

THE EXPLORER



Vol. 5, Issue 3
September-
November 2011

A publication
of the
Westmont
Public Library

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Show us Your Library Card, Westmont!

Celebrate National Library Card Sign-Up Month by getting a Westmont Public Library card if you do not have one or by renewing your expired card!

As an added bonus, from September 1st-30th, select local businesses are

partnering with the library to offer Westmont Public Library cardholders special discounts and rewards! Offers may vary based on availability. Contact individual businesses with questions regarding special offers. For a complete list of businesses and their special

offers, please see page 5 of this newsletter.

Don't delay! Stop by and get your library card during September and you will receive a registration gift from WPL as well as these fantastic offers from our local businesses!

Check Out our NEW Literacy Bags!

Looking for a way to get your child interested in reading? Choose one of our Literacy Bags in your children's favorite subjects or topics and help them discover more than books!

Each Literacy Bag comes with a list of the items included in the bag as well as activities and games

you can do with your child to reinforce what they learn!



In addition to several books, the bags contain various craft ideas, toys, fact cards, letter and word flashcards and more!

Bags vary based on subject area and are most suitable for ages 4-8. Visit the Children's Reading Garden today and check out a bag for your family!

Plaza Construction Completed



The final stages of the 2011 Pavement Improvement project were completed in July and the final touches

are being placed on the plaza area!

We addressed several issues such as crumbling stairs, a sinking concrete plaza, and broken lights from too many car hits. Drainage was also a problem with water collecting in the high pedestrian traffic area. Water also seeped into the library basement during heavy rains.

Once all of the

functional and safety issues were addressed, a design was created that would include outdoor seating and provide a more welcoming feel. In the midst of all the construction, we only had to close one day!

A special thanks to all the residents who visited us and were so patient during construction! We hope you enjoy the new and improved plaza!

Once Upon a Time...Discovering the Magic in Reading

Sunday, September 11
1:30-2:30pm

Ages 5 and up

Registration is required!

This theater piece is a high energy and inspiring, one-woman show put on by Loren Hecht, an award-winning college teacher, published author, and performer.

Children will learn

how and why reading is important through dramatic storytelling. The play is colorful and musical, interactive and inspiring, emotionally compelling, and thoroughly engaging for all audiences.

Hecht has performed "Once Upon a Time" for many schools and organizations

in Illinois. She currently teaches at Northern Illinois University.



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PROGRAMS

YOUTH

📖 Little Dragons Martial Arts Demo

Tuesday, September 13, 7-8pm

Ages 4-8

Join Pete Juska, Westmont resident and owner of Chicago Jeet Kune Do, for this exciting activity. In this class, students will learn how to pursue a lifelong fitness and wellness program. It will provide kids with the fundamentals of fitness, as well as an introduction to the martial arts. Children will learn some of the best non-violent techniques for standing up to bullies as well as the best self defense moves for younger children.

📖♥ Art4Preschoolers

Saturday, September 17, 1-2pm, Ages 3-6

This returning favorite brings new art concepts to young children. A perfect opportunity for young kids to practice drawing, painting, and creating art!

📖♥ Pumpkin Pillow Pals Craft

Sunday, October 30, 2-4pm

Ages 3-9 with a parent

Make and decorate a jack-o-lantern tie pillow then rest your head while watching a variety of Halloween episodes from favorite television characters like Casper, Barney, and Thomas! Free popcorn will also be served!

📖 Family Storytime: Thanksgiving!

Monday, November 21, 6:30-7:30pm, All Ages!

Join Miss Lynn for stories about autumn and Thanksgiving time, then create a harvest themed craft with your family!

⊖ Pre-Reader Storytimes (Ages 4 & 5)

Tuesdays at 10:15am

Beginning September 13

Letter recognition, crafts, stories, and songs make this storytime for preschool age children a great way to build early literacy skills!

⊖ Baby & Toddler Storytimes (Ages 0-3)

Wednesdays & Thursdays at 10:15am

Beginning September 14

Get ready for stories, songs, and interactive play! Young children and a caregiver will enjoy this special weekly time together while nurturing a love of reading.

⊖ Toddler & Me Playgroup

*Thursdays beginning September 15

10:45-11:30am, Ages 0-5 with a caregiver

Bring your young children to a morning playtime in the library meeting room. Interact with other moms and caregivers while the kids play and eat snacks.

*Playgroup takes place only on storytime days.

⊖ Bilingual Storytime

2nd & 4th Mondays beginning September 12

11:30am, Ages 0-5

This storytime is conducted in English and Spanish with an emphasis on basic vocabulary and phrasing. It is perfect for families that speak different languages to interact!

NOTE ON PROGRAMMING:

Staff ask all parents to be prompt when bringing children to library events. Any late arrivals may find their spot forfeited. No child will be admitted to a program more than 15 minutes after the event's start time.

All teen programs are open to anyone in junior high and high school. Register for programs online at: www.westmontlibrary.org or by calling 630.969.5625.

⊖♥ Teen Decoration Days

Saturday, October 8, 12-3pm

Saturday, November 5, 12-3pm

Looking for a way to tap in to your creative side? Join TeenTeam as we decorate for the fall season in October and then for the winter holidays in November.

⊖ Ornament Making

Saturday, November 12, 1-3pm

Help young people make a craft to decorate the library's Holly Days tree.

📖 ACT Practice Test

Saturday, October 29, 10:30am

A practice test is crucial to ward off those Test Day jitters and to predict how you may score on the "real thing." Come and experience what Test Day will be like. A representative from Kaplan will provide a proctored ACT practice test and return scores with analyzed results. Remember to bring #2 sharpened pencils and an approved calculator!

📖 ACT Test Strategies to Raise Your Score

Tuesday, November 8, 6:30pm

- Discover the role of the ACT in college admissions
- Learn how you can raise your score with Kaplan
- Get tips on how to excel on Test Day

TEEN TEAM

Registration Key: 📖 Registration is required

⊖ No children under 16

⊖ No registration required

♥ Sponsored by the Friends of WPL

Staff may refuse entrance for a library program to any person who is not within the required age range.

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

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

ONGOING PROGRAMS

☉ 4th Monday Book Group

Mondays: 9/26, 10/24, 11/28, 7pm

Join in the discussion of popular titles and share your thoughts and opinions! This group is led by a different member each month. Books are available for checkout at the Main Desk one month in advance.

☉ Knit Clique

Tuesdays: 9/6, 10/4, 11/8, 6:30-8:30pm

Have you always wanted to join a knitting circle? Now is the time! Grab your yarn and needles and we'll sit, knit, and compare projects. If you have never knitted before, there is room for you too! We will teach you the basics, and new knitters will receive a free pair of knitting needles and yarn to get started.

☉ Writers' Group

Thursdays: 9/8, 9/22, 10/13, 10/27, 11/10, 7pm

This interactive group meets on the second and fourth Thursday of the month and is for adults interested in improving their writing skills and venturing into the world of publishing.

☉ English Conversation Group

Saturdays: 9/10, 9/24, 10/8, 10/22, 11/12, 11/26, 10am-12pm

This informal and friendly conversation group is for all adult English learners. Join us on the second and fourth Saturdays of every month as we improve our verbal English skills! Co-sponsored by Literacy DuPage.

📖 NEW! Lit & Film Club

featuring *Water for Elephants*

Tuesday, November 29, 5:30-8:30pm

This first installation of our new literature and film group will focus on the novel by Sara Gruen which chronicles the adventures of Jacob, a young man touched by tragedy who decides to join the circus as a vet to the abused circus animals. He soon falls for the circus master's wife and chaos ensues. The acclaimed film, starring Reese Witherspoon and Robert Pattinson will be shown from 5:30-7:30pm with discussion immediately following. A copy of the book will be available for check out at the Main Desk on November 1.

MUSICAL EVENTS

📖♥ Songs from Stage & Screen

Sunday, September 18, 2-3pm

Wander back into the golden era of musicals with the instrumental rhythms of pianist Jennifer Boso and cellist Jo-Jo Tabayoyong Murphy. These accomplished musicians will perform well known pieces from movies, musicals, and plays that may bring back memories of the best times in your own lives! Jennifer and Jo-Jo are both Westmont residents and have performed together since 1993.



📖♥ Latin Dance Presentation/ Presentacion de Baile Latino

Sunday, September 25, 2-3:30pm

We invite you to a free, fun afternoon with a performance of the folkloric dance "El Jarabe Tapatio" by young dancers Alan & Arly. Also come prepared to learn some latin dance steps from instructor Carmen Torranzo.

EVENTO GRATUITO- Le invitamos a pasar una tarde divertida con la presentacion de baile folklorico "El Jarabe Tapatio" por Alan y Arly. Ademas venga preparado a aprender algunos pasos de danza latina por la instructora Carmen Torranzo.

📖♥ Greg Klyma in Concert

Sunday, October 9, 2-3pm

Greg Klyma is the Rust Belt vagabond- a home-cooked meal and a Vaudeville show in a fast food, karaoke world. A prolific songwriter, multi-instrumentalist and seasoned performer, Klyma brings to every stage a catalog of songs that assume audiences are both smart and able to laugh. For more info, visit his website at: <http://klyma.com>.



ADULTS

PRESENTATIONS & WORKSHOPS

📖♥ *Preparing for a Behavioral Interview*

Thursday, October 6, 7-8:30pm

Behavioral interviewing is the current interview trend. Job seekers must be able to tell stories about their previous work history to tie themselves to the position. The pros from WorkNet DuPage will lead an informative workshop that will help you ace your next interview!

📖♥⊕ *Holiday Wreath Craft*

Tuesday, October 11, 6:30-8:30pm &
Wednesday, October 12, 1-3pm

Join us for this returning favorite whether you are new to crafting or an old pro! You will make a beautiful harvest or winter themed wreath, candle surround, and pinccone ornament. Attendance is limited to only one of the sessions, please!

📖 *Paranormal 102: A Deeper Look*

Thursday, October 20, 7pm

Join us as a team from TnT Paranormal Investigators discuss methods used to find answers and investigate evidence of any alleged cases of paranormal or unexplained activity. The discussion will include methods for gathering data during an investigation, how the data is reviewed to determine if any paranormal evidence was captured, or if these experiences are natural/environmental, man-made, or indeed paranormal.

📖 *Self-Hypnosis Workshop*

Thursday, November 3, 6:30pm

Explore the links between meditation and hypnosis and how they can help you with many issues such as weight loss, smoking cessation, anxiety, and more. Learn self-hypnosis from a certified hypnotist and understand the truth about hypnosis and why there are many misconceptions about this subject.

📖 *Introduction to Bipolar Disorder*

Wednesday, November 16, 7pm

Bethany Genenbacher from LifeWork Counseling in Oak Brook will be discussing what bipolar disorder and depression are, how it is diagnosed and coping skills to use when one has this diagnosis.

📖♥ *So You Want to Be a Book Author: Your Publishing Options Today*

Thursday, November 17, 6:30-8pm

Today's authors have more publishing options than ever before, but how do you decide what's right for you? How do you pursue a traditional publisher? What are the pros and cons of POD publishing, and how does it differ from self-publishing? In this program, you'll learn everything you need to know about your book publishing options from author Kelly James-Enger.

COMPUTER CLASSES

Computer classes are offered for a variety of skill levels. There is a non-refundable \$5 fee per person, per class which is due at the Main Desk upon registration. Online registration is not available for computer classes. Please direct further questions to the Adult Help Desk at 630.969.5625 ext. 5.

Beginner Classes

For those with little or no previous computer knowledge.

Intro to Computers

Wednesday, September 7, 6:30-8:30pm

Internet Basics

Wednesday, September 21, 6:30-8:30pm

Email for Beginners

Monday, October 3, 6:30-8:30pm

Microsoft Word 2010 for Beginners

Monday, October 17, 6:30-8:30pm

Excel 2010 for Beginners

Wednesday, October 26, 6:30-8:30pm

Intermediate Classes

For those with some previous computer experience.

Intermediate Computers

Wednesday, September 14, 6:30-8:30pm

Intermediate Internet

Wednesday, September 28, 6:30-8:30pm

Intermediate Excel 2010

Wednesday, November 2, 6:30-8:30pm

Excel 2010 Graphs & Charts

Wednesday, November 9, 6:30-8:30pm

FREE Classes

There is no fee for the following classes and online registration is permitted.

Using the SWAN Catalog

Tuesday, September 27, 7-8:30pm

Learn how to search the SWAN catalog like a librarian! Get tips for the best ways to do a successful basic and advanced search. Find out how to utilize your SWAN account to monitor due dates and holds.

eReaders, eBooks & Your Library

Thursday, September 29, 7-8:30pm

Join us to learn the basics on downloading, eBook and eReader features, and how to get the most out of Media on Demand's eBook collection.

ADULTS

Registration Key: 📖 Registration is required

⊕ No children under 16

⊖ No registration required

♥ Sponsored by the Friends of WPL

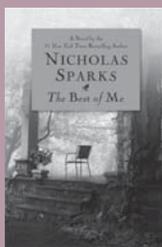
Staff may refuse entrance for a library program to any person who is not within the required age range.

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

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

Future Fiction Favorites

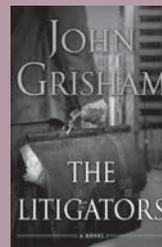
Place a hold on one of these future favorites today! Go to www.westmontlibrary.org and sign in to your SWAN account where you can manage your holds, renew items, and more. Using an eReader? Head to our website and follow the link for Media on Demand to reserve a title.



The Best of Me
by Nicholas Sparks
Two former high school sweethearts rekindle their love while back in their hometown for a funeral.



Headstone
by Ken Bruen
An elderly priest and a special needs child are nearly beaten to death in Galway, Ireland.



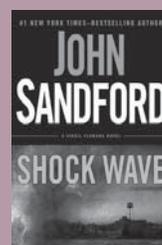
The Litigators
by John Grisham
Attorneys Finley & Figg take on a large pharmaceutical company whose drug may cause heart attacks.



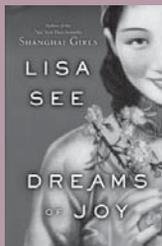
Bonnie
by Iris Johansen
Forensic sculptor, Eve Duncan, searches for the truth about her daughter's disappearance.



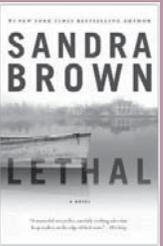
Kill Shot
by Vince Flynn
Mitch Rapp hunts down corrupt politicians responsible for a violent terrorist attack.



Shock Wave
by John Sandford
Someone is trying to keep a superstore chain from taking over their small town-by setting off bombs.



Dreams of Joy
by Lisa See
Joy finds her birth father and follows him to life in a commune in Mao's communist China.



Lethal
by Sandra Brown
Honor and her 4-year-old daughter go on the run when an accused killer shows up at their home.



V is for Vengeance
by Sue Grafton
Criminals and miscreants are being victimized by someone who is out for justice- or is it vengeance?

Business Partners for Show Us Your Library Card, Westmont!

A Novel Experience

8 1/2 N. Cass Ave, Westmont, 630-968-2225
*20% Off something every day!

Tues: Gently Used Books; Wed: Specialty Candles; Thurs: Stationary & Journals; Fri: Novelty Gift Items; Sat: Greeting Cards & Gift Bags

Alkaye Media Group

38 N. Cass Ave, Westmont, 630-971-8700
*Bring in one VHS or VHS-C video to transfer and get a second one of equal or lesser value free.

Citizens Financial Bank-Darien

8301 S. Cass Ave, Westmont, 630-203-1653
*Open a FREE Checking Account and receive a \$25 gas card. Add direct deposit to your new account within 90 days and we'll deposit \$25 cash into your account (Restrictions apply. See a banker for details).

Clarendon Hills Bank

200 Burlington, Clarendon Hills
630-323-1240
*Free magnifying ruler and pen.

Clear Skin Day Spa

1125 Fairview, Westmont, 630-241-1151
*\$4 eyebrow threading and 15% off all regularly priced services.

Creme de la Creme

501 Oakmont Ln, Westmont, 630-455-9510
*A free Creme T-shirt when you register

DJ's Sports Bar & Grill

222 E. Chicago Ave, Westmont, 630-986-1029
* 20% off Food Purchase

First Midwest Bank

520 N. Cass Ave, Westmont, 630-692-2806
*\$10 deposited in a new minor savings account, a free piggy bank, and a kid's saving packet.

The Framemakers

10 N. Cass Ave, Westmont, 630-795-1020
*20% off your custom framing order

Frank Electric Co

7307 Tennessee Dr, Willowbrook
630-852-9644
*15% Discount on Labor

K.H. Renovations, Inc

205 N. Cass Ave, Westmont, 630-968-7707
*Stop by or call for your "Library Special" Packet (\$100 Value) & FREE Estimate.

Little Caesars-Westmont

1111 Fairview, Westmont, 630-541-9087
*Free order of Crazy Bread with purchase of a pizza.

Pre-Paid Legal Services, Inc.

5703 S. Cass Ave, Westmont
630-880-4144
*Waived one-time enrollment fee for anyone who becomes a member (for a year).

Realty Concepts, Inc

205 N. Cass Avenue, Westmont
630-968-4900
*Free 20-minute Private Consultation (\$75 value)

Salt Creek Ballet

98 E Chicago Ave, Westmont, 630-769-1199
*Free logo post it notes

Seniors Helping Seniors

630-324-6086
*Free, in-home assessment; free logo pen and refrigerator magnet; first hour of care free (2 hour minimum purchase required), up to \$25 value (no cash value).

Uncle Jon's Music

33 N. Cass Ave, Westmont
630-434-2480
*First lesson FREE for new students! Guitar, Bass, or ukulele.

Westmont Chamber of Commerce & Tourism Bureau

1 S. Cass Ave, Westmont
630-960-5553
*A free community map & guide.

Westmont Yard

233 W. 63rd St, Westmont, 630-737-1000
*Receive a FREE t-shirt when you sign-up for Session 8 (Oct-Nov) of Mighty Tykes!



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

**Non-Profit
 U.S. Postage
 PAID
 Permit #12
 Westmont, IL**

Library Closings:

Sunday, September 4th
 Monday, September 5th
 Wednesday, November 23rd: Open 10am-5pm
 Thursday, November 24th

Postal Patron
 Westmont, IL 60559

Annual Report Highlights

By Christine Kuhn, Library Director

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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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

Don't forget!

Program registration is online at:
 www.westmontlibrary.org

We are busier than ever with circulation of books, magazines, DVDs, CDs, videogames and more up 14.5% over the previous fiscal year, and 260% over the last ten years.

I attribute this to our ever-improving collection and the economy. As people look for free or inexpensive ways to improve their job skills, repair their homes, help their children in school, or be entertained, they remember the public library. We make more than 400 library cards per month. Our collection has many new titles in a variety of formats, including our newest services, e-books and

early literacy kits. Our By-the-Numbers Annual Report is available at www.westmontlibrary.org.

Attendance at programs has been through the roof! We increased the number by 25% over last year and your participation increased 63% -more than 9,800 people! Most popular are our Storytimes and the Storytime Toddler and Me Playgroup (STAMP). Our hands-on computer classes usually fill within a week of posting. Watch our website for more classes.

The greatest challenge facing WPL is keeping up with your increasing demand

without increasing our overhead costs. As you may know, the Library Board, for a second year, chose to abate taxes in order to honor the voter approved tax rate of 19mils (2006 election), resulting in a 5% reduction in the budget and about \$10 in tax savings to the "average" homeowner.

We are managing the cuts in the budget by using our reserves and seeking more grants. The reserves are intended to maintain the public's investment in the 20 year-old building with all the wear and tear of your more 155,000 visits per year. We look forward to meeting that challenge!

Thank You Summer Read Sponsors!

We had another wonderful summer reading program! We could not have done it without the support of our local business partners who so generously donated coupons, gift certificates, and funds! Our Mission 2011: READ! sponsors were:

Bishop's Chili
 Brunswick Zone
 Buona Restaurant
 CarsPlus Tire & Auto
 Chipotle
 Classic Cinemas
 Clubhouse Inn & Suites

Connie's Pizza
 Deluxe Inn
 DuPage Children's Museum
 DuPage County Fair
 Enchanted Castle
 Friends of the Westmont Public Library
 Fuddruckers
 Gameworks
 The Great American Bagel
 Indian Boundary YMCA
 J. Flemings
 Sam's Club
 Tap House Grill
 Uncle Jon's Music
 Vincitori