

UPCOMING EVENTS

It will soon be donation time for our upcoming book sales in July and September 2019. Our book bin in the lobby awaits your gently used books, CDs and DVDs.

Donations will be accepted beginning April 1, 2019.

Can't wait for the book sale? Try *Michael's Bookstore* located on the right in our lobby. We have a fine selection of both hardbound and oversize paperbacks in a variety of subjects both fiction and nonfiction. \$2.00 per book and children's books are all 25¢

SERVICES

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

Hours | Contact Info

- | | |
|--------------------------|------------|
| • Monday & Thursday | 12:00-8:30 |
| • Tuesday, Wed. & Friday | 10:00-5:00 |
| • Saturday | 9:00-4:00 |
| • Sunday | CLOSED |

- 408 Old County Road, Westport, MA
- Phone: 508-636-1100
- Email: sbranco@sailsinc.org
- Website: www.westport-ma.com/westport-free-public-library

Perspectives:



"Time is a dressmaker specializing in alterations." Faith Baldwin, U.S. author, 1893-1978

Chain-link fencing and construction vehicles at the closed Westport Middle School herald the onset of a new beginning for Westport with the construction of a state-of-the-art junior/senior high school adjacent to the Library. The Trustees of the Library and the Library Directors have spent many hours working with the School Building Committee, architects, engineer and managers to develop a plan that will best serve our patrons during the construction period and when work is completed. A new entrance drive, parking lot and landscaping will grace our Library. Close communication will remain a constant over the next two years and your concerns and needs matter. Information will be available on the School Building Committee's website, www.westportsbc.com, and on the Library's website at www.westport-ma.com. If you still have questions, please reach out to us by phone or email; our goal is for the "alterations" that time is bringing to our Library to be a great fit for all of us.



Denise Micale, President, FOWL (dsmicale@gmail.com)



Your Library Connections: *Commemorating Norma K. Judson*

Perhaps you may remember when our Library's history collection was piled in the corner of my office? Well, thanks in great part to the curation efforts of Norma K. Judson, local historian and avid Library supporter, we now have a secure, expanded, and mostly-catalogued history collection.

For more than ten years, I had the honor of working alongside Norma as she spent innumerable weekdays sorting mounds of materials—all while eating her salad-lunch with her other hand. And when the new History Room opened in 2010, Norma further organized the filing cabinets and pictorial notebooks, and started a genealogical file.

Sadly, we lost Norma in 2015; therefore, I am so pleased and proud to announce that a memorial plaque has been mounted, officially naming the Norma K. Judson History Room. Designed and created by Amy Thurber, potter, the unique and beautiful plaque clearly symbolizes Norma's love of history. This memento will forever hold a special place in the Library—as Norma does in our thoughts.



Sue Branco, Library Director (sbranco@sailsinc.org)



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WINTER EXHIBITS AND EVENTS

IN THE MANTON COMMUNITY ROOM

January: *What is Art?* The Greater Fall River Art Association continues an exhibit of works fabricated in various media. A great show to visit more than once.



February: *Westport Dawning* February 2-28
Greg Stone, volunteer staff photographer for the Westport Land Conservation Trust, shares an exhibit capturing the glory of nature around us and how we each impact the Westport River. Held in conjunction with the Buzzards Bay Coalition, this exhibit shares an environmental message as well.

March: *Two Special Photography Exhibits*
Mountains of Chile: Norman Buck shares photos of his recent trip to Chile.

A Lens on Life: Jim Hester shares an eclectic collection of photos taken in Westport and in his native Vermont.



HELEN E. ELLIS EXHIBIT CASE

January: Westport Junior High School Art Club
Using an online photo database from the Westport Historical Society, the students transferred mylar drawings to fabric to create a cyanotype image. The fabric blocks were then hand sewn together to make a quilt.

February: *Washing Ashore* with Edmund Toohey
Collected sea glass, shells, slate, construction materials and other bits and pieces on the beach—these recycled items create a unique exhibit.



March: Megan Thomas of Maypole Weavers
Beautiful samples of functional home textiles woven with reclaimed materials on refurbished looms is on display. (See Chat article this page.)



FOWL Board Meetings

Thursday, February 21 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.

The Library will be closed on the following holidays:

Tuesday, January 1, New Year's Day

Monday, January 21, Martin Luther King, Jr. Day

Monday, February 18, Presidents' Day

Tech Bytes

Looking for additional audiobooks and ebooks on the go? Grab your device and use our new app, Libby, by Overdrive. Borrow from the following Mass.Library Networks: SAILS, CLAMS, C/W Mars, MLN, NOBLE and OCLN.



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A Chat with Megan Thomas

by Brianna McAvoy



Weaving through life with Megan Thomas, Owner of Maypole Weavers

In March you will display items related to the art of weaving in the Helen Ellis case.

How did you come to weaving?

My mother was a weaver. She taught me that woven textiles are made on looms, and that weaving is an ancient, essential art for making fabric, blankets and yardage. I also earned a multi-discipline degree from UMASS Dartmouth in Textile Technology, Textile Design, Environmental Science, and Environmental Ethics. I find great satisfaction in repurposing reclaimed textiles into woven goods.

What products do you weave?

I design high-end wraps, scarves, coverlets, throws, rugs, fabric by the yard, and novelty items in my New Bedford studio, using silk, linen, cotton, wool, rayon, and fabric strips from reclaimed fabrics. I also accept commissions and textile restoration projects.

What inspires your designs?

Inspiration is all around me. I take note of what I see and incorporate the colors, patterns and textures. While walking in the woods I saw mushrooms growing in line with the bark on a tree. I wove those colors into a blanket. The materials themselves, the shapes of objects, even buildings, can guide the design.

Tell me about your loom collection...

Two are turn-of-the-century floor looms the size of a queen-sized bed. One is a Shaker loom from my mother. The others, of various sizes, are vintage 70's and 80's. I have a passion for restoring old looms, even making missing parts to bring them back to life. A loom consists of a frame, harnesses, and foot pedals (unless it's a table loom). The more harnesses, the more complex the design. The loom is threaded with warp. The weft is used to fill the warp. Shuttles transport the yarn or strips of fabric through the warp interlocking the warp and weft.

I hope everyone enjoys the exhibit.

Happy to be serving the
Westport community.

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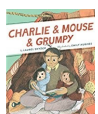
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receipts to the Library.
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\$3127 in 2017.

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Kid's Corner Winter 2019

Preschool

I Wrote You a Note Lizi Boyd***City Moon*** Rachael Cole***Windows*** Julia Denos***La La La: A Story of Hope*** Kate DiCamillo***Charlie & Mouse & Grumpy*** Laurel Snyder***Where, Oh Where, Is Baby Bear?*** Ashley Wolff

Grades K-4

Hero Dog! Hilde Lysiak***Great Animal Stories*** Michael Morpurgo editor***Waylon! Even More Awesome*** Sara Pennypacker

Grades 5-8

The Perfect Score Rob Buyea***A Dog Like Daisy*** Kristin Tubb***The Glass Town Game*** Catherynne Valente

Young Adult

Turtles All the Way Down John Green***How to Disappear*** Sharon Roat

Juvenile Nonfiction

When I Was a Turkey Joe Hutto***Trickiest! Sneaky Animals*** Steve Jenkins***The Search for Olinguito: Discovering a New Species***
Sandra MarkleFriday, March 15 at 7 p.m.
a staff member from**Creature Teachers** will present***Up Close with Live Rainforest Animals***This program is supported by
a grant from the Helen E. Ellis
Charitable Trust.

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 for more information.

January 11—*The House I Loved* Tatiana de Rosnay

Hundreds of houses are being razed, whole neighborhoods reduced to ashes. By order of Emperor Napoleon III, Baron Haussman has set into motion a series of large-scale renovations that will permanently alter the face of old Paris into a modern city. The reforms will erase generations of history but one woman will take a stand.

**February 8—*Pachinko***

Min Jin Lee

In the early 1900s, teenaged Sunja, the adored daughter of a crippled fisherman, falls for a wealthy stranger at the seashore near her home in Korea. He promises her the world, but when she discovers she is pregnant and he is married, she refuses to be bought. Instead, she accepts an offer of marriage from a gentle, sickly minister passing through on his way to Japan.

**March 8—*Small Great Things***

Jodi Picoult

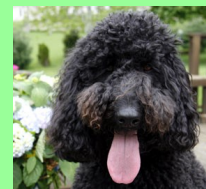
Ruth Jefferson is a labor and delivery nurse at a Connecticut hospital with many years' experience. During her shift, Ruth begins a routine checkup on a newborn, only to be told a few minutes later that she's been reassigned. The parents are white supremacists and don't want Ruth, who is African-American, to touch their child.



Story Hour for ages three and up begins Tuesday, Jan. 22 at 10:00 a.m. Lap-Sit for children under three years of age begins Wednesday, Jan. 23 at 10:00 a.m. Call the Library, or stop in, to register.

Rosie visits:

Practice reading to **Rosie**, our canine friend. Children read one-on-one to Rosie for ten minutes. This helps them gain skills and confidence reading aloud. She is an avid listener! Rosie and handler Sue Szekely are part of Therapy Dogs International's Tail Waggin' Tutors Reading Program. Practice reading aloud from a favorite book.



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

Saturday, January 19 9:30-10:30 a.m.**Saturday, February 16 9:30-10:30 a.m.****Saturday, March 16 9:30-10:30 a.m.**

New to the Collection Highlights

ADULT FICTION

Paris Echo

Sebastian Faulks

American historian Hannah intends to immerse herself in World War II research in Paris, wary of paying much attention to the city where a youthful misadventure once left her dejected. But a chance encounter with Tariq, a Moroccan teenager whose visions of the City of Lights as a world of opportunity and rebirth starkly contrast with her own, disrupts her plan.

The Darkness

Ragnar Jonasson

The body of a young Russian woman washes up on an Icelandic shore. After a cursory investigation, the death is declared a suicide and the case is quietly closed.

Kingdom of the Blind

Louise Penny

When a peculiar letter arrives inviting Armand Gamache to an abandoned farmhouse, the former head of the Sûreté du Québec discovers that a complete stranger has named him one of the executors of her will. Still on suspension, and frankly curious, Gamache accepts and soon learns that the other two executors are Myrna Landers, the bookseller from Three Pines, and a young builder.



Large Print Fiction

The Fox

Frederick Forsyth

Former chief of the British Secret Intelligence Service Adrian Weston is awoken in the middle of the night by a phone call from the Prime Minister. Her news is shocking: the Pentagon, the NSA, and the CIA have been hacked simultaneously.

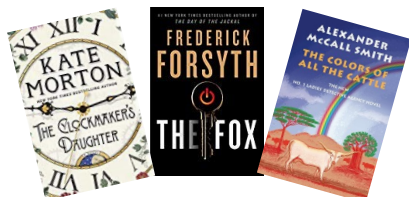
The Colors of All the Cattle Alexander McCall Smith

When Mma Potokwane suggests to Mma Ramotswe that she run for a seat on the Gaborone City Council, Mma Ramotswe is at first reluctant. But when she learns that developers plan to build the flashy Big Fun Hotel next to a graveyard, she allows herself to be persuaded.

The Clockmaker's Daughter

Kate Morton

In the summer of 1862, a group of young artists led by the passionate and talented Edward Radcliffe descends upon Birchwood Manor on the banks of the Upper Thames. Their plan: to spend a secluded summer month in a haze of inspiration and creativity.



Adult Books on CD: Fiction

Desolation Mountain

William Kent Krueger

Nine Perfect Strangers

Liane Moriarty

A Forgotten Place

Charles Todd

ADULT NONFICTION

Big Game: The NFL in Dangerous Times

Mark Leibovich

1,000 Books to Read Before You Die

James Mustick

Taking the Arrow Out of the Heart

Alice Walker

Presented in both English and Spanish, Alice Walker shares a timely collection of nearly seventy works of passionate and powerful poetry that bears witness to our troubled times.



Large Print Nonfiction

Presidents of War

Michael Beschloss

An intimate look at a procession of American leaders as they took the nation into conflict and mobilized their country for victory.

Talking across the Divide

Justin Lee

Social justice activist Justin Lee explains how to break through the five key barriers that make people resist differing opinions.

The Library Book

Susan Orlean

The author chronicles the L.A. Public Library fire and its aftermath to showcase the larger, crucial role that libraries play in our lives.

Adult Biography

Small Fry

Lisa Brennan-Jobs

Lisa Brennan-Jobs's childhood unfolded in a rapidly changing Silicon Valley. When she was young, Lisa's father was a mythical figure who was rarely present in her life.

In Pieces: A Memoir

Sally Field

Sally Field has an infectious charm that has captivated the nation for more than five decades, beginning with her first TV role at the age of seventeen.

Adult DVDs

RBG (Ruth Bader Ginsburg)

Shetland season 4

Striking Out season 1 & season 2

Unforgotten season 1 & season 2



Music CDs

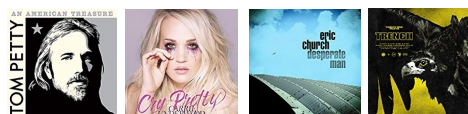
An American Treasure

Cry Pretty

Desperate Man

Trench

Tom Petty
Carrie Underwood
Eric Church
Twenty One Pilots



Spotlight

Starry Night

By Paul Vidal

There are several ways that we can enjoy the beauty of our sky. The Hubble Space Telescope and large, earth-based observatories provide inspiring photos of galaxies, nebula, planets and all sorts of stellar wonders.

However, it's difficult to surpass the experience of seeing the night sky firsthand and in real time. You don't need sophisticated equipment to see the moon, the Milky Way, the planets and the ISS (International Space Station).

There is considerable light pollution in the northeast states but we are lucky enough in parts of Westport that we avoid the light from neighboring cities. All you need is a chair, warm clothes, a clear sky and preferably a good friend with a mutual interest. Allow your eyes to adapt to the darkness; the universe will open.

This time of year (January) is excellent for observing the sky as many interesting objects are visible in the early evening. In the south sky, we have a good view of Orion. This is the constellation with three equidistant stars in a row and about the same brightness. Just to the south of the three stars is the Great Diffuse Nebula in Orion. To the naked eye it appears to be a fuzzy spot in the sky. Also, there are the Pleiades, a group of relatively new stars to the west of Orion, and the Milky Way which passes almost overhead from east to west.



A pair of binoculars will enhance the experience as they gather a bit more light. A telescope gathers even more light but the problem is as telescopes increase in size they become more cumbersome, and complicated to use. There is the problem of multiple eyepieces, calibrating and moving the telescope from indoors to outdoors.

The Westport Library has the perfect solution. It has a telescope (a gift from the New England Astronomical Society) that is available for loan. It's large enough that it greatly enhances what we can see. It's incredibly easy to use, easily carried by one person and can be placed on a chair or picnic table. Aiming and focusing is a snap, you can change magnification all within the eyepiece and it comes with literature and a star chart. Don't expect to see what the Hubble sees, but for someone who is new to astronomy or wants minimal effort, it's a fine telescope indeed.

For more information, call the Library or inquire at the Main Desk about reserving a two week loan.

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World of Books

by Ned Daniels

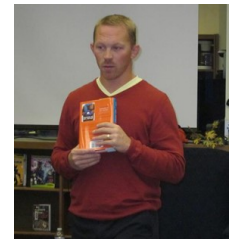


Westport Elementary School (WES) Gets Kids to Actually Read

Three years ago FOWL initiated the funding of the Visiting Authors Project at the elementary school (WES). Since then, with funding again from FOWL, the PTO, the Helen Ellis Charitable Trust, and the Westport Cultural Council, the program has grown significantly. And that growth, detailed below, is due to the efforts of Susan Viveiros, WES's Library Media Specialist.

The teaching plan was indeed lengthy. WES arranged to bring in two noted children's authors: Bill Harley, Emmy Award winning author, and Rob Buyea, winner of the E.B White Read Aloud Award. Preparation for the students: each grade level was given a summer reading assignment, from one of the authors, appropriate for it. Discussions and sharing with the teachers followed in the early fall, and then those classroom activities were followed by assemblies with Harley and Buyea, and classroom visits.

Those classroom visits were where the action took place. The kids waved arms, asked and answered questions; enthusiasm reigned.



But that's not all that's going on at school to get kids to read. Reading enthusiasm has spilled over into the Westport Free Public Library, thanks to the extended efforts of not only Susan Viveiros, but also those of Debra Darkow, WES's Assistant Librarian. Debra holds a book club after school. The students are all given a book of the same title to read, the necessary number of books obtained from SAILS and the Library. Then, they meet after school, to discuss. Debra is facing a very pleasing challenge: the kids are reading the books in a much shorter time frame than planned.

Susan and Debra have been more than merely imaginative. For example, they hold contests. After a student has read a hundred pages of a book, he or she gets to guess how many candies are in a jar and possibly win a gift certificate to Barnes and Noble, with two winners for each grade. Or, a book is shredded and the cut strips are placed in a jar with the challenge to the kids to figure out what book they came from, with one Amazon gift card per grade level awarded. There are also homeroom to homeroom reading contests, sponsored by WES, and the winning class is awarded an ice cream sundae party.

Yet more inventiveness: the possibility of SKYPEing noted California children's author Lynda Mullaly Hunt, author of *Fish in a Tree*. I find this idea original, to say the least. And as author of this article I especially like a character in this book: a teacher named Mr. Daniels. He works with a student, Ally, who is struggling with dyslexia, and helps her to grow in confidence and to not be burdened by a label.

All this excitement, energy, effort and resources are giving our WES students great encouragement to enjoy reading.



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 and adult programs. FOWL is the largest funding source for these purchases. In 2017, 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 Children's Museum Providence Children's Museum
Boston Museum of Science Roger Williams Park Zoo
Buttonwood Park Zoo
Children's Museum of Greater Fall River
Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum
MASSPARKS Pass
Museum of Fine Arts, Boston
New Bedford Whaling Museum

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: _____

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