

NEW

2023

Happy New Year

**From all of us at
FOWL**

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:

Mon. Jan. 2 New Year's Holiday
Mon. Jan 16 Martin Luther King Day
Mon. Feb. 20 Presidents' Day

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



WINTER

"The more things change, the more they stay the same."

—Jean-Baptiste Alphonse Karr

As Library director—and since my retirement—I have had the pleasure and honor of sharing an invigorating and rewarding friendship with Denise Micale, who has served as president of FOWL during the past seven years. Denise's ever-expanding involvement began in 2014 when she visited the Library seeking—in her own words—a sense of "connection and purpose."

I cannot count our conversations regarding FOWL's role and functions. Many of these discussions started with Denise spontaneously expressing an idea, and more often than not ended with her sincere efforts to put those concepts into action. In each case, Denise's labors built upon the Library's role as a meeting place by encouraging community participation and expanding reading opportunities. Thankfully, Denise will remain engaged as a FOWL member, and as its treasurer.

Please join me in acknowledging Denise's ongoing enthusiasm and dedication to our Library's events, aesthetics, offerings, and outreach.

As for me, in accepting this leadership role in FOWL, I am heartened to know that I can rely on the support of its outstanding Board of Directors and its many fine members. I can only aspire to bring forth the energy and creativity of my predecessors, as we work to support the Westport Free Public Library.

Please take care of yourselves and accept my best wishes for a healthy year ahead.

Sue Branco, President, fowlemail@gmail.com

**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.



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

FOWL Board Meetings:

Thursday, January 12 and March 9 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***Beyond the Ordinary***

This March in the Helen Ellis display case you will see revealed the wonders of my humble comic book collection. George? He's a nerd? I know, none of you are shocked by this. But my small collection does give me an opportunity to tell a story about one of our most important issues at the Library: ease of access to literature. And yes, graphic novels and comic books are literature.

When I was little, the only comic book store in town closed, so the only other place that you could get comic books was at the Westport Apothecary...which I only got to go to when I was sick once or twice a year. As such, I never got to read comics in order. It was catch as catch can. I was shut out from reading something I was very interested in due to lack of local access. It wasn't until the Dartmouth Library started buying collections of comic books that I finally get to read the stories I had been missing about Batman and Superman and all the rest. Of course, these collections were not cheap, so I had to rely on whatever the library bought to sate my hunger.

As these comic collections, called graphic novels, grew in popularity, more libraries bought them and increased the variety available, even including titles from other countries! Point of the story; no matter what your interest, no matter what or how you want to read the stories that interest you, libraries are here to help. And who knows where that one Batman book, or Babysitters Club, or David Ortiz biography will lead you. Maybe even so far as to being a librarian yourself someday. Excelsior!

Ever yours,

George Ripley

Kids' Corner Winter 2023**Picture Books: Preschool to Grade 2**

Cozy in Love Jan Brett
Drawing Outdoors Jairo Buitrago & Rafael Yockteng
Wombat Said Come In Carmen Deedy
Home Is Where the Heart Is Jonny Lambert
Beyond the Burrow Jessica Meserve

Grades 1-4

Maddie and Mabel Take the Lead Kari Allen
Aven Green: Music Machine Dusti Bowling
Cornbread & Poppy at the Carnival Matthew Cordell

Grades 5-8

Alliana, Girl of Dragons Julie Abe
The Ogress and the Orphans Kelly Barnhill
The Daredevils Rob Buyea
Stinetinglers R. L. Stine

Young Adults

Ace of Spades Faridah Abike-Iyimide
This Wicked Fate Kalynn Bayron
The Maze Cutter James Dashner
Again, but Better Christine Riccio

Children's NonFiction

Our Day of the Dead Celebration Ana Aranda
Told and Retold: Around the World with Aesop's Fables Holly Berry
Happy Sloth Day! April Sayre

**Two Ten-week Children's Programs:**

Winter Story Time for ages 3-5
 Begins Tuesday, January 10 at 10:00 a.m.

Lap-Sit every Wednesday for ages 0-2
 Begins Wednesday, January 11 at 10:00 a.m.

Please stop by or call 508-636-1100 to register.

Watch for sign-up dates to read to our therapy dog EMMY in the coming new year.

BayCoast
 BANK

Chat with Ed Micale

by Denise Micale

Legos in Space

When did you build your first LEGO space models?

The first was the Space Monorail which I bought for my son in the late 80's. The second was the little space shuttle with the launch pad. Later, I tried to build the most challenging and realistic models that LEGO produced that cover the entire history of the NASA space program.



When did LEGO begin producing these space models?

The first model was a very simple generic rocket from 1964, that I recently was able to find and put together for the exhibit. Three sets that were produced between 1964 and 1973 are considered LEGO's "early space" sets. They were inspired by the real space technology of the 1960's and 1970's. Some of the models in the case are now "retired" from production and are not easily available or even affordable. The Mars Rover is not from a kit, but is scratch built because I thought that the model was just too expensive to buy for the number of blocks involved.

Which set in your space collection has the greatest number of LEGO bricks?

The Space Shuttle with the Hubble Telescope has about 2,400 pieces.

Are there certain sets that you consider to be the most realistic?

The exhibit includes NASA space sets, including the Curiosity Rover, Saturn V rocket, Space Shuttle Discovery and the Hubble Telescope, all of which are very detailed and accurately produced.

Do you have a recommendation for parents and kids who would like to build a LEGO Space kit of their own?

Yes, LEGO City offers space rockets and vehicles, such as the Lunar Roving Vehicle, designed for children 7 and up. It's a great way to begin building and starting a collection.



New to the Collection Highlights

Fiction:

Wayward: A Novel

Poster Girl

The Cloisters

I Walk Between the Raindrops

Chuck Wendig

Veronica Roth

Katy Hays

T.C. Boyle

Mystery:

Waste of a Life (Book 3)

Scot in a Trap (Book 5)

Marple (Twelve New Mysteries)

Simon Brett

Catriona McPherson

Agatha Christie

Nonfiction:

Zero Proof Drinks & More

The 30-Minute Fibromyalgia Cookbook

Art of the Chicken

Maureen Petrosky

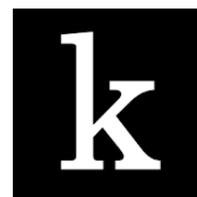
Bonnie Nasar

Jacques Pepin



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 go to **Tumblebooks** or the **Libby** app.

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



Events

Westport Writes continues for the winter and spring seasons.

Writers' Gatherings

Friends Community House at Friends Meeting, Westport

Saturday, January 14 at 1 p.m. (Winter)

Monday, April 3 at 4:30 p.m. (Spring)

Library Readings

Westport Free Public Library—Library Readings

Thursday, January 26 at 6:30 p.m. (Winter)

Saturday, April 29 at 1 p.m. (Spring)

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! If you are a local business or Westport organization interested in hosting a box of prompt cards, get in touch and come check out the submissions at:

midorcreativity.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:

January 13 *The Last House on the Street* by Diane Chamberlain

February 10 *The Curious Charms of Arthur Pepper* by Phaedra Patrick

March 10 *The Elephant Whisperer* by Lawrence Anthony

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.

DON'T TRY THIS AT HOME!

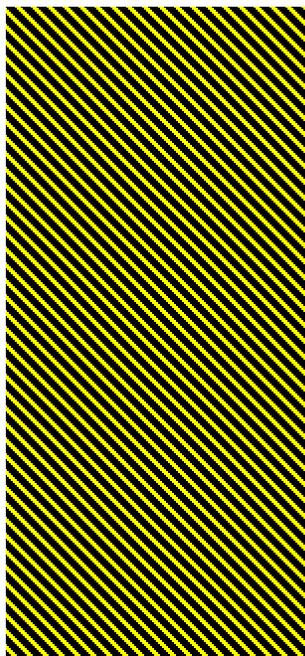
Mag SCIENCE
of Southern MA & RI

Thursday, February 23 at 6:00 p.m.
Westport Free Public Library
408 Old County Road
(508) 636-1100

*Snowdate: Saturday, February 25, 2023 at 11 a.m.

Sponsored by
FOWL
Friends of Westport Library

This spectacular show thrills audiences with impressive science experiments.
Exciting scientific demonstrations with lots of "Reactions" and a "BOOMing finale!"



Helen E. Ellis Glass Case Exhibits



January: *LEGO Space Models* by Ed Micale

Space has been a consistent LEGO theme since the onset of space travel. Ed Micale exhibits his LEGO Space collection from 1964 to the present day.

February: *Shake It Off* by Bonnie Strelbel. A collection of vintage and unique salt and pepper shakers.

March: George Ripley's Comic Books and Graphic Novel Collection.

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World of Books

❄️ *Winter Wonder:* *Awesome Reads for Kids* ❄️

By Linda Harrop

The air is getting colder, the leaves have disappeared—we shed a little tear because Winter is here. Winter and snow, oh no! No more swimming or playing ball. But, wait! There are many other things we can do, especially if it snows.

Walk in the woods and you can see new things that were hidden by the fallen leaves. Look for animal tracks if there is snow on the ground. Feed the wild birds and squirrels. Sledding, skiing and ice skating are also fun. But best of all, if it snows—snow people, snow forts, snowball throwing contests, making snow angels and catching snowflakes in your mouth are all great things to do.

But wait, what is snow? How is snow made? And, why is each flake different? There are several books in the Library that can explain all of this. “It’s Snowing” (Gail Gibbons), “Snowballs” (Lois Ehlert) and “The Story of Snow” (Mark Cassino) can answer your questions. You can learn how to catch a snowflake and look at it through a magnifying glass. And if you read “What Makes a Blizzard” (Kathleen Weidner Zoehfeld), you can learn how to keep a winter weather journal.

And, if there is no snow or it is too cold outside, what do we do now? How about making snowflakes out of paper and hanging them in your room? And here is a great idea: you can READ! A book, a mug of hot cocoa and a comfy chair is all you need. “Tacky the Penguin” (Helen Lester) will make you laugh with his snowy adventures and “Sneezy the Snowman” (Maureen Wright) is silly and fun.

Hurray for winter, hurray for snow! Visit the Library for these and many other awesome books about this time of year.



Spotlight

This Is Us

Last year the Friends of the Westport Library accomplished quite a lot after a long, uncertain break due to Covid. We were anxious to get back to the vibrant, active organization we once led.

The funds FOWL raises are used to enhance the Library in needed areas but we're not just about fund raising. Our board members are active volunteers in the events we sponsor and determine the path we take throughout the year. This past year we've been fortunate to take on four new, talented Board members to assist us in our goals.

FOWL promotes and advertises the events we sponsor and we now have our own website at www.fowlwestportma.org. Of course, we still maintain our Facebook page and quarterly FOWL Newsletter to notify everyone of upcoming events. Visit our website, check out our blog at www.fowlwestportma.org.

Here are some of the events and equipment FOWL has contributed to the Library in 2022:

For the Kids:

Toe Jam Puppet Band (2) Performances
Fire and Ice Show
B.O.N.E.S (Bretheren of the Order of the North East)

Dan the Lego Man
Reading Bench
Legos Cart
Activity booth with table

For the Adults:

Annual September Booksale
Paperback Booksale
Poetry Month Programs
Museum Passes (see page 6)
Shredding Event in May

Four new upholstered chairs and coffee table
Four new computers
Projector
Quarterly Newsletter

FOWL is a team of dedicated volunteers with the single purpose of supporting our Westport Library and benefiting our community.

If you have any comments, questions or suggestions, we would be happy to hear from you. Contact us at fowlmail@gmail.com.

FOWL
Friends of Westport Library



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 Children’s Museum
- 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.

Board Members:

President: Susan Branco
Vice President: Marytesa Hicks
Secretary: Jennie Elias
Treasurer: Denise Micalle

Myrna Altschuler
Suze Craig, Editor
Lorie-Lyn Fernandes
Michael Habib
Linda Harrop
Brianna McAvoy
David Moreira
Susan Silvia
Sue Szekealy, Book sale Coordinator
Carol Vidal, Copy Editor

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