non-Fiction

**When I Was a Turkey**

Joe Hutto

Deep in the wilds of Florida's Flatlands, Hutto spent each day living as a turkey mother, taking on the full-time job of raising sixteen turkey chicks for two years.

**Trickiest! 19 Sneaky Animals**

Steve Jenkins

*Trickiest!* introduces readers to some of the slyest animals on the planet. This award-winning author and illustrator is here to show you what earned these animals their reputation.



## A Chat with Debby Conrad, Executive Director SAILS Library Network

by Carol Vidal



### Thank you Debby for taking time from your busy schedule to meet with me. How long have you worked for SAILS Library Network?

I've worked for SAILS since 1989 (29 years) and will be retiring late next year.

### What does your position of Executive Director entail?

Mostly, I oversee everything in the SAILS Library system of thirty-nine libraries in the southeastern region of Massachusetts. I'm involved with training on the SAILS network for new personnel for these libraries in the system. I advocate for librarians in their respective towns when needed and we offer grants, since most libraries work on small budgets. I often troubleshoot and of course I have numerous meetings that I must attend.

### You mentioned troubleshooting. What kind of questions do you get?

Today is a good example of a busy day of troubleshooting. Comcast has been down due to a recent storm and the need for assistance to get back up and running the individual library systems is imperative. Thirty-eight of the thirty-nine library systems are under Comcast. The Westport Library is the only system that is different so you were okay.

### You mentioned that you are retiring next year. Do you have any projects or bucket list plans when you retire?

Retirement will give me a chance to travel, especially to see my family. I have a number of relatives that live in various parts of the country so retirement will allow me to see them more frequently. I don't have any long range plans yet but I'm looking at retirement as an opportunity to explore different possibilities. Although I enjoy my work, I know that I will find projects and hobbies to keep me busy. I'm looking forward to this new chapter in my life.

### What kind of books do you like to read?

My undergrad degree was in Russian History so I tend to read books on history. I enjoy biographies, too. I have been recently reading about the Tudors which I find fascinating. Their actions had such an impact on England. Being from Illinois, I also read anything published about Abraham Lincoln. My uncle was a writer for the *Chicago Tribune* and was a huge fan of Charles Dickens so I try to reread one of his novels every year in memory of him.



Call the Library for  
information on our  
winter sessions of  
Story Hour for ages  
three & up and Lap-Sit  
for those under age  
three.

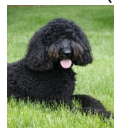
### Happy to be serving the Westport community



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### Rosie visits: Practice reading aloud to our canine friend, (accompanied by her handler/owner Sue Szekely.)

Call to book a ten minute slot. All children must be accompanied by an adult. (limit of six each session)



Saturday, January	6	9:30-10:30 a.m.
Saturday, February	17	9:30-10:30 a.m.
Saturday, March	10	9:30-10:30 a.m.

## Events

**FOWL Board Meetings:** Thursday, February 8 at 6:30 p.m., Community Room. Dates occasionally change. Please call the Library (508) 636-1100 to confirm date if you plan to attend.

**Holiday Closings:** January 1, 15, February 19 and March 30

### IN THE MANTON COMMUNITY ROOM

#### January and February: *What I Saw*

Westporter Norman Buck shares a selection of photos taken during 2017 travels to Holland, New Mexico, Utah and California as well as local photos. These photos capture scenery, humor and give a sense of scale to the attraction of the places. Humorous captions accompany each piece of work.



#### March: *The Quiet Beauty of the New England Coast*

Barbara Edlund Healy shares oil paintings of peaceful landscapes, seascapes and gardens. A Dartmouth resident, Barbara's paintings are inspired by the diverse colors of light, atmosphere and nature. Brushstrokes over glimpses of color reveal some of the painting process.



**Saturday, January 20 at 2:00 p.m.** in the Manton Community Room. **Tasteful Adventures;** a presentation by Rosemary and Tony Melli, owners of Olio di Melli. They will explain the differences in types of olive oil and balsamic vinegar products. Participants will sample various products and recipes will be provided. This event is sponsored by Friends of the Westport Library. Free to the public. A \$5 donation is suggested

## Westport Library Book Club

### Read For Fun, Followed By Optional Lunch

The Westport Library Book Club meets the second Friday of each month in the Community Room at 10:30 a.m. It's a wonderful assemblage of people from several local communities. We choose our selections on the recommendation of members. The conversations are lively and enjoyable and participating in the group is a great way to meet people.

Please join us or contact [briannamcavoy@gmail.com](mailto:briannamcavoy@gmail.com) for more information.

#### January 12—*A Certain Age*

Beatriz Williams

As the freedom of the Jazz Age transforms New York City, Mrs. Theresa Marshall of Fifth Avenue has done the unthinkable: she's fallen in love with a young paramour, a handsome aviator and hero of the Great War and an honorable man. He is devoted to the beautiful socialite of a certain age and wants to marry her. While times are changing, divorce for a woman of her social standing is out of the question.



#### February 9—*Angle of Repose*

Wallace Stegner

Confined to a wheelchair, retired historian Lyman Ward sets out to write his grandparents' story, chronicling their days spent carving civilization into the surface of America's western frontier. His research reveals even more about his own life than he's willing to admit.



#### March 9—*Circling the Sun*

Paula McLain

*Circling the Sun* brings to life a fearless and captivating woman, Beryl Markham, a record-setting aviator caught up in a passionate love triangle with safari hunter Denys Finch Hatton and Karen Blixen, who as Isak Dinesen wrote the classic memoir *Out Of Africa*.



### Can you spot the hidden crafts in this WORD SEARCH?

by Jan Wenzel

Winter is the perfect season to curl up with a craft book. You can find lots of craft ideas with directions right on Westport Public Library's bookshelves.

A	R	D	T	E	H	C	O	R	C
T	E	P	G	D	O	L	L	S	U
I	D	O	T	C	B	G	G	A	S
N	I	T	C	V	X	U	N	C	W
K	O	T	A	H	R	Y	I	S	E
R	R	E	N	S	E	M	T	E	A
J	B	R	D	S	A	T	L	W	V
M	M	Y	L	R	W	F	I	B	I
J	E	W	E	L	R	Y	U	Z	N
N	M	C	S	Z	W	P	Q	F	G

CANDLES	CERAMICS	CROCHET	QUILTING
KNIT	JEWELRY	POTTERY	RUGS
WEAVING	DOLLS	EMBROIDER	SEW

Words can go up, down, backwards, and diagonal.  
Solution to Word Search on page 4.

### Decorations at the Westport Library this holiday season.



### Especially for Kids:

Save the date of Friday, March 16 at 7:00 p.m. for



Debbie O'Carroll's  
*Magical Theatre for Children*

The Irish Magic Show. Debbie O'Carroll's innovative blend of stage magic and zany comedy will charm young audiences as she introduces them to a clan of characters from Irish children's literature.

(Supported by the Westport Cultural Council through a grant from Helen E. Ellis Charitable Trust, administered by Bank of America.)



## New to the Collection Highlights

## Adult Fiction:

**Death in St. Petersburg** Tasha Alexander  
After the final curtain of *Swan Lake*, an animated crowd exits the Mariinsky Theatre brimming with excitement but outside the scene is somber. A ballerina's body lies face down in the snow.

**Tell Tale: Stories** Jeffrey Archer  
Archer returns with a fascinating, exciting and sometimes poignant insight into the people he has met, the stories he has come across and the countries he has visited during the past ten years.

**Righteous** Joe Ide  
Ten years ago, when Isaiah was just a boy, his brother was killed by an unknown assailant. The search for the killer sent Isaiah plunging into despair and nearly destroyed his life.

## Adult Nonfiction:

**Lidia's Celebrate Like an Italian:** Lidia Bastianich  
220 Foolproof Recipes That Make Every Meal a Party.

**Shallow Graves** Maureen Boyle  
Eleven women went missing over the spring and summer of 1988 in New Bedford, Massachusetts, an old fishing port known as the Whaling City.

**The River of Consciousness** Oliver Sacks  
Sacks was working on this book up to his death, and it reveals his ability to make unexpected connections, his sheer joy in knowledge, and his unceasing, timeless project to understand what makes us human.



## Large Print Fiction:

**In the Midst of Winter** Isabel Allende  
Sweeping novel about three very different people who are brought together in a mesmerizing story that journeys from present-day Brooklyn to Guatemala in the 1970s.

**The Trapped Girl** Robert Dugoni  
Detective Tracy Crosswhite finds herself with a tough case to untangle. Before they can identify the killer, Tracy and her colleagues on the Seattle PD must figure out who the victim is.

**I Know a Secret** Tess Gerritsen  
Two separate homicides, at different locations, with unrelated victims, have more in common than just being investigated by Boston PD detective Jane Rizzoli and medical examiner Maura Isles.



## Large Print Nonfiction:

**The Comfort Food Diaries** Emily Nunn  
Emily Nunn chronicles her journey to heal old wounds and find comfort in the face of loss through travel, home-cooked food, and the company of friends and family.



## Adult Biography:

**Grant** Ron Chernow  
Ulysses S. Grant's life has typically been misunderstood. Dramatic portrait of one of our most compelling generals and presidents.



## Where the Past Begins

Amy Tan  
Tan reveals herself in a way she never has before, delving into her childhood, adolescence, family history, and beginnings as a writer.



## Adult Books on CD: Fiction

**Uncommon Type** Tom Hanks  
**Kiss Carlo** Adriana Trigiani  
**A Casualty of War: A Bess Crawford Mystery, Book 9** Charles Todd



## Adult Books on CD: Nonfiction

**Endurance: A Year in Space** Scott Kelly  
**Gorbachev: His Life and Times** William Taubman

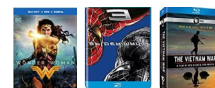
## Adult DVDs:

**Longmire** Season 5  
**Midsomer Murders** series 19, parts 1 and 2  
**Poldark** Season 3



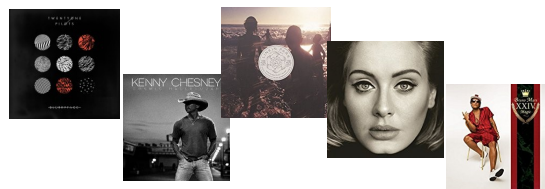
## New on Blu-Ray:

**Spider-Man 3**  
**The Vietnam War:** a film by Ken Burns  
**Wonder Woman**



## Music CDs:

**Blurryface** Twenty One Pilots  
**Cosmic Hallelujah** Kenny Chesney  
**One More Light** Linkin Park  
**25** Adele  
**24K Magic** Bruno Mars

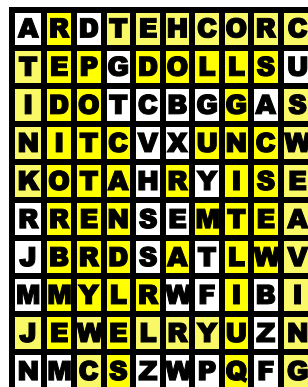


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## Solution to Word Search



## Spotlight

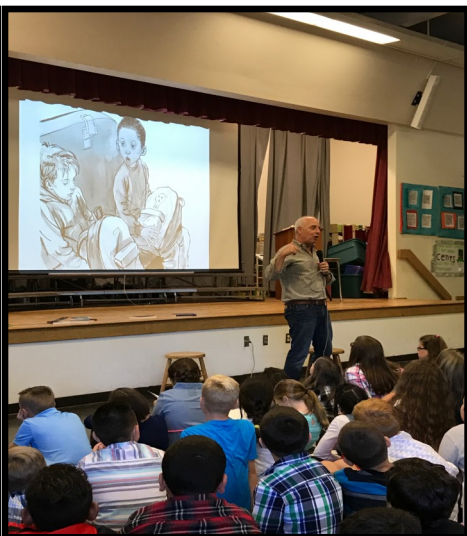
**TECH SUPPORT: Not A Family Matter**

By Denise Micale

It's official. Both the *Wall Street Journal* and the *New York Times* in recent articles advised their older readers to stop using their offspring for tech support. Those of us who are guilty of this know that we are risking the limits of patience (on both sides) and family affection when we do so. But what is our alternative? Please, no, not the dreaded customer support sites. Actually, there is a better way and our Library is part of the trend. Throughout the country, tech savvy teens and libraries are meeting the need of the less enlightened to safely navigate the internet, use new devices, and acquire new skills and hobbies using the newest technologies. Here, at our Library, Ben Blanchette, a junior at New Bedford Vocational High School, volunteers nearly every Thursday from 6 to 8 pm to give free lessons in a wide range of software and hardware topics. One of his students, Gertraude Bergland, calls it a "marvelous opportunity" for her to learn how to stay in touch with friends and that she is learning about computers from Ben "from the ground up." Another student, Mark, found Ben to be "helpful, patient and instructive, showing me things I couldn't have imagined doing, and opening up many possibilities for my new computer."

Our two "millennial" staff members, Bonnie Strebel and Amy Medeiros, are also available to help with computer and technology questions during Library hours. They will even show you how to get the most out of SAILS. So, preserve your ego and those positive parent-child vibes by taking advantage of our **Computer 101** help or our staff support to help to conquer your fears and improve your life. To schedule time with Ben or any questions, please give the Library a call.

Visiting author, Bill Harley, explains his process of character development to Westport Elementary School students on October 4, 2017. FOWL was one of the sponsors of three visiting author programs at WES this past fall.



Keep bringing your Lees receipts to the Library. Your receipts earned \$2,493 in 2016.

Thank you  
Lees Market for your support.



## World of Books

**Star Wars: Beyond the Movies**

by Ed Micale

For many of us, winter is movie time, mentally escaping from twelve weeks (or more) of cold, ice and snow without hopping on the plane. That means that the recently released *Star Wars* movie was on our list of must see films. Now it is true that the screenplay for a movie often begins with a great book. But with the generation-spanning *Star Wars* trilogies, it is far more complicated. The first novel "*Star Wars: From the Adventures of Luke Skywalker*" was based on creator George Lucas' screenplay for the first movie, even though it was published six months before the 1977 *Star Wars* release. Today, there are hundreds of books including novels, novellas, comics, young adult books, not to mention reference and other esoteric books that are part of the *Star Wars* universe. While most of these books are based upon the screenplays, some of them have introduced characters, plots and places that have influenced subsequent *Star Wars* movies. It is truly mind boggling, but if you want to deepen your *Star Wars* journey, there are some great web sites to help you choose the right book for you or your family. Check out the *Star Wars* booklist on Facebook or yodasdatapad.com and its *Star Wars* Bookfinder Tool. So escape those winter doldrums and may *The Force of Star Wars* literature be with you!

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Lego\\_Star\\_Wars](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Lego_Star_Wars)

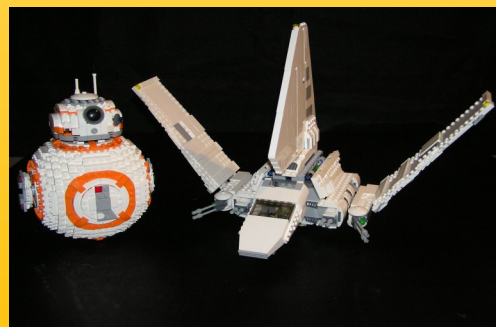
<https://www.completeset.com/stories/the-evolution-of-lego-star-wars-sets>

[http://starwars.wikia.com/wiki/List\\_of\\_books](http://starwars.wikia.com/wiki/List_of_books)

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/list\\_of\\_Star\\_Wars\\_books](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/list_of_Star_Wars_books)

<http://www.yodasdatapad.com/booklist.html>

[https://www.goodreads.com/list/how/494.Best\\_Star\\_Wars\\_Books](https://www.goodreads.com/list/how/494.Best_Star_Wars_Books)



☛ Come see the Helen Ellis case in January for a playful Lego exhibit that celebrates 40 years of the *Star Wars* movie franchise.



## Become a member — Join today

### FOWL aids the mission; of the Westport Free Public Library.

All activities are run by volunteers—people who believe in a public library. Funds raised through member dues and book sales go to the Library to purchase books, CDs, DVDs, museum passes, and to fund children's programs. FOWL is the largest funding source for these purchases. In 2016, member dues and book sales contributed over \$25,000 to Library funding. If you're not yet a member, fill in the form to the right to join today.

### FOWL's services and activities:

#### Museum Passes:

Boston Museum of Science  
Buttonwood Park Zoo  
Harvard University Art Museums  
Museum of Fine Arts, Boston  
New Bedford Whaling Museum  
MASSPARKS Pass  
Providence Children's Museum  
Roger Williams Park Zoo

**Michael's Bookstore** located in the Library lobby

**Summer Paperback Book Sale**

**Programs/Special Events**

**Annual Book Sale** with Members' Preview Night

**Paperback Exchange Carousel** located in the Library lobby

@ the Library Quarterly Newsletter

### \*Membership levels:

\$10 Individual	\$50 Patron
\$20 Family	\$100 Bibliophile
\$30 Sponsor	\$ _____ Other

FOWL is a 501c3 non-profit; your donation is tax deductible

### Yes, I would like to volunteer. I am interested in:

It's easy to join: New \_\_\_\_\_ Renew \_\_\_\_\_

1) Mail: P.O. Box 3342, Westport, MA 02790

2) Drop off form and payment at Library

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

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