

What's New?

Helen E. Ellis Case:

October: local textile artist, Ruth Bourns of Tupelo Studio, shares handmade quilts, shoulder bags, scarves and belts.

November: Porcelain relief paintings with acrylics and glazed painted dishes created by Trintje Jansen.

December: Nantucket Baskets by Ria Nagtegaal.

On exhibit in the Manton Community Room:

October 19th – October 31st
Mixed media paintings by artist, Jacklyn William

November 2 – November 30
Paintings of Westport's Heritage
paintings by Westport artist, Blanche Paull (1890-1983) and historic photographs curated by Westport Historical Society.

Tech Bytes

Computer 101:

Need one-on-one help using an IPAD, laptop, Microsoft Office, etc?
Meet with our computer guru on Monday evenings beginning December 7th.
Please register for a ½ hour slot.

Services

Free Wi-Fi
SAILS Library Network 24/7 borrowing
Homebound Delivery Service
Children's Programs
Genealogy: Ancestry.com/HeritageQuest
Manton Community Room
Library Bridge Club
Library Book Club
Museum Passes
Westport Writers Group

Call the Library for more info...

Library Hours

Monday	12:00-8:30
Tuesday	10:00-5:00
Wednesday	10:00-5:00
Thursday	12:00-8:30
Friday	10:00-5:00
Saturday	9:00-4:00
Sunday	CLOSED

408 Old County Road
Ph 508-636-1100
sbranco@sailsinc.org
<http://library.westport-ma.com>

FALL



Perspectives:

First, the good news. FOWL's Summer Paperback Sale brought in \$1,017.00 and the September Annual Book Sale \$6,232.00 for a total of \$7,249.00. This is a little lower than 2014, but an excellent result. Many thanks to the 30+ people who worked to make this happen but especially to Leona Andrade, Sue Shaw, and Denise Micale, our Book Sale leaders. **Then a reminder.** Our ability to provide \$25,000.00 to the Library in 2015 for book and museum pass purchases as well as to fund newsletter and publicity expenses clearly did not come solely from book sale income. Our generous members have made it happen. Later this quarter we will send out requests to renew your membership in FOWL. Membership is a great way to express support for your public library.

Kate Kastner, President, FOWL
kate.kastner@charter.net

Director's Update: At Summer's End

As we head into the final months of 2015, I pause to reflect on the changes and growth that have taken place in our library. You may have noticed that two of our staff members retired this year. Library Aide Janina Oliver (with seventeen years) and Library Substitute Loretta Price (eight years) welcomed and served patrons at the circulation desk. Their dependable support and infectious personalities are missed by all, and I cannot begin to describe what their loyalty and camaraderie have meant to us. I wish them every happiness in retirement.

Our Library is supported in so many ways. Our Fiscal Year 2016 Town budget-appropriation meets certification requirements set by the Massachusetts Board of Library Commissioners, ensuring our continued membership in the SAILS Library Network. In the past year, our patrons borrowed over 19,000 items from libraries in the SAILS community; how lucky we are to have these resources. Meanwhile, our own collection continues to grow, in no small part due to the hard work and generosity of the Friends of Westport Library and other supporters and donors.

Earlier in the year, I mentioned an ongoing project to support visually impaired readers—which has seen great progress (Thank you, Prudence Chadwick Trust!). For example, our new electronic desktop magnifier is currently being used to read mail and, as one patron puts it, "help separate junk from important reading." Meanwhile, two handheld magnifiers—which allow scanning one column at a time—help readers with magazine and newspaper articles. And, when inserted into their bases, these magnifiers can be set on a table top for convenience. Please experiment with these devices; staff members are always glad to help.

The summer months brought families from near and far. Our seasonal supporters share in the love of books, CDs and DVDs. "You've been here forever" is a phrase that I often hear from patrons (including a 4-year-old); I hope that's a good thing. Finally, I cannot close out the year without thanking my dedicated staff, trustees, volunteers, and donors. Yes, successful libraries do require a community of support, and I am most grateful.

Sue Branco, Library Director
sbranco@sailsinc.org

Kids' Corner

Preschool

Boats For Papa Jessica Bagley
Buckley and his mother cope with the loss of their father/husband by sending small wooden boats, built by Buckley, off into the ocean.

Monkey Not Ready For Kindergarten Marc Brown
Kindergarten is just a week away and Monkey is not ready, but with help and encouragement from family and friends, he begins to get excited.

Everybody Sleeps (But not Fred) Josh Schneider
Although animals everywhere are sleeping, a youngster with an active imagination and a hefty to-do list resists bedtime with adventurous flair.

Grades K-4

Don't Throw It To Mo! David A. Adler
Mo Jackson loves football, but nobody will throw him the ball! How can he help his team win?

Francine Poulet Meets the Ghost Raccoon Kate DiCamillo
Francine is the greatest animal control officer in Gizzard County. Can she face her fears, round up a screaming raccoon, and return to the ranks of animal control?

Drum Dream Girl Margarite Engle
Girls cannot be drummers. Long ago in Cuba, on an island filled with music and rhythm, no one questioned that rule until Millo Castro Zaldarriaga's courage changed music.

Grades 5-8

Masterminds Gordon Korman
A group of kids discovers they were cloned from the DNA of some of the greatest criminal minds in history for sociological experiment.

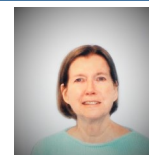
Shadows of Sherwood: A Robyn Hoodlum Adventure Kekla Magoon
When Nott City is taken over by a harsh governor, and her parents disappear, twelve-year-old Robyn Loxley flees for her life and joins a group of children trying to take back what is rightfully theirs in this futuristic retelling of Robin Hood.

Icebreaker Lian Tanner
The first book in the Hidden trilogy. Petrel, an outcast on an ancient ship, trusts no one except two large gray rats—that is, until a mysterious boy is discovered barely alive on an iceberg and brought on the ship. Petrel hides him, hoping she's found a friend. What she doesn't know is that the ship guards a secret—a secret the boy has been sent to destroy.

Young Adult

The Game of Love and Death Martha Brockenbrough
In Seattle in 1937 two seventeen-year-olds, Henry, who is white, and Flora, who is African-American, become the unwitting pawns in a game played by two immortal figures, Love and Death.

After the Red Rain Barry Lyga with Peter Facinelli and Robert DeFranco
This book is set in the future of environmental collapse and mass poverty, where a mysterious boy named Rose discovers he possesses inhuman powers that can irrevocably change the lives of everyone on the planet.

A Chat with...Kate Kastner,
President of FOWL

By Denise Micale

Hi Kate, thanks for taking the time to chat... what led you to your efforts in leading FOWL and supporting the Library?

I grew up in Savannah, GA and my main childhood hobby was reading—the Bobbsey Twins, Nancy Drew and Anne of Green Gables are some of my earliest book memories. I attended Cornell in Ithaca, NY and then moved to Boston (warm compared to Ithaca) where I found my first computer job and met my husband Peter, a fellow Cornellian and computer programmer. Technical people work a lot of hours so reading was a good hobby, portable and easy for start/stop rhythm. We turned our daughter into a reader also by reading to her and visiting the excellent Wellesley Library at least weekly. I'm also thrifty so I love used book stores and library book sales and always look for them during vacations. Following my retirement, we moved to Westport for its beauty and to enjoy sailing and horses. After helping with the Westport Library book sale, I became a FOWL member and was asked to serve on the FOWL board.

Who has been the biggest influence in your life?

Aside from my parents, it would be my husband Peter. He's shared his interests in travel, conversation, and awareness of politics and social issues with me. We also share a belief in maximizing one's talents in life.

Of what are you proudest in your life?

Perhaps I would phrase it as what impediment did I need to remove. I had to learn that an introvert can be a leader. I had to learn how to express plans or ideas, including the art of public speaking. I also found out that you have to ask people to do things when no one volunteers, be grateful when they do it, and not be offended if they say no.

Kate, you have been FOWL's president for four years. How has your work paid off and what else would you like to see for the future of FOWL?

I'm happy with the volunteer system and the logistics we've developed for our book sales. Many dedicated volunteers help with the September sale. We've also expanded the board and increased fundraising through increases in membership in FOWL from about 150 to over 300 members. Our donation to the Library this year will be \$25,000. One of our Board members wanted to establish a quarterly newsletter and was willing to put it together. I was hesitant at first but gained a Helen E. Ellis grant for the first year of printing and found volunteers for articles. She was correct; the newsletter has been a tremendous success in helping connect the community with the Library. We've also sponsored events for adults and children open to the general public. I'm grateful to a wonderful board of directors at FOWL for supporting all these efforts. There is always more that can be done if volunteers are ready.

Like us on Facebook for news and upcoming events:

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



Events

In addition to our Board members, another 20+ volunteers sort, pack, set-up, takedown, and run our two book sales. Many thanks to them and also to all who donate books to the cause. A dedicated volunteer processes Lees receipts and four to six volunteers are our Newsletter 'staff'.

To join in the fun, contact Kate Kastner at 508-636-0225 or kate.kastner@charter.net.



Annual book sale at the Library this September.

Especially for Kids

Two nine week story programs:

Story Hour: ages three, and up Tuesdays, beginning October 13, 10-11:15 a.m. Books on a different theme each week, with a craft project. (Registration necessary)

Lap-Sit: ages under three, Wednesdays, beginning October 14, 10-10:30 a.m. Stories, music and finger-plays with free play following the program. (Registration necessary)

Pumpkin Decorating Contest: Decorate a Halloween pumpkin. Do not carve your pumpkin! Include a card with your name, age, phone number and your pumpkin's name. Drop it off anytime between October 1- 29. Pick up your pumpkin by November 2. Win a prize for the best one in each age category.

Friday, October 30 at 7 p.m. Storyteller **Karen Chase** will entertain us with **Halloween: Spooktacular Stories**, followed by refreshments. Costumes are optional. (This program is supported by the Friends of the Westport Library.)

Saturday, November 7 at 10:30 a.m. Author **Carla Marrero** will read her book, *The Magical Cat*, and provide an entertaining craft.

Saturday, December 5 from 9:30-11:00 a.m. families are invited to drop-in to make Christmas ornaments for the Library tree, and also take some home. Refreshments will be served. (two years to grade three)

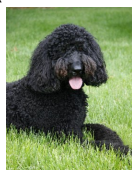
Meet special guests, **Santa & Mrs. Claus** on Tuesday, December 8 at 10 a.m. They will visit us during Story Hour. All are invited. (Wonderful photo-op)

Rosie visits:

Practice reading aloud to our canine friend.

Call to book a ten minute slot from 9:30-10:30 a.m. (limit of 6 each session)

Saturday, October 3
Saturday, November 21
Saturday, December 5



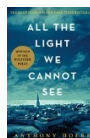
Westport Library Book Club

Read For Fun, Followed By Lunch

The Westport Library Book Club group 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 Denise Micale, Facilitator, for more information at dsmicale@gmail.com.

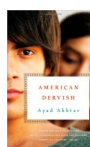
October 9: *All the Light We Cannot See*

Anthony Doerr



Marie Laure, a blind French girl, and a German boy's paths collide in occupied France as both try to survive the devastation of World War II.

November 13: *American Dervish* Ayad Akhtar



Hayat Shah is a young American in love for the first time. His normal life of school, baseball, and video games had previously been distinguished only by his Pakistani heritage and by the frequent chill between his parents.

December 11: *Maude*

Donna Foley Mabry



Donna Mabrey's journey through her grandmother's life, bare, raw and heart-warming. It is told in the first person, in the voice of Maude and it's an honest book written in plain words.

The Allegro Concert in July at the Library was another wonderful evening of family, friends, picnics, and music thanks in part to a grant from the Helen E. Ellis Charitable Trust.



You can help

Bring your Lees receipts to the Library. We earned \$3,058.20 in 2014, twice as much as in 2013. Thank you to **Lees** for supporting this program. Keep those receipts coming!

Volunteers Needed: Aspiring reporters or photographers for the newsletter

Contact Denise Micale dsmicale@gmail.com.



New to the Collection Highlights

Adult Fiction:

After The Storm Linda Castillo

A tornado rips through Painters Miller, Ohio, uncovering remains long buried in an Amish barn. As Kate Burkholder sets out to identify the bones, it becomes clear that the death was anything but accidental.

The Marriage Of Opposites Alice Hoffman

A forbidden love story set on the tropical island of St. Thomas about the extraordinary woman who gave birth to painter Camille Pissarro.

Last Words Michael Koryta

Markus Novak, is an investigator for a Florida-based Death Row defense firm, His life is derailed when his wife, Lauren, is killed in the midst of a case the two were working together.

Aurora Kim Stanley Robinson

Generations ago, a starship left Earth with plans to set up a colony in the Tau Ceti system. Aurora begins in the final stage of the journey set aboard a multigenerational starship.



Adult Nonfiction:

The Ghost In My Brain Clark Elliott

The dramatic story of one man's recovery offers new hope to those suffering from concussions and other brain traumas .

The Chicken Keeper's Problem Solver Chris Graham

A guide addressing 100 common problems faced by chicken keepers .

To Drink Boiled Snow Caroline Knox

Westport resident Caroline Knox's vast range of experiment is exciting, and the ensuing poems are games, dreams, and riddles. No subject matter is off-limits for her examination.

Lonely Planet Scandinavia (Travel Guide) Andy Symington

Adult Biography:

A Lucky Life Interrupted Tom Brokaw

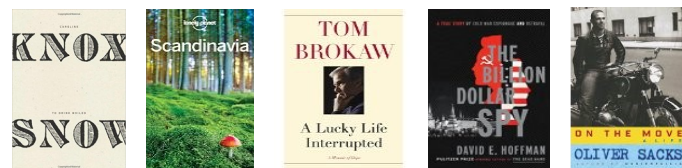
A powerful memoir of a year of dramatic change—a year spent battling cancer and reflecting on a long, happy, and lucky life.

The Billion Dollar Spy: A True Story of Cold War Espionage and Betrayal David E. Hoffman

The riveting story of a spy who cracked open the Soviet military research establishment and a penetrating portrait of the CIA's Moscow station.

On The Move: A Life Oliver Sacks

With unbridled honesty and humor, Sacks shows us that the same energy that drives his physical passions—weight lifting and swimming—also drives his cerebral passions.



Large Print Fiction:

We Never Asked For Wings Vanessa Diffenbaugh

For fourteen years, Letty Espinosa has worked three jobs around San Francisco to make ends meet while her mother raised her children . Now she must step up and become a mother for the first time in her life.

The Last Time I Saw Her Karen Robards

Dr. Charlie Stone must prove the innocence of a dangerously sexy condemned man, or lose her one chance at true love.

Maggie Bright: A Novel of Dunkirk Tracy Groot

Clare Childs knew life would change when she unexpectedly inherited the *Maggie Bright*—a noble fifty-two-foot yacht.

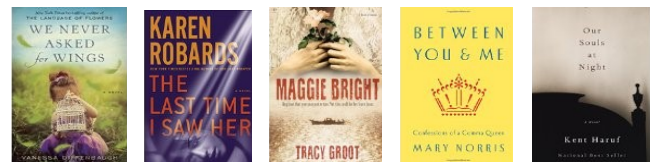
Large Print Nonfiction:

Between You & Me: Confessions of a Comma Queen Mary Norris

The most irreverent and helpful book on language since the #1 *New York Times* bestseller *Eats, Shoots & Leaves*.

Our Souls At Night Kent Haruf

Bittersweet yet inspiring story of a man and a woman who, in advanced age, come together to wrestle with the events of their lives.



Adult DVDs:

Boyhood**Poldark****Broadchurch Season 2****Murdoch Mysteries Season 8****The Second Best Exotic Marigold Hotel**

Adult Books on CD: Fiction

Robert B. Parker's Kickback Ace Atkins**Memory Man** David Baldacci**The Fixer** Joseph Finder

New on Blu-Ray:

Gravity**Star Trek: Into Darkness**

Music CDs:

Forever Man Eric Clapton**Nostalgia** Annie Lennox**Stages** Josh Groban



World of Books

Book Clubs: Creating Community

by Denise Micale,
Facilitator, Westport Library Book Club

The words “Book club” may evoke a group of women meeting to discuss bestsellers, like *Water for Elephants* or *50 Shades of Grey*. For some, Oprah’s Book Club may come to mind. But the roots of the modern day book club in all of its diverse expressions run deep—and east—to early eighteenth century drawing rooms, or “salons” in Paris. Here, during the Enlightenment, high society women organized mixed gender parties for socialization and discussion of philosophical literature that was the rage of the day. In a male dominated society, it was a bold, new experience for women.

In America, the history of book clubs is tied to the efforts of women to gain an informal education beyond homemaking and motherhood and the limited formal educational opportunities prior to the onset of the women’s rights’ movement of the 1960’s. Back in 1877, the Women’s Reading Group of Mattoon, IL was founded and remains active today. In 1891, the Clover Club was founded in Beaufort, SC. Thirty women of this club eventually founded a circulating library collection to replace the city’s collection that had been confiscated by Union troops during the Civil War in 1861. The present day members of the Clover Club continue to meet and support their county library. The Saturday Evening Girls’ Progressive Era Library Club (isn’t that a mouthful!?) was founded in 1899 in Boston to address the educational needs of poor young Jewish and Italian women and girls living in Boston’s North End.

Book clubs exist outside the usual mold of monthly meetings in homes, libraries and churches. The Great Books Foundation began in 1947 and had more than 43,000 participants in over 300 US cities in its first year. Oprah’s Book Club recommendations have been read and shared by millions since its onset in 1996. Recently, Mark Zuckerberg started his own book club on Facebook.

Our book club here at WFPL has over forty members and usually twenty or more attend the monthly meetings on the second Friday of the month. And yes, we are currently all female, but certainly would welcome gentlemen who enjoy the discussion of good books like their 18th century Paris counterparts. Our book selections are quite eclectic, including nonfiction, mysteries, humor, classics and fiction of all stripes, which are recommended by our members and determined by group consensus. Aside from our book reading, we support our Library in various ways.

Over the past fifteen years, I’ve belonged to three book clubs, each with a unique personality. Each has enriched my life and my love of reading. Thus I invite you to embrace the rich tradition of the book club in any of its manifestations. You’ll get to know great books and great people who read them.

Thank You!



To all the volunteers for their efforts in making the annual book sale a success. Special recognition to Westport Market for their assistance with boxes.

Mystery Spotlight

Fabulous Flavia de Luce

By Kate Kastner

Author Alan Bradley won the 2007 Debut Dagger award by submitting the first chapter and a synopsis of a murder mystery featuring amateur sleuth Flavia de Luce. This led to publication in 2009 of *The Sweetness at the Bottom of the Pie*, the author’s first novel at age 70. The 7th Flavia adventure arrived in 2015, published in 19 countries. How did he take a well-worn genre and create a fresh, increasingly enjoyed series?

There are reliably popular elements. It is set primarily in the small English village of Bishop’s Lacey in 1950, progressing only to 1951 by book 7. A fair number of bodies mount up in this small population. The de Luce family lives at Buckshaw, a large manse, aged and showing it. Money is scarce as Buckshaw belonged to Flavia’s mother, Harriet, whose death ten years prior triggered steep death taxes.

Surprises start with our narrator/protagonist, 11 year-old Flavia, who first appears escaping from a practical joke played upon her by older sisters Ophelia, seventeen, and Daphne, thirteen. Flavia gives as good as she gets, usually by concocting something in her chemistry lab built originally in the reign of Victoria. Others in the ongoing cast include her father, the Colonel, who served in WWII and is still mourning the death of his wife Harriet; Dogger, a war vet, POW, and frequent aide in Flavia’s sleuthing; and police Inspector Hewitt who is not quite sure what to do with Flavia.

Flavia finds a dying man below her bedroom window, and detects an odor of poison on his breath. Her reaction: “I wish I could say I was afraid, but I wasn’t. Quite the contrary. This was by far the most interesting thing that had ever happened to me in my entire life.” Of course the police rebuff her help. She is too young to be taken seriously about anything. Her curiosity takes over. She uses books, chemistry, charm and good manners, plus occasional lock-picking, to discover ‘Who’, ‘What’, and ‘Why’. Her trusty bicycle, Gladys, gives her freedom. Her friends help with the occasional necessary rescue. The reader enjoys joining her adventures.

All are available as audio books with a wonderful reader, Jayne Entwistle, who truly captures Flavia’s character and voice. Although YA readers would enjoy this series, it is written for adults who can enjoy being younger and in a simpler time for the space of a book.



For more info: www.alanbradleyauthor.com



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 programs. FOWL is the largest funding source for these purchases. In 2014, member dues and book sales contributed over \$17,000 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 Museum of Science
Museum of Fine Arts, Boston
Buttonwood Park Zoo
New Bedford Whaling Museum
New! Harvard University Art Museums

Bookstore at the Library 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:

_____ Book Sale Committee _____ PR/Marketing

It’s easy to donate or renew:

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

Name: _____

Mailing Address: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

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Vice President: Leona Andrade
Secretary: Linda Olsen
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