

NEW

Coming Tuesday, July 11 at 6:30-7:30 p.m. to the Westport Town Hall Annex:

Candida Rose
The Music of Cape Verde

Also check out:

**BEATRIX POTTER LECTURE
BY BETSY BRAY**

Saturday, June 10, 2023 at 1:00 p.m. in the Library (see p.4)

More details on our website at www.fowlwestportma.org

Services

- Free Wi-Fi Access in the parking lot (and inside.)
- SAILS Library Network 24/7 Borrowing
- Michael's Book Store
- Commonwealth Catalogue
- Call the Library for more Information.

Hours | Contact Info

Monday & Thursday 11-8
Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday 9-5
Saturdays 9-5

Closed: Sunday and also:

Friday, April 7 Good Friday
Mon. April 17 Patriots Day
Mon. May 29 Memorial Day
Mon. June 19 Juneteenth

408 Old County Road, Westport, MA

Phone: 508-636-1100

Email: gripley@sailsinc.org

Website: www.westport-ma.com/westport-free-public-library

Facebook.com/westportfreepubliclibrary



So long, farewell, auf wiedersehen :

Big News: Assistant Director, Children's/Young Adult Librarian Linda Cunha retired on February 24th, after a career spanning 34.5 years, including 19 years at the Westport Library.

Writing about a friend and former coworker gives me much to reflect upon. Arriving at our Library, Linda initiated preschool programs for ages three to five. Later, she developed the very successful Lap-Sit Program for babies and toddlers. Beyond excitedly sharing stories, Linda's love of music and crafts effectively connected with these age groups. Moreover, she provided parents and caregivers with many activities to complete with the children at home. Whether locating that special book, or exploring online resources, Linda enjoyed helping youngsters with their homework and school reports, as well as developing personal interests.

Linda has organized and presented a wide variety of family programs throughout the years, including performances by storytellers, puppeteers, magicians, musicians, and critters in all shapes and sizes. And her contributions when planning and executing the 2008 Library-expansion project helped make all the difference.

Let's all congratulate Linda on her fruitful career. Knowing what an avid reader you are, Linda, it's now time to read more of your favorite authors and take those longed-for day trips with Bob. Wishing you all the best.

Susan Branco, President, FOWL (fowlmail@gmail.com)

BOOK DONATIONS BEGIN MAY 1st

It's donation time for our upcoming book sales in July and September 2023. Our book bin in the lobby awaits your gently used books, CDs and DVDs. Please no textbooks, encyclopedias, magazines or outdated manuals. If you have any questions, call our Library staff.

Donations are being accepted from Monday, May 1 to Thursday, August 31.

The Paperback Book Sale begins Monday, July 24 through Saturday, August 5.

The FOWL Annual Book Sale begins Saturday, September 9, runs through Saturday, September 16. Friday, September 8 is member preview night and Saturday, September 16 is \$5 a bag day.



Alden Hill Group
William Raveis Real Estate
866 Main Road, Westport
508.642.4894
www.AldenHill.com

FOWL Board Meetings:

Thursday, May 11 at 6:30 p.m. in the Manton Community Room. Dates occasionally change. Please call the Library (508) 636-1100 for more information and to confirm if you plan to attend.

Your Library Connections

Juneteenth

Since 2020, June 19th is recognized in Massachusetts as Juneteenth Independence Day. We are asked by people what exactly this holiday commemorates, so let's look at the history behind Jubilee Day or Emancipation Day. The short version; Juneteenth commemorates the abolition of slavery in the United States.

But why that particular day? The path to ending slavery in the U.S. was a long and deadly one, with the Society of Friends taking an early role in the efforts to extend freedom to everyone living within America. When President Lincoln's Emancipation Proclamation went into effect on January 1st, 1863, it was a declaration of intent rather than an implemented act. The Proclamation applied only to areas of the U.S. that were in open rebellion because the Union obviously didn't control those areas. Only after the Union occupied a rebel area did people finally benefit from the Emancipation Proclamation and become free. The Confederates did not willingly share the news about freedom being declared for those suffering in bondage until they were compelled to do so.

Juneteenth commemorates the day Union soldiers finally arrived in Galveston, Texas on June 19th, 1865, and brought the news that slavery had been abolished. It is said that a day of thanksgiving and joy erupted amongst the now free people since that was the first that any had heard that freedom had been proclaimed. Some also use the day to commemorate the millions whose lives were taken from them by slavery and the horrors millions more suffered. By the end of 1865, when the 13th Amendment was ratified, slavery was abolished not only in the rebellious states, but throughout the entire country. In 1980, Texas recognized Juneteenth as a state holiday. Many other states joined it in the subsequent decades until Juneteenth became a federal holiday in 2021.

Ever yours,

George Ripley

Kids' Corner Spring 2023

Picture Books: Preschool to Grade 2

- Sometimes It's Nice to Be Alone* Amy Hest
- The Three Little Guinea Pigs* Erica S. Perl
- Little Bat Up All Day* Brian Lies
- The Arabic Quilt* Aya Khalil
- The Wonderful Things You Will Be* Emily Winfield Martin

Children's Fiction

- Whale Done* Stuart Gibbs
- Pilar Ramirez and the Curse of San Zenon* Julian Randall
- D&D Dungeon Club Roll Call* Molly Knox Ostertag
- Officer Clawsome* Brian Smith



Spring Story Time

Ages 3-5 10:00 a.m.

Tuesdays, April 11— May 30

Ages 0-2 10:00 a.m.

Wednesdays, April 12 — May 31

Please stop by or call 508-636-1100 with any questions..



Patricia Bloom-McDonald, Attorney-at-Law

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Chat with Richard Perry

by Denise Micale

Tools of the Trade

You will be bringing a unique exhibit to the Library this May, Rich, occupying both the Helen Ellis case and the Manton Room. What will we be seeing?



My great uncle, Henry Os-good, (1874-1954), a bachelor known as “Uncle Harry” to our family, owned a collection of woodworking tools in a beautiful toolbox, all meticulously cared for. I don’t remember knowing him because I was so young when he passed, but I ended up with possession of the box and tools when my cousin sought a home for them. The wooden toolbox and the antique tools will be displayed in the case. Photographs of these items along with some other works will be exhibited in the Manton Room.

What drew you to your great uncle’s tools as a theme for this exhibit?

It was obvious that my great uncle’s tool collection meant a lot to him and it told me what kind of person he was and his place in our family. He even had his name stamped on the tools which indicated to me how much he valued them. The box and tools have a patina from use that add to their beauty in the way they were maintained over the years. I spent a lot of time with the box and tools before arranging and photographing them to tell their and Uncle Harry’s story.

You are a lifelong educator, Rich. How did you become a professional photographer?

I bought my first camera when my granddaughter was born 18 years ago. Through the years, it has evolved into a passion of finding beautiful and interesting subjects to photograph and transform into art. These photographs of my great uncle’s tools have always evoked interest and memories of the bygone tools that many viewers remember in their family home.



Please keep saving your Lees receipts for the Library.

Lees Market receipts are valuable!

Friends of Westport Library receives 1% of eligible expenditures made at Lees Market. This is an important revenue source in light of our book sale cancellations in 2020 and 2021. You can mail in your receipts to the Library or continue to place them in the Library drop box. Your receipts earned \$3,645.43 in 2022.

Thank you Lees Market for your support.



New to the Collection Highlights

Adult Fiction:

Maame
Remarkably Bright Creatures
Pineapple Street
All That is Mine I Carry With Me

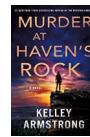
Jessica George
Shelby Van Pelt
Jenny Jackson
William Landay



Adult Mystery:

Murder at Haven’s Rock
Good Dog, Bad Cop
So Shall You Reap

Kelley Armstrong
David Rosenfelt
Donna Leon



Adult Nonfiction:

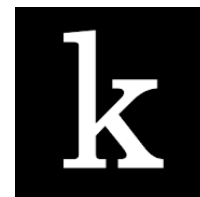
The Watchmaker’s Daughter: The True Story of World War II Heroine Corrie Ten Boom Larry Loftis
Comet Madness: How the 1910 return of Halley’s Comet (almost) destroyed civilization

Richard J. Goodrich

Knitting Wraps in the Round: 21 inspired shawls, scarves, and stoles Andrea Brauneis

The Library offers many ways to get your books, CDs, Movies and Audiotapes from the comfort of your home. Check out **Hoopla** and **Kanopy** or the **Libby** app.

All you need is your Library card. For more information on how to access, call the Library.



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Have a Kindle Fire tablet? [Learn how to install Libby.](#)

Events

Westport Writes continues for the spring season.

Writers' Gatherings

Friends Community House at Friends Meeting, 920 Main Road, Westport

Monday, April 3 at 4:30 p.m.

Saturday, May 11 at 1:00-2:30 p.m.

Library Readings

Westport Free Public Library—Library Readings

Saturday, April 29 at 1 p.m.



Anyone is welcome to attend. We love meeting new writers, people who are convinced they aren't writers, and writers of any age, genre, or type! Come check out the submissions at:

midoricreativity.com/westportwrites



Westport Library Book Club

Read For Fun

The **Westport Library Book Club** meets in the Community Room at 10:30 a.m. on the second **Friday** of each month.

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. **It's a great way to meet people.**

Join us or contact cvidal318@gmail.com for more information.

Book Selections:

April 14 *West with Giraffes* by Lynda Rutledge

May 12 *Snow Flower and the Secret Fan* by Lisa See

June 9 *The Good Earth* by Pearl Buck



**Helen E. Ellis
Glass Case Exhibits**

April: Barbara Healy—*Westport On My Mind*—A display of small paintings by Barbara Healy inspired by Westport in every season.

May: Richard Perry—*Tools From the Past* See our Chat on Page 3 with Richard.

June: David Mello—*Sculptures* Fall River artist, muralist and sculpturer showcases samples of his works.

FOWL and the Philip Snyder Foundation presents

Saturday, April 22, 2023 @ 11:00 a.m. in the Manton Room of the Westport Free Public Library All Ages Welcome

Dan "The Brickman" Steininger, former LEGO Master Builder

For details call the Library at (508) 636-1100

Beatrix Potter Lecture

Saturday, June 10, 2023 at 1:00 p.m. at the Westport Free Public Library



Betsy Bray, an international authority on Beatrix Potter, presents a lively look at the remarkable life of this acclaimed children's author/illustrator. Her 45-minute illustrated talk includes the various roles played by Beatrix Potter over 77 years of her life. Betsy has been a Member of The Beatrix Potter Society for almost 40 years and was the first overseas Trustee in the London-based Beatrix Potter Society.



This program is sponsored by **FOWL** Friends of Westport Library

New to the Library:

**Four new Windows
11 Computers for
public use funded by**



World of Books

MURDEROUS MONDAYS BOOK CLUB



by Carol Vidal



Do you love a good mystery? Lots of people find this genre fascinating. You need not be a Sherlock Holmes/Agatha Christie/Edgar Allan Poe aficionado as selections from our current mystery novel list are to die for.

Why not share your enthusiasm with other like minds at the newly formed **Murderous Mondays Book Club** meeting every 2nd Monday of each month at 6:00 p.m. held in the Manton Room?

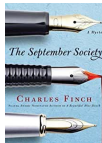
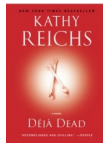
Discussions are lively and listening to the intricacies of the latest mystery/thriller book selection not only enhances your reading experience but is a great way to spend a Monday evening with other mystery readers. Always a good way to broaden your range of mystery titles and authors when you listen to other people's favorite books.

April 10: ***The Overnight Guest*** by Heather Gudenkauf

May 8: ***Deja Dead*** by Kathy Reichs

June 12: ***The September Society*** by Charles Finch

July 10: ***The Family Game*** by Catherine Steadman



Don't forget we have the **Westport Library Book Club** on the 2nd Friday of each month at 10:30 a.m. held in the Manton Room. Selections range from historical fiction to classics to non-fiction.

See page 4 for more information on our latest book selections this spring quarter.

Also, you can check our website at www.fowlwestportma.org for updated information about our book clubs.

Homebound Delivery Service

Know of a relative, friend, or neighbor who is unable to visit the Library? A Library volunteer delivers books (including large print), CD books, and DVDs to homebound Westporters.



Please call the Library at
(508) 636-1100 for more information.

Spotlight

A Conversation with Robin Winters

by Sue Branco

Robin recently discovered the name of a Westport mariner who died in a horrific pirate attack in 1827. Oliver Potter was born here in Westport on October 12, 1802 and was the son of Edward and Betsey S. Potter.

In the spring of 1827, the 24-year-old Oliver left the port of Providence, R.I., aboard Brig *Crawford* on its third voyage to Mantanzas, Cuba, to pick up rum, coffee, sugar and molasses for New York City. The *Crawford* had been built in the previous year in Troy (Fall River).

Jacque Alexander Tardy, a pirate by trade, was born in France in 1767. His family fled to Saint Domingue (Haiti) to escape the French Revolution. After stealing boats and captains' belongings up and down the east coast of the United States and serving time in various prisons, he sailed for Cuba where he enlisted the aid of three Spanish pirates. They boarded the *Crawford* with fake papers with a plan to capture her and sail to Africa or Europe instead of New York City. Impersonating a physician, which Tardy had done in the past, he attempted to poison the crew.

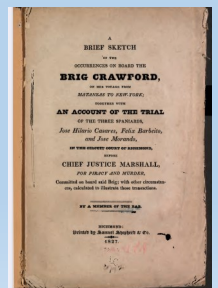
When the poison sickened but did not kill the crew, the pirates resorted to knives and swords. In the early morning of June 1, 1827, all crew members except for three individuals were killed in a bloody massacre, including Capt. Henry Brightman of Fall River. Oliver, having been severely stabbed in the abdomen, somehow climbed a mast and tried to escape. Having lost so much blood, he fell from the rigging into the ocean and was lost at sea.

First mate, Edmund Dobson from Somerset, MA., was spared by convincing Tardy that provisions were needed. So the *Crawford* headed for Fort Monroe near Norfolk, Virginia. Dobson escaped while the ship was at anchor. On reaching shore, he reported the massacre to officers at Fort Monroe, who took possession of the vessel. Tardy was discovered in the Captain's quarters where he had slit his own throat. The three other pirates were apprehended and were tried, found guilty and hung for piracy and murder.

For further reading about the trial of the three Spanish pirates, our History Room has a photocopy of the book about the *Crawford* which can be read in the Library.

This book is also available to read online. As well, UMASS Dartmouth has a copy of the book to read in their library.

Part 2 to follow in our summer
quarterly newsletter.





Become a member — Join today

FOWL aids the mission of the Westport Free Public Library

All activities are run by volunteers who support and believe in a public library. As a significant funding source, 2022 member dues and book sales contributed over \$45,000 to support Library services. If you are not yet a member of FOWL, please consider filling in the form to the right or join on-line at www.fowlwestportma.org.

FOWL funding supports the following:

Books, DVDs, CDs and electronic services
Children's and adult programs and special events

Discounted museum passes:

- Boston Museum of Science
- Museum of Fine Arts, Boston
- Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum, Boston
- Buttonwood Park Zoo
- New Bedford Whaling Museum
- MASSPARKS PASS

Michael's Bookstore located in the Library lobby year-round
Paperback Exchange Carousel located in the Library lobby

@ the Library Quarterly Newsletter

***Membership levels:**

- \$15 Seniors (61+) _____
- \$20 Individual _____
- \$25 Family _____
- \$ _____ Other
- \$50 Sponsor _____
- \$100 Patron _____
- \$250 Bibliophile _____

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

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: _____

Email: _____

Or Donate Online at www.fowlwestportma.org

I would like to volunteer. I am interested in:

I would like to be a Board Member.

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Linda Harrop
Brianna McAvoy
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Sue Szekeley, Book sale Coordinator
Carol Vidal, Copy Editor
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