

Library garden

The straw bale and raised bed gardens in front of the Library have been generating produce for the People's Resource Center (peoplesrc.org) food pantry for many years now. In 2023 alone, we donated more than 140 pounds of produce!

Our Master Gardeners regularly compost and reuse the straw as fertilizer for all of the Library's gardens, and all garden "waste" goes into a composter for reuse.



Book Swap

Drop-off: April 1 – 15 Adult Desk (1st floor) or Youth & Teen Desk (2nd floor)

Swap: Saturday, April 20, 10 am – 2 pm Kwasek Meeting Room (2nd floor)

Trade your gently used books for some new ones! Drop off your unwanted books at the Adult and Youth & Teen Services desks from April 1 – 15. Then come to the swap on April 20 to find some new-to-you reads. At the end of the event, unclaimed books will be donated to SCARCE (scarce.org).

You do not need to donate to attend the swap.

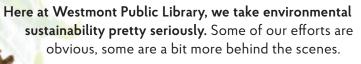
Please note, we will only be accepting books; no encyclopedias, reference materials, or magazines.



Saturday, April 27, 10 am - noon

Come to the Library to meet with a number of local garden related organizations. While you're here, learn more about Westmont Gardening Club, and be sure to drop by the first floor Community Meeting Room during the Expo to create a fun decoration for your garden!

At last year's Gardening Expo, families decorated terracotta pots before filling them with soil and seeds.



stalnap at the Library

Last year, we began the process of working toward our Earth Flag through SCARCE (scarce.org), which is supported by the DuPage County Environmental Committee.

Programming

Looking ahead to our spring programs, you'll notice a number of them incorporate sustainable concepts and supplies.

Our Book Swap is a great way to re-home those old books you'll never read again, while also refreshing your home library! In Rain Barrels, Rain Gardens, and Water Issues (page 8), The Conservation Foundation will show what a person can do to keep water local and clean as well as solve issues on their property. Composting: Building Your Garden from the Ground Up will explore how composting improves the health and vitality of your garden.

You can expect to see even more of these programs in the future!

If you're looking for a hands-on opportunity to learn more, consider joining the Westmont Gardening Club.
They meet once a month to discuss a variety of gardening topics, and participate in local projects, including planting at the Richmond Gardens.
See page 11 for dates.



Voting at the Library

Early voting:

February 8 – March 2

Mon. – Fri. 8 am – 4:30 pm Sat. 9 am – noon

March 4 – 18

Mon. – Fri. 8 am – 7 pm Sat. & Sun. 9 am – 5 pm

Election Day: Tuesday, March 19 6 am - 7 pm

The Library will be an early voting location for the March 19 General Primary Election.

In order to accommodate voters, the Library building will be open earlier and later than our posted hours on some days. During those times, Library services will be limited to self-serve options, including WiFi use, browsing, and self checkout, and the Computer Lab, service desks, and second floor Youth & Teen Services will be inaccessible.

For more information on early voting, visit the DuPage County Election Commission website at dupagecounty.gov/election.

TAKE-HOME CRAFT KITS

Tuesdays, March 5, April 2, May 7 Youth & Teen Services (2nd floor)

Pick up a kit with supplies and instructions for a project to complete at home. Available while supplies last. 3 - 8 years

PRESCHOOL SKILLS

Tuesdays, March 5 and April 16, 1 – 1:45 pm

This themed storytime and craft session helps prepare your child for their first school experience. Adults are encouraged to participate with their child. 4 - 6 years with a caregiver

NATURE STORYTIME WITH THE MORTON ARBORETUM

Tuesday, March 26, 10 - 10:30 am

A presenter from The Morton Arboretum will share stories about how weather. trees, and animals change with the seasons! 2 - 5 years with a caregiver

Weekly storytimes

SPANISH LANGUAGE STORYTIME

Mondays, 10 - 10:30 am February 26 - March 18 and April 8 - 29

Drop in with your little one to enjoy songs and stories in Spanish. Presented by The Language Labs.

0 - 6 years with a caregiver

FAMILY STORYTIME

Wednesdays, 10 - 10:30 am February 28 - March 20 and April 10 - May 1 Youth & Teen Services (2nd floor)

Drop in for these storytimes filled with music, movement, and stories. 0 - 6 years with a caregiver

▲ Drop in for two **special Saturday FAMILY STORYTIMES:** March 16 and April 13, 10 - 10:30 am Start your weekend with a story!

DISCOVERY PLAYTIME

Tuesday, April 2 and Thursday, May 9 9:30 - 11 am OR 1 - 2 pm

We'll have different sensory, art, and educational play stations set up. Playdough, rice, shredded paper, and water play are just a few possibilities. Make sure to wear old clothes, and drop in for some messy, sensory fun while learning about your world.

18 months - 6 years with a caregiver

YOGA STORYTIME (3)

Friday, April 5, 10 - 11 am

Join Michelle from Good Juju Yoga for an interactive program that pairs gentle movement with a story.

0 - 6 years with a caregiver

BIRDS & BLOSSOMS STORYTIME & CRAFT

Wednesday, May 15, 10 - 10:45 am

Registration opens Thursday, February 15 at 9 am.

Join us for a storytime and craft celebrating spring flowers and birds. 0 - 6 years with a caregiver

SENSORY-FRIENDLY STORYTIME &

Saturday, May 18, 10 - 10:45 am

This inclusive storytime is especially welcoming for children with sensory processing challenges and for families who are looking for a more adaptive storytime experience. We'll explore interactive stories, rhymes, and activities in a nonjudgmental environment. 0 - 8 years with a caregiver



LAPSIT STORYTIME

Series 1: February 27 - March 21 Choose one session from:

- A Tuesdays, 9:30 10 am OR
- B Thursdays, 10:15 10:45 am

Series 2: April 9 — May 2 Choose one session from:

- A Tuesdays, 9:30 10 am OR
- B Thursdays, 10:15 10:45 am

Lapsit Storytime offers our youngest patrons a chance to learn fingerplays and hear stories in a low-key environment with their caregivers. Sign up for series 1 and 2 separately. Please choose one session per series. 0 - 24 months with a caregiver

2 & 3 STORYTIME 3

Series 1: February 27 - March 21 Choose one session from:

- A Tuesdays, 10:15 10:45 am OR
- **B** Thursdays, 9:30 10 am

Series 2: April 9 — May 2 Choose one session from:

- A Tuesdays, 10:15 10:45 am OR
- **B** Thursdays, 9:30 10 am

In each lively session, children 2 - 3 years old and their caregivers will enjoy songs, action rhymes, and stories that will help develop skills necessary for reading readiness. Sign up for series 1 and 2 separately. Please choose one session per series. 2 - 3 years with a caregiver

STORYTELLING THROUGH DANCE (3)

Saturday, March 2, 10 - 10:45 am

Join the Salt Creek Ballet as we explore the adventures of Don Quixote! Participants will read this fantastic tale and then "fight" evil giants and invading armies through basic ballet steps and movements. A company member will end our time together with a sneak preview of their spring performance.

4 - 9 years with a caregiver

PAPER AIRPLANE FOLD & FLY

Wednesday, March 27, 9:30 am - 7:30 pm Youth & Teen Services (2nd floor)

Come fold and fly with us! We will have different plane designs and a flight zone to test your aerodynamics.

BUBBLE TIME!

Saturday, May 25, 10 am - noon

Learn how to make your very own bubble wand. Try different materials and shapes, and test your creations as you go!

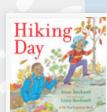
SPRING STORYWALKS

Diane Main Park, 200 W 59th St.

Enjoy a story with the whole family while you stroll through Diane Main Park. Follow the path around the lake, reading signs placed along the trail, to take in the full story. In partnership with Westmont Park District.

April 19 - 22 Hiking Day Anne Rockwell & Lizzy Rockwell

May 10 - 13 Cicada Symphony Sue Fliess & Gareth Lucas











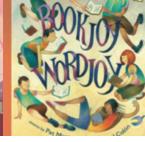


Spotlight on youth poetry W



National Geographic **Book of Nature Poetry**

- J. Patrick Lewis, editor
- > Stunning photos
- > Variety of poets > Natural wonder
- In the Beautiful Country Jane Kuo
- > Immigrant experience
- > Novel in verse



Bookjoy, Wordjoy Pat Mora & Raúl Colón

- > Celebration of words
- > Joyous illustrations





- > World War II
- > Shipwreck
- > Survival story in verse



- > Playful text
- > Encouraging
- > Inventive artwork

Grades K - 5

LEGO FREE BUILD

Thursday March 28, 3:15 - 5:15 pm

Let your creativity click into place as you build your own designs with Legos!

INTERGALACTIC SCRAPE PAINTING

Thursday, April 11, 4:15 - 5:15 pm

Explore the way paint responds to pulling and pushing using the scrape technique.

AUDIOBOOK CLUB 3

Thursday, April 25, 4:15 - 5:30 pm

Join us after school to listen to an audiobook! Follow along with the story in a copy of the book, draw while you listen, or just sit back and enjoy the audio performance. Feel free to bring something soft to sit on to make yourself comfortable while you listen.

STEM STATIONS

Saturday, May 4, 10 am - noon

Flex your STEM muscles as you play, build, design, problem solve, and collaborate at each station. Grades K - 5 with a caregiver

RAINBOW CHROMATOGRAPHY EXPERIMENT

Thursday, May 9, 4:15 - 5:15 pm

Experiment with color variation in this coffee filter science experiment.

ART LAB

Thursday, May 30, 4 - 6 pm

Use your imagination, creative thinking, and problem-solving skills to experiment with different art forms and media.

Grades K - 2

EXPLORING PAPER DOILIES 3

Thursday, March 7, 4:15 - 5 pm

Experiment with positive and negative space while painting with paper doilies!

READ WITH HINSDALE HUMANE SOCIETY 3

Tuesdays, March 12, April 9, May 14 6:30 - 6:45 pm OR 6:45 - 7 pm OR 7 - 7:15 pm OR 7:15 - 7:30 pm

Meet with a trained therapy pet and its handler to practice your reading! Co-sponsored by Hinsdale Humane Society.

GALAXY JARS

Thursday, April 4, 4:15 - 5 pm

Learn about the wonders of galaxies and nebulas by creating your own version in a mason jar.

DIY MINI FAIRY HOUSE

Thursday, May 2, 4:15 - 5 pm

Personalize your very own fairy dwelling. Perfect for adding a whimsical touch to your garden!



Grades 3 - 5

CELESTIAL GELLI PRINTS 3

Thursday, March 21, 4:15 - 5:15 pm

Registration opens Thursday, February 15 at 9 am.

Make an out of this world picture using gelli plate printmaking

MOON CATCHERS T

Thursday, April 18, 4:15 - 5:15 pm

Create a sparkling moon catcher to hang in the light of the moon.

DIY MINI FAIRY GARDEN 📝

Thursday, May 2, 5:15 - 6 pm

Add a sprinkle of magic to your world by crafting a mini fairy garden.





TEEN HANGOUT

Wednesdays, 3 - 4 pm March 6, April 3, May 1 Teen Space

Come to the teen area and play games, make a craft, or just hang out.

TEEN ADVISORY COMMITTEE &

Wednesdays, 6:30 - 7:30 pm March 27, April 24, May 29

Meet with other teens to discuss programs, books, and what you would like to see happen in the Library. Earns volunteer hours.

LETTERS AGAINST ISOLATION &

Wednesday, March 20, 5:30 - 7:30 pm

Write letters to senior citizens around the world to help brighten their day. Earns volunteer hours.

SUPER SMASH BROS. **TOURNAMENT** 🗷

Friday, March 29, 1 - 3 pm

Compete in a Super Smash Bros. tournament with a prize awarded to the first place finisher!

DIY CARD STATION &

Saturday, April 6, 10 am - noon

Celebrate spring by designing a card using a variety of art techniques and supplies.

BOBA KEYCHAINS

Wednesday, May 1, 4:30 - 6 pm

Do you love boba tea? Craft a look-alike keychain while sipping on boba tea.

TEEN LEGO BUILDING

Wednesday, May 15, 4:30 - 6:30 pm

Exercise your building skills and creativity with a Lego building day. Use the Library's bricks to build your masterpiece and enter our month-long challenge.

TEEN STUDY LOUNGE

Sunday, May 19, noon - 4 pm Monday, May 20, 9 am - 5 pm Tuesday, May 21, 9 am - 5 pm

Do you need a place to study for exams or finish that final paper? Our second floor meeting room is ready for you. Claim a table or bring a blanket and stretch out on the floor. Snacks and quiet de-stress activities will be provided

TEEN CHALLENGES

TEEN POETRY CONTEST

April 1 - April 29

In honor of National Poetry Month, we're asking you to write a seven line poem and submit it by email to youth@westmontlibrary.org. Every poem submitted before May 1 earns a chance to win a gift card. Limit 3 poems per person. The winning poem will be posted on social media.



May 1 - May 30

Exercise your building skills and creativity. Submit a photo of your creation using the entry form on the teen page of our website. Each submission earns a chance to win! Prizes include gift cards to local businesses.

Spotlight on **YA poetry** ▼



The White Rose Kip Wilson

- > Historical fiction
- > Nazi resistance
- > Novel in verse
- The Poet X Elizabeth Acevedo
- > Powerful
- > Coming of age
- > Novel in verse
- For Every One Jason Reynolds
- > Inspirational > Dare to dream
- > Book-length poem
- Light Filters In: Poems Caroline Kaufman > Emotionally honest
- Survivor
- > Instagram poet

Respect the Mic Hanif Abdurragib, editor

> Student poetry

FRANK CHOI

- > Chicago teens > Spoken verse

HEALTHY CUISINE

Monday, March 4, 6:30 – 7:30 pm Kwasek Meeting Room (2nd floor)

Join us for this culinary program led by Susan Maddox, featuring some healthy alternatives to everyday dining. The recipes presented will include great flavors and textures while using clean, healthy, and fresh ingredients. This is a great way to stimulate your mind and appetite for healthy foods, without increasing your waistline.

HEALTHIER TOGETHER T

Tuesdays, 11:45 am – 12:45 pm March 12, April 9, May 14 Kwasek Meeting Room (2nd floor)

Tap into your body's ability to create better health, gain energy, and create peace of mind with a session of gentle movement and breathing, led by local Body & Brain Yoga Tai Chi.

SPRING WATERCOLOR CRAFT

Wednesday, March 13, 6 - 7 pm Kwasek Meeting Room (2nd floor)

Drop in for an egg-cellent time creating spring themed watercolor art.

COMMUNITY COLORING

Monday, March 18 – Friday, March 22 Adult Services (1st floor)

Contribute to the community coloring sheet available all week long.



PERSONALIZED TEA TOWEL 🗹

Tuesday, March 26, 2 – 4 pm Makery/CMR (1st floor)

Using our Silhouette vinyl cutter and heat press, learn how to create your very own personalized tea towel. Then visit the Makery and use those new skills to make personalized gifts!

CHANGES TO THE COLLEGE PROCESS AND SAT TEST &

Wednesday, April 10, 6:30 – 7:30 pm Virtual: Zoom

Learn about major changes to the college application process and the new SAT updates. We'll introduce new strategies to give your student the best opportunity to be admitted and maximize scholarships! We will also cover admission stats, tuition cost trends, and Secure Act 2.0.

EASY INTERVIEWING TIPS

Wednesday, April 17, 6 – 7 pm Kwasek Meeting Room (2nd floor)

Whether you're looking for your first job or a dream career, this program will teach you some simple tips to help you interview better and get the job you want!

POLLOCK PAINTINGS

Friday, April 19, 11 am – noon

Create a masterpiece reminiscent of a Pollock painting using marbles.

CAT-TASTIC PARTY 📝

Saturday, April 20, 11 am - noon

Calling all cat lovers! Wear your best catthemed clothing and join the paw-ty. The Hinsdale Humane Society will be here to discuss cats and their care. We will make a fun toy for our feline friends. Donations of supplies for the Humane Society are welcome. You're in for a purr-fect time. Missing it would be a cat-tastrophy!



Technology classes

MICROSOFT WORD BASICS &

Wednesday, April 3, 10 - 11 am

Whether you're a beginner or need a refresher, this Microsoft Word class will cover the basics of creating, editing, and saving documents.

COMPUTER BASICS: GOOGLE SERVICES

Monday, April 15, 6 - 7 pm

Ready to enhance your Google search skills? What is Google Drive? This class will cover some of Google's more popular offerings such as search, email, and storage.

UNDERSTANDING THE CLOUD &

Tuesday, May 14, 10 – 11 am

What is "the cloud" and how is it saving all of our pictures and contacts? Learn about the cloud and how to use it for your benefit.

GETTING TO KNOW THE LIBBY APP

Tuesday, April 30, 2 - 3 pm

Learn how to use the Libby App to access ebooks and other digital media on your portable device.



MEDICARE 101

Wednesday, April 24, 1:30 - 2:30 pm

Join a Senior Health Insurance Program Counselor with DuPage County Community Services as they address some common questions like: What are the different parts of Medicare? When should I apply? What is the difference between an Advantage Plan and a Supplement? We'll answer these questions and more!

EMBROIDERY BASICS

Saturday, May 4, 3 - 4 pm Makery/CMR (1st floor)

See the embroidery machine in action. Learn how to create a file and take home your very own WPL embroidered tote bag!

AUTHOR SCOTT KENEMORE

Wednesday, May 15, 6 - 7 pm

Join author Scott Kenemore as he discusses the evolution of the modern zombie, in honor of Zombie Awareness Month. We will also hear about his other books, Zombie, Illinois, The Zen of Zombie: Better Living Through the Undead, and his upcoming release, Goo.

Dementia Friendly Westmont

SUPPORTING A PERSON WITH DEMENTIA 3

Wednesday, March 6, 1 - 2:30 pm Kwasek Meeting Room (2nd floor)

In this program presented by Susan Frick with Rush Alzheimer's Disease Center, you will look at the experience of living with dementia and how you can provide support through your interactions.

MEMORY CAFE

Mondays, 1 - 2 pm March 18*, April 15, May 20

Individuals living with dementia and their care partners are invited to socialize and connect with others in a similar situation at a memory cafe. Activities at the memory cafe are free. Presented in partnership with Birches Assisted Living & Memory Care and Oasis Senior Advisors. *Note: March's meeting will be held in the 2nd floor Kwasek Meeting Room.

UNDERSTANDING THE STAGES OF ALZHEIMER'S 🗷

Wednesday, April 10, 6 - 7:30 pm

Every person's progression is unique. Knowing what to expect can help caregivers anticipate and plan accordingly, and reduce the stress of the unknown. Presented by Patti Terkovich and Mary Ferguson with Birches Assisted Living & Memory Care.

DUPAGE COUNTY CAREGIVER & DEMENTIA RESOURCES

Wednesday, May 1, 1 - 2:30 pm

DuPage County Caregiver Resource Centers are designed to support unpaid caregivers of adults over 60, caregivers who are 55 or older and raising family members under 18, and those with Alzheimer's or related disorders. Attend this informational presentation to learn more about the support offered, including Respite Care and financial gap-filling services.

Ongoing programs

Visit westmontlibrary.org/events for the full descriptions, including monthly book club selections.

TEAM TRIVIA

Mondays, 7 - 9 pm March 11 & 25, April 8 & 22, May 13 Zazzo's Pizza & Bar, 200 W Ogden Ave.

SPICE CLUB: ANNATTO 🗹

Monday, March 18, 7 - 7:45 pm Kwasek Meeting Room (2nd floor)

Note: Spice Club now meets quarterly.

4TH MONDAY BOOK CLUB

Mondays, 6:45 - 7:45 pm March 25, April 22, May 20 Kwasek Meeting Room (2nd floor)

WESTMONT GARDENING CLUB

Tuesdays, 6:30 - 7:45 pm March 5, April 2, May 7

UNREAL WORLD BOOK CLUB 3

Tuesdays, 7 - 8 pm March 5, April 2, May 7 Virtual: Zoom

ADULT TAKE & MAKE CRAFTS

Tuesdays, March 12, April 9, May 14 Adult Services Desk (1st floor)

KNIT CLIQUE

Tuesdays, 6 - 7:45 pm March 12 & 26, April 9 & 23, May 14 & 28

WRITERS GROUP

Thursdays, 6 – 7:45 pm March 14 & 28, April 11 & 25, May 9 & 23

ENGLISH CONVERSATION GROUP

Saturdays, 10 - 11:30 am March 9* & 23, April 13 & 27, May 11 & 25

*Note: March's meeting will be held in the 2nd floor Kwasek Meeting Room.

COOKBOOK CLUB 📝

Monday, May 20, 7 - 7:45 pm

A gathering for cookbook enthusiasts! For this meeting, we will be exchanging opinions on the book One by Jamie Oliver. We will also share our experiences cooking the recipes. Copies of the book will be available for pick up one month in advance.



Illinois Libraries Present

These events are made possible by Illinois Libraries Present, a statewide collaboration among public libraries offering premier events. As hybrid events, they are available to enjoy at home or together during a watch party at the Library.

RUTH E. CARTER

Wednesday, March 20, 7 - 8 pm Virtual: CMR OR Zoom

Academy Award winning costume designer Ruth E. Carter explores the passion that inspires her pieces spanning Spike Lee costume design to Wakanda.

DR. TEMPLE GRANDIN &

Wednesday, April 3, 7 - 8 pm Virtual: CMR OR Zoom

Dr. Temple Grandin talks about the gifts of neurodiversity.



KAL PENN @

Tuesday, May 7, 7 - 8 pm Virtual: CMR OR Zoom

Spend an evening with writer, producer, and former White House staff member Kal Penn.

Spotlight on adult poetry ▼



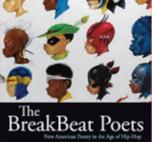
Time is a Mother Ocean Vuong

- > Heart wrenching
- > Lyrical
- > Haunting



Amanda Gorman

- Moving
- > Thought-provoking
- > Engaging



Quravsh Ali Lansana &

Nate Marshall, editors

> Ground-breaking

> Dynamic

> Slam poetry

Feel Your Way Through The Breakbeat Poets

Kelsea Ballerini > Emotional

- > Candid
- > Hopeful



Devotions Mary Oliver

> Nature writing

- > Reflective
- > Lyrical



Non-Profit U.S. Postage PAID Permit #12 Westmont II

Library Hours

Monday – Thursday Friday & Saturday Sunday 9 am - 8 pm 9 am - 5 pm noon - 4 pm

Scheduled Closings

Sunday, March 31 Sunday, May 26 Monday, May 27

Library Contacts

westmontlibrary.org 630 869 6150

Main Desk

maindesk@westmontlibrary.org 630 869 6160

Adult Services

reference@westmontlibrary.org 630 869 6155

Youth & Teen Services

youth@westmontlibrary.org 630 869 6165

Julia Coen, Director

jcoen@westmontlibrary.org 630 869 6170

Library Board of Trustees

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The Board of Library Trustees meets on the third Tuesday of each month at 7 pm. The public is invited to attend.



Photo policy: Program participants may be photographed or videorecorded for Library promotional purposes, including social media. Please notify Library staff if you prefer not to be photographed. Accommodations: We ask individuals with disabilities who require accommodation for Library programs to contact us at least five days in advance.