

NEWSLETTER

Westchester Public Library

Published for the Residents of Westchester

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Looking for a Bargain?

As spring approaches, the Library Board of Trustees and director Ruth McCrank have the task of preparing the Library's budget for the new fiscal year beginning in May. The good news, of course, is that last year, the average Westchester household only paid \$133.00 in taxes to the Library. All members of the family have access to books, movies, music, Internet, magazines, newspapers, on-line databases, story times, computer classes, library programs, and a knowledgeable staff.

If \$133 sound high, think how quickly a family can spend \$133 in groceries, dry cleaning, and a tank of gas in just one week! Here are other comparisons to consider: 7 winning Grammy albums, at an average cost of \$19 each, will consume \$133 of your entertainment budget; three months of standard cable TV costs \$157; and regular tickets for four to attend one White Sox game can cost anywhere from \$60 to \$140 and that doesn't include refreshments!

Your Library is open 7 days a week during the school year, 6 days a week during the summer, and patrons have 24/7 access to the Library's electronic resources from home, school and the workplace. We take pride in knowing 61% of Westchester residents are registered library cardholders – and we invite the other 39% to stop by the Library to see what they are missing!

Culture Thrives at the Library

For the second year in a row, the Youth Department was awarded the *We the People Bookshelf* grant, a collaboration of the National Endowment for the Humanities and the American Library Association, to encourage young people to read classic books and explore themes in American history, culture and ideas. This year's award consists of 15 books on the theme of "Becoming American" that have been added to the collection and available in the Youth Department.

New books in the Spanish language are now on shelf and available for check out, with more on the way, as part of the Library's *Enlarging the Welcome Mat* grant. Funding for this grant was awarded by the Illinois State Library (ISL), a Division of the Office of Secretary of State, using funds provided by the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS), under the federal Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA).

Author **Jeff Libman** is coming to share stories from his book *AN IMMIGRANT CLASS: Oral Histories from Chicago's Newest Immigrants* on Sunday, March 11, and musician **Nelson Sosa** will help the Library celebrate *Día De Los Niños/Día De Los Libros* on Sunday, April 29, with a program of Latin American songs for children and families. (See inside for details on both programs.)

New READ Posters Announced

The President and Board of Trustees of the Westchester Library are proud to continue the READ poster program started during the 50th Anniversary celebration last year. The READ poster program recognizes individuals or groups from the community for their achievements or assistance with the Library. Library Board President Jennifer Boyle said, "the program is a great success, bringing members of the community in to view the posters and rediscover the library."

This year's posters include: Top Readers from the schools (Westchester Middle School, Divine Infant Jesus and Divine Providence); members of the Westchester Gardens, the Westchester Community Image Council, and the proud winner of the Westchester Gardens design contest who will redesign the garden area in front of the Library.

Page Turners Club Update

There is still time to register for the winter session of the Page Turners Club. Participants who read 6 books by the April 7 deadline are eligible to enter the drawing for a gift basket. Everyone is invited to the Page Turners Party on Thursday evening, April 12, which will feature the storytelling talents of **Megan Wells**. (See inside for details.)

Staff News

This January, we said a fond farewell to Katie Dunneback, reference librarian in the Adult Department. Whether handling interlibrary loan requests, teaching Internet classes, emailing Page Turners, recommending good books to readers or providing quality reference assistance, she was an invaluable member of the staff.

Please welcome Sophie Hough, the newest member of our Circulation staff and an adult volunteer in the Youth Department. She comes well-prepared with years of experience working in a school environment!

WESTCHESTER PUBLIC LIBRARY ♦ 10700 Canterbury ♦ Westchester, IL 60154

708-562-3573 ♦ TDD 708-562-9364 ♦ EMAIL: askus@westchesterpl.org ♦ WEB: www.westchesterpl.org

Library Director Ruth McCrank ♦ Board of Trustees Jennifer Boyle *president*, Eleanor Cerven, Michael DeSena, William Ernst, Herb Kalinsky, Patrick Kane, and Kathleen Schultz ♦ Board Meetings on 4th Monday of every month

ADULT PROGRAMS

As always, advance registration for programs is appreciated—call us at 562-3573 or stop by the Circulation Desk on your next visit.

***Friends of the Library* Book Sale**

Thurs, Apr 26 6 - 8 pm (Friends members only)
Fri, Apr 27 10 am - 5 pm
Sat, Apr 28 10 am - Noon & 1-4 pm

***Friends of the Library* Annual Meeting & Game Night Tuesday, May 22, 7:00 pm (see Friends article for details)**

BOOK DISCUSSION GROUP

The Book Discussion Group meets monthly on the 3rd Thursday at 7:00 pm during the spring.

Mar 15 *Kite Runner* by Khaled Hosseini
Apr 19 *Snow Flower and the Secret Fan* by Lisa See
May 17 *Digging to America* by Anne Tyler

INTERNET CLASSES

All classes meet Wednesdays at 1:30 pm and registration begins on the 1st day of the month in which the class is held.

March - Registration begins March 1

Mouse Mania	Mar 14
Beginner's Internet	Mar 21
Email Class	Mar 28

April - Registration begins April 1

Mouse Mania	Apr 11
Beginner's Internet	Apr 18
Email Class	Apr 25

May - Registration begins May 1

Beginner's Internet	May 9
Email Class	May 16
Intermediate Class	May 23

Our Intermediate Class covers PDF files, copying content to/from a website, email attachments, flash drives and tips for new Internet users.

Also, talk with a reference librarian if you would like to schedule a private session for yourself or together with a friend or spouse to learn to search our online catalog.



An Immigrant Experience



Author **Jeff Libman** will sign copies and share stories from his book

**AN IMMIGRANT CLASS:
Oral Histories from Chicago's
Newest Immigrants**

**Sunday afternoon
March 11 2:00 pm**

Funding provided by Friends of the Library

An Evening of Stories with Megan Wells

Everyone is invited!

**Thursday, April 12
7:00 pm**



- Prize drawings for Page Turners
- Refreshments

Funding provided by Friends of the Library

Celebremos El Día de los Niños / El Día de los Libros



**Celebrate
Children's Day /
Book Day**

Nelson Sosa

**Songs of Latin America /
Canciones de América Latina**

**Sunday, April 29
2:00 pm**

Net Results: Sites for Kids & Families / Sitios por Niños y Familias

Children's Day/Book Day celebrates children, families and the importance of reading. Here are some popular websites for children and families, available in both English and Spanish.

El Día de los Niños/ El Día de los Libros celebra la alegría y las maravillas de la infancia y la importancia de los libros en nuestra vida. Aquí están los sitios populares por niños y familias, en inglés y español.

StoryPlace / Rincon de Cuentos

In English: www.storyplace.org/

En Español: www.storyplace.org/sp/storyplace.asp

Awesome Library / Excelente Biblioteca

In English: www.awesomelibrary.org

En Español: www.awesomelibrary.org/espanol.html

KidLink

English/Español: www.kidlink.org/

My First Garden / Mi Primer Jardin

In English: www.urbanext.uiuc.edu/firstgarden/index.html

En Español: www.urbanext.uiuc.edu/firstgarden_sp/index.html

Space Place / El Place Space

In English: spaceplace.jpl.nasa.gov/en/kids

En Español: spaceplace.jpl.nasa.gov/sp/kids

Talk With Your Kids / Hable Con Sus Hijos

In English: www.talkingwithkids.org/

En Español: www.talkingwithkids.org/spanish-index.html

¡Colorin Colorado! (Helping Children Read / Para Ayudar a los Niños a Leer)

In English: www.colorincolorado.org/homepage.php

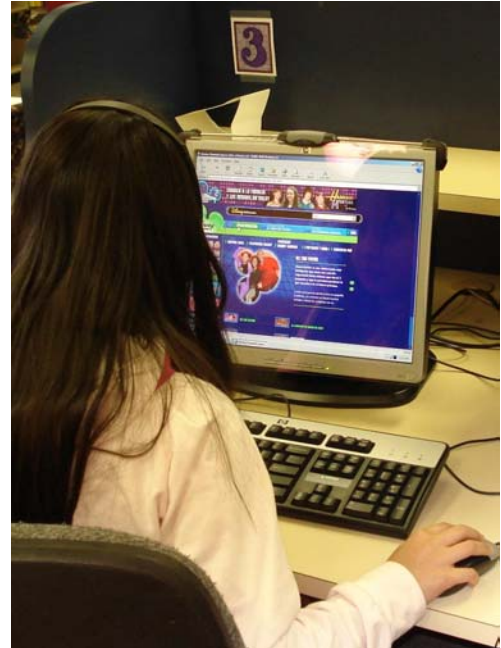
En Español: www.colorincolorado.org/index.php

Live Homework Help / Ayuda de Tareas en Vivo (access from Library's website)

English/Español: www.westchesterpl.org/community/kids/kids.htm

World Book Encyclopedia / Enciclopedia Estudiantil Hallazgos (access from Library's website)

English/Español: www.westchesterpl.org/databases/db_almanac.htm



Friendship Star Quilt for Library in Bayou La Batre



In the aftermath of Katrina, the Library collected donations from the community to help rebuild the children's collection of the Mose Hudson Tapia Public Library in Bayou La Batre, Alabama. Staff members explored other ways to support the patrons and staff of the hurricane-damaged library, and the deliberations resulted in a quilt designed and sewn by Roberta Conrad and Clare Bremer, both passionate quilters in the Youth Department.

The quilt incorporates fabric squares with handwritten messages and signatures by each staff member, and the label on the back reads "Stronger than the winds of Katrina, the Hands of Friendship." The quilt is on display in the adult fiction area and will be sent to the Mose Hudson Tapia Public Library for *their* celebration of National Library Week in April.

Youth Programs reminder to parents and caregivers: Please remain with your toddlers, preschoolers, kindergartners and first graders whenever in the Library.

YOUTH PROGRAMS

Registration begins Thursday, March 1 at 9:30 am – Call or stop by the Youth Department to register.

ANNUAL POETRY CONTEST

Be a part of the national celebration of poetry in April. The Library's annual **Poetry Contest** is open to all Westchester students in grades 1- 8.

Write a poem with the theme **MY HOME** and hand it in to the Youth Department by **Sunday, March 18**.

A special **Awards Ceremony** will be held **Sunday, April 15 at 1:30 pm** at the Library to celebrate the winners and to launch Young People's Poetry Week!

Deadline for entries: Sunday, March 18
Awards Ceremony: Sunday, April 15

Cool web site: Advice to Young Poets
www.poetlaureate.il.gov/advice.cfm

TODDLER STORYTIME

For children up to age 3 1/2 and their parents/caregivers

Wednesdays	OR	Thursdays
9:45-10:00 am		9:45-10:00 am
Mar 14 thru Apr 25		Mar 15 thru Apr 26

PRESCHOOL STORYTIME

For children age 3 1/2 – pre-K

Wednesdays	OR	Thursdays
10:30-11:00 am		10:30-11:00 am
Mar 14 thru Apr 25		Mar 15 thru Apr 26

MAGIC CARPET CLUB

For grades K – 2

Tuesdays
4:00-4:45 pm
Mar 13 thru Apr 24

READING ROUND TABLE

For grades 3 – 8

Calligraphy: Plain, Fancy, & Wild Style
Wednesdays
4:00-5:30 pm
Mar 28, Apr 4, and Apr 11

HELP WANTED!

WE ARE LOOKING FOR SOME GOOD SUMMER VOLUNTEERS

With summer only a few months away, our youth librarians need to line up student volunteers for their popular summer reading program that begins in June and continues through July. Volunteers are asked to work 2 hours per week during June and July and there will be a lot to do: registering reading club participants, preparing supplies for craft projects, helping younger kids and assisting librarians during scheduled activities. It's fun, rewarding and you can fulfill community service obligations for school, church or scouting.

Students in grades 7-12 are welcome to apply, including students who complete 6th grade by June 2007. Applications will be available in the Youth Department beginning March 1.

SPRING BREAK SPECIAL



An Evening With The Dogs

Wednesday evening, March 28
6 - 8 pm
Wednesday evening, April 11
6 - 8 pm

Therapy dogs Cody and Cricket are back and ready to have some good stories read to them.



Garden Design Competition Reminder

As we announced in the last newsletter, Westchester Gardens gardening club is sponsoring a design competition for the

garden areas in front of the Library. Details of the competition are outlined in a flier distributed by the club. The competition is open to adults, teens and children, with entries judged by representatives of Westchester Gardens and the Library. Members of the club will use the winning design, in consultation with the designer, to prepare and plant the designated garden areas this spring. March 30 is the deadline for entries.

Honoring *The Stars and Stripes*

Cub Scout Pack #73 from Westchester Community Church, in conjunction with the village, will be placing a collection box in the Library during the month of May to collect worn flags that are no longer a fitting emblem for the country. Residents can bring their old flags to the Library and the Cub Scouts will dispose of them in a dignified manner, as stipulated in federal law. (4 USC § 8(k))



Friends of the Library:

Keeping Up, Staying Active, Moving Forward

Spring Book Sale

The Friends' Spring Book Sale is scheduled for April 26-28. Thursday evening is reserved for members of the Friends only, and Saturday afternoon will feature the popular *Buck-A-Bag* special at 1:00 pm. Mark your calendar for these dates and times:

Thursday, Apr 26	6 - 8 pm (members only)
Friday, Apr 27	10 am - 5 pm
Saturday, Apr 28	10 am - Noon, 1 - 4 pm

The Friends welcome your donations of gently-used books, videos, DVDs, CDs, cassettes, current magazines and recently published textbooks (2002-date). Patrons may drop off items at the Circulation Desk, but please call ahead if you have a large amount to bring (562-3573).

The Book Sale is a major fundraiser for the Library and members sort donations for the book sale throughout the year. If you would like to volunteer to help the Friends, leave your name and phone number with staff at the Circulation Desk and Loraine Kubiak, chairperson for the sale, will contact you.

Hospitality During National Library Week

The Friends will be hosting a "coffee table" during National Library Week, Monday April 16 through Friday April 20. Members will be welcoming patrons with a cup of coffee and friendly conversation. Please stop by to say hello!

Annual Meeting on Tuesday, May 22

The Friends' annual business meeting will be held Tuesday evening, May 22 at 7:00 pm in the Library's Community Room. In addition to the election of officers, a vote will be taken on the adoption of new by-laws. The business portion of the meeting will be brief, followed by board and card games. Bring your favorite game to share and play! Light refreshments will be served.

Reminder to Members

If you would like to help with the welcoming committee during National Library Week or if you are interested in serving on the Friend's Board, please leave your name and phone number with staff at the Circulation Desk and Friends President Rosemary Styler will contact you.



The Friends of the Library welcome new members! Sign up today!

FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY -- MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION / RENEWAL JUNE 2007 - JUNE 2008

Circle one: New Renewal

Name: _____
 Address: _____
 E-mail: _____
 Phone: _____ Date: _____

Please circle amount enclosed:

Individual	\$ 5.00
Family	\$ 10.00
Supporting	\$ 15.00
Business	\$ 25.00
Lifetime	\$ 100.00

Please make check payable and mail to: Westchester Friends of the Library, P.O. Box 7736, Westchester, IL 60154

Making Life a Little Easier

Tax Time Is Here. A supply of popular tax forms are available at the Library, but you will also find all federal and state tax forms and their instructions on the Internet, using the websites listed below.

Noteworthy: Be sure to check the IRS website (www.irs.gov) for information about the new Telephone Excise Tax Refund, a one-time payment designed to refund previously collected long distance telephone taxes (Form 8913 and instructions).

Internal Revenue Service

www.irs.gov

For Help: 1-800-829-1040 For forms: 1-800-829-3676

Illinois Dept of Revenue

www.revenue.state.il.us

For Help: 1-800-732-8866 For forms: 1-800-356-6302

Circuit Breaker Form: www.cbrx.il.gov

Cook County Assessor's Office

www.cookcountyassessor.com

Special thanks to the Lions Club of Westchester for exhibiting their International Peace Posters in the Youth Department during the winter months.

Library Hours

Labor Day weekend—Memorial Day Weekend

Monday—Thursday	9:30 am—9:00 pm
Friday	9:30 am—6:00 pm
Saturday	9:30 am—5:00 pm
Sunday	1:00 pm—5:00 pm

Special Closings

Mar 30 Friday	Closed until noon for staff training
Apr 8 Sunday	Closed for Easter holiday
May 27-28 Sunday-Monday	Closed for Memorial Day
Jun 1 Friday	Closed until noon for staff training

Library programs are open to the public and we welcome patrons with disabilities. Please call (562-3573 or TDD 562-9364), visit or write us to discuss accommodations at least five (5) working days prior to a scheduled program.

Visit us on the web at www.westchesterpl.org



Westchester Public Library
10700 Canterbury
Westchester, IL 60154

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**NIGHT OWL
REFERENCE SERVICE**
708-562-3573

Week nights 9 pm—Midnight
Weekends 5 pm—Midnight