

The EXPLORER

A Publication of the Westmont Public Library

Vol. 5, Issue 1 March-May 2011

In this Issue:

- *Youth Programs, Pg. 2*
- *The Kids Read Too!, Pg. 2*
- *Adult Programs, Pg. 3*
- *Adult Computer Classes, Pg. 3*
- *Director's Column, Pg. 4*
- *4th Monday Book Group, Pg. 4*

*Un Evento Especial
(en Español)
Motivando a la Lectura
Martes, 10 de Mayo,
6:30PM*

Invitamos a la comunidad a participar en el taller "Motivando a la Lectura" con la presentadora Maria Padilla, Educador Comunitario. Aprendiendo como motivar su niños en la lectura. Ideas de manualidades en coneccion con la lectura. Bebidas y bocadillos serán servidas. Niños son bienvenidos!

Teen Tech Week

Join us as we celebrate Teen Tech Week with a variety of games and events all geared towards helping teens explore new and fun ways to work and play with technology. All programs are open to ages 13-18.

Online Photography & Poetry Gallery:
From February 14th - March 12th, local teens will be able to submit poetry or digital photography to WPL's Tech Week website. Each contributor may submit up to five pieces of each type. Work will be available for viewing from March 5th onward.

How to Make Your Own Booktrailers:
Saturday, March 5th, 1:30-4:30pm
Create a trailer for your favorite book! Teens will create short videos advertising a book of their choice using Windows Movie Maker. The videos will be uploaded to YouTube and posted on WPL's Teen Tech Week website. REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED!

Minecraft LAN:
Wednesday, March 9th, 5:30-8:30pm
Our laptop lab is converted into a gaming center where participants play a 12

person game of Minecraft hosted on our private network. Explore a massive world, build anything you can imagine, and fight off zombies at night! REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED!

Rock Band Tournament:
Tuesday, March 8th, 5:30-8:30pm
Future rockstars needed! The library is having a Rock Band tournament and will offer valuable prizes to the winners! Bring your friends to cheer you on! Snacks will be provided through a generous donation from Chipotle!

Big Read 2011

Heroism and racism collide in post-Hurricane Katrina New Orleans. *Zeitoun* by Dave Eggers is a thought provoking book that delves into issues facing Arab Americans and Muslims living in the United States.

Syrian-American businessman, Abdulrahman Zeitoun, suddenly disappears from New

Orleans after days of offering help to stranded Hurricane Katrina victims. What follows is an account of Zeitoun's arrest and imprisonment due to his race and religion.

During March and April, ten area libraries will offer programs and events related to topics covered in *Zeitoun*. All programs



are open to patrons of participating libraries. See page three of this newsletter for programs at WPL or pick up a resource guide in the library for a full list of Big Read events offered at all libraries.

WPL Celebrates National Library Week

In honor of National Library Week, April 10th-16th, WPL offers a 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 fines while the

library is open.

Amnesty may not be applied to fines incurred at other libraries, damaged, lost or replacement items. See a staff member for more details.

Additionally, WPL wants to know what your favorite childhood book

was and why! A form will be available beginning March 14th at the library's Adult Help Desk and online. We will display the results in the library and on our website during National Library Week!

YOUTH PROGRAMS

⊖ Toddler & Me Playgroup

*Thursdays, 10:45AM, Ages 0-4

Bring your young children to a special 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.

📖 St. Patrick's Day Drop-In Craft

Saturday, March 12th, 1-3PM

Ages 5-9



Register for the program but feel free to stop by anytime between 1-3PM and make a St. Patrick's Day themed craft! Crafts will take about 30 minutes to make.

⊖ Teen Decoration Day

Saturday, March 19th, 12-3PM

Ages 12 and up

Join TeenTeam volunteers as we decorate the library for spring. Help create craft projects to hang in the building and paint the windows facing Cass Ave.!

📖 Stuffed Animal Sleepover

Wednesday, March 30th, 6:30PM

All ages

Bring your favorite stuffed animal to the library to listen to stories and decorate a picture frame. While you sleep at home, your stuffed animal will have fun at WPL! Then, when you come back to pick up your toy, we will give you a picture of your animal playing in the library overnight!



📖♥ Cajun Celebration

Monday, April 11th, 6:30PM

All ages with a parent



Both children and adults will enjoy this evening of family fun! We will read the book *A Place Where Hurricanes Happen* by Renee Watson and spend the evening exploring New Orleans culture with games, crafts, and snacks!

YOUTH PROGRAMS

📖♥ The Kids Read Too! Science Workshop

Saturday, April 16th, 1-2:00PM

Ages 6-11

What are hurricanes and why don't we have them in Illinois? Learn about these fierce storms and other types of weather in this hands-on, inquiry-based science workshop!

📖 Art4Preschoolers

Saturday, May 7th, 1-2:30PM

Ages 3-6



Children will have fun practicing basic art concepts and techniques while working with different mediums. Each child will create a beautiful project to take home.

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.

Spring Storytimes

March 1st-24th,
April 11th-May 12th

⊖ Bilingual Storytime
Every 2nd & 4th Monday @ 11:30AM

⊖ Pre-Readers Storytimes
Tuesdays @10:15AM
Ages 4-5

⊖ Afternoon Storytimes
Tuesdays @ 4:00PM
Ages 0-6

⊖ Talkers Storytimes
Wednesdays @10:15AM
Ages 2-3

⊖ Early Talkers Storytimes
Thursdays @10:15AM
Ages 0-2



all related to the book, *A Place Where Hurricanes Happen* by

NEW! We are excited to introduce a new program series inspired by the Big Read adult program. The Kids Read Too! is a cooperative effort of 10 local libraries that brings you a series of events

Renee Watson.

The book follows four children living in New Orleans and the various paths they are forced to take when hurricane Katrina strikes. Written in free verse, the books tells a moving tale of how children learn to deal with tragedy.

The Kids Read Too! programs are open to residents of participating libraries. Events offered at WPL are listed above. For a full list of programs, pick up a resource guide at the Youth Services desk!

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.

ADULT PROGRAMS

⊖⊕ *Writers' Group*

Thursdays, 3/10 & 3/24, 4/14 & 4/28, 5/12 & 5/26, 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, 3/12 & 3/26, 4/9 & 4/23, 5/14 & 5/28, 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!

⊖ *NEW! Knit Clique*

1st Tuesdays: 3/1, 4/5, 5/3, 6:30-8:30PM

3rd Wednesdays: 3/16, 4/20, 5/18, 12:00-2:00PM

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 knit 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.

📖♥ *Islamic Art & Architecture (Big Read event)*

Sunday, March 6th, 2PM

Explore the visual culture of the Islamic world. Sabahat Aldi will display images that reveal how artisans in Islamic lands explored four major themes of decoration in their artwork and architecture—figures, writing, geometry, and vegetation.

📖♥ *Silent Disasters (Big Read event)*

Wednesday, March 23rd, 7PM

Jan P. Hessler, retired physicist from Argonne National Laboratory, will discuss how our growing population and climate change will influence natural disasters in the future and how we can lessen their impact.

📖♥ *K-9 Search & Rescue (Big Read event)*

Thursday, April 7th, 7PM

Illinois-Wisconsin Search and Rescue Dogs handler, Patti, will bring her bloodhound, Maggie, to explain why bloodhounds excel at tracking people, how the teams are trained, and in what situations they are called for assistance.

📖♥ *Taste of Mardi Gras (Big Read event)*

Wednesday, April 13th, 7PM

Popular chef, Dave Esau, will tickle your taste buds with typical Mardi Gras fare—beignets, gumbo, and fritters. Tastings and recipes included!

📖 *Disaster Preparedness (Big Read event)*

Thursday, April 21st, 7PM

Have you noticed that today's headlines seem to be filled with stories about earthquakes, hurricanes, floods, terrorist attacks and other life changing events? Would you know what to do if your family were faced with such a disaster? Michael Venetis, co-founder of www.ThePrepRoom.net, will tell us what we can do to prepare and protect our families.

ADULT PROGRAMS

📖 *An Introduction to ADHD/ADD*

Tuesday, April 26th, 7PM

Do you think your child may be exhibiting symptoms of Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder or Attention Deficit Disorder? Are you a parent of a child recently diagnosed with one of these disorders? Come listen to Bethany Genebacher, MSW, LCSW, CADC with LifeWork Counseling and learn what a diagnosis will mean for you and your child, as well as the various treatment options available.

📖 *Community Blood Drive*

Tuesday, May 24th, 4-9PM

Did you know blood is perishable and only has a shelf life of 42 days? Help save a life by donating blood at the library. Please call the library to register for a time slot, but walk-ins will also be welcome! All donors will receive a free t-shirt! To be eligible, you must be between the ages 16 (with a parent)-75, have eaten within 4 hours prior to donation, present a photo ID, and bring a list of medications you take.

COMPUTER CLASSES FOR ADULTS

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 ext. 5.

Beginner Classes

For those with little or no previous computer knowledge.

Intro to Computers

Wednesday, March 2nd, 6:30-8:30PM

Internet Basics

Wednesday, April 20th, 6:30-8:30PM

Email for Beginners

Wednesday, May 4th, 6:30-8:30PM

Excel 2010 for Beginners

Wednesday, May 11th, 6:30-8:30PM

Microsoft Word 2010 for Beginners

Wednesday, May 25th, 6:30-8:30PM

Intermediate Classes

For those with some previous computer experience.

Intermediate Computers

Wednesday, April 6th, 6:30-8:30PM

Intermediate Internet

Wednesday, April 27th, 6:30-8:30PM

Intermediate Excel 2010

Wednesday, May 18th, 6:30-8:30PM

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.



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, March 4th, 2011
 Sunday, April 24th, 2011
 Friday, May 20th, 2011
 Sunday, May 29th, 2011
 Monday, May 30th, 2011



Postal Patron
 Westmont, IL 60559

Director's Column
 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:

Amy Porter, *President*
 Elaine Carmichael, *Vice President*
 Shana Scheid, *Secretary*
 John Martens, *Treasurer*
 Joyce Fedeczko
 Chris Gorman
 Christine Kaifesh

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

When it comes to tooting their own horn, libraries are too quiet for their own good.

And, yet, more than 6,000 Westmont residents have applied or renewed their Library cards this year. And overall use of the library is up more than 14% over last year. In fact, use of the Westmont Public Library has increased about 75% since the referendum passed in 2006!

This leads me to believe the people of Westmont already know that "Libraries are your

neighborhood's 'How To' resource. How to cook the perfect soufflé, write a better resume, find government information, do your homework." (www.atyourlibrary.org)

Visit your library today for free access to books, audiobooks, DVDs, CDs, storytimes, lectures, and family activities.

The library provides free access to the Internet for world news, job applications, online classes and tax forms.

Gain access to your library from home

to renew your books, update your SWAN account, and download e-audiobooks to your personal computer or mp3 player. Coming this April, WPL will offer free e-book downloads!

To watch this year's National Library Week Honorary Chairman, John Grisham, go to our website: westmontlibrary.org.

In a world where knowledge is power, libraries open doors to knowledge and bring power to any who want to enter.

4th Monday Book Group

Join us on the fourth Monday of every month at 7:00PM as we discuss popular titles. Books are available for checkout at the Main Desk one month in advance.

March 28th, 2011
Still Alice, by Lisa Genova

April 25th, 2011
Columbine, by Dave Cullen

May 23rd, 2011
Harvest, by Tess Gerritsen

Mardi Gras: 300 Years of French Creole Tradition
 Sunday, February 27th, 2011
 2:00pm

Experience the music and history of Mardi Gras with Dennis Stroughmatt who has spent years learning to speak Illinois French Creole. He will play the fiddle and sing many of the traditional songs that have permeated the region for over three hundred years. This program is made possible through a generous grant from the Illinois Humanities Council. Please call or go online to register!