

# THE EXPLORER



Vol. 6, Issue 1  
March-May 2012

A publication  
of the  
Westmont  
Public Library

## In this Issue:

- *Youth Programs, Pg. 2*
- *Ongoing Adult Programs, Pg. 3*
- *Adult Workshops & Presentations, Pg. 4*
- *Computer Classes, Pg. 4*
- *Big Read Programs, Pg. 5*
- *Director's Column, Pg. 6*

## The Big Read 2012

During the months of March and April, WPL is participating in the Big Read, a cooperative effort of 10 local libraries, now in its eighth year.

This year, Paula McLain's book, *The Paris Wife*, was chosen. The fictional title is an imagining of Hadley and Ernest Hemingway, and their early years together before Ernest rose to fame as an author. The book chronicles their time in Paris during the 1920s and the demise of their ill-fated marriage.

Register for programs online

or at any service desk in the library. All special events at various library locations will be open to Westmont residents.

For the latest information on programs and events follow the Twitter feed at BigRead2012 or visit [facebook.com/TheBigRead](http://facebook.com/TheBigRead).

Turn to page 5 for a list of Big Read and Kids Read events at WPL this spring.



## Annual Food for Fines: April 8-14, 2012



Time to spring clean your pantries! Look for unexpired, non-perishable food items and bring them into the library!

In honor of National Library Week, WPL will offer our once-a-year amnesty for overdue fines. During Food for Fines, Westmont cardholders with overdue fines may exchange one box or can of non-perishable food for \$1 worth of local fines,

brought in during regular library hours.

Fines for damaged, lost, or replacement items, or fees incurred at other libraries will not be waived. See a staff member for more details.

Don't have any fines on your account? We would still love to have your food donation! Feel free to drop off your items and enjoy having a clean pantry while helping those in need.

## See What's FREE with Museum Adventure Pass

While the weather is still rainy and chilly, take a family adventure to a new and exciting place! You can check out a pass and get various discounts at area museums with your Westmont Library card.

Kids will love the Bronzeville Children's Museum or a visit to historical Cantigny Park. Take a stroll through the Chicago Botanic Garden or Graue Mill. Made possible through the generous support

of Macy's, this program allows for a variety of cultural and learning experiences.

Discounts vary by museum, so check the program's website for a list of participating museums and individual special offers at [museumadventure.org](http://museumadventure.org).

There are a limited amount of passes for checkout. Call or visit the library to see if the pass you would like to check out is available.




# PROGRAMS

# STORYTIMES


# THE YOUNG




 **♥ Beginning Ballet**  
Tuesday, April 10, 6:30-7:30pm  
Ages 3-6



An instructor from Expression Dance Studio will teach basic technique and positions along with a few songs and games to help improve basic motor skills, agility and rhythm. Please wear comfortable clothing!


 **♥ Art4Preschoolers**  
Saturday, April 21, 1:00-2:30  
Ages 3-6


Celebrate spring with an afternoon of art! Children love this recurring event that introduces basic art concepts and gives little ones a chance to practice these new skills.

 **♥ Earth-Day Craft**  
Sunday, April 22, 2:00-4:00  
Ages 6 and up



Drop in and make a beautiful, recycled craft and help honor our planet with your creations!


 **♥ Dia de los Ninos, Dia de los Libros/ Children's Day, Book Day**  
Sunday, April 29, 2:00-3:00pm, Ages 4 and up  
Nelson and Paola Sosa start this interactive presentation with a story and take the audience on a musical journey through the sounds and rhythms of Latin America using musical instruments and simple dance steps.

 **♥ Kids Flea Market**  
Saturday, May 5, 1:00-3:00pm


**Sellers:** Bring your gently used games and toys and trade with others or sell to the public. Everything must be priced \$1 or less. **Must be aged 8 and up,** accompanied by a caregiver to sell. Call the library by April 21st to register for a seller spot.




**Shoppers:** Our meeting room will be turned into a small, kids version of a flea market! Come by and see what you can get! All items will be a bargain priced at \$1 or less!

 **♥ Saturday Safari**  
Saturday, May 19, 1:00-2:30pm  
Ages 5-8


Come along on an expedition to find African animals! Hear a story, make a craft, and have a snack.

 **Pre-Reader Storytimes (Ages 4 & 5)**  
Tuesdays at 10:15am

3/6, 3/13, 3/20, 4/10, 4/17, 4/24, 5/1  
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

3/7, 3/8, 3/14, 3/15, 3/21, 3/22, 4/11, 4/12, 4/18, 4/19, 4/25, 4/26, 5/2, 5/3  
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**  
\*Wednesdays & Thursdays

10:45-11:30am, Ages 0-3 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**


Mondays, 3/12, 3/26, 4/9, 4/23, 5/14  
11:30am, Ages 0-5

Take advantage of this opportunity for families that speak different languages to interact! This storytime is conducted in English and Spanish with an emphasis on basic vocabulary and phrasing.


**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.



 **NEW! Family LEGO Night**  
Thursdays, March 15, April 19, May 17  
6:30-7:30pm,  
Ages 3 and up with a parent  
Bring your imagination along and we will provide the LEGOs! Work on a LEGO creation with your family and see it displayed in the library. Check out our themes below and come ready to build and play!  
March: Dinosaurs  
April: Transportation  
May: Fairy Tales

Registration Key:  Registration is required

 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](http://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

# ADULTS

### *4th Monday Book Group*

**Mondays: 3/26, 4/23, 7:00pm**

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. *No registration is necessary.*

### *Writers' Group*

**Thursdays: 3/8, 3/22, 4/12, 4/26, 5/10, 5/24, 7:00pm**

This interactive group meets on the second and fourth Thursday of the month and is for adults interested in venturing into the world of publishing. Members bring in original writing for feedback from the group. Writers in all genres are welcome! *No registration is necessary.*

### *Knit Clique*

**Tuesdays: 3/6, 4/3, 5/1, 6:30-8:30pm**

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! *No registration is necessary.*

### *English Conversation Group*

**Saturdays: 3/10, 3/24, 4/14, 4/28, 5/12, 5/26  
10:00am-12:00pm**

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. *No registration is necessary.*

# TEENS



### *Westmont History Night presented by Students from Westmont High School*

**Thursday, March 1, 6:00-8:30pm**  
Students will give a behind-the-scenes look at how they made oral history reports by gathering stories from area residents. Several short videos created by the students will be shown. Reception and award ceremony for projects will follow. *No registration is necessary.*

### *Film Screening: The Devil Wears Prada*

**Friday, March 2, 2:00-4:00pm**  
**Rated PG-13, Ages 13 and up**  
Come view this hilarious movie starring Anne Hathaway and Meryl Streep. If you like fashion and comedy, you will love this flick! A coffee bar will be provided so you can make a trendy, delicious beverage! *No registration is necessary.*

### *Teen Decoration Days*

**Saturday, March 3 & April 7, 12:00-2:00pm**  
Have you noticed the seasonal decorations and painted windows on the second floor of the library? Become a part of our volunteer group, TeenTeam, and join in on the decorating fun. *No registration is necessary.*

### *Intro to Scratch*

**Wednesday, March 7, 6:30-8:30pm**  
**Ages 12 and up**

Learn how to use MIT's Scratch program to do animation and design video games. We will open up our laptop lab to a limited number of students, so reserve your spot early! *To register, call 630-969-5625 or visit: [www.westmontlibrary.org](http://www.westmontlibrary.org).*

### *SAT Prep Test presented by Kaplan*

**Saturday, March 10, 10:30am-2:00pm**

This is a great opportunity for students to take a practice test in a realistic setting. Each student will receive a detailed report of his/her test results within two weeks of taking the test. *To register, call 630-969-5625 or visit: [www.westmontlibrary.org](http://www.westmontlibrary.org).*

### *Hunger Games*

**Wednesday, March 21, 7:00pm**  
**Ages 12 and up**

Think you know the Hunger Games? Whether you are more like Katnis, Peeta, or Gale, show your knowledge and survival skills during a night of Hunger Games trivia, games, and activities. If you survive...snacks will be provided. *To register, call 630-969-5625 or visit: [www.westmontlibrary.org](http://www.westmontlibrary.org).*

### *Clash of the Cupcakes*

**Thursday, April 5, 7:00pm, Ages 12 and up**

Put your creative skills to work at this contest for the next cupcake boss! Register as a contestant for the chance to win a prize! The library will provide all the materials. Bring your friends to cheer you on! Refreshments will be provided for everyone who attends! *To register, call 630-969-5625 or visit: [www.westmontlibrary.org](http://www.westmontlibrary.org).*

# PRESENTATIONS & WORKSHOPS

# COMPUTER CLASSES

## *Technology Petting Zoo*

Tuesday, March 13, 7:00pm

Best Buy's Geek Squad will be here to discuss the hottest gadgets on the market and tell you what to look for when you shop. After the presentation you will be able to test out various gadgets for yourself and ask the Geek Squad questions about various devices. *To register, call 630-969-5625 or visit: [www.westmontlibrary.org](http://www.westmontlibrary.org).*

## *Introduction to Social Networking*

Wednesday, April 25, 7:00pm

Learn about popular social networking sites like Facebook and Twitter, including everything you need to set up an account and get connected with friends, family, and your favorite organizations. *To register, call 630-969-5625 or visit: [www.westmontlibrary.org](http://www.westmontlibrary.org)*

## *eReaders, eBooks & Your Library*

Call 630-969-5625 for an appointment!

Check out eBooks for free with your library card! Book a one-on-one appointment with a librarian to learn the basics on downloading, eBook and eReader features, and how to get the most out of Media on Demand's eBook collection.

## *Discover the Artisan World of Chocolate*

Wednesday, May 16, 7:00pm

Chocolatier Kevin Roblee will be on hand to excite the conversation about chocolate and explain the finer attributes of chocolate enjoyment. Additionally, everyone is invited to the chocolate table to enjoy *KOKKU Distinctive Gourmet's* unique and irresistible gourmet chocolate liquid couvertures for dipping fondue style. *To register, call 630-969-5625 or visit: [www.westmontlibrary.org](http://www.westmontlibrary.org).*

## UN EVENTO ESPECIAL (En Espanol)

*Motivando a la Lectura en Coneccion con Matematicas: Segunda Parte*

Martes, 22 de Mayo, 6:30pm

Invitamos a la comunidad a participar en la segunda parte del taller "Motivando a la Lectura" ahora en coneccion con matematicas. Con la educadora comunitaria, Maria A Padilla.

\*Bebidas y bocadillos seran servidos

\* Niños son bienvenidos

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*

Monday, March 5, 6:30-8:30pm

Learn about the main parts of a computer, common devices, storage, and software.

#### *Internet Basics*

Monday, March 19, 6:30-8:30pm

Find out about web pages, hyperlinks, searching online and printing from a website.

#### *Email for Beginners*

Monday, April 9, 6:30-8:30pm

Use email to confidently communicate after taking this introductory course that uses Yahoo Mail as an example.

#### *Excel 2010 for Beginners*

Monday, April 16, 6:30-8:30pm

Learn basic formatting and editing in Excel along with keyboard shortcuts, formulas, and charts.

#### *Microsoft Word 2010 for Beginners*

Monday, May 21, 6:30-8:30pm

Practice creating and saving documents, moving text, plus several useful keyboard shortcuts.

### Intermediate Classes

For those with previous computer experience.

If you are not familiar with computer applications and programs, try a beginner class first.

#### *Intermediate Computers*

Monday, March 12, 6:30-8:30pm

#### *Intermediate Internet*

Monday, April 2, 6:30-8:30pm

#### *Intermediate Excel 2010*

Monday, April 30, 6:30-8:30pm

#### *Excel Graphs & Charts*

Monday, May 7, 6:30-8:30pm

ADULTS

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

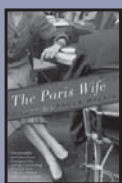
Dates and programs are subject to change. Please check the library website for updated information at: [www.westmontlibrary.org](http://www.westmontlibrary.org).

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

# Featuring: *The Paris Wife* by Paula McLain

-5-

## Book Discussion: *The Paris Wife*



Wednesday, March 14, 12:00pm  
Join us for a lively discussion and find out what others think of the book. Bring a brown bag lunch and we will provide the dessert! *To register, call 630-969-5625 or visit: [www.westmontlibrary.org](http://www.westmontlibrary.org)*

## Petra van Nuis Jazz Quartet Sunday, March 25th, 2:00pm

Enjoy a live performance from one of Chicago's premier Jazz groups as they fill the library with music from the 1920s Jazz era. Vocalist Petra van Nuis will mesmerize audiences with her stunning vocals as these four internationally known musicians lead us on a musical journey with a unique song list that focuses on the timeless sounds of Jazz. *To register, call 630-969-5625 or visit: [www.westmontlibrary.org](http://www.westmontlibrary.org)*

## Hemingway of the Heartland Wednesday, April 4, 7:00pm

Redd Griffin, founding director of the Ernest Hemingway Foundation of Oak Park, will speak about Hemingway's experiences and writing in the Midwest. He will discuss the prosaic, poetic, and spiritual aspects of Hemingway's work, from his Illinois beginnings to his peak years on four continents. *To register, call 630-969-5625 or visit: [www.westmontlibrary.org](http://www.westmontlibrary.org)*

## Images of the Roaring 20s

Monday, April 16, 7:00pm

Art historian, Jeff Mishur, will take us back to one of the most exciting periods in American history with a slide lecture focusing on the 1920's. The presentation will touch on the newly liberated women known as "flappers," as well as the Art Deco design trends of the period. *To register, call 630-969-5625 or visit: [www.westmontlibrary.org](http://www.westmontlibrary.org)*

## Film Screening: *Midnight in Paris*

Tuesday, April 24, 6:00-8:00pm

Rated PG-13

This movie, starring Owen Wilson and Rachel McAdams, tells the story of a man who looks for inspiration by taking midnight walks through Paris, imagining what the city was like during the golden age of the 1920s. Join us for free refreshments and a brief discussion following the film. *No registration is necessary.*

## A Visit with Paula McLain

Thursday, May 3, 7:00pm

Location: Ashton Place

Enjoy the personal reflections of Paula McLain as she discusses her motivation for writing *The Paris Wife*, her painstaking research, and her remarkable ability to immerse herself in this world she created. *Register by calling 630-969-5625 or online at [thebigread.org](http://thebigread.org).*

THE BIG READ

THE KIDS READ

## Featuring: *The Invention of Hugo Cabret* by Brian Selznick

### *An Elegant Afternoon*

Sunday, March 4

2:00-3:30pm, Ages 9-11

Come to the library and get fancy like a real Parisian lady! We will make perfume, create a flapper headband, and take black & white pictures in front of the Eiffel Tower! *To register, call 630-969-5625 or visit: [www.westmontlibrary.org](http://www.westmontlibrary.org).*

### *Science Saturday: Learn About Simple Machines*

Saturday, March 17

1:00-2:30pm, Ages 7-11

Learn how Hugo kept the clocks in working order as we explore making simple machines. *To register, call 630-969-5625 or visit: [www.westmontlibrary.org](http://www.westmontlibrary.org).*

### *Kids Read Finale Party*

Wednesday, March 28

6:30-8:00pm

Ages 4 and up with a parent

Enjoy the tastes of France at our snack bar and try out a few of our craft stations where you can create different projects related to the Kids Read book. This is a drop-in program and will take about 30 minutes from arrival time to complete all activities. *To register, call 630-969-5625 or visit: [www.westmontlibrary.org](http://www.westmontlibrary.org).*



## SPRING Movie Screenings

*No registration is required! All attendees under the age of 9 must be accompanied by a caregiver.*

### *Diary of a Wimpy Kid: Rodrick Rules*

Friday, March 30, 2:00pm

Greg and his mean, older brother Rodrick are forced to spend time together to help end their feuding. *Rated PG*

### *Hugo (pending release date)* Sunday, April 15, 2:00pm

Watch the movie based on our Kids Read book! If *Hugo* is not released, another great kids movie will be shown in its place! *Rated PG*



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:  
 Friday, May 18  
 Sunday, May 27  
 Monday, May 28

Postal Patron  
 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:**

Amy Porter, *President*  
 Elaine Carmichael, *Vice President*  
 Shana Scheid, *Secretary*  
 John Martens, *Treasurer*  
 Jason Fichtel  
 Chris Gorman  
 Megan Stern

Christine Kuhn, *Library Director*  
 Julia Coen, *Assistant Director*  
 Manisha Suri, *Support 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

**Don't forget!**

Program registration is online at:  
 www.westmontlibrary.org

## Director's Column

by Christine Kuhn

Recently I decided to relearn breadmaking. I checked out a few books and skimmed some magazines and came across a very basic, can't fail recipe.

Libraries are about connecting people to the information and tools they need to succeed, regardless of the need.

People use the library to satisfy their curiosity about the world, or Westmont, or job opportunities or breadmaking.

Some people use the library to stimulate their imaginations; checking out books, music and movies or taking in a program or two.

Of late many parents and children are using the library to

engage in early literacy activities, ones that develop the skills needed to read in order to learn.

And some people use the library to engage with technology. They use the high speed computers because they don't have one at home. Or they learn more about how to use the widgets, gadgets and ebook readers.

The no-fail recipe? It failed. I persevered, made a second loaf and had yummy homemade bread for a week. After six weeks of successes I want to know more.

What do you want to know more about?

## Spring Fiction Releases

*The Book of Lost Fragrances* by M J Rose  
*Clawback* by Mike Cooper  
*Crystal Gardens* Amanda Quick  
*Drawing Conclusions* by Donna Leon  
*Home Front* by Kristin Hannah  
*Island of Wings* by Karin Altenberg  
*Julla's Child* by Sarah Pinneo  
*The Last Boyfriend* by Nora Roberts

*Lunatics* by Dave Berry and Alan Zweibel  
*Monday Mornings* by Sanjay Gupta  
*The Professionals* by Owen Laukkanen  
*Promise Me This* by Cathy Gohlke  
*Requiem* by Frances Itani  
*Sonoma Rose* by Jennifer Chiaverini  
*Stay Close* by Harlan Coben