

**IMPORTANT INFORMATION**

Everyone has felt the disruption of the last few weeks with the Covid 19 quarantine in some way. None of us can predict the impact this will have on our upcoming events planned throughout the year.

If you are unsure of an event offered in this newsletter, please call the Library at 508 636-1100 and the staff will answer your questions.

We appreciate your support and understanding during this difficult time.

**Services**

- Free Wi-Fi Access
- Magnifiers for Visually Impaired
- SAILS Library Network 24/7 Borrowing
- Commonwealth Catalogue
- Homebound Delivery Service
- Children's Programs
- Genealogy: Ancestry/HeritageQuest
- Manton Community Room
- Library Bridge Club
- Library Book Club
- Westport Needleworkers
- Museum Passes
- Cast Offs of Westport
- **Call the Library for more info...**

**Hours | Contact Info**

- Monday & Thursday 12:00-8:30
- Tuesday, Wed. & Friday 10:00-5:00
- Saturday 9:00-4:00
- Sunday CLOSED

- 408 Old County Road, Westport, MA
- Phone: 508-636-1100
- Email: [sbranco@sailsinc.org](mailto:sbranco@sailsinc.org)
- Website: [www.westport-ma.com/westport-free-public-library](http://www.westport-ma.com/westport-free-public-library)



**Westport Schools and Library:  
Mutual Interests and Benefits**

While Westport's schools and Library have always enjoyed a special bond based on their fundamental goals of educating and serving our citizens, that relationship bore additional fruit when the long-term infrastructure needs of the Library and the proposed Westport Middle-High School coalesced.

At the start, the School Building Committee (SBC) and its architects invited the Library Trustees to consider adding a number of school-related parking spaces—and possibly the Dianne B. Snyder Tennis Complex—into an area previously designated for Library use. It soon became apparent that the School's infrastructure plans might also create ripe opportunities to share space, utilities, signage, and other resources with the Library.

When the project is complete, shared outcomes will include a mutually beneficial parking arrangement with new lighting and landscape plantings throughout; newly-installed, shared well-water and septic systems, and communications-infrastructure upgrades.

Meanwhile, the Library's daily operations, event plans, parking needs, and safety have been considered throughout the building process. The SBC and construction managers work hand in hand with us to document specific stages of construction that will affect Library operations. In all cases, temporary, additional parking spaces have been provided—and construction-site flaggers safely direct patrons in and out of the Library area.

To date, we have noticed no decrease in patron visits, and patrons have not mentioned any parking difficulties. While the Library may need to close for an occasional day to facilitate school construction, we will generally carry on as usual. Thank you to all of you working to bring these wonderful advancements to our schools, Library, and community.

**Sue Branco, Library Director** ([sbranco@sailsinc.org](mailto:sbranco@sailsinc.org))



**Alden Hill Group**

William Raveis Real Estate  
911 Main Road, Westport  
508.636.0600  
[www.aldenhill.com](http://www.aldenhill.com)

**SPRING EXHIBITS AND EVENTS**

**IN THE MANTON COMMUNITY ROOM**

**April: Mindfulness**

Artist and Rhode Island College student Gabrielle Patrone shares a collection of watercolor landscapes inspired by the concept of living in the moment in one's natural environment. Her pieces are painted from reference photographs taken in a variety of locations.

**May: Local Color:**

**Westport Art Group Paints Plein Air**

At Westport Art Group, many artists paint landscapes, seascapes, and all manner of local scenes throughout the South Coast. Throughout May, browse this lovely exhibit. Meet the artists at a reception on Monday, May 11, from 6-7:30 p.m

**June: By The Sea**

The Painters' Workshop @ Westport COA presents an exhibit of landscape and seaside paintings of our local area. Back by popular demand, meet these delightful artists at a reception on Saturday, June 6, from 1-3:30 p.m.

**THE HELEN E. ELLIS CASE**

**April: Celebrate National Poetry Month**

Collections by local poets and more are on display. Borrow a selection throughout the month. Ask the Library staff for details.

**May: Southwestern Art Works**

An exhibit of art, jewelry, sculpture and native pottery from the collections of Brianna McAvoy and Denise Micale is a delight to view.

**June: Here Come the Brides**

A collection of vintage family wedding portraits and memorabilia spanning a century is shared by our very own Robin Winters.

**FOWL BOARD MEETING**

Thursdays, April 16 and June 11 at 6:30 p.m. Community Room. Dates occasionally change. Please call the Library (508) 636-1100 to confirm the date if you plan to attend.

The Library will be closed on the following days in observance of these holidays:

- Friday, April 10, Good Friday
- Monday April 20, Patriots' Day
- Monday, May 25, Memorial Day

**Tech Bytes**

Feeling a little frustrated? A Computer Skills Volunteer is available to assist with navigating a laptop, iPad, Microsoft Office Products, etc. Call the Library to set up a time for some satisfying help.



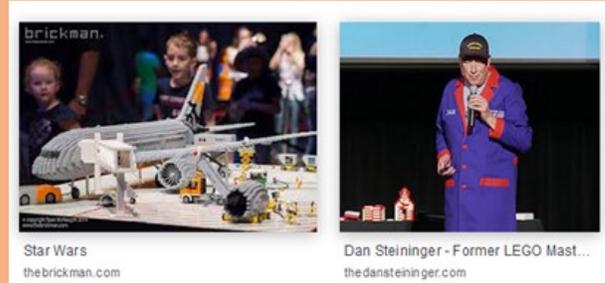
Like us on Facebook for news and upcoming events:

[facebook.com/westportfreepubliclibrary](https://facebook.com/westportfreepubliclibrary)



**Summer Program Preview**

**July 23rd**, Dan "The Brickman" Steining, former LEGO Master Builder will teach, inspire and entertain LEGO enthusiasts in an interactive program.



**August 4th**, the Traveling Tide Pool from the Biome Marine Biology Center, a hands on experience with local marine life.



**August 10th** *The Storied Bars of New York* with author Delia Cabe, enjoy mocktails and stories of the literary greats and their favorite NYC haunts.



Happy to be serving the Westport community.

**Westport Self Storage**

941 Sanford Road  
Westport, MA 02790



Phone: (508) 636-5100

[emmet@westportselfstore.com](mailto:emmet@westportselfstore.com)

Keep bringing your Lees receipts to the Library.

Your receipts earned \$3940 in 2019.

**Thank you  
Lees Market,  
for your support.**



**Kid's Corner Spring 2019**

**Preschool**

**River** Elisha Cooper  
**Birdsong** Julie Flett  
**Are Your Stars Like My Stars?** Leslie Helakoski  
**In a Jar** Deborah Marcero  
**Piece by Piece** Susan Tan



**Grades 1-4**

**The Scarecrow King** D. R. Sampson  
**The Stolen Slipper** Anna Staniszewski  
**The Perfect Star** Rob Buyea  
**Remarkables** Margaret Haddix  
**Notorious** Gordon Korman  
**Harvey Comes Home** Colleen Nelson



**Young Adult**

**Children of Virtue and Vengeance** Tomi Adeyemi  
**Gravity** Sarah Deming  
**The Rest of the Story** Sarah Dessen  
**Fireborne** Rosaria Munda  
**The Starlight Claim** Tim Wynne-Jones

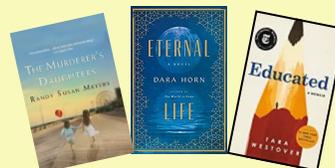


**Westport Library Book Club**

**Read For Fun, Followed By Optional Lunch**

The Westport Library Book Club meets the second Friday of each month in the Community Room at 10:30 a.m. It's a wonderful assemblage of people from several local communities. We choose our selections on the recommendation of members. The conversations are lively and enjoyable and participating in the group is a great way to meet people.

Please join us or contact [Flora318@aol.com](mailto:Flora318@aol.com) for more information.



**April 17—The Murderer's Daughter** by Randy Susan Meyer

**May 8—Eternal Life** by Dara Horn

**June 12—Educated** by Tara Westover



**CASEY'S FUN FACES**

Casey Miranda will do face painting Thursday evening June 18 from 6-8 p.m. on the south side of the Manton Community Room. Children can sign up for summer reading at this time, get their logs, have their face painted, and go home with an ice cream treat. Newcomers welcomed.



Looking for something to read but don't want to spend a lot of money?

Check out **MICHAEL'S BOOKSTORE**

located to the right of the lobby in the Library. Dozens of books to choose from including fiction, non-fiction, hardbound or soft cover. Books are \$2.00 each. Children's books are 25¢.



**Patricia Bloom-McDonald, Attorney-at-Law**  
 Your Attorney for Life's Planning

**Call for a complimentary consultation:**  
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**Thank you,** Rosie and your dedicated handler Sue Szekely for the years of faithful service listening to children in the *Read to Rosie Program*.

Rosie has earned this well deserved rest. Let's all wish her a happy retirement.



**New to the Collection Highlights**

**Adult Fiction**

**The Land Beyond the Sea** Sharon Kay Penman  
The story of the reign of King Baldwin IV and the Kingdom of Jerusalem's defense against Saladin's famous army.

**A Conspiracy Of Bones** Kathy Reichs  
Forensic anthropologist Temperance Brennan must use all her tradecraft to discover the identity of a faceless corpse, its connection to a decade-old missing child case, and why the dead man had her cell phone number.

**The K Team** David Rosenfelt  
Corey Douglas and his K-9 partner, Simon Garfunkel, have recently retired from the police force. Not ready to give up the life yet, they come up with a proposal for a fellow former cop.

**Treason** Stuart Woods  
After a whirlwind British excursion, Stone Barrington is notified of a delicate situation within the country's administration. A close friend requires his expertise and subtlety to eradicate a destructive presence in a classified agency.



**Adult Nonfiction**

**Every Day Is Saturday** Sarah Copeland  
Strategies for easy cooking every day of the week.

**Ready or Not : Preparing Our Kids to Thrive in an Uncertain and Rapidly Changing World** Madeline Levine

**The Man Who Played With Fire** Jan Stocklassa  
When Stieg Larsson died, the author of *The Girl with the Dragon Tattoo* had been working on a true mystery that out-twisted his Millennium novels: the assassination on February 28, 1986, of Olof Palme, the Swedish prime minister.

**Large Print Fiction**

**The Daughter's Tale** Armando Correa  
Seven decades of secrets unravel with the arrival of a box of letters from the distant past, taking readers on a harrowing journey from Nazi-occupied Berlin, to the South of France, to modern-day New York City.



**Country Strong** Linda Lael Miller  
Cord Hollister is a true cowboy at heart. As a man who has devoted his life to training horses, he thrives on the stability of ranch life. But when a girl arrives in Painted Pony Creek with a shocking secret, Cord's orderly life is upended.



**Golden In Death** J.D. Robb  
Pediatrician Kent Abner received the package on a beautiful April morning. Inside was a cheap trinket, a golden egg that could be opened into two halves. When he pried it apart, highly toxic airborne fumes entered his body and killed him.



**Adult Books on CD: Fiction**

**A Long Petal of the Sea** Isabel Allende  
Epic novel spanning decades and crossing continents follows two young people as they flee the aftermath of the Spanish Civil War in search of a place to call home.



**When You See Me** Lisa Gardner  
Detective D. D. Warren, Flora Dane, and Kimberly Quincy investigate a mysterious murder from the past that points to a dangerous and chilling present-day crime.



**Adult DVDs**

**Howard's End**

**Joker**

**Judy**

**Little Women**

**Ms. Fisher's Modern Murder Mysteries** season one



**Music CDs**

**Beautiful World** Eliza Gilkyson

**Cold Spring Harbor** Billy Joel

**I Learned The Hard Way** Sharon Jones & The Dap-Kings

**Closer: The Best of Sarah McLachlan**



**NEW to the Library**

The Library now has a board game and puzzle collection that can be checked out.



## Spotlight

### The Tale of WAG

by Maryteresa Hicks

The Westport Art Group (WAG) Thursday *Plein Air* painters will be exhibiting their works in the Manton Room during the month of May. “*En plein air*” is French for “outdoors,” thus *plein air* painting is painting outdoors on location. Ex-



cept for winter months, this group paints every Thursday morning in any number of the South Coast’s beautiful venues. Open to all skill levels from novice to advanced, the group contends with variable weather conditions, changing shadows and sunlight, and transporting paints and equip-

ment. With such a wealth of riches from farmland, river views, as well as historic places to seaside locales, there is much to keep their creative juices flowing and keep them artfully challenged.

WAG’s history goes back a ways. It was founded in 1956 by thirteen enthusiastic painters who wanted to meet formally and encourage each other. Their stated purpose was “to promote interest and activity in the arts and crafts.” They continued to meet in each other’s homes; their membership grew steadily. A generous supporter donated land on Main Road, their present location, for the building of a structure to serve as a meeting place to paint, exhibit and hold classes.

They began to raise money and eventually purchased a small cottage up for sale on Drift Road and had it moved to the Main Road location. Their home was born. And a new wing was added to the building in 2016.

The founders would be pleased to see WAG today, grown from its humble beginnings. A non-profit organization, WAG currently offers an array of classes and workshops including painting, drawing, printmaking, photography, and poetry. They also hold workshops and summer art camps for children. Each year they hold several exhibitions and also offer High School scholarships for budding artists.



Go to their website, [westportartgroup.com](http://westportartgroup.com) for a full listing of their current offerings and don’t forget to stop by the Manton Room in May to view their paintings inspired by our beautiful South Coast.

## World of Books

### Reading Aloud: Beyond *Green Eggs and Ham*

by Linda Olsen

A favorite memory of my childhood is that of my Nana reading to me. She read all of the wonderful children’s books of the time—including *Wind in the Willows*, *Uncle Wiggily*, and *Little House on the Prairie*. Once I became a mother, bedtime reading to my children became a nightly ritual. We read many of the same books my Nana and I had shared in addition to the more popular books of the 1970s.

When my own mother became ill and was living in our home, the ritual of reading aloud was reversed generationally. She looked forward to hearing my oral rendition of the texts of her favorite British mysteries. Often I would think she was sleeping during those times, but I was wrong. She would always know where we were in the story and who “had done it”. My husband tells me that he loved the sound of my voice reading to my mother during this difficult time in our lives.

As a kindergarten teacher, I enjoyed engaging my class with all of my favorite children’s literature—reading aloud. It was a quiet, relaxing time that the class always anticipated with pleasure. Later, as a grandmother, I again turned to reading aloud in creating special time with my grandchildren. They each had particular books for these one-on-one story times. And now at Christmastime, our entire family gathers by the fire to read our favorite holiday stories aloud.

Reading aloud can be as simple and casual as reading a news or magazine article to a friend or family member. Or it can be as deliberate as planning an alfresco reading of a newly acquired novel during the first spring picnic of the year. And, if you don’t like the sound of your own voice, there are always audiobooks available on the SAILS network (some with celebrity voices). The sound and the sharing create a unique experience and connection between people and across generations. Come by the Library soon to choose a book to start a tradition of reading aloud with your family and friends.





Become a member — Join today

FOWL aids the mission of the Westport Free Public Library.

All activities are run by volunteers—people who believe in a public library. Funds raised through member dues and book sales go to the Library to purchase books, CDs, DVDs, museum passes, and to fund children’s and adult programs. FOWL is the largest funding source for these purchases. In 2019, member dues and book sales contributed over \$25,000 to Library funding. If you’re not yet a member, fill in the form to the right to join today.

FOWL’s services and activities:

Museum Passes:

- Boston Children’s Museum Providence Children’s Museum
Boston Museum of Science Rhode Island School of Design
Buttonwood Park Zoo Roger Williams Zoo
Children’s Museum of Greater Fall River
Edaville Railroad
Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum
MASSPARKS Pass
Museum of Fine Arts, Boston
New Bedford Whaling Museum

- Michael’s Bookstore located in the Library lobby
Summer Paperback Book Sale
Programs/Special Events
Annual Book Sale with Members’ Preview Night
Paperback Exchange Carousel located in the Library lobby

@ the Library Quarterly Newsletter

\*Membership levels:

- \$10 Individual \$50 Patron
\$20 Family \$100 Bibliophile
\$30 Sponsor \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Other

FOWL is a 501c3 non-profit; your donation is tax deductible

Yes, I would like to volunteer. I am interested in:

It’s easy to join: New \_\_\_\_\_ Renew \_\_\_\_\_

- 1) Mail: P.O. Box 3342, Westport, MA 02790
2) Drop off form and payment at Library

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

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