

THE **chronicle**

A WLWP Digital Publication



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from the executive director



Fall Adventures at Westerly Library & Wilcox Park

October is the perfect time to visit to enjoy the turning leaves and crisp outdoor air. It's also time to embrace the warmth of the cozy indoors. This fall, let Westerly Library & Wilcox Park be your second home - pop by, attend a program, or simply enjoy reading a good book in a friendly space.

As we welcome the season with warmth, curiosity, and community spirit remember that October also is a time of transformation, and our programs reflect that energy. Whether you're a lifelong learner, a curious child, or someone seeking a quiet escape, we have something for you.

We've got stories, information, and nature to explore that match the autumn mood - mysteries set in foggy New England towns, heartwarming tales of family gatherings, colorful, autumn-themed picture books for kids, cookbooks featuring harvest recipes, DIYs for fall crafts and home projects, and nature guides to help you identify the colorful foliage in Wilcox Park.

We also have many fun and entertaining programs planned including:

- Authors Ann Hood, Tracey Minkin, Rand Richards Cooper, and Michael Ruhlman discussing their book *Life's Short, Talk Fast: 15 Writers on Why We Can't Stop Watching Gilmore Girls*
- The much anticipated Friends of Westerly Library and Wilcox Park Annual Book Sale
- Your last chance to attend a walking tour of Wilcox Park this year!
- Our 4th Annual Fall Fest & Pumpkin Stroll
- "All About Bats" with the CT Department of Energy & Environmental Protection
- Showcasing the Dante Society's 50th Anniversary Exhibit in the Hoxie Gallery

And programs and clubs for every learner such as:

- Beat the Hacker: Cybersecurity Escape Room
- Laser Basics using our Glowforge (laser cutter / engraver)
- Sewing Basics using our sewing machines
- Learning the Language of Ireland with the Irish Coastal Club
- Joining our artist-in-residence, Noam Makover for a presentation of some of the work he has created during his residency and an open discussion about composition and music production techniques, discipline in music and inspiration

As the days grow shorter, we're reminded of the importance of gathering, learning, and sharing. Thank you for making Westerly Library & Wilcox Park a vibrant part of this community where everyone has the opportunity to discover, create, and connect. We look forward to seeing you this October—whether you're here for a program, a book, or simply a warm hello.

Wishing you a season full of inspiration,

Brigitte S. Hopkins
Executive Director



As a nonprofit organization, we rely on donations to support our work. We're kicking off our Annual Fund campaign this fall with a goal to raise \$250,000 by the end of our fiscal year (June 30, 2026). Every year, we mail appeal letters in fall as well as in spring. Additionally, we have fundraising efforts throughout the year to ensure that we reach our goal. Our Annual Fund supports our general operating budget for both the library and park. Programs, services, materials, and resources are offered to the public free of charge due to the generous support of donors.

As part of our fundraising efforts, we connected with patrons to ask them what they love about the library and park. To hear their stories and how meaningful your support is, click this image.



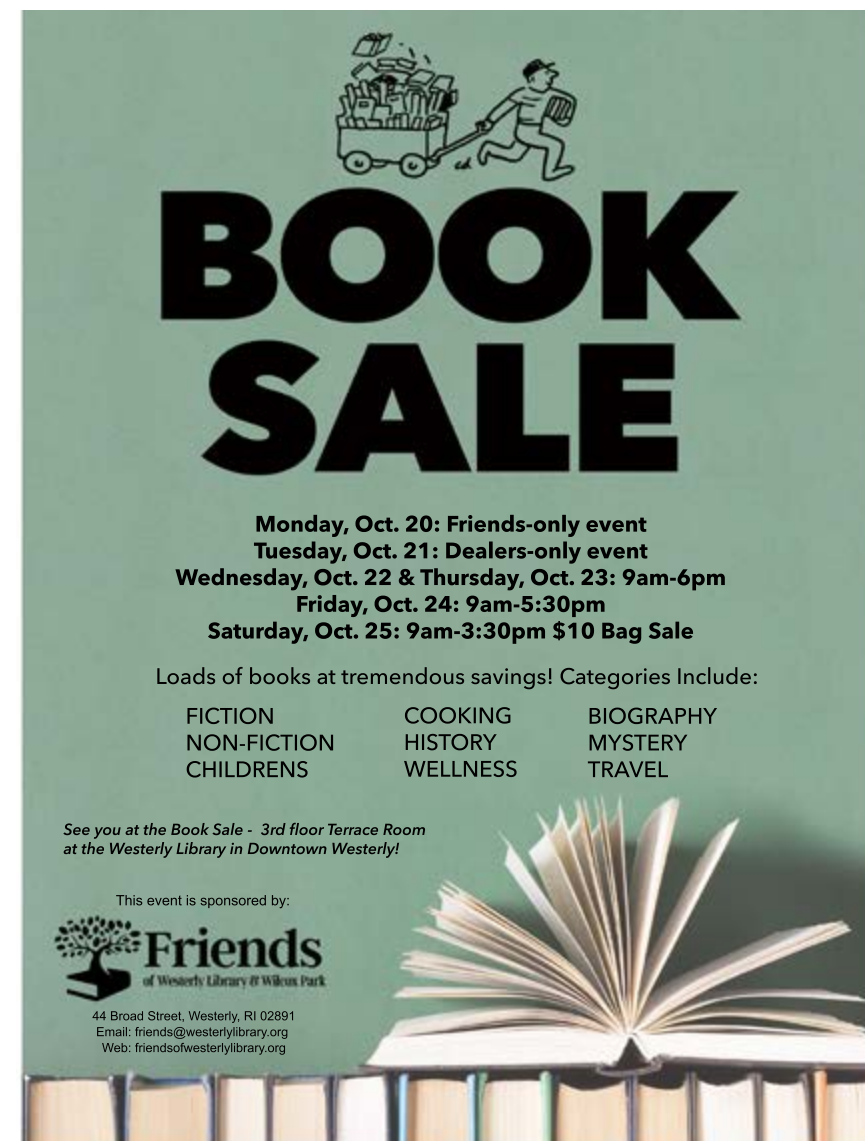
Help us solve the mystery! Murder by the Book, a truly unique, live action, murder mystery fundraiser will take place in the library on Friday, January 23rd. Attendees will enjoy delicious bites, an open bar, and live performances throughout the evening from potential suspects as they try to crack the case. Details and ticket information coming soon. For sponsorship opportunities and benefits, please [click here](#) or contact Stacey Jackson, Director of Development, at 401-596-2877 X322 or sjackson@westerlylibrary.org.

Friends Book Sale

**Wednesday, October 22nd -
Saturday, October 25th**

Please join the Friends of Westerly Library and Wilcox Park for their much anticipated Annual Book Sale! The sale will be held up on the library's 3rd floor Terrace room and is open to the public from Wednesday, October 22nd-Saturday, October 25th.

You'll find many different book genres from fiction to non-fiction, DVDs, CDs, games, puzzles and more! Don't forget to stop in the last day for their **BAG SALE DAY!** On Saturday, October 25th bring your own bag to fill with anything you'd like for just \$10!



For questions on volunteering with the Friends or book donations, please email Gail Kahover, Board President: friends@westerlylibrary.org

For membership questions, please contact Erin Collins, Membership Chair: friends@westerlylibrary.org

For all other inquiries, and for more information, please visit: www.friendsofwesterlylibrary.org



program spotlights

adult services

[Author Talk Panel and Q&A | “Life’s Short, Talk Fast: 15 Writers on Why We Can’t Stop Watching Gilmore Girls”, Wednesday, October 1, 6:00-7:30 pm, Auditorium](#)



Author Ann Hood is joined by authors Tracey Minkin, Rand Richards Cooper, and Michael Ruhlman to discuss *LIFE'S SHORT, TALK FAST*, a celebration of a contemporary TV classic, and their personal relationships to the show. Books will be available for purchase and signing with Bank Square Books. [Click here to register.](#)

[URI Master Gardener Presentation | Dahlias, Wednesday, October 8, 6:00-7:00 pm, Auditorium](#)



Please join Master Gardener Joan Sienkiewicz to learn all about dahlias. The class will include a brief history of dahlias; the variety of dahlias today; how to grow them; and winter storage considerations.

[Flutes and Piano Recital | John Graham, Karen Toy & Sara Boyd, Tuesday, October 21, 6:30-7:45 pm, Auditorium](#)



Please join John Graham, Karen Toy, and Sara Boyd for a flutes and piano recital! John Graham, and Karen Toy will be playing flutes, accompanied by pianist Sara Boyd. Please click the event link above for the program and more on the musicians.

[All About Bats with the CT DEEP, Wednesday October 29, 6-7 pm, Auditorium](#)



Join us as Ginny Apple, Master Wildlife Conservationist with the CT DEEP, discusses the economic value of bats, their migration and hibernation patterns, decline and disease as well as steps the public can take to help ensure the health and safety of our bat populations. Registration is requested. [Click here to register](#) or visit our website events calendar.

[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

[Homeschool Hangout: Office Hours, Wednesdays 12-1 pm, Kids Room Castle](#)



Join us for a weekly homeschool hangout in the castle! All ages are welcome. Each week, we will have a collaborative project for homeschoolers to socialize through cooperative play. Activities include marble runs, domino knockdowns, Rube Goldberg machines, cardboard forts, and more!

[Teen Pride Alliance, Mondays, 4-5 pm, Teen Space](#)



A Weekly social event for LGBTQ+ teens and allies to hang out, craft, play games, read, and talk about books in an inclusive and supportive environment. All are welcome! Snacks and a refreshing drink are provided. This program is for teens in grades 7-12.

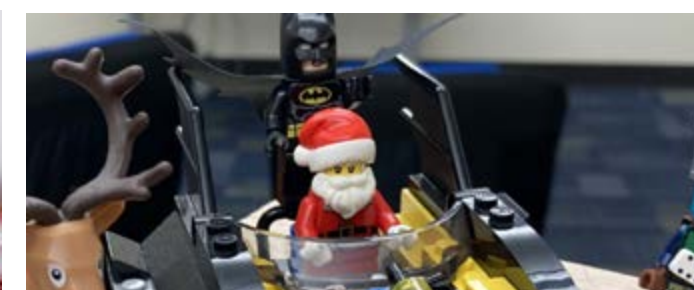
[Tween Craft Time: New Each Week, Thursdays, 4-5 pm, Tween Space](#)



Join us for Tween Craft Time in the Tween Space every Thursday for a new craft! Crafts are planned for Tweens ages 9-12.

10/02: Galaxy Watercolors
10/09: Fuzzie Monsters
10/16: Recycled Robots
10/23: Magic Potions
10/30: Spooky Portraits

[Animation Nation Screening & Pizza Party, Wednesday, 6-7 pm, Terrace Room](#)



Join us as we feast on pizza and watch the LEGO masterpieces we filmed this summer! Please [register here](#), or visit our website events calendar, so we will know how much pizza to order.

program spotlights

public services

[Sewing Basics, Wednesdays, October 1, 15 & 29, 6:00-6:30 pm Makerspace](#)



Are you looking for an open space to create your own art? Stop by the Makerspace and use our many tools to paint, sew, knit, make jewelry, and so much more! Ages 16 and up, younger ages need parental guidance.

[Beat the Hacker: Cybersecurity Escape Room, October 20-25, 9 am-4 pm, Computer Lab](#)



Stop by the library & try to beat the cyber hacker with the world's #1 cyber escape room! Players are challenged to crack a series of short challenges relating to cybersecurity, and can be played individually or in a small group. Stop by the Computer Lab or the Teen Space to start your game.

all ages

[4th Annual Fall Fest & Pumpkin Stroll, Friday, October 24, 4-6 pm, Wilcox Park](#)



Check out our 4th Annual Pumpkin Stroll, decorated by members of the public, while enjoying free cider and doughnuts! Don't forget to vote on your favorites - prizes will be awarded at 6:00 PM to the top pumpkins!

There will be a variety of other activities in the park, including games and activities for kids, and photo opportunities. Attendees are encouraged to come dressed in your Halloween costume, and to show it off during our Costume Parade at 5:00 PM.

Interested in submitting a pumpkin for the stroll? Registration will open on Friday, October 17th. Free pumpkins are available at the library on a first come, first served basis, beginning Friday, October 17th, or you may also provide your own pumpkin. Decorated pumpkins must be returned to the library no later than Thursday, October 23rd to be entered into the Pumpkin Stroll and contest.

This event is open to all ages. Contact reference@westerlylibrary.org OR call (401) 596-2877 x306 for more details.

If it's raining, this event will take place inside the library.

Pumpkins and refreshments generously sponsored by Benjamin Delaney.

world space week



World Space Week is celebrated internationally from October 4-10! Journey into space with us throughout the month of October for some stellar programs and events for all ages. Explore below:



Kids

Saturday, 10/04, 11 am: [Sensory Saturday: Spooky Space](#)

Monday, 10/06, 9 am-8 pm: [Kids Take & Make: Mystery Planet Bookmarks](#)

Wednesday, 10/08, 10 am: [Space Storytime](#) | 3:30-4:30 pm: [Playdough Playtime: Galaxy Dough](#)

Thursday, 10/09, 4-5 pm: [Kids Craft Time: Pastel Star Galaxies](#)

*Throughout the month kids will be invited to decorate a star to add to our bulletin board.

Tweens

Thursday, 10/02, 4-5 pm: [Tween Craft Time: Galaxy Watercolors](#)

*Throughout the month tweens are invited to color either a planet, an astronaut, or a spaceship and to put in the solar system on our bulletin board.

Teens

All month long: Build the space-themed kit at the LEGO table.

[Teen Craft Collective](#): Create keychains with space-related Perler bead patterns.

Adults

Monday, 10/09, 9 am-8 pm: [Crafternoon To-Go | Galaxy Suncatchers](#)

Tuesday, 10/14, 6:00-7:30 pm: [Under, Alongside, and Beyond the Planets: Cosmology, Astrology, and Redemption in Dante's Commedia](#)

*Stop by the display table on the main floor to find related books for all ages, too.

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

hanging in the hoxie

October Exhibition | Dante Society of Westerly presents “Italian Immigrants in Westerly: Their Stories”



In celebration of the Dante Society's 50th year, we are proud to present “Italian Immigrants in Westerly: Their Stories.” This exhibit will feature the immigrant histories of many of Westerly's most prominent Italian families, the hardships they endured, and their ultimate triumphs. Many of these families are responsible for building the town and making Westerly what it is today. Join members of Dante Society of Westerly for the opening on Wednesday, October 1st from 5-7 pm, as well as refreshments. The exhibit can be viewed through the month of October, during regular library hours.

About the organization:

The Dante Society of Westerly is a non-profit organization, established in 1975, which preserves, promotes and fosters the community's awareness of the Italian culture, and rewards excellence in the study of the Italian language and culture at the Westerly High School.

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

**Opening
Reception
Wednesday,
October 1st, 5-7 PM**

air
artist-in-residence

**Noam Makover | Multi-Instrumentalist/
Composer**

September/October 2025

Composition Workshop, Tuesday,
October 28, 6:00-7:30 PM, Auditorium

Join Noam for a presentation of some of the work he has created during his residency. Makover will invite participants to have an open discussion about composition and music production techniques, discipline in music and inspiration. Registration is requested.



To learn more about Noam or our AIR program, [click here](#).

LOOKING FOR A SPACE FOR YOUR
HOLIDAY GATHERING?

**THE
COTTAGE**

VISIT WESTERLYLIBRARY.ORG/BOOK-YOUR-EVENT

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 to inquire.

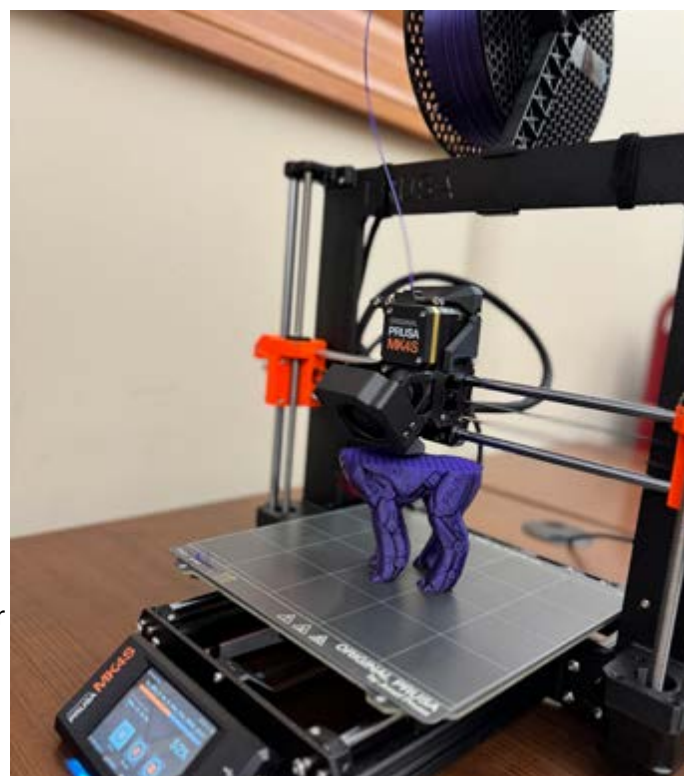
New Makerspace Offering

We're excited to announce a new addition to our Makerspace: a 3D printer! Known for its reliability and high-quality prints, it's perfect for beginners and experienced makers alike. Whether you're prototyping a design, printing parts for a school project, or exploring 3D modeling as a hobby, it's ready to bring your ideas to life. Maybe you need a replacement part for a home improvement project, or you'd like to create your own fantasy game character, we have resources available to help you develop your ideal project or find inspiration.

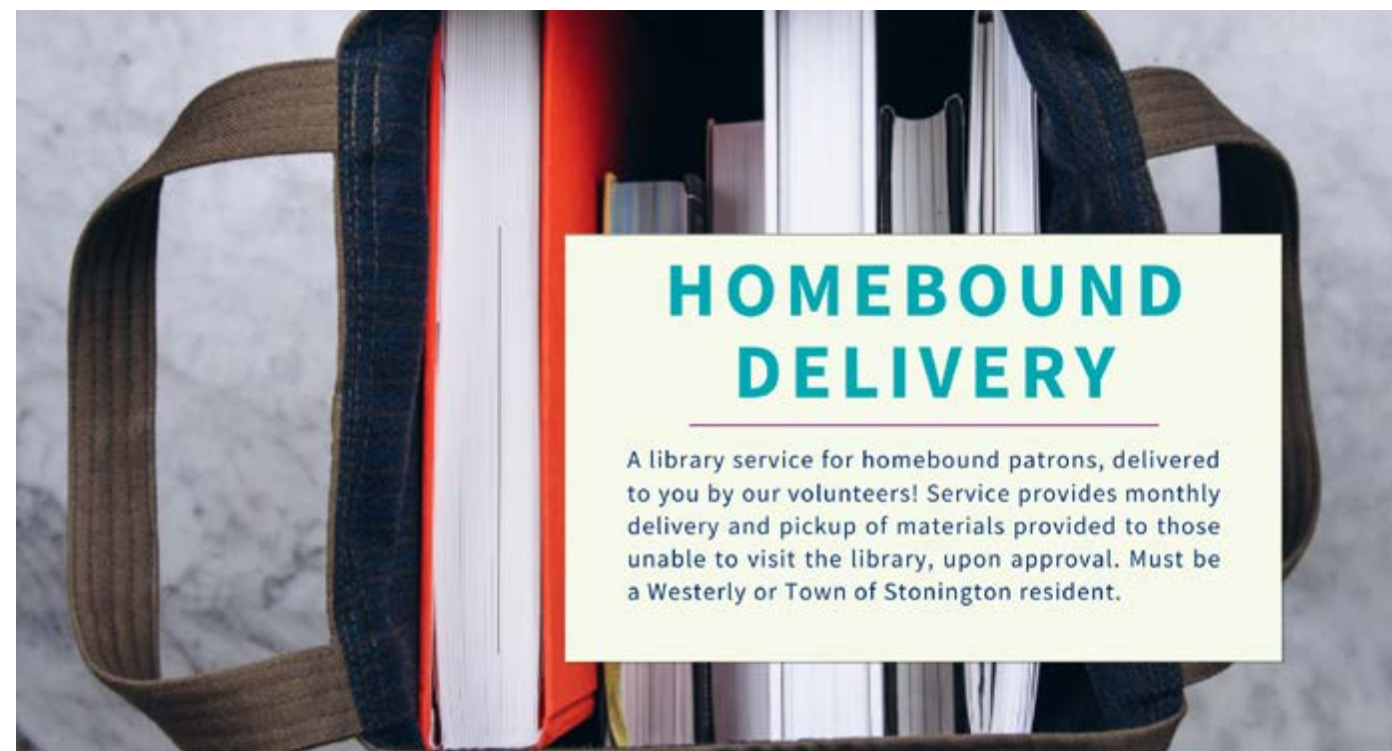
Here are some specifics for you:

- We use PLA filament in various colors
- It costs \$0.10/gram of filament
- An SVG file and completed form will get you started
- Printing objects which violate the law, are obscene, or pose a danger to others are not permitted

Feel free to reach out to our Technology department, at ext. 9 or technology@westerlylibrary.org, for more information to begin your 3D printer adventure!



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.



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



**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

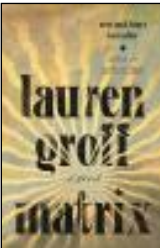
Visit our website events calendar for their most up-to-date schedules.

**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



Matrix by Lauren Groff
Recommended by Claire

Marie de France is sent to England to be the new prioress of an impoverished abbey, its nuns on the brink of starvation and beset by disease. *Matrix* is a defiant and timely exploration of the raw power of female creativity in a corrupted world.



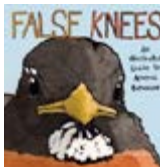
Harriet Tubman: Live in Concert by Bob the Drag Queen
Recommended by Melanie

In an age where the greatest heroes from history have magically returned to help save the world, Harriet Tubman returns to create a hip-hop album with a fallen producer, forging powerful music that inspires a divided nation.



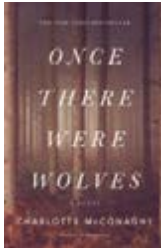
Hello Molly!: A Memoir by Molly Shannon
Recommended by Stacey

A candid, hilarious, and heartbreaking memoir of resilience and redemption by comedic genius Molly Shannon.



False Knees: An Illustrated Guide to Animal Behavior by Joshua Barkman
Recommended by Casey

A collection of always sharp, sometimes head-scratchinglly bizarre cartoons from the creator of the False Knees web comic.



Once There Were Wolves by Charlotte McConaghy
Recommended by Lynn

The unforgettable story of a woman desperate to save the creatures she loves-if she isn't consumed by a wild that was once her refuge.



The Island of Missing Trees by Elif Shafak
Recommended by Caroline

Story of Kostas and Defne, a Greek Cypriot and a Turkish Cypriot whose forbidden love blossoms in a London tavern, witnessed by a fig tree transplanted from their war-torn homeland, Cyprus, decades earlier.



My Friends by Fredrik Backman
Recommended by Sara

The powerful, enduring bond of four teenage friends who find refuge from difficult home lives on a pier, told through two timelines, and how their lives intersect with a stranger decades later.



The Bombshell by Darrow Farr
Recommended by Kim

The story of a young woman who is kidnapped by Corsican separatists, forms intense bonds with her captors, and becomes the global face of a radical movement in the early nineties

youth picks



The Rose Bargain by Sasha Peyton Smith
Recommended by Hannah

Ivy Benton must enter into a marriage contest with a fae prince in order to free her sister from a bargain previously made with the vicious fae queen of England.



I Am Elphaba by Mary Man-Kong
Recommended by Amanda

A Little Golden Book that celebrates everything that is special about Elphaba, a green-skinned misunderstood woman, from Universal Pictures' *Wicked* film.



Macca the Alpaca by Matt Cosgrove
Recommended by Cassie

Macca is a small, kind and friendly alpaca. He spends his days splashing in puddles and chasing butterflies... until he runs headfirst into Harmer -- a big, unkind llama who is never, ever friendly. Can brave little Macca teach that bully of a llama a very important lesson?



Howl's Moving Castle by Diana Wynne Jones
Recommended by Colleen

Eldest of three sisters in a land where it is considered to be a misfortune, Sophie is resigned to her fate as a hat shop apprentice until a witch turns her into an old woman and she finds herself in the castle of the greatly feared wizard Howl.

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!



Them's Fightin' Herds
Recommended by Ben
Adorable animals fight for control of a magical key that will protect them from predators.



SpongeBob SquarePants: Battle for Bikini Bottom
Recommended by Ericka
Play as SpongeBob, Patrick and Sandy and defend Bikini Bottom from the evil Plankton and the invading robots.

Program Highlights

- [October Exhibition | Dante Society of Westerly Presents “Italian Immigrants in Westerly: Their Stories”, Wednesday, October 1, 5-7 pm](#)
- [Author Talk Panel and Q&A | “Life’s Short, Talk Fast: 15 Writers on Why We Can’t Stop Watching Gilmore Girls, Wednesday, October 1, 6:00-7:30 pm](#)
- [Pressed Flower Craft Workshop, Thursday, October 2, 6:30-7:30 pm](#)
- [Wood River Health Vaccine Clinic, Friday, October 3, 10:00 am-1:00 pm](#)
- [Sensory Saturday: Spooky Space, Saturday, October 4, 11 am-12 pm](#)
- [URI Master Gardener Presentation | Dahlias, Wednesday, October 8, 6-7 pm](#)
- [Author Talk and Signing with Marguerite Holloway | “Take to the Trees”, Friday, October 10, 4-5 pm](#)
- [Under, Alongside, and Beyond the Planets: Cosmology, Atrology, and Redemption in Dante’s Commedia, Tuesday, October 14, 6:00-7:30 pm](#)
- [Pumpkin Pickup, Friday, October 17, 9 am-6 pm](#)
- [Flutes and Piano Recital | John Graham, Karen Toy & Sara Boyd, Tuesday, October 21, 6:30-7:45 pm](#)
- [Commemorating the United Nations 80th Anniversary with Dr. Linda Stillman, Wednesday, October 22, 5:30-7:00 pm](#)
- [Waking up the Earth | Poetry Reading, Wednesday, October 23, 4:00-5:30 pm](#)
- [4th Annual Fall Fest & Pumpkin Stroll, Friday, October 24, 4-6 pm](#)
- [Irish Coastal Club Presents The Irish Roots of Hallowe’en, Saturday, October 25, 1-2 pm](#)

- [Artist-in-Residence: Composition Workshop with Noam Makover, Tuesday, October 28, 6:00-7:30pm](#)
- [All About Bats with the CT DEEP, Wednesday, October 29, 6-7 pm](#)
- [Animation Nation Screening & Pizza Party, Wednesday, October 29, 6-7pm](#)

Ongoing Programs & Events

MAKERSPACE

- [Laser Basics, Thursday, October 9, 6:00-6:30 pm](#)
- [Open Art Studio, Wednesdays, October 1 & 15, 6:30-7:30 pm](#)
- [Sewing Basics, Wednesdays, October 1 & 15, 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, 2nd Wednesday of the month, 6:00-7:30, Terrace Room](#)
- [Crafternoon To-Go, 1st Monday of the month, 9 am-8 pm](#)
- [Knit and Crochet, Tuesdays, 5:30-7:30](#)
- [Learn the Language of Ireland with Irish Costal Club, 1st and 3rd Wednesdays of the month, 6:30-7:30 pm](#)
- [Mostly Fiction Book Club, 2nd Tuesday of the month, 6:00-7:30 pm](#)
- [Sewers in Stitches, Mondays, 2-4 pm](#)
- [Silent Book Club, Last Wednesday of the 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 Mindfulness Hub, monthly, October 23, 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

- [Walking Tour of Wilcox Park | Native Flowers and Trees, 2nd Saturday of the month, 10:00-11:30 am](#)
- [Walking Tour of Wilcox Park | Specimen Trees, 4th Saturday of the month, 10:00-11:30 am](#)
- [URI Master Gardener Kiosk, 2nd Saturday of the month, 9 am - 12 pm](#)



Clubs & Meetups

Sewers in Stitches: Mondays • 2:00-4:00 PM • Terrace Room
Knit & Crochet Group: Tuesdays • 5:30-7:30 PM • Makerspace
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 & 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

Monday • October 13 • Closed for Columbus Day/Indigenous Peoples' Day

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**