

The Westchester Public Library Board of Trustees would like to remind everyone that their meetings are open to the public and that the minutes of those meetings can be found at [www.westchesterpl.org](http://www.westchesterpl.org). Furthermore, "The Westchester Whistleblower" is not a library publication nor is it sanctioned or endorsed by the Westchester Public Library.

## Library Welcomes New Director Fidencio Marbella

In October, the Board of Trustees named Fidencio Marbella the new director of the Westchester Public Library. A long-time resident of the western suburbs, he began his professional career as an accountant and worked in several corporate settings before reading an article about the library profession that sparked his interest and eventually launched a career change. He earned his masters' degree in library science from Dominican University and has been adult services manager at the Melrose Park Public Library the last 5 years.

While most directors are avid readers, Mr. Marbella is also a published author listed in the SWAN catalog! He coauthored the book "Melrose Park" with colleague Margaret Flanagan which was published in 2009 by Arcadia Press. The book is one of several in the publisher's popular series "Images of America" on local histories of suburban communities in the Chicago area.

Mr. Marbella looks forward to working with the staff to ensure Westchester patrons have ready access to an excellent collection of books, CDs, DVDs, databases, digital offerings and, of course, friendly and helpful customer service.

## Winter Safety Reminders

Please drive slowly in the parking lot for the safety of all patrons, especially children, elderly, and the handicapped—particularly when snow is on the ground. When waiting for someone, park the car in a parking space so you don't block the entrance for others. And you can help protect library books and media by checking out one of our canvas bags for carrying materials home during bad weather.

**The Library is available as a warming center during normal library hours.** If you lose power in the night, the village hall and both firehouses serve as 24-hour warming centers.

## Make a Difference Day

On Tuesday, October 25, Mrs. Shouse of Westchester Middle School brought 15 students from her 6th grade class to volunteer two hours at the Library. Students raked leaves, cleaned youth toys and play area, pulled outdated videos for re-evaluation by staff, and prepared materials for upcoming children's craft programs.

Thank you to Caitlin Seegers, Matthew Staerke, Eric Starzec, Mya Morris, Xavier Terry, Angelo Torres, Sonia Velazquez, Jazmin Verdin, Anthony Waters, Jacob White, Donniece Williams, Ciera Wilson, Abigail Wojtynek, Michael Wright, and Omar Zepeda. Job well done!

## Email Notices

Did you know you can receive courtesy reminders and overdue notices in your email? Stop by the Circulation Desk for details.

For patrons using this email service, remember to update your SWAN record whenever you change your email address. Simply logon at: <https://swan.mls.lib.il.us/patroninfo>

## Last Minute Holiday Craft

When a member of the staff wore a pretty necklace crocheted from a novelty yarn, we knew it would be a clever program to offer "crafty" high school students and adult patrons. Stop in on **Tuesday evening, December 6 at 7:00 pm** and learn to crochet an easy, elegant, and inexpensive necklace, suitable for gift-giving this holiday season.

## Creating Native Eco-Gardens

Gardeners and landscapers are discovering grasses, wildflowers and other native plants are hardy, low-maintenance plants that enrich the soil, promote biodiversity, reduce pollution and provide shelter and

food for local wildlife. On **Saturday, January 21 at 10:30 am** (and let's hope it doesn't snow!) master gardener Dennis Paige will show how one community in the suburbs transformed their lawn into a lush spread of wildflowers, sedges, and grasses.


## Friends of the Library

The Friends will hold their annual meeting for the membership on **Saturday, January 28 at 1:00 pm**. The meeting will feature author/blogger/crafter Amy Alessio, who will present a program on recipes for entertaining entitled "**Vintage Snacks—Appetizing Creations from Decades Past**" that highlights recipes and samples of tasty nibbles just in time for your holiday party preparations.

The program is for **members of the Friends only**, however, a membership table will be available the day of the program. Advance registration is required—call the Adult Reference Desk to register (708-562-3573).

**Chess & Scrabble Club Update:** The last session of the Club will be held Tuesday, December 13 in the Community Room.

Interested in joining the Friends? You can find an application form at the Library or on our website: [www.westchesterpl.org/about/friends.htm](http://www.westchesterpl.org/about/friends.htm)

 *On behalf of the Board of Trustees, the Friends of the Library, and library staff, we wish you and your family a safe and happy holiday season. We also thank the Friends of the Library for the beautiful poinsettia plants that adorn the Library during the holiday season.*



**Applause for Aspiring Authors!** Congratulations to everyone who participated in the Library's Write-A-Book Contest. Winners were honored at the Awards Ceremony in November in front of families and friends. Winning entries will be added to the Library's collection.

	1st Place	2nd Place	3rd Place	4th Place
Grade 1	Tom Kintz - WPS	—	—	—
Grade 2	Brian "Matty" Twomey -DP	Katherine Dziak - WPS	—	—
Grade 3	Jennifer Hou - WIS	Ryan Smith - WIS	—	—
Grade 4	Katie Pancotto - DP	Gabriel Mikowski - DP	Justine Rodriguez - DP	Jannitzy Rico - DP
Grade 5	George Lambesis - DP	Henry Lambesis - DP	Eddie Olewinski - DP	Luke Morrill - DP
Grade 6	Kyle Moten - WMS	Alex Guerin - DP	Caitlin Seegers - WMS	Sarah Labellarte - WMS
Grade 7	Jake Panek - DI	Samantha Caruso - DP	Grace Laszkiewicz - DI	Lauren Nortier - DI
Grade 8	Bryanna Crouch - DP	Julia Nowicki - DP	Francesco Ricchio - DP	Amelia Castillo - DI

WPS - Westchester Primary School, WMS - Westchester Middle School, WIS - Westchester Intermediate School, DI - Divine Infant School, DP - Divine Providence School



**WESTCHESTER PUBLIC LIBRARY** ▪ 10700 Canterbury ▪ Westchester, IL 60154  
 708-562-3573 ▪ TTY/TDD 708-562-9364 ▪ [askus@westchesterpl.org](mailto:askus@westchesterpl.org) ▪ [www.westchesterpl.org](http://www.westchesterpl.org)  
**Hours: Monday-Thursday 9:30 am-9:00 pm, Friday 9:30 am-6:00 pm, Saturday 9:30 am-5:00 pm, Sunday 1:00-5:00 pm.**  
**Library Director** Fidencio Marbella ▪ **Board of Trustees** Donna Malecki, president, Steve Cerasuolo, Timothy Hinsdale, Phyllis Kastle, Carole E. Levy, Allison Muzal, and Celestine T. Reda ▪ **Board Meetings on 4th Monday of every month.**

## Adult Programs

PLEASE REGISTER IN ADVANCE  
so we can prepare adequate seating & handouts  
Call 708-562-3573 or stop by the Adult Reference Desk.

### “Last Minute Holiday Craft: Crochet Necklace” with members of the staff

For adults and high school students—learn one crochet stitch to make easy yet elegant necklaces.  
Tuesday, Dec 6 7:00 pm

### “Creating Native Eco-Gardens” with master gardener Dennis Paige

Saturday, January 21 10:30 am

### “Vintage Snacks—Appetizing Creations From Decades Past” with Amy Allesio

Friends of the Library annual meeting—membership required (signup available at door)  
Saturday, Jan 28 1:00 pm

**Holiday Closings:** The Library will be closed Saturday, Sunday & Monday, December 24, 25 & 26 for Christmas and closed Saturday, Sunday & Monday, December 31, January 1 & 2 for New Year’s

**Book Discussion Group** The Group meets monthly on the 3rd Thursday at 7:00 pm and during the afternoon at 2:00 pm in January, February & March.

Dec 15 *The Absolutely True Diary of a Part-time Indian* by Sherman Alexie  
Jan 19 *Major Pettigrew’s Last Stand* by Helen Simonson  
Feb 16 *The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks* by Rebecca Skloot

### Getting Up to Speed

Seminar on basic skills for job hunting on the Internet.  
Meets on Wednesdays at 2:00 pm. Two sessions are scheduled for the winter:  
Wednesday, Dec 28 Wednesday, Feb 1

## INTERNET CLASSES

- Classes meet Wednesdays at 1:30 pm.
- Valid library card required.
- Registration for residents begins on 1st day of the month in which the class is held (the day after for non-residents).
- Beginner’s Class requires mouse skills  
\* indicates classes in Conference Room

December - Registration begins Dec 1

Mouse Mania Dec 7  
Beginner’s Internet Dec 14  
Email Class\* Dec 21

January - Registration begins Jan 3

Mouse Mania Jan 11  
Beginner’s Internet Jan 18  
Email Class\* Jan 25

February - Registration begins Feb 1

Beginner’s Internet Feb 8  
Email Class\* Feb 15  
Intermediate Class\* Feb 22

If you are unable to attend our classes, ask a reference librarian about tutorials on our website  
[www.westchesterpl.org](http://www.westchesterpl.org)

Note: Photographs taken at Library events may be used for promotional purposes. Library programs are open to the public and patrons with disabilities are welcome. Please call 562-3573 (TTY/TDD 562-9364), visit or write us to discuss accommodations at least five (5) working days prior to a scheduled program.

# YOUTH PROGRAMS AT THE LIBRARY

Registration for Youth programs begins December 1 and is ongoing.  
Call 708-562-3573 or visit the Youth Department to register.

### WINTER READING CLUB:

## READ YOUR SOCKS OFF!

December 1 — February 25  
For Preschool and Grades 1 – 8



Join today so you can win prizes in our winter reading club. We are pleased to welcome back **McDonald’s** as a sponsor. Registration packets are available in the Youth Department.

The first date for turning in your log is  
Monday, December 12.

**READ-TO-ME CLUB** For young children who can’t read on their own—they earn credit by listening to books read to them.

**BEGINNING READERS CLUB** For kids just beginning to read on their own.

**READERS CLUB** For kids who are reading chapter books.

### DROP-IN CRAFTS & HOLIDAY COLORING SHEETS

Friday, December 1—Friday, December 30



Feeling creative? Throughout the month of December, the craft table in the Youth Department will be stocked with coloring sheets, craft paper and holiday craft projects.

### VALENTINE DROP-IN CRAFT

Saturday, February 11 & Sunday, February 12

Stop by the craft table and make your very own Valentines for family and friends!



### TODDLER STORYTIME

For children up to age 3-1/2 and their parents/caregivers

Wednesdays 9:45 - 10:00 am **OR** Thursdays 9:45 - 10:00 am  
Jan 18 - Feb 22 Jan 19 - Feb 23



### PRESCHOOL STORYTIME

For children age 3 1/2 – pre-K (not yet in K)

Wednesdays 10:30 - 11:00 am **OR** Thursdays 10:30 - 11:00 am  
Jan 18 - Feb 22 Jan 19 - Feb 23

### MAGIC CARPET CLUB

For children in grades K-2

Wednesdays 4:00 - 4:45 pm  
Jan 18 - Feb 22

### READING ROUND TABLE

For children in grades 3-8

Tuesdays 4:00 - 5:30 pm  
Jan 31 - Feb 21

Reminder to parents and caregivers: please remain with your children under the age of nine whenever in the Library.



### FAMILY FILM NIGHT

Wednesday nights at 6:30 pm

Feb 1 **Soul Surfer** 106 min  
Feb 8 **Cars 2** 106 min  
Feb 15 **Captain America: The First Avenger** 123 min  
Feb 22 **Judy Moody & the Not Bummer Summer** 91 min  
Feb 29 **Thor** 114 min