



**WESTMONT  
PUBLIC LIBRARY**

**THE EXPLORER**

DECEMBER 2014  
JANUARY 2015  
FEBRUARY 2015

428 N Cass Ave, Westmont IL, 60559  
630 969 5625 | [westmontlibrary.org](http://westmontlibrary.org)



## COMMUNITY SURVEY

The library is gathering feedback from the community to help determine current needs as well as plan for future projects and services. One of the tools being used is a community-wide survey that asks for input regarding early literacy, facility projects, hours of operation, and more. You will find the survey on page 8 of this newsletter.

Once the survey is complete, fold and tape it closed so that the pre-paid, self-addressed portion is showing and drop it in the **mail before December 19, 2014.**

This same survey is available on the Westmont Public Library website at [westmontlibrary.org/survey](http://westmontlibrary.org/survey) if you prefer to fill it out online. If you have any questions, please call the library at 630 969 5625.

## WESTMONT READS *THE WIZARD OF OZ*

Join us for Westmont Reads this winter as we travel on a magical journey to Oz. Westmont Reads is a community reading event sponsored by the Westmont Public Library and created to encourage everyone in Westmont to read, discuss, and explore a classic book.

This year's selection is the enchanting story of *The Wonderful Wizard of Oz*. To facilitate participation, the library is giving away free copies of the book! Pick up your copy beginning the weekend following Thanksgiving. The ebook and eaudiobook, as well as digital editions of other Oz stories, are available to download for free from Project Gutenberg ([gutenberg.org](http://gutenberg.org)). For more information about Westmont Reads, visit [westmontlibrary.org/westmontreads](http://westmontlibrary.org/westmontreads).



*Look for this Oz symbol throughout the newsletter to help you find all of the Westmont Reads events offered at the library this winter.*

## PATRON APPRECIATION DAY!

**Thursday, December 11, 3 – 5 pm**

The library lobby will be transformed into the Emerald City as we begin celebrating the 2015 Westmont Reads featured title with fun for all ages. Try on the apparel of an Emerald City resident, snap a photo of your face as one of the four main characters in the book, and try delicious green treats.

## SPECIAL OFFER: PVPN OZ PERFORMANCE TICKETS

When you pick up a copy of the Westmont Reads book, you will get one complimentary ticket, while supplies last, to a performance of The Progressive Village Performance Network's *The Wizard of Oz*, which will be presented in June, 2015.

## IN THE ART GALLERY

Enjoy the work of the following artists this winter in our second floor gallery.

**December:** Valerie O'Connor — Portrait Drawings and Paintings

**January:** PRC Students — Acrylics, Watercolors, and Drawings

**February:** Midwest SOARRING Foundation — Pow Wow Photographs



### LANGUAGE STORYTIME (AGES 0 – 6)

**Mondays, 12/1 – 12/15 + 1/19 – 2/23, 10:15 – 10:45 am**

Introduce your little one to a foreign language as we read stories and enjoy play-based learning in Spanish, Mandarin, or French, depending on the week.

*Co-sponsored by Language Stars.*

### PRE-READER STORYTIME (AGES 4+)

**Tuesdays, 12/2 – 12/16 + 1/20 – 2/24, 10:15 – 10:45 am**

Children will have fun with stories, music, and fingerplays, while learning two letters and their sounds each week. Crafts and sensory items will be sent home to reinforce the lessons.

### BABY + TODDLER STORYTIME (AGES 0 – 5)

**Wednesdays, 12/3 – 12/17 + 1/21 – 2/25, 10:15 – 10:45 am**

Children will enjoy songs, stories, and fingerplays surrounded by a caregiver and a group of their peers.

### MUSIC + MOVEMENT STORYTIME (AGES 0 – 6)

**Thursdays, 12/4 – 12/18 + 1/22 – 2/26, 10:15 – 10:45 am**

Share a story or two. Get moving to the music and fingerplays. Have fun with shakers, instruments, scarves, and more!

Programs with a ✓ require registration.

To register, call **630 969 5625** or sign up online at **westmontlibrary.org**.

### TODDLER + ME PLAYGROUP (AGES 0 – 6)

**Wednesdays + Thursdays, December – February  
Following Storytime**

This popular baby and tot time includes toys, books, and snacks for kids and their grown-ups. Drop in and socialize with other parents while your toddler plays!

### WIZARD OF OZ STORYTIME + DANCE (AGES 2 – 5) ✓

**Sunday, January 25, 2 pm**

Come and hear the story of *The Wizard of Oz*, help retell it, and then learn several ballet moves based on the story.

*Co-sponsored by Expression Dance Studio.*

### SNOWY STORYTIME (AGES 3 – 6) ✓

**Sunday, February 15, 2 – 3 pm**

Come listen to some wintery stories, build a snowman, and warm up with cocoa.

**NOTES ON PROGRAMMING:** Staff ask all parents to be prompt when bringing children to library events. Any late arrivals may find their spot forfeited. Staff may refuse entrance to 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. Programs, events and classes are photographed or videotaped for library promotional purposes. Notify library staff if you prefer not to be photographed.

*Individuals requiring accommodation for a disability for any library program should contact the library at least five days before the program.*





## THE LEGEND OF ST. NICHOLAS ✓

**Saturday, December 6, 2 – 3 pm**

You'd better watch out! Old English Father Christmas tells the stories of St. Nicholas, the protector of children throughout the ages. Learn about the origins of St. Nicholas characters in various countries, as well as popular Christmas symbols, and worldwide Christmas traditions.

## HOLIDAY GIFT MAKING ✓

**Saturday, December 13, 2 – 3:30 pm**

Create four items that you can choose to give as gifts for the holiday season in this craft session.

## LEGO ROBOTICS ✓

**Tuesdays, 1/6, 1/20, 2/10, 2/24, 4 – 5:30 pm**

Have fun playing and learning with LEGO robotics. We will be using our creative juices to design and build robots that can solve some simple and complex problems.

*Registration is required for only the first session; you will automatically be signed up for all additional sessions.*

## VIDEOGAME DESIGN CLUB ✓

**Thursdays, 1/8, 1/22, 2/12, 2/26, 4 – 5:30 pm**

This club will take you through the steps of designing your very own video game using MIT's game design program, **Scratch!**

*Registration is required for only the first session; you will automatically be signed up for all additional sessions.*

## 3D DESIGN CLASS ✓

**Monday, January 19, 4 – 5:30 pm**

Ever wonder how designers create 3D objects for printing or design fantastic objects in movies? Join us to learn how to design 3D objects using **Tinkercad**. Objects will be printed by Microcenter, and available for class members to pick up and take home one week after class.

## MELIKIN PUPPET THEATER PRESENTS ✓ "DRAGON FEATHERS" (AGES 5+)

**Saturday, January 24, 2 – 3 pm**

The Melikin Puppet Theatre presents their widely acclaimed production of "Dragon Feathers!" The story is a delightful collection of myths, legends, fables, and the history of dragons told through the art of puppets. Merlin the Magician is the host and will present his humorous and informative lecture on dragons and tell three of his favorite dragon stories. You won't want to miss the grand finale where every audience member participates!

## READERS' THEATRE: *THE WIZARD OF OZ* 📖 ✓ (AGES 8 – 13 / GRADES 3 – 8)

**Monday, February 16**

**Rehearsal: 3:30 – 6 pm; Performance: 7 – 8 pm**

Learn the basics about Readers' Theatre and then put what you learned to practice in a live evening performance. Each person who attends will be assigned a role to learn in *The Wizard of Oz*, and we will perform the production for family and friends. A pizza dinner will be provided.

*Please note that although Readers' Theatre does not require memorization, there is a significant amount of reading, as well as reading in public. Please keep this in mind when registering your child for this event.*

## SCIENCE SESSION: LET'S TALK **BIG CATS** (AGES 5+) 📖 ✓

**Wednesday, February 18, 4 – 5 pm**

Explore the world of cats, large and small, with Brookfield Zoo expert Jane Klimcke. Learn what makes them expert hunters and how they survive in a wide variety of habitats, and compare a pet cat to its wild relatives. Kids will explore biofacts such as skulls, pelts, and more.

Programs with a ✓ require registration.

To register, call **630 969 5625** or sign up online at **westmontlibrary.org**.





**DETECTIVE FOR A NIGHT** ✓**Thursday, December 4, 6:30 – 8:30 pm**

Join Detective Borgardt with the Westmont Police Department as he introduces you to the basics of forensic science. You will work “hands on” to learn about collecting fingerprints and crime scene evidence. WJHS students should check with their teachers about receiving extra credit for participating in this program.

**PREPARING FOR COLLEGE: ACT PRACTICE TEST** ✓**Saturday, December 6, 9:30 am – 1 pm**

The ACT tests what you’ve learned in high school core courses, and many colleges use ACT results to make decisions about admission, course placement, and scholarships. Learn what it’s like to take the ACT at this practice exam.

See **PARENTS PREPARING FOR COLLEGE** on page 12 for information about receiving test results.

**PAYING FOR COLLEGE: FACTS ABOUT FAFSA** ✓**Wednesday, January 21, 7 – 8:30 pm**

Are you wondering how to pay for college? The Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) is one way you can get help. In this seminar, high school seniors will learn about sample FAFSA questions, find out how student FAFSA information is used, and learn how to read an award letter from a college or university.

**TEEN DECORATING DAY FOR WESTMONT READS** 🍷 ✓**Saturday, December 27, 1 – 3 pm**

Help turn the youth area into Munchkin Land, the Emerald City and other Oz locations. Who knows . . . there may even be Flying Monkeys!

**EDIBLE EMERALD CITY** 🍷 ✓**Monday, January 12, 7 – 8 pm**

Create your own edible version of the Emerald City using only green food and candy items! Yum!

**FAMILY STORYTIME: THE NIGHT TREE** ✓**Wednesday, December 17, 6:30 pm**

In the classic children’s story, *The Night Tree*, by Eve Bunting, a young boy and his family visit the forest and leave gifts of popcorn, apples, and sunflower seed balls. Bring your family to the library for a night to remember, as we make special treats to share with our animal friends.

**FAMILY LEGO NIGHTS****Thursdays, 12/18, 1/15, 2/19, 6:30 – 8 pm**

Looking for something fun, creative, and free to do with the whole family? Head over to the library and make a LEGO creation with library provided materials. After the program, we will display the masterpieces in the youth area for all to enjoy!

**THE MUPPETS’ WIZARD OF OZ MOVIE** 🍷 ✓**Sunday, February 1, 2 – 4 pm**

Join us for a viewing of *The Muppets’ Wizard of Oz* (Rated G) and make your own “yellow brick road” trail mix to enjoy while you watch!

**A CELEBRATION SOMEWHERE OVER THE RAINBOW** 🍷**Friday, February 27, 6 – 8 pm**

Join us in the Land of Oz for a night of carnival games, Wizard of Oz sing-alongs, and other family fun that you won’t want to miss!

Programs with a ✓ require registration.

To register, call **630 969 5625** or sign up online at **westmontlibrary.org**.





## 4TH MONDAY BOOK GROUP

**Mondays, January 26 + February 23, 7 – 9 pm**

Share your thoughts and opinions on popular titles! This group meets monthly in the library meeting room. Books are available for checkout one month in advance.

**January:** *And the Mountains Echoed* by Khaled Hosseini

**February:** *Eleanor & Park* by Rainbow Rowell

## UNREAL WORLD BOOK CLUB

**Tuesdays, 12/2, 1/6, 2/3, 7 – 9 pm**

Come talk about books set in imaginative times and places. We meet monthly at Vincitori, 14 N Cass Ave, Westmont, IL.

**December:** *The Stupidest Angel: A Heartwarming Tale of Christmas Terror* by Christopher Moore

**January:** *Witches of East End* by Melissa de la Cruz

**February:** *Wicked: The Life and Times of the Wicked Witch of the West* by Gregory Maguire

## NONFICTION BOOK CLUB

**Saturdays, 12/6, 1/3, 2/4, 10:30 am – 12 pm**

Join this monthly book group that has lively discussions about current topics and issues. We'll explore biographies, memoirs, psychology, politics and more.

**December:** *The Mockingbird Next Door* by Marja Mills

**January:** *The Underground Girls of Kabul* by Jenny Nordberg

**February:** *Tale of the Dueling Neurosurgeons* by Sam Kean

## ZUMBA (AGES 16+) ✓

**Mondays, 12/8, 1/5, 2/2, 7 – 8 pm**

Zumba combines high energy music with unique moves for a fun workout! Please dress comfortably and wear appropriate footwear.

## KNIT CLIQUE

**Tuesdays, 12/2, 1/6, 2/3, 6:30 – 8 pm**

Beginners and experienced crafters alike are invited to attend this casual group. Bring along your skills and projects and enjoy the needle arts with us!

## TEAM TRIVIA NIGHTS AT SWEET & SAVORY SPOT

**Wednesdays, 12/10, 1/7, 1/21, 2/4, 2/18, 7 – 9 pm**

Bring your friends out for a pub quiz challenge run by the WPL librarians. Grab a bite to eat and flex your knowledge skills while competing for cool prizes.

*Location: Sweet & Savory Spot, 31 N Cass Ave.*

## WRITERS GROUP

**Thursdays, 12/11, 1/8, 1/22, 2/12, 2/26, 7 – 8:30 pm**

This interactive group is for adults interested in getting feedback from their peers on original writing.

## ENGLISH CONVERSATION GROUP

**Saturdays, 12/13, 12/27, 1/10, 1/24, 2/14, 2/28  
10 am – 12 pm**

This informal and friendly conversation group is for all adult English learners. Join us as we improve our verbal English skills.

*Co-sponsored by Literacy DuPage.*



Programs with a ✓ require registration.

To register, call **630 969 5625** or sign up online at **westmontlibrary.org**.



## PRESENTACIÓN INFORMATIVA E INSCRIPCIONES ✓ GRATUITAS PARA LA OBTENCIÓN DE SEGURO MÉDICO A SU ALCANCE

**Miércoles, 3 de Diciembre, 6 pm**

Asesores de solicitudes certificados de Enroll DuPage darán una presentación informativa acerca de la nueva ley de cobertura médica. Así mismo estarán ofreciendo asistencia gratuita para ayudarle a inscribirse en las aseguradoras médicas. Puede hacer su cita durante las presentación. Bebidas y galletas serán servidos.

*Registración es preferida 630 969 5625 ext. 228.*

## REDUCING HOLIDAY STRESS THROUGH MEDITATION ✓

**Tuesday, December 9, 7 pm**

Discover a simple, yet powerful meditation technique that can enrich your life and help with seasonal stress! Learn about the extraordinary effect of meditation on reducing stress-related responses, improving concentration, and enhancing clarity. Michael Riber, who has been practicing meditation for more than 40 years, will present.

## THE AFFORDABLE CARE ACT: THE SECOND ENROLLMENT PERIOD ✓

**Wednesday, December 10, 2 pm**

A representative from the Dupage County Health Department will discuss changes to the ACA for the second enrollment period. You will have the opportunity to sign up for an appointment to apply for health coverage with a trained navigator at the presentation. Coffee & cookies will be served.

## PARENTS PREPARING FOR COLLEGE: ✓ ACT PRACTICE TEST RESULTS

**Thursday, December 11, 6:30 pm**

Find out your student's score on the ACT practice test. This will help you and your student better prepare for the February test date by learning areas of strengths and weaknesses.

See **PREPARING FOR COLLEGE** on page 8 for information on the practice test.

## COMPUTER CLASSES

### COMPUTER BASICS ✓

**Tuesday, January 20, 6:30 – 8:30 pm**

This class provides beginner level instruction on computer use and common applications.

### EXCEL BASICS ✓

**Monday, February 9, 6:30 – 8:30 pm**

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

### EMAIL BASICS ✓

**Tuesday, February 10, 6:30 – 8:30 pm**

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

## CROSSWORD PUZZLE TOURNAMENT ✓

**Sunday, December 21, 2 – 4 pm**

Take your crossword puzzle skills to the next level and prove you are a champion! Compete for valuable prizes as you solve progressively harder puzzles within a given amount of time.

## WICKED WITCH OF THE WEST WREATH 🍷 ✓

**Wednesday, January 14, 7 – 8:30 pm**

Create a unique wreath decorated in honor of your favorite witch from *The Wizard of Oz*. The library will provide the supplies and inspiration for the project, so come ready to get crafty with local expert, Paul Elias!





## PROGRESSIVE VILLAGE PERFORMANCE NETWORK PRESENTS AT THE LIBRARY

### *IT'S A WONDERFUL LIFE* (ALL AGES)

**Friday, December 12, 7 pm**

Join us as PVPN presents their annual holiday presentation, *It's a Wonderful Life*. Audience members will step back in time to witness 1940s style radio come to life with live performers, music, and old time commercials, using current Westmont businesses. Based on the classic holiday film that tells the story of George Bailey, who with the help of his guardian angel, is able to witness what life would be like if he was never born. This FREE show is directed by Cassandra Johnson and produced by Robert Mackert.

*PVPN asks for non-perishable food items, clothing, or toys in lieu of admission.*

### *THE MARVELOUS LAND OF OZ* CHILDREN'S PLAY

**Saturday, January 17, 2:00 pm**

**Sunday, January 18, 2:00 pm**

PVPN, Jr. presents *The Marvelous Land of Oz*, the sequel to *The Wizard of Oz*. This story takes place right after Dorothy's departure from Oz and tells the tale of Tip, a young boy who sets off on a journey away from his evil guardian Mombi to the Emerald City to find freedom and happiness. Familiar characters appear to help Tip along his journey. Join us for the PVPN's first children's production performed in a new format, by kids, for kids!

### TAX TALK

**Wednesday, January 28 or February 25, 6:30 – 8:30 pm**

Discuss rising healthcare costs and retirement savings at this informative presentation. Participants will get an introduction to Medicare coverage, how to estimate long-term care costs, and available supplemental coverage options.

### PREPARE FOR SEVERE WEATHER

**Saturday, February 14, 2 – 3 pm**

Meteorologist Amy Seeley of the National Weather Center will discuss how to prepare for severe weather events including tornados, flooding, and hail. Oh my!

### STORMWATER FROM THE GROUND UP

**Saturday, February 21, 1 – 2 pm**

The League of Women Voters Lake Michigan Region will provide an educational program on stormwater management to help you take steps to prevent flooding and runoff.

*Co-Sponsored by the League of Women Voters of Downers Grove.*

### ROBYN VITSON SINGS JUDY GARLAND'S HITS

**Sunday, February 22, 3 – 4 pm**

Judy Garland was described by Fred Astaire as "the greatest entertainer who ever lived" and was renowned for her unique vocals. Join popular Chicago musician, Robyn Vitson, as she performs Judy Garland's classic hits, including "Get Happy," "Have Yourself A Merry Little Christmas," "The Man That Got Away," "The Trolley Song," and, of course, "Over the Rainbow."

### CHANGE SOMEONE'S LIFE: BECOME A LITERACY VOLUNTEER

**Tuesday, February 24, 7 – 8:30 pm**

Explore the possibility of tutoring adults who need help with reading, writing, speaking, and understanding English. Find out more about how you can help change lives and impact future generations in this volunteer orientation session! You must attend this orientation before becoming a volunteer.

*Program will be held at Westmont Public Library. Space is limited.  
Co-sponsored by Literacy DuPage. Please call 630 416 6699 to register.*





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

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**Library Hours**

- Monday – Thursday 10 am – 9 pm
- Friday + Saturday 10 am – 5 pm
- Sunday 1 pm – 5 pm

For more information, please contact us at

- 630 969 5625
- 630 969 6490 (fax)
- [westmontlibrary@westmontlibrary.org](mailto:westmontlibrary@westmontlibrary.org)

Westmont Public Library

428 N Cass Ave

Westmont IL, 60559

[westmontlibrary.org](http://westmontlibrary.org)

**Library Closings**

- Wednesday, November 25 (5 pm closing)
- Thursday, November 26
- Wednesday, December 24
- Thursday, December 25
- Wednesday, December 31
- Thursday, January 1

Postal Patron

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