

THE **chronicle**

A WLWP Digital Publication



from the executive director	1
development news	2-3
holiday happenings	4-5
program spotlights	6-8
family stories month	9
hanging in the hoxie	10
the pop-up at coy	12
books, media & more	14
all programs	16-17



from the executive director

A Season of Gratitude: November Reflections from Your Library Director



Westerly Library & Wilcox Park has always been more than just a building filled with books and a landscape with some trees and flowers; they are places of connection, discovery, and support. Whether you're cozying up with a novel that stirs your imagination, attending a storytime with your little ones, taking a stroll through the park, or using our resources to learn something new, we are honored to be part of your journey.

As the crisp air of November settles in and golden leaves blanket Wilcox Park, we find ourselves entering a season of reflection and gratitude. This month, more than any other, invites us to pause, take stock of what we cherish, and give thanks - for our families, our friends, our community, and the shared spaces that bring us together. This month, we're hosting a series of events that celebrate the spirit of giving, appreciation, family, community, and connection.

Family Stories Month occurs every November to encourage families to connect by sharing their unique stories, traditions, and memories. It's a time to appreciate and pass down family history and strengthen bonds between family members. We will be sharing in this celebration of family history through book displays, special crafts, and storytime. If you are interested in family stories, whether your own or others, consider viewing the Hoxie Gallery exhibit this month that features a retrospective of the works of Fuller Potter, curated by his proud family or attending the Dante Society program "The Story of Del's: from Naples to Rhode Island" about the family behind the famous Del's Lemonade.

Our Cookbook Club, which is in its 8th year, is hosting its first Friendsgiving. Always on the second Wednesday of each month, attendees come together with prepared dishes and share their experiences with recipes. However, this program celebrates community over perfection, emphasizing joy, creativity, and connection rather than traditional family obligations or culinary expertise. For more information or to register please contact our Reference department at reference@westerlylibrary.org or x306.

We will be offering our first Gingerbread House Contest! There will be a limited number of kits available for free to build, decorate, and display. You may also make your own to enter. Community members will wander the village on display and vote on their favorites during the same time as the Annual Holiday Stroll & Luminaria and our Holiday Pop-Up Shop on Wednesday, December 3rd, 5:00-8:00pm. Prizes will be awarded for the winners!

On small business Saturday, November 29th, we will hold our Annual Tree Lighting in the park where we gather together to celebrate the upcoming season of togetherness, joy, and gratitude through song, comforting goodies, and the magical lighting of a live park tree. That same day we will also have our Make Your Own Wreath event, an Ugly Sweater decorating program for all ages, and a Family Movie Matinee which will be a recurring monthly movie program featuring generational favorites. You can also sign up for our special Wreath Decorating Workshop fundraiser being held on December 4th.

As we gather around tables and share meals this month, let's also remember the quiet, everyday places that nurture our well-being. The library and the park are here for you, not just in November, but all year long. We're thankful for your continued support, your curiosity, and your presence in our shared spaces.

Wishing you a peaceful and joyful November,

Brigitte Hopkins
Executive Director

P.S. If you haven't visited us in a while, this is the perfect season to stop by. We'd love to see you.

Other Ways to Give

From the start, the Memorial and Library Association was established as a private nonprofit organization, as opposed to a municipal public library. Local industrialist-inventor, Stephen Wilcox and his wife Harriet, donated the land on which the library is situated, as well as \$10,000 for the construction of the building. The remaining cost was matched by citizens of the community. It is a testament to our community that so many individuals chipped in to construct what is arguably the most iconic building in downtown Westerly. This stunning architectural work of art opened to the public in 1894.

In 1898, Harriet Wilcox purchased property surrounding the library and donated the land to the Association to establish Wilcox Park. The park was dedicated in memory of Stephen Wilcox, who sadly passed away before construction of the library was complete.

Philanthropic community members have long been the backbone of our organization. To this day, Westerly Library & Wilcox Park raises funds

from individual donors through our Annual Fund campaign and fundraising events. Our Annual Fund supports programs, services, and resources that our patrons rely on. Our fundraising goal is \$282,000 for this fiscal year, which runs from July 1, 2025 through June 30, 2026.

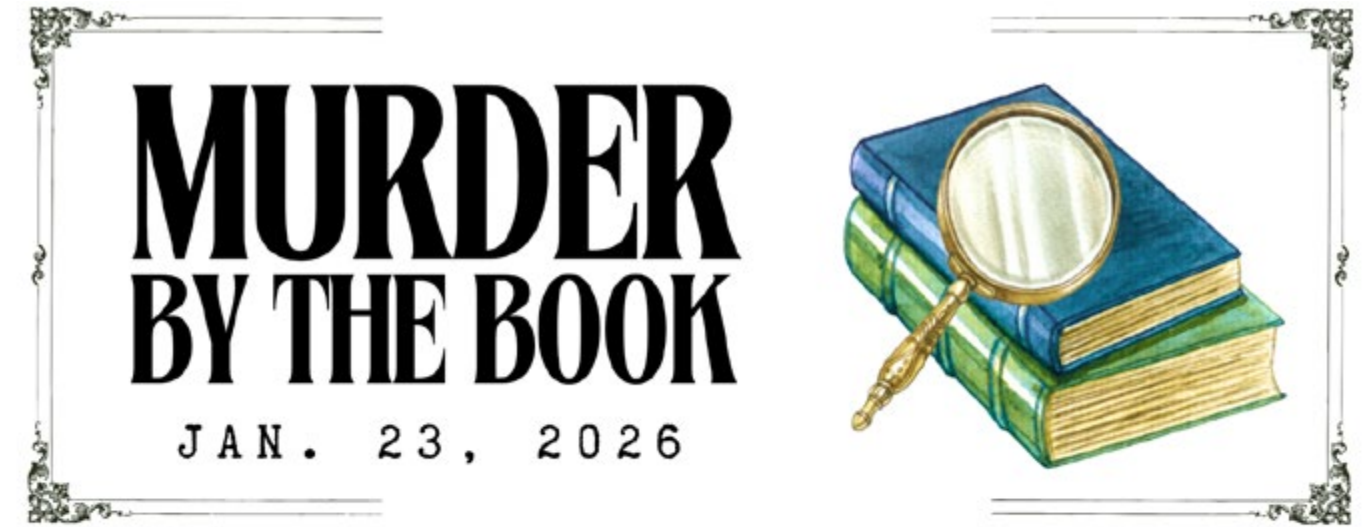
Just as the Association has expanded and evolved to serve the needs of our community, we also strive to fit the philanthropic goals of our donors. With this in mind, we accept a variety of giving methods such as:

- Become a Sustaining Member
- IRA Qualified Charitable Distribution
- Donating Securities
- Life Insurance
- Retirement Plans
- Charitable Remainder Trusts
- Donor-Advised Funds

Please be sure to consult with your financial or tax advisor to determine the best method of charitable giving for you. For details on other ways to give please visit: westerlylibrary.org/other-ways-to-give



Speaking of additional ways to give, Westerly Library & Wilcox Park will benefit from Stop & Shop's Community Bag Program for the month of November! For every reusable Community Bag purchased, \$1 will be donated back to our organization. Please consider WLWP during your next Stop & Shop visit!



Join us for a live action murder mystery fundraiser in the library. Collect clues and enjoy live performances throughout the evening from potential suspects as you try to crack the case. There is still time to sponsor this event! Tickets will go on sale soon!

SPECIAL AGENT SPONSOR | \$5,000



WHODUNIT SPONSORS | \$1,000



SUSPECT SPONSORS | \$500



BEVERAGE SPONSORS

ACCOMPLICE SPONSORS | \$250



- Deborah & David Bell
- Carol & AJ Fortier
- Furey Roofing & Construction
- Hoyt, Filippetti & Malaghan, LLC
- Lou Toscano Golf Instruction
- McQuade's Pharmacy
- Red Stone Tire Inc
- Riverhead Building Supply
- Sentry Point Development Group LLC

For details on our upcoming fundraiser, or to sponsor, please click the image above or visit: westerlylibrary.org/event/murderbythebook

Wednesday, November 12, 6:00-7:30 pm

Cookbook Club | Friendsgiving!

Saturday, November 22, 9 am-4 pm

Gingerbreadhouse Competition: Pickup

Saturday, November 29:

9 am-2 pm | Make Your Own Wreath

1-3 pm | Ugly Sweater

4:30-5:00 pm | Annual Tree Lighting



save the
dates

Wednesday, December 3rd, 5-8 PM

Holiday Pop-Up Shop & Gingerbread House Competition

Join Westerly Library & Wilcox Park for our Holiday Pop-Up! Stop in during the Holiday Stroll to say hello and stock up on gifts for the literature lovers in your life! Located in The Pop-Up at Coy, we will have Westerly Library & Wilcox Park gear and literary-themed gifts for purchase.

While you're here, wander the Gingerbread Village built by fellow community members and vote on your favorites! The Village will be displayed in the Old Main Reading Room the same evening. [Click here](#) for more information on how to participate!

Thursday, December 4th, 5:30-7:30 PM

Wreath-Making Workshop

Join us for a special wreath-making workshop featuring fresh evergreens cut from Wilcox Park. Our staff will share botanical information, instruction, and tips for creating a stunning holiday wreath. Greens, ribbons, frames, wire, decorative elements, and refreshments will be provided.

*This is a festive fundraiser and a fun way to support Westerly Library & Wilcox Park! [Click here](#) for details.

program spotlights

adult services

[Crafternoon To-Go | Autumn Leaf Bowls, Monday, November 3, 9 am- 8 pm, Makerspace](#)



Pick up a kit to go, or put it together on the spot. Kits are available on a first come, first served basis, starting at 9:00 a.m., and are limited to one per person please. This month, we're making Autumn Leaf Bowls. You can access the video tutorial on our YouTube Channel [HERE](#) on the day of the program.

[Chorus of Westerly Pre-Concert Lecture, Wednesday, November 12, 6:00-7:00 pm, Auditorium](#)



Ever wanted to know more about a piece of classical music before going to the concert? Learn some of the 'how' and the 'why' a piece is composed during a pre-concert lecture on the life and work of J.S. Bach ahead of the Chorus's performances of his Christmas Oratorio with The Chorus of Westerly and presenter Kathryn Aaron.

[Dante Society | The Story of Del's: from Naples to Rhode Island, Saturday, November 22, 1-3 pm, Auditorium](#)



Hosted by Dante Society of Westerly, please join presenter Ben Morris, Food Scientist for Del's Lemonade & Refreshments, Inc. for a lecture on "The Story of Del's: from Naples to Rhode Island".

[For our full calendar of events, click here or visit: westerlylibrary.org/calendar-of-events](http://westerlylibrary.org/calendar-of-events)

program spotlights

youth services

[Navigating the Stars for Tweens and Teens, Monday, November 3, 4:30-5:30 pm, Terrace Room](#)



Join Geoff "Star Dad" Mc Lean to learn all about Right Ascension and Declination, using star charts, and how to use a planisphere to locate objects. We'll go outside to put our knowledge to the test and gaze up into the night sky searching for interesting objects.

[Teen and Tween DnD: Young Adventurers Guild November 4, 4:00-5:30 pm, Terrace Room](#)



Calling all adventurers, join one of our Dungeons and Dragons groups run by our librarians and volunteers! We have plenty of dice to borrow, and newcomers are always welcome, so drop by and see what we're about! Newcomers are encouraged to reach out to ask about availability!

[Kids Craft Time: New Each Week, Thursdays, 4-5 pm, Kids Room \(Castle\)](#)



Join us in the Kids Room Castle every Thursday for a new craft! Crafts are planned for kids ages 2-8.

11/06: Autumn Paper Wreaths
11/13: Family Apple Tree
11/20: Painted Turkeys

[Fall Teen Cafe, Saturdays, 1-3 pm, Teen Space](#)



Join us every Saturday in the Teen Space for a cold or hot drink, a tasty snack, and friendly conversation.

program spotlights

public services

[Laser Basics, Thursdays, November 6 & 20, 6:00-6:30 pm Makerspace](#)



Have you heard about our laser printer, the Glowforge? It's perfect for personalized gifts and projects. Learn how to use this incredible piece of technology with the help of a knowledgeable staff member. Ages 16 and up.

[Sewing Basics, Wednesday, November 12, 6:00-6:30 pm, Makerspace](#)



Stop by the Makerspace to learn how to sew and more! From learning your stitches to winding bobbins, develop your sewing skills using our sewing machine along with other materials. Ages 16 and up, or with parental guidance for younger ages.

all ages

[Fandom Fest, Saturday, November 15, 11 am-2 pm, Westerly Library](#)



Calling all fantasy lovers, cosplayers, video game enthusiasts, and nerds! Join us for Fandom Fest, throughout the library to celebrate all things fandom and fantasy related. Click the link above or visit our website for a full schedule of events!
Costume Contest • Make Your Own Zine with cartoonist Alex Graundis • SFX Makeup Workshop Board Games • Photo Ops • Fantasy Book Fair Dragon Egg Scavenger Hunt • Padawan Training • Ghostbusters Meet and Greet

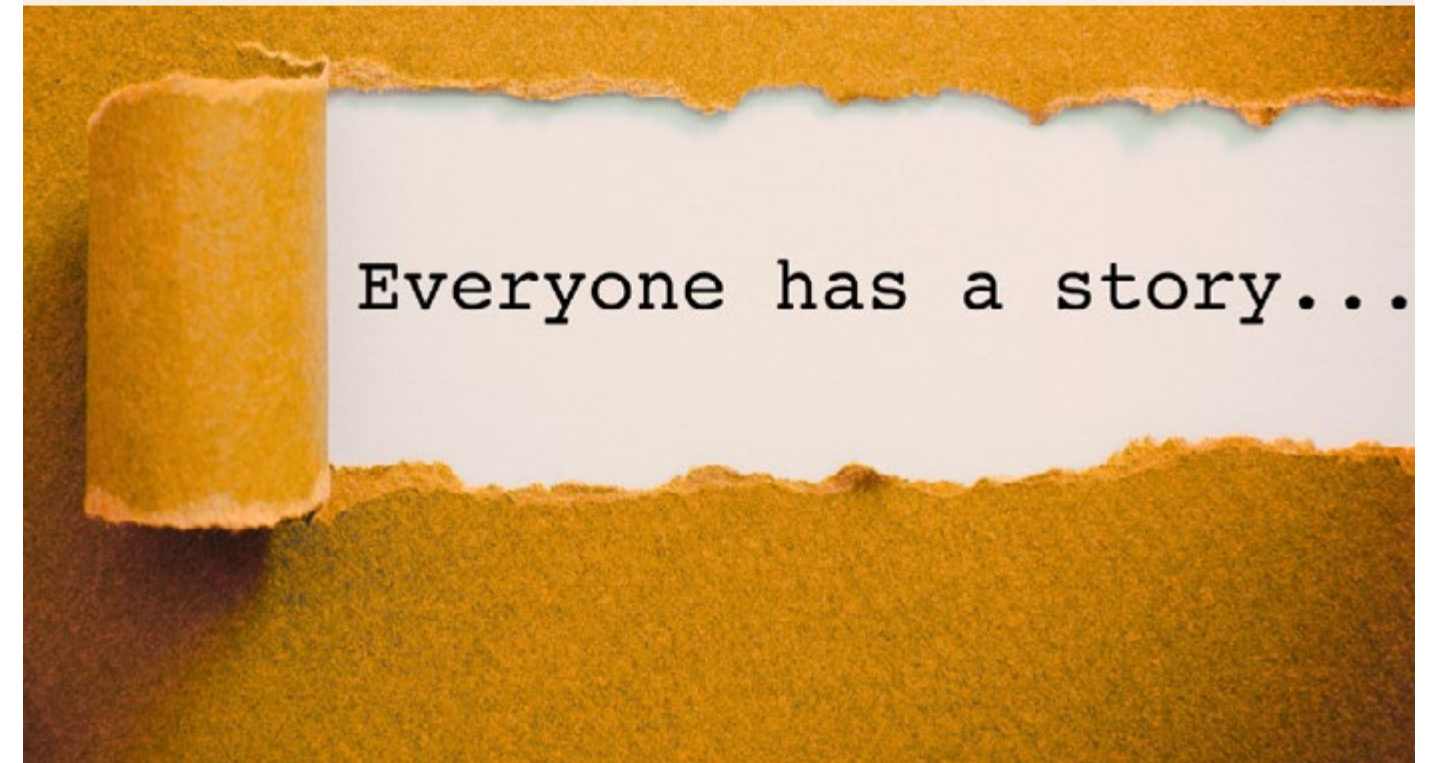
[Family Movie Matinee: *The Princess Bride* Saturday, November 29, 1-3 pm, Auditorium](#)



Join us for Family Movie Matinee! Each month we will be featuring a generational favorite that can be passed down to young movie buffs. This month, we will be watching *The Princess Bride* and creating our own Dread Pirate Roberts Mask!

family stories month

November is Family Stories Month—a time to gather with your loved ones to reflect and share unique stories, traditions, and history to preserve those memories. See how WLWP is celebrating all month long, below:



Kids

Monday, 11/03, 9 am-8 pm: [Kids Take & Make: Family Memory Photo Magnet](#)

Thursday, 11/13, 4-5 pm: [Kids Craft Time: Family Apple Tree](#)

Wednesday, 11/19, 10 am: [Storytime: Family Stories](#)

Be sure to check out our Family Collection picture book display!

Tweens

All month:
Zine-making take and make with 3 crayons and instructions on how to fold them.

DIY station with supplies to draw family portraits to take home or hang up on our bulletin board.

Check out our [Library Let's Plays](#), weekly, all month long to find a collaboration series our Kids and Tweens librarians created with "Cooking Mama Cookstar".

Teens

All month:
DIY Table: Make your own bookmark with tassel to mark your place in a favorite family story.

[Teen Craft Collective](#): Use the binding machine to create story/gratitude journals.

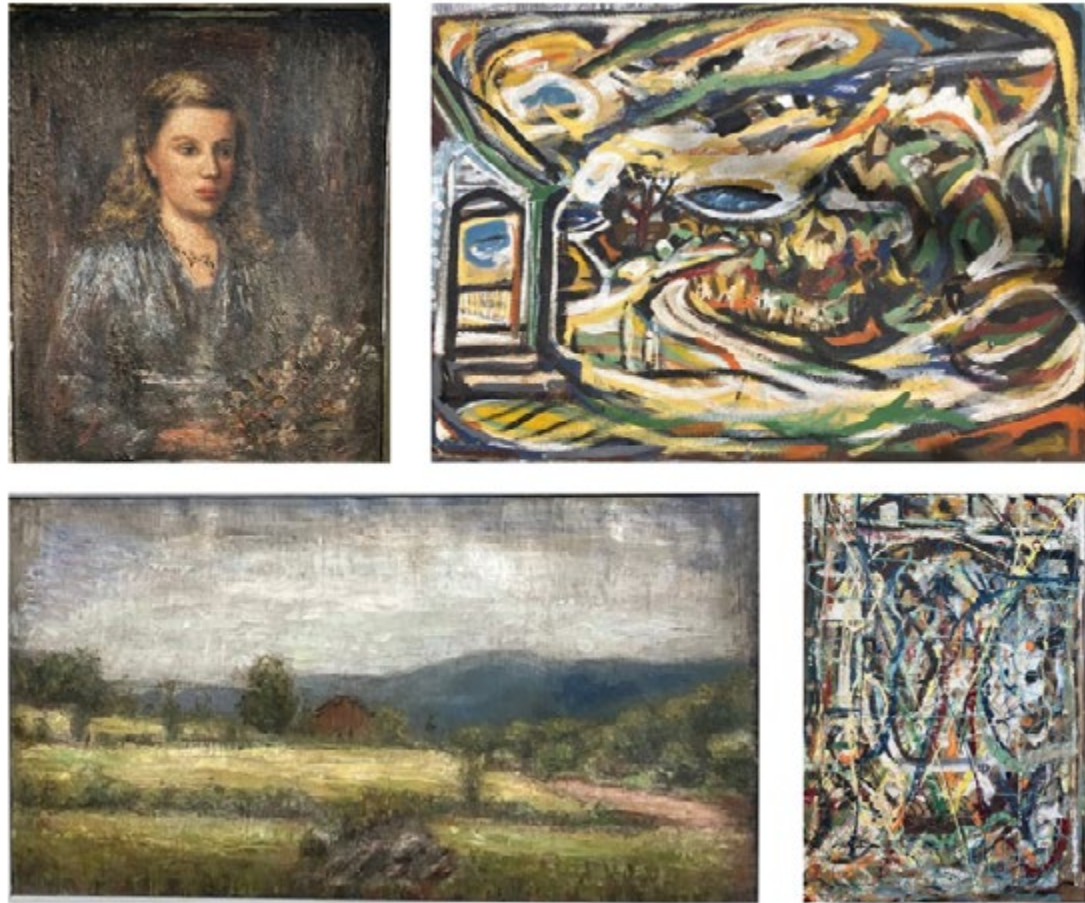
All ages

Saturday, 11/29, 1-3 pm: [Family Movie Matinee | *The Princess Bride*](#), which tells us about the bonding power of intergenerational storytelling.

[For our full calendar of events, click here or visit: westerlylibrary.org/calendar-of-events](http://westerlylibrary.org/calendar-of-events)

hanging in the hoxie

November Exhibition | "A Fuller Show"



This month's exhibit will feature a collection of works done by the late Fuller Potter. Head to the Hoxie Gallery from 5-7 pm Wednesday, November 5th to for an opportunity to view his works and enjoy light refreshments with members of his family. His pieces can be viewed in the Hoxie Gallery through the month of November during library hours.

About the artist:

Fuller Potter (father of artist Dan Potter), was an abstract expressionist in his mid to later years, but had experimented with a range of styles, including landscape and portraiture. Fuller was renowned locally, for his art, for his eccentric ways, for his delight in people, for his explorations, and he and his wife Alice (also an artist), were part of the Stonington Community. Their children and grandchildren and great grandchildren all carry on the tradition of being artists in one medium or another. He was born in 1910, in NYC, and died in 1990 in Ledyard, CT.

For more information on the artist, upcoming exhibits, and the Hoxie Gallery please visit: westerlylibrary.org/hoxie-gallery

Opening Reception
Wednesday,
November 5th,
5-7 PM



To learn more about our AIR program, upcoming artists, or to apply, please visit: westerlylibrary.org/artist-in-residence

*Our 2026 AIR Program is now full. We are accepting submissions for 2027 residencies with a rolling deadline. To be considered for a 2026 residency in the event one opens up, please note that in your application submission.



The Cottage in Wilcox Park is available for private events! Reserve it now for an upcoming work or family gathering, a bridal suite or birthday party, temporary office space or workshop, and more. Click the image above or visit the link to inquire.

the pop-up at coy

Tuesday, November 18, 10 am-12 pm:

National Caregiving Month is celebrated each November to honor and recognize family caregivers across the country. It aims to raise awareness of caregiving issues, educate communities, and increase support for caregivers.

Join representatives from PACE RI and Alzheimer’s Association for a chance to learn more about what each organization offers, the benefits of enrolling with PACE, helpful resources and more.



For more information or to apply, please call 401-596-2877 x342 or visit: www.westerlylibrary.org/homebound-delivery



If you are interested in reserving space for a temporary storefront, informational & resource hub, student project or more, please contact awagner@westerlylibrary.org. For more information about The Pop-Up at Coy, please visit the link above.



**Susan Rosen, Volunteer
Community Resource Advocate**
Tuesdays/1-3 PM/Roberts Room

Susan is available weekly to offer guidance to connect your or loved ones with local resources available based on specific needs.

email: advocate@westerlylibrary.org

Visit our website events calendar for their most up-to-date schedules.

**Toby, Volunteer Mental Health
Advocate**
Thursdays/10 AM-12 PM/Roberts Room

If you have concerns about your wellbeing and want to talk to someone, feel free to stop in to see Toby, available weekly.

books, media & more

for customized
recommendations
click here



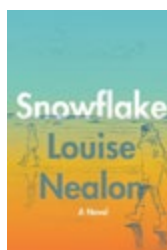
[A River Enchanted](#) by Rebecca Ross
Recommended by Franklin

Jack Tamerlaine, a bard, is summoned home to the island of Cadence after young girls start disappearing. With the help of Adaira, his childhood rival and heir of the eastern clan, he must use his music to question the elemental spirits of the island, believed to be involved.



[If a Pirate I Must Be](#) by Richard Sanders
Recommended by Claire

A page-turning tale brimming with adventure, telling the remarkable exploits of Bartholomew Roberts (better known as Black Bart), the greatest of the Caribbean pirates



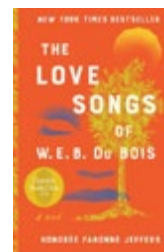
[Snowflake](#) by Louise Nealon
Recommended by Kim

A coming-of-age story about Debbie White, an eighteen-year-old who leaves her family's dairy farm to study at Trinity College in Dublin.



[Superman](#)
Recommended by Colleen

Superman must reconcile his alien Kryptonian heritage with his human upbringing as reporter Clark Kent. As the embodiment of truth, justice and the human way he soon finds himself in a world that views these as old-fashioned.



[The Love Songs of W.E.B. Du Bois](#) by Honorée Fanonne Jeffers
Recommended by Stacey

Follows the multi-generational history of an African-American family from the 1700s to the present day, centering on Ailey Pearl Garfield, as she journeys through her family's past to understand her own identity and place in America.



[I See You've Called In Dead](#) by John Kenney
Recommended by Cassie

A novel about an obituary writer who, after a bad day, drunkenly writes and accidentally publishes his own obituary online.



[The Three Lives of Cate Kay](#) by Kate Fagan
Recommended by Casey

A novel about a mysterious bestselling author who is actually a woman named Annie Callahan living under a pseudonym.



[Razor Girl](#) by Carl Hiaasen
Recommended by Sara

A novel that follows a con artist named Merry Mansfield ("the Razor Girl") and a disgraced detective named Andrew Yancy as they get entangled in a bizarre series of events.

youth picks



[Baron The Cat Returns](#) by Aoi Hiiragi
Recommended by Ben

Haru saves a cat who turns out to be Prince Lune, and she is taken to the Cat Kingdom to be his bride. With the help of the cat-shaped statuette known as the Baron, she escapes the Cat Kingdom and returns to her world more confident and self-assured.



[Return to Sender](#) by Vera Brosgol
Recommended by Brigitte

Ten-year-old Oliver discovers that the wish-granting mailbox in his new apartment may make his dreams come true, but they come with a cost.



[Where Dreams Descend](#) by Janella Angeles
Recommended by Lynn

A fantasy novel about a showgirl magician named Kallia who escapes her master to enter a prestigious competition in the mysterious city of Gloriana llama a very important lesson.



[This Little Kitty](#) by Karen Obuhanych
Recommended by Colleen

This picture book catches rascally kittens being their adorable (and mischievous!) selves from morning to nap to night.

video game recs

Visit our YouTube channel where you'll find a new Library Let's Plays courtesy of our Tween Librarian, Ben, every Thursday!



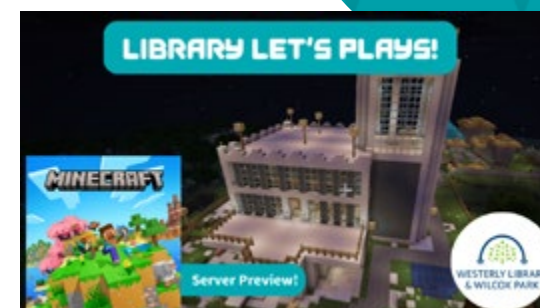
[Bakeru](#)

Recommended by Ben
Bakeru travels to 47 Japanese prefectures to free Japan from the grip of evil spirits!



[Cooking Mama Cookstar](#)

Recommended by Ben & Julianna
Play and cook over 80 recipes; includes vegetarian and 2-player potluck party modes.



Program Highlights

- [Navigating the Stars for Tweens and Teens, Monday, November 3, 4:30-5:30 pm](#)
- [The Dramatic Book Club, Monday, November 3, 2:00-3:00 pm](#)
- [November Exhibition | "A Fuller Show", Wednesday, November 5, 5:00-7:00 pm](#)
- [Chorus of Westerly Pre-Concert Lecture, Wednesday, November 12, 6:00-7:00 pm](#)
- [Fandom Fest, Saturday, November 15, 11:00 am-2:00 pm](#)
- [Gingerbread House Competition: Pickup, Saturday, November 22, 9:00 am-4:00 pm](#)
- [Dante Society | The Story of Del's: from Naples to Rhode Island, Saturday, November 22, 1:00-3:00 pm](#)
- [Family Movie Matinee: The Princess Bride, Saturday, Novmber 29, 1:00-3:00 pm](#)
- [Make Your Own Wreath, Saturday, November 29, 9:00am-2:00 pm](#)
- [Ugly Sweater, Saturday, November 29, 1:00-3:00 pm](#)
- [Annual Tree Lighting, Saturday, November 29, 4:30-5:00 pm](#)

Ongoing Programs & Events

MAKERSPACE

- [Laser Basics, Thursdays, November 6 & 20, 6:00-6:30 pm](#)
- [Open Art Studio, Wednesday, November 12, 6:30-7:30 pm](#)
- [Sewing Basics, Wednesday, November 12, 6:00-6:30 pm](#)

ADULTS

- [Caregiver Support Group, 2nd Wednesday of the month, 5:30-6:30 pm](#)
- [Chess Club, Thursdays, 5:30-7:30 pm](#)
- [Cookbook Club | Friendsgiving!, 2nd Wednesday of the month, 6:00-7:30 pm](#)
- [Crafternoon To-Go, 1st Monday of the month, 9 am-8 pm](#)
- [Knit and Crochet, Tuesdays, 5:30-7:30pm](#)
- [Learn the Language of Ireland with Irish Costal Club, 1st and 3rd Wednesdays of the month, 6:30-7:30 pm](#)
- [Monday Night Book Discussion, 3rd Monday of the month, 5:30-6:45 pm](#)
- [Mostly Fiction Book Club, 2nd Thursday this month, 6:00-7:30 pm](#)
- [Sewers in Stitches, Mondays, 2-4 pm](#)
- [Silent Book Club, 3rd Wednesday this month, 5:30-7:00 pm](#)
- [Westerly Area Needle Workers, 1st & 3rd Saturdays, 9 am - 12 pm](#)
- [Westerly Writers Group, 1st, 3rd, & 5th Saturdays, 10:00 am-12:30 pm](#)

TEENS

- [Fall Teen Café, Saturdays, 1-3 pm](#)
- [Teen Craft Collective, Thursdays, 4-5 pm](#)
- [Teen Pride Alliance, Mondays, 4-5 pm](#)
- [Teen and Tween Young Adventurers Guild, Tuesdays, 4:00-5:30 pm](#)
- [Terrace Room Tunes: Teen Jam Session, Wednesdays, 4-5 pm](#)

TWEENS

- **D&D**
- [Homeschool Group: Tuesdays, 1:30-3:00 pm](#)
- [Teen and Tween Young Adventurers Guild, Tuesdays, 4:00-5:30 pm](#)
- [Group 3: Wednesdays, 4:30-6:00 pm](#)
- [Tween Craft Time, Thursdays, 4-5 pm](#)

KIDS

- [Homeschool Hangout: Office Hours, Wednesdays 12-1 pm](#)
- [Kids Craft Time, Thursdays, 4-5 pm](#)
- [Kids Take & Make, 1st Monday of the month, 9 am-8 pm](#)
- [Storytime, Wednesdays, 10:00-10:30 am](#)
- [Three & Younger Playgroup, Thursdays, 10:00-10:45 am](#)

RESOURCES/INFORMATIONAL TABLES

- [Community Resources Advocate, Tuesdays, 1-4 pm](#)
- [Mental Health Advocate, Thursdays, 10 am-12 pm](#)
- [Project Outreach Veterans Assistance, 2nd Wednesday of the month, 10-11 am](#)

PARK

*See Program Highlights

Clubs & Meetups

- Sewers in Stitches: Mondays • 2:00-4:00 PM • Terrace Room
- Knit & Crochet Group: Tuesdays • 5:30-7:30 PM • Makerspace
- The Dramatic Book Club • 1st Monday of the month • 2-3 pm • Roberts Room
- The Poetry Gathering: 3rd Monday of the month • 5:00-7:00 PM • Terrace Room
- Monday Night Book Discussion: 3rd Monday of the month • 5:30-6:45 PM • Roberts Room
- Mostly Fiction Book Club: 2nd Tuesday of the month • 6:00-7:30 pm • Terrace Room
- Learn the Language of Ireland: 1st and 3rd Wednesdays of the month • 6:30-7:30 pm • Terrace Room
- Caregiver Support Group: 2nd Wednesday of the month • 5:30-6:30 PM • Roberts Room
- Cookbook Club: 2nd Wednesday of the month • 6:00-7:30 PM • Terrace Room
- Silent Book Club: Last Wednesday of the month • 5:30-7:00 PM • Old Main Reading Room
- Chess Club (All ages): Thursdays • 5:30-7:30 PM • Old Main Reading Room
- Westerly Area Needleworkers: 1st & 3rd Saturdays • 9 AM-12 PM • Roberts Room
- Westerly Writers Group: 1st & 3rd & 5th Saturdays • 10:00 AM-12:30 PM • Makerspace

for news, events, programs and happenings please
always refer to our website for the most up-to-date info
westerlylibrary.org

holidays • closings

Tuesday • November 11 • Closed for Veterans Day

Wednesday • November 26 • Close at 5 pm for Thanksgiving Eve | Thursday • November 27 • Closed for Thanksgiving

Library Hours

Monday-Thursday: 9 AM-8 PM

Friday: 9 AM-6 PM

Saturday: 9 AM-4 PM

Sunday: Closed

Park Hours

Monday-Sunday: Dawn-9 PM



**WESTERLY LIBRARY
& WILCOX PARK**