

The EXPLORER

A Publication of the Westmont Public Library Vol. 3, Issue 2 June-August 2009

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Did you Know?

Being eco-friendly has its rewards! Bring your own covered mug when you visit the coffee bar in our lobby and you will receive a punch card called the "Bean Card." You get a punch for every cup you purchase while using your own mug, and tenth cup is on us!

For a limited time, Westmont Public Library mugs are available for purchase at the Main Desk for just \$5. All proceeds benefit the Friends of the Westmont Public Library.

Welcome to the Construction Zone!

By Christine Kuhn, Library Director



Water damage from the leaky roof shows in the ceiling of Youth Services in the Storytime Place. Buckets are placed under leaks every evening at close to protect the carpet.

Summer is always an eventful time at the Westmont Public Library, and this year is no exception!

At the time this newsletter went to press, the contract for the Roof Replacement Project had not been signed. We are in the process of ensuring that the lowest bidder is, indeed, qualified to install the roof

specified in the engineer's plans.

Within 30 days of signing the contract, work will begin on the roof. The contractor will remove the old tiles which will then be repurposed or recycled. The underlayment, a sandwich of insulation, waterproofing, and nailing surface will be replaced. As this is the part

of the roof that is failing after 17 years, a much better underlayment will be installed. The crews will work in sections, ensuring the library collections, furnishings, staff, and patrons remain safe and dry during the project.

The roof installation is very dependent on dry weather and will take anywhere from two to six months to complete. At this time we do not anticipate closing the library due to construction.

For the latest progress updates as well as photos of the building and construction, visit our newly remodeled webpage: www.westmontlibrary.org.

WPL Online 2.0

If you haven't visited our new website, now is the time! The new site, which launched in March, has an improved look and enhanced features! You can log on to your SWAN account, perform a catalog quick search, instant message a librarian with your reference questions and more!

Coming soon is a new youth page, text-a-librarian reference service, Twitter updates and more! Online program registration will soon be available as well.

Experience our website today by visiting: www.westmontlibrary.org.

Library Gets New Drive-up Book Drop

The library has a new drive-up book drop! The drop was installed in the library parking lot the first weekend in April. Previously, the only outdoor drop-off point was a walk-up slot on the far southwest corner of the building.

The board of trustees voted



A family tries out the new drive-up book drop for the first time.

to install the book drop in response to requests from residents who have mobility issues or small children.

The drive-up book drop should make returning books easier for all patrons who use the library, especially during poor weather conditions.

June

- 4 Writers' Group @ 7PM v
- 5 CLOSED ALL DAY
- 6 Summer Read Begins!
- 7 Figure Drawing Studio, 2-4PM ⊖
- 11 Michigan Beaches @ 7PM v
- 16 4s & 5s Storytime @ 10:15AM v
Board Meeting @ 7PM
- 17 0-2 Storytime @ 10:15AM ⊖
Redesign Program @ 7PM v
- 18 2s & 3s Storytime @ 10:15AM ⊖
Family Storytime @ 6:30PM v
- 20 Father's Day Craft @ 1PM v
- 23 4s & 5s Storytime @ 10:15AM v
Video Games, 3-6PM ⊖
- 24 0-2 Storytime @ 10:15AM ⊖
TAG @ 6:30PM ⊖
Anime Club @ 7PM ⊖
- 25 2s & 3s Storytime @ 10:15AM ⊖
Puffy Paint @ 6:30PM v
- 27 Eggs-Cavate @ 10:15AM v
- 30 4s & 5s Storytime @ 10:15AM v

Storytimes this Summer!

June 16th-
July 30th, 2009

Pre-Reader Storytime v

Tuesdays @ 10:15AM:
Four- and five-year-olds explore with books, crafts, and songs.

Early Talkers Storytime ⊖ Wednesdays @ 10:15AM:

Ages 0-2 enjoy books, action songs, and other musical activities.

Talkers Storytime ⊖

Thursdays @ 10:15AM:
Two- and three-year-olds learn with books, flannel boards, and music.

BUILD YOUR DREAMS: YOUTH SUMMER READING PROGRAM 2009 JUNE 6TH-AUGUST 8TH, 2009

Children say good-bye to teachers and homework for the summer, but giving up reading for the weeks they are out of school could negatively impact their current reading abilities. Enrolling your child in our summer reading program will provide the encouragement he/she needs to keep reading!

Programs are available for all ages and reading levels.

Pre-Readers: Children who don't read yet listen to 20 books. One prize is awarded after 10 books, and a second prize after 20 books.

Early Readers: Children who are beginning readers may log books from the E and ER sections. Every six books read will earn one token. Tokens can then be turned in for prizes.

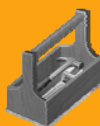
Junior Readers: Anyone reading at a J level or higher will earn a token for every three books read.

Young Adult Readers: Young people reading at a YA level must read five books in order to qualify for a prize. For every book read, youth can enter drawings for movie tickets and grand prize baskets.

Youth Summer Programming

Father's Day Craft v Saturday, June 20th, 1-2PM Ages 5-12

Children will make a personalized gift for dad on his special day. The library will provide all the materials for the craft.



Eggs-Cavate v Saturday, June 27th @ 10:15AM Ages 3-6

Little ones search for treasure in the Youth Department during this fun filled adventure with prizes for all.



Chocolate Challenge II: Dreams of Chocolate v Thursday, July 9th @ 6:30PM Ages 7 and up

Bring your appetite and a friend for games, relays, gross-outs, and chocolate treats that make for an unforgettable evening!

Puffy Paint Your Pants v Thursday, July 25th, 6:30PM Ages 7 and up

Bring in a shirt, pair of pants, or other item of clothing to paint and decorate. The library provides the craft materials.

Art4Kidz v Saturday, July 18th, 1-3PM Ages 7 & up

Get creative for a special day all about art! We'll focus on a famous artist or illustrator and practice drawing and painting techniques. Each child will make a piece of art to take home.

Bob the Builder Day v Saturday, August 1st, 1-2:30PM Ages 3-6

Join Bob and Wendy for an afternoon of fun, games, and learning!



Summer Read Finale ⊖ Saturday, August 8th, 1-3PM

Anyone who finished the Summer Read program is invited to attend this special event with crafts, cake, and a ceremony honoring our top readers.

Lego Building ⊖ Tuesday, August 11th, 6PM Ages 6 and up

Bring your Legos for a fun evening of building and displaying your Lego creations.

Dates and programs are subject to change. Please check the library website for updated information at: www.westmontlibrary.org.

Registration Key: v Call ahead or register in person ⊖ No registration required

⊖ Children under 12 not admitted

♿ Please note: Individuals requiring accommodation for a disability for any library program should contact the library at least five days before the program.

Adult Summer Programming

Figure Drawing Studio √ ⊗
Sunday, 6/7, 7/5 & 8/2, 2-4PM



Bring your own supplies to this independent study opportunity and we will provide the space and models.

Writers' Group √ ⊗
Thursday, 6/4, 7/2, 8/6 @ 7PM

This interactive group is for adults interested in the world of writing and publishing. Beginners to experienced writers welcome!

Michigan Beaches √
Thursday, June 11th @ 7PM

Looking for cheap travel options this summer? Nancy McCully will share pictures and facts about the best beach towns along the Western Michigan/Indiana border. She will also mention historical hot spots in the area for a well rounded trip!



Redesign on a Dime √ ⊗
Wednesday, June 17th @ 7PM

Grace Simoni of Yours Redesigned will lead a discussion on how to get the home you want with the house you have. She will go over color, lighting, furniture placement and more as she teaches us design techniques of the pros.

It's Your Future, Be There Healthy!

Monday, July 13th @ 7PM √ ⊗



Join us for a fun filled workshop presented by a doctor from HealthSource in Westmont. We will learn information on proper exercise, good nutrition, positive mental attitude and more!

Bring your kids to Family Storytimes on the third Thursday of every month, 6/18, 7/16 & 8/20 at 6:30PM

where we do crafts, listen to stories, and have loads of fun! Call or visit Youth Services to register.

Dates and programs are subject to change. Please check the library website for updated information at: www.westmontlibrary.org.

July

- 1 0-2 Storytime @ 10:15AM ⊖
- 2 2s & 3s Storytime @ 10:15AM ⊖
Writers' Group @ 7PM √
- 4 CLOSED ALL DAY
- 5 Figure Drawing Studio, 2-4PM √
- 7 4s & 5s Storytime @ 10:15AM √
- 8 0-2 Storytime @ 10:15AM ⊖
- 9 2s & 3s Storytime @ 10:15AM ⊖
Chocolate Challenge @ 7PM √
- 13 It's Your Future Health Program @ 7PM √
- 14 4s & 5s Storytime @ 10:15AM √
- 15 0-2 Storytime @ 10:15AM ⊖
Beading 101 @ 6:30PM √
- 16 2s & 3s Storytime @ 10:15AM ⊖
Family Storytime @ 6:30PM √
- 18 Art4Kidz, 1-3PM √
- 21 4s & 5s Storytime @ 10:15AM √
Board Meeting @ 7PM
- 22 0-2 Storytime @ 10:15AM ⊖
TAG @ 6:30PM ⊖
Anime Club @ 7PM ⊖
- 23 2s & 3s Storytime @ 10:15AM ⊖
- 28 4s & 5s Storytime @ 10:15AM √
Video Games, 3-6PM ⊖
- 29 0-2 Storytime @ 10:15AM ⊖
Marshmallow Mania @ 7PM √
- 30 2s & 3s Storytime @ 10:15AM ⊖

Teen Scene

Teen Advisory Group (TAG) ⊖
**Wednesday, June 24th, July 22nd,
 and August 26th @ 6:30PM**



If you are interested in getting more involved in the library, come to one of our TAG meetings. Share your ideas and eat free pizza!

Anime/Manga Club ⊖
**Wednesday, June 24th, July 22nd,
 and August 26th @ 7PM**

Watch and discuss Anime with other fans of the genre. Snacks and video games round out the evening.

Beading 101 √
Wednesday, July 15th @ 6:30PM

Join beading master, Susan O'Bryan, as she teaches techniques for making beautiful beaded projects. The library will provide basic materials and beads, but teens are welcome to bring any beads of their own to use on the project.



Marshmallow Mania √
Wednesday, July 29th @ 7PM

Let your imagination run wild at an evening of crazy games, marshmallow building, and plenty of snacking!

Teen & Adult Summer Read Program

The reading program this summer is not just for kids! Visit the Adult Help Desk beginning June 1st for a registration form, and start getting rewarded for reading.

This year, Westmont residents reading at an adult level will receive a commuter bag after logging six books. A ticket for the drawing of your choice will be issued for every book read. The more you read, the better your chances of winning one of several prize baskets.

As in the past, you may read fiction or non-fiction titles as well as listen to audiobooks.

Parents are also encouraged to join the family reading program and work toward a special prize awarded to the family who reads the most books per person.

Registration Key: √ Call ahead or register in person ⊖ No registration required

⊗ Children under 12 not admitted

♿ Please note: Individuals requiring accommodation for a disability for any library program should contact the library at least five days before the program.

Library Board of Trustees

At the May meeting of the board of trustees, two new members will be sworn into office.

Chris Gorman, who has lived in Westmont on and off her entire life, was elected to the board during the general election in April. Her decision to run was based on her desire to give back to the community. Gorman is looking forward to learning a lot her first few months on the board. An avid reader of all genres, she values the library as a resource for the entire community.

John Martens shares Gorman's desire to give back to the community that has been his home for 27 years. He recognizes the value a good library has to offer the community and hopes to see the many services the library offers continually updated and improved. As a former District 201 employee, he would like to see continued cooperation between the library and area schools.

One of the seven board seats remains unoccupied. The final position

will be appointed by the board during a special meeting after reviewing all submitted applications and interviewing candidates. The new board member will be chosen based on his or her qualifications including education, employment experience, and other training that is relevant to the position.

With the new positions being filled, we must say good-bye to those who have served over the last several years.

Dixie Alexander has been on the board since 2005. Riley Sellers has served since May of 2003. Jack Thomas, at one time the board president, concludes his term after six years serving on the library board. Thank you all for your hard work and dedication to the library.

Board members are elected by the residents of Westmont to serve for three years. As trustees, they meet once monthly to discuss policy, provide fiscal and physical oversight, and participate in long-range planning.

August

- 1 Bob the Builder Activity Day, 1-2:30PM v
- 2 Figure Drawing Studio, 2-4PM v
- 4 Friends Meeting @ 7PM ⊖
- 6 Writers' Group @ 7PM v
- 8 Closing Ceremony, 1-3PM ⊖
- 11 Lego Art @ 6PM ⊖
- 18 Board Meeting @ 7PM
- 20 Family Storytime @ 6:30PM v
- 25 Video Games, 3-6PM ⊖
- 26 TAG @ 6:30PM
Anime Club @ 7PM

Heard at the Library

Here are some comments about recent library events.

- The speaker was awesome and the program was very educational. Thanks!
- I love hands on presentations. I learned a lot!
- The speakers were amazing! I had a wonderful time!
- Keep up the fun activities.
- We will definitely come back for more programs!

Library Focuses on Non-English Speaking Population



The Library carries an assortment of Spanish titles in fiction and non-fiction as well as English language learning tools for non-native speakers.

With such a large number of non-English speaking people in Westmont, the library is working hard to provide materials and resources to meet their needs.

In February, Carmen Higgins was hired as our new Hispanic Outreach Coordinator. The Hispanic Community is a priority for the next

couple of years due to the nearly 10% Hispanic population living in Westmont.

Higgins, a Spanish-speaking Chicago native, is hard at work building the library's Spanish collection as well as increasing the number of language learning resources in a variety of formats. A Westmont resident for over fourteen years, her goal is to serve the people of Westmont.

"I want to make people aware of the services and programs we offer for everyone," Higgins said. She also stressed the fact that anyone can come to the library and make use of the free resources we have to offer. Books, programs, tools for learning English, and computers for public use are all free resources that can "help in your everyday life," according to Higgins.

In addition to spending time in the community, Higgins will spearhead efforts to create more programming for Hispanic people living in Westmont.

This summer the library will offer an English Conversation Group for anyone who wants to practice English. Higgins stressed that it is for speakers of any language who want to improve their English skills in a casual, structure-free environment. Check our website for dates and times.

Another program coming soon is a bilingual storytime for young children. This storytime will be in both English and Spanish and ideal for children wanting to learn English. English speaking children are also invited to come and learn some Spanish!

Finally, plans are in the works for a special event during Hispanic Heritage month (begins September 15). A Mexican fiesta with live music, food, and much more will provide a fun and educational evening for families of all cultures and languages.

Friends of the Library give Time and Money

Have you ever wondered how the library is able to offer such outstanding programs and services to the residents of Westmont? A substantial portion of programming every year is paid for by the Friends of the Westmont Public Library.

The Friends is an auxiliary organization made up of Westmont residents committed to offering support to the library through fundraising each year. Funds go towards programming, purchasing equipment and furniture, and other miscellaneous expenses.

The annual Summer Reading Program, the Adult Winter Reading Program, and the **Big Read** are funded mainly by the Friends. Various adult and youth programs throughout the year are also sponsored by the Friends.

The main source of funds is from used book sales. Donated books are sold at a bargain price and all the money that is collected goes to the Friends. In addition to selling books, the Friends sell beaded bookmarks and coffee mugs. The Friends also acquire funds through annual memberships.

Quarterly meetings take place in the library and are open to Friends members. The next meeting will take place on Thursday, August 6th at 7PM.

5 Ways to Support the Library

1. **Volunteer!** Take time to join our dedicated team of volunteers. Even one hour a week of your time can help! Pick up a volunteer application in the library today!
2. **Become a Friend!** Fill out the form below and add your name to the list of people who show their support for the library with fiscal donations.
3. **Spread the Word!** Are you happy with the library? If you enjoy our services, tell your friends and neighbors to visit us and take advantage of our resources.
4. **Book Donations!** Bring in your gently-used books and leave them in the book donation area in the lobby.
5. **Use the Library!** If you don't already have a library card and regularly use the many resources the library has to offer, now is the time! Take advantage of the free and valuable services at the library. You won't be sorry you did!

Try Downloadable Audiobooks !

If you haven't checked out downloadable audiobooks yet, try your first one today! Rest your eyes while listening to one of thousands of titles in a variety of genres. All of them are available with just a few clicks of a mouse! You can practice a foreign language, listen to a bestseller, or check out a classic all from your home computer. Recently, NetLibrary and Recorded Books launched a **new Media Center** offering audiobooks that are compatible with virtually all **MP3 players, including iPods, iPhones** and many other portable listening devices. To launch the new Media Center, you must first install the software on your local computer. To do so, log onto NetLibrary's Installation Procedure for Media Center, and follow the installation instructions.



When you bring a book to the beach this summer, make it an audiobook!



Friends Membership 2009-2010

_____ \$5 Individual

_____ \$10 Family

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

I would like to help with:

_____ Fundraising

_____ Membership

_____ Programming

_____ Marketing

Please return this form with payment to:

Friends of the Westmont Public Library, c/o Westmont Public Library

428 N. Cass Ave., Westmont, IL 60559

The Explorer is a Westmont Public Library quarterly publication intended to offer current and updated library information to Westmont patrons.

Board of Trustees:

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Amy Porter, *Vice President*
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Christine Kaifesh, *Treasurer*
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Christine Kuhn, *Library Director*
Marcy Simpson, *Public Services Manager*
Manisha Suri, *Tech Services Manager*
Mitch Flesner, *IT Manager*
Kate Buckson, *Explorer Editor*

The Friends of the Westmont

Public Library is a non-profit organization that supports the library by raising money to help subsidize the cost of programs and special events. If you are interested in becoming a Friend of the Library, please email: friends@westmontlibrary.org or call (630)969-5625.

Library Hours:

Monday-Thursday	10AM-9PM
Friday-Saturday	10AM-5PM
Sunday	1PM-5PM

For more information about the Westmont Public Library, please contact us at:
630.969.5625
630.969.6490 fax
westmontlibrary@westmontlibrary.org

Become a fan of the Westmont Public Library on Facebook!

Find Out What's New This Summer

Place a hold now on one of these upcoming new releases!

DVDs

- *The Curious Case of Benjamin Button*
- *The Grudge 3*
- *Last Chance Harvey*
- *New in Town*
- *Paul Blart: Mall Cop*
- *Taken*
- *Underworld: Rise of the Lycans*
- *Valkyrie*
- *Confessions of a Shopaholic*
- *Defiance*
- *Gran Torino*
- *He's Just Not That Into You*
- *The International*
- *Revolutionary Road*
- *Two Lovers*

Fiction

- *Black Hills* by Nora Roberts
- *Burn* by Linda Howard
- *Daniel X: Watch the Skies* by James Patterson
- *The Defector* by Daniel Silva
- *Knockout: An FBI Thriller* by Catherine Coulter
- *Matters of the Heart* by Danielle Steel
- *Medusa: A Novel from the NUMA Files* by Clive Cussler
- *Resurrecting Midnight* by Eric Jerome Dickey
- *Shanghai Girls* by Lisa See

Non-Fiction

- *The American Future* by Simon Schama
- *The Food of a Younger Land* by Mark Kurlansky
- *Magnificent Desolation* by Buzz Aldrin
- *Murder for Hire* by Jack Ballentine
- *Paul Newman: A Life* by Shawn Levy
- *Prairie Tale: A Memoir* by Melissa Gilbert
- *Promises I Made My Mother* by Sam Haskell
- *The Supremes* by Mark Ribowsky
- *This is Your Country on Drugs* by Ryan Grim

4th Monday Book Discussions

This discussion group meets the 4th Monday of every month at 7PM in the library's meeting room.

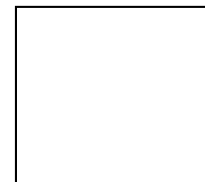
- June 22nd: ***The Virgin of Small Plains***
By Nancy Pickard
- July 27th: ***A Year by the Sea***
By Joan Anderson
- August 24th: ***The Guernsey Literary and Potato Peel Pie Society***
By Mary Ann Shaffer

Automated Doors Installed in Library

The entrance to the library became much more convenient when automatic doors were installed in April. One of the front doors will now open at the push of a button, making entrance to the building much easier for those with mobility issues and mothers with strollers! A second button is located in the entryway that opens the door leading into the lobby. The library will continue to make physical changes to the building to remain ADA compliant.



Westmont Public Library
428 N. Cass Ave.
Westmont, IL 60559
www.westmontlibrary.org



The library will be closed the following dates:
Sunday, May 24th
Monday, May 25th
Friday, June 5th
Saturday, July 4th

Postal Patron
Westmont, IL 60559