

NEWSLETTER

Westchester Public Library

Published for the Residents of Westchester

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Snapshot:

One Day in the Life of Illinois Libraries

On February 10, Westchester Public Library joined other libraries around the state in documenting how patrons used our services on a typical day. The Illinois Library Association (ILA) launched this "snapshot" initiative to advocate for support of library funding in the state legislature. (As this newsletter goes to press, ILA is compiling data from all the participating libraries.)

What patrons and legislators don't see when they walk into our library—or any library—is the vigorous network of cooperation and communication occurring every day involving directors, librarians and clerks in libraries around the state. This network, anchored by Illinois' regional library systems, coordinates the sharing and delivery of millions of books, CDs and DVDs to citizens throughout the state. The SWAN catalog, the online databases in Research Pro and the hundreds of audiobooks, ebooks and videos that you can download from MyMediaMall are available *and affordable* because of cooperative agreements and group purchases — libraries pooling resources to save money and working together to benefit patrons.

Despite a heavy snowstorm the night before, 320 patrons visited the Westchester Public Library on February 10, with 92 patrons using our computers over the course of the day. Thirty-eight children attended programs in the Youth Department and five adults came to an Internet class. Reference staff answered 92 questions, circulation clerks checked out 402 items to patrons, and our website had over 5,000 hits!

What these numbers reveal are the many ways patrons of all ages pursue their own goals and aspirations. On this one day, patrons reported coming to the Library to check out materials, apply for a library card, do homework, research a topic, access the Internet and wifi, do word processing, search for a job, request items from another library, use the copy machine, work on a puzzle and, yes, even *READ!* (We loved that one.) The Library is a place where anyone can pursue lifelong learning.

The budget crunch in Springfield has had a devastating impact on library systems (\$6 million drop or 30.6% reduction in funding since 2000, nearly half of that reduction occurring in this last year). How this will impact services at the local library level is unclear. If you value library service, please tell your legislator in Springfield.

2010 Census Update

Residents should be receiving their census form by mail in early March. The Library is pleased to join the village, park district, schools and local businesses in asking every resident of Westchester to complete the form and mail it back to the Census Bureau using the postage-paid envelope. Full participation will insure Westchester will be eligible for its fair share of federal funds during the next ten years.



IT'S IN OUR HANDS

The Library is pleased to be one of many community locations hosting an information table for the 2010 Census beginning Friday, March 19 and continuing through Monday, April 19. A representative of the Census Bureau will be staffing the information table 15 hours each week (Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday evenings from 6-9 pm and Friday and Saturday mornings 11-1 pm) to answer questions and provide help to those needing forms or assistance in a foreign language.

Policy Change for Students on Computers

The Library's policy governing use of computers in the Youth Department has been amended to reflect a student's age, instead of grade. Computers in the Youth Department are now available for use by students age 13 and younger. Students who are 14 or older will be instructed to use computers in the Adult Department.

Friends of the Library Spring Book Sale April 22, 23, 24 - details inside

Staff News

The Board of Trustees and staff congratulate Dave McCarthy who celebrated 15 years of employment, Lu Antonovich who celebrated 10 years, and Donna Tufts who celebrated 5 years.

In December, Vernetta Richmond joined the staff as our new Circulation Coordinator. Prior to coming to Westchester, she was circulation manager of the Oak Brook Public Library for 13 years. Welcome, Vernetta!

WESTCHESTER PUBLIC LIBRARY ♦ 10700 Canterbury ♦ Westchester, IL 60154

708-562-3573 ♦ TTY/TDD 708-562-9364 ♦ EMAIL: askus@westchesterpl.org ♦ WEB: www.westchesterpl.org

Library Director Ruth McCrank ♦ Board of Trustees Jennifer Boyle *president*, William Ernst, Timothy Hinsdale, Patrick Kane, Donna Malecki, Frank Perry and Kathleen Schultz ♦ Board Meetings on 4th Monday of every month

ADULT PROGRAMS

PLEASE REGISTER IN ADVANCE

so we can plan for adequate seating.
Call 708-562-3573 or stop by the Circulation Desk.

BOOK DISCUSSION GROUP

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

Mar 18 *Open Season* by C. J. Box
Apr 15 *The Ten Year Nap* by Meg Wolitzer
May 20 *Eye Contact* by Cammie McGovern

Friends of the Library Spring Book Sale April 22, 23, 24



Thursday 6 - 8 pm (members only)
Friday 10 - 5 pm
Saturday 10 - Noon & 1 - 3 pm

National Library Week, April 12 – 16

Join the Friends of the Library for a cup of coffee
Monday through Friday, 10 - 11:30 am

INTERNET CLASSES

All classes meet Wednesdays at 1:30 pm unless otherwise noted, and registration begins on the 1st day of the month in which the class is held. Students in the Beginner's Class should know how to use a mouse.

* indicates classes in Conference Room

March - Registration begins March 1
Mouse Mania Mar 10
Beginner's Internet Mar 17
Email Class* Mar 31

April - Registration begins April 1
Mouse Mania Apr 7
Beginner's Internet Apr 14
Email Class* Apr 21

May - Registration begins May 1
Beginner's Internet May 5
Email Class* May 12
Intermediate Class* May 19

If you are unable to attend our classes, you will find a selection of tutorials on our website. Stop by the Adult Reference Desk to learn how you can get started — or go to our website www.westchesterpl.org, click on the **Senior Living** tab, then choose **Practice Sites for Internet Skills** in the left column. You will find mouse tutorials, Internet tutorials, puzzles and games that help develop hand and eye coordination on the computer.



COMPOSITION: The Key to Great Photos

with
Joyce Burzloff, Salt Creek Camera Club

Thursday, March 11 7:00 pm
The rules of photo composition can help you capture an image with impact and flair.

Safety For Seniors

Wednesday, March 24
1:00 pm



The Westchester Police Department will provide an update on safety precautions to help seniors avoid potential dangers and scams. Community Action Team meeting will follow at 2:00 pm.



Everyone is invited



An Evening of Stories

with
Anne Shimojima

Thursday,
March 25
7:00 pm

- Prize drawings for Page Turners
- Refreshments

Funded by Friends of the Library

Net Results: Fresh Ideas

ICE—In Case of Emergency. This is a great tip developed by a paramedic in the United Kingdom in 2005. In your cell phone's list of contacts (or other mobile device), create an entry named **ICE** and put the phone number of the family member or friend to contact in case of emergency. If you are injured in an accident, paramedics and other first responders will check your cell phone's directory of contacts. If they see ICE, they will know to call that number first. You can create several entries (ICE1, ICE2, ICE3...) in order to list more than one person or to allow a home number and work number, or a second relative or friend.

Illinois Emergency Contact Database. In August, Illinois became the third state to offer an Emergency Contact Database. The database is voluntary and residents with an Illinois driver's license, instruction permit or identification card can enter the address and phone numbers of two relatives or friends for law enforcement to contact in case of an emergency. Residents can update their contact information, as needed, and the information in the database will be available only to law enforcement. See www.cyberdriveillinois.com/departments/drivers/ecd/home.html

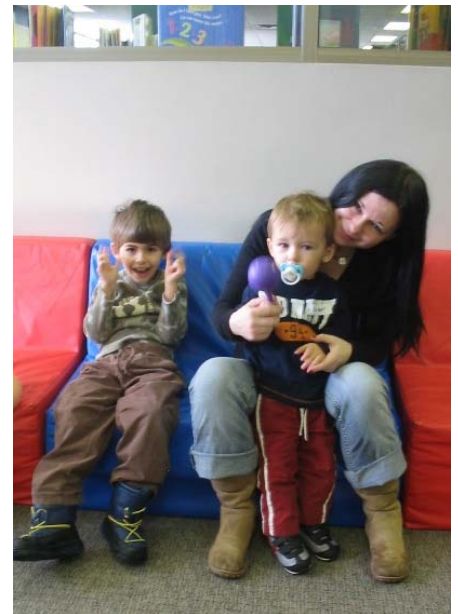
Bing. We love the search engine Google, but we also like healthy competition. Bing (www.bing.com) is the new search engine from Microsoft launched in 2009 to compete with Google (www.google.com). The beautiful image on its home page is the first difference you will notice (and the image changes every day). Search results display in the center of the screen, but Bing takes the intuitive response further by showing related search phrases and your search history in the left column. But don't limit yourself to just Bing or Google. For an international directory of search engines, many in foreign languages and arranged by country, see: www.searchenginecolossus.com

Lifelong learning is now easier than ever. See the January 2010 issue of AARP Bulletin for "How to learn just about anything online...for free" in bulletin.aarp.org/yourworld/reinventing/articles/freelearning.html. This article describes what e-learning is and contains links to websites offering free lectures and classes, many from prestigious universities, museums, and scholarly institutions around the world. It is impressive to see the many offerings available on OpenCourseWare, Videojug and other sites mentioned in the article. It is also reassuring to see how people around the world are interested in sharing what they know and what they have learned.

IPL2. Good subject directories can save you time with ready access to tailored lists of reputable websites. The Internet Public Library and the Librarian's Internet Index, two of the best, recently merged into IPL2 (www.ipl.org). Developed by librarians, it is a dependable source for identifying authoritative websites. Parents, we encourage you to explore the section for kids and teens.



Snapshot: One Day in the Life of Westchester Public Library



Please be advised that photographs taken at Library events may be used for promotional purposes.

Youth Programs reminder to parents and caregivers:
Please remain with your children under the age of nine whenever in the Library.

YOUTH PROGRAMS

Registration begins March 1. Phone 708-562-3573 or stop by the Youth Department to register.



POETRY CONTEST

All Westchester students in grades 1 through 8 are invited to submit a poem for the Library's annual Poetry Contest. The theme for this year's poem is **Change** and winners will be announced at the Awards Ceremony in April.

Deadline for entries: Monday, March 22

Awards Ceremony: Sunday, April 18, at 1:30 pm

Students will find contest information available at the schools and in the Youth Department.

EL DÍA DE LOS NIÑOS / EL DÍA DE LOS LIBROS (CHILDREN'S DAY/BOOK DAY)



Join us for this annual celebration to promote literacy for children and families of all linguistic and cultural backgrounds. We have a special program lined up with stories and songs in both English and Spanish—and a craft too!

THURSDAY, APRIL 29

6:30 - 7:30 PM

For all ages

SUMMER VOLUNTEERS

For students entering grades 7 through 12 in the fall.

Youth librarians are looking for student volunteers to help with the summer reading program. Each volunteer is asked to work two hours each week during the entire Summer Reading Club Program which begins in June and runs through the end of July. Applications will be available in the Youth Department in March, but don't delay since there are a limited number of volunteer positions available. Candidates will be scheduled a brief interview and skills test.

Being a volunteer is a meaningful way to spend the summer and an opportunity to fulfill community service obligations for school, church or scouting.

FAMILY FILM NIGHT Tuesday nights at 6:30 pm

Apr 6 Cloudy with a Chance of Meatballs PG, 90 min
Apr 13 Wizards of Waverly Place TVG, 98 min
Apr 27 G Force PG, 85 min

TODDLER STORYTIME

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

Wednesdays

9:45 - 10:00 am

Mar 17 - Apr 21

OR

Thursdays

9:45 - 10:00 am

Mar 18 - Apr 22

PRESCHOOL STORYTIME

For children age 3 1/2 – pre-K

Wednesdays

10:30 - 11:00 am

Mar 17 - Apr 21

OR

Thursdays

10:30 - 11:00 am

Mar 18 - Apr 22

MAGIC CARPET CLUB

For children in grades K-2

Mondays

4:00 - 4:45 pm

Mar 15 - Apr 19

READING ROUND TABLE

For children in grades 3-8

Tuesdays

4:00 - 5:30 pm

Mar 30 - Apr 13

Fractured Fairy Tales

Finger Puppet Theater



Kids: watch for coloring sheets and crafts to celebrate Earth Day during storytimes April 19-24

FAMILY STORYTIME

For all ages

Saturdays

9:45 - 10:15 am

Mar 20 - Apr 17

SPANISH STORYTIME

For all ages

Saturdays

11:00 - 11:30 am

Mar 6, Apr 10, and May 1



COMPUTER CLASSES IN YOUTH DEPT

Parents, students, and home schoolers can make an appointment to learn, hands on, about library databases and resources like *Live Homework Help* or *TumbleBooks*. Stop by the Youth Department on your next visit or contact the youth librarians by phone (708-562-3573) or email (askus@westchesterpl.org).

Friends of the Library

National Library Week & Gift Baskets

The Friends will be hosting a hospitality table during National Library Week, beginning Monday, April 12 through Friday, April 16, from 10-11:30 am. Everyone is invited to stop by for refreshments and conversation.

As an added incentive to join the Friends or renew your membership, members who stop by the hospitality table can enter their name in a drawing to win one of two gift baskets to be given away at the end of the week.

Spring Book Sale April 22, 23, 24

The Friends' Annual Book Sale will be held Thursday, April 22 through Saturday, April 24. Thursday evening is reserved for Westchester Friends of the Library members only, although you can purchase a membership as you enter the sale. Individual membership is still a bargain \$5 per calendar year! Saturday afternoon will feature the popular Buck-A-Bag special beginning at 1:00 pm. The Friend's stylish and sturdy book tote will be available for \$10 during the sale.



Book Sale Hours:

Thursday 6:00 - 8:00 pm (members only)
Friday 10:00 am - 5:00 pm
Saturday 10:00 am - Noon & 1:00 - 3:00 pm

The Book Sale is the major fundraiser for the Friends. Volunteers are needed to help sort and arrange books for the sale from 10 am - 3 pm on Monday, April 19, Tuesday April 20 and Wednesday, April 21. The Friends also need members to work during the sale and help with the breakdown when the sale ends at 3:00 pm on Saturday, April 24.

If you would like to volunteer a couple hours, leave your name and phone number at the Circulation Desk and Loraine Kubiak, chairperson for the sale, will contact you. You can also email the Friends at wfolpresident@gmail.com.

Last Call for Book Sale Donations

The Friends welcome your donations of gently-used books, videos, DVDs, CDs, cassettes and recent magazines. Textbooks must be relatively new (2005 or newer) in order to sell. Patrons may drop off items at the Circulation Desk, but please call ahead if you have a quantity of items to bring (562-3573).

Antique Appraisal



Tuesday, March 23 7:00 pm



With Judith Martin

*Certified appraiser, President of the International Society of Appraisers, and owner of **The Perfect Thing**, a consignment boutique in Wheaton.*

All are invited and there is a \$5 charge for those who bring an item for evaluation. Please, no books, coins or stamps. The appraisal will be an educated valuation of your item.

Local Businesses Support Friends

Membership in the Friends of the Library is a way local businesses can demonstrate their commitment to the community, as evidenced by the 2010 renewals of these corporate members:

Bob & Mary Bakas, Gobber GMAC Real Estate
Robin Guthridge, Inland Bank & Trust
Phillip Cihlar, Cihlar Decorator Services
Phil Larson, Parker-Fox, LLC, Bookseller

These business memberships are invaluable in the continuing support they provide the Friends. The Friends have helped underwrite many of the programs offered for children and adults at the Library, raising funds through membership dues, donations and their popular book sale.

New Lifetime Members

The Friends are pleased to welcome new lifetime members Brian and Jennifer Sloan and John Zvetina and his late wife Florence Zvetina.

Help Wanted

The Friends are looking for people willing to share their talents! The Friends have projects for fundraising they would like to undertake to benefit the Library. Would you be interested in organizing a Mystery Dinner, Trivia Night or other special event? If you've been looking for the right project to come along, contact Donna Poppe wfolpresident@gmail.com to learn what you can do to help the Friends and the Library.

Spring Dates for Chess & Scrabble Club

The Club is open to all members of the Westchester Friends of the Library. New members are always welcome and a membership table is available on meeting nights for those who wish to purchase a membership (\$5 per individual or \$10 for a family). Spring meetings will begin at 6:30 pm in the Community Room:

Mon, Mar 1 Mon, May 3
Tues, Mar 16 Tues, May 18
Mon, Apr 5

Making Life a Little Easier

Tax Time. With April 15 just around the corner, patrons will find a selection of basic state and federal income tax forms on counters in the Adult Department. The IRS and Illinois Department of Revenue have all forms and books available online. See our website for handy links, including the circuit breaker form: www.westchesterpl.org/databases/db_income.htm

Stranger Danger. In a recent letter to parents in February, Superintendent of Schools Dr. Jean H. Sophie asked parents to speak with their child “about personal safety, refusing rides from strangers, and how to act if a stranger approaches them.” We think this is an important message. On weekends or other times when your child is away from school or coming to the Library, if your child is approached by a stranger, let them know they can also tell the Library staff and we will report the incident to the police department.

Summer hours start Memorial Weekend. Just a reminder that Memorial Day weekend is the beginning of our summer hours:
Monday—Thursday 9:30—8:00 pm
Friday 9:30—6:00 pm
Saturday 9:30—5:00 pm.
The Library is closed on Sundays during the summer.

Late Breaking News: *Students at St. Joseph High School will be hosting a **Severe Weather Community Awareness Program** on Friday, March 12 at their school and featuring an evening presentation for the public by storm chaser Reed Timmer. Watch for details.*

Library Hours

Labor Day - Memorial Day Weekend

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 pm – 5:00 pm

Special Closings

April 4 Sunday	Closed for Easter
May 7 Friday	Closed until noon for staff training
May 30-31 Sunday—Monday	Closed for Memorial Day

Library programs are open to the public and we welcome patrons with disabilities. Please call (562-3573 or TTY/TDD 562-9364), visit or write us to discuss accommodations at least five (5) working days prior to a scheduled program.

Visit us on the web at www.westchesterpl.org



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Westchester, IL 60154

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