

What's New?

On Exhibit:

Helen E. Ellis Exhibit Case
Drawings by British illustrator, Arthur Rackham and other illustrators of the children's classic *Alice in Wonderland*

Magazines:

Barron's (weekly)
Mother Earth Living (bimonthly)

Playaway titles: Recordings of favorite books on a pocket-sized book-on-CD player. Earbuds required.

Rainshadow Road

Lisa Kleypas

The Art of Racing in the Rain

Garth Stein

All Necessary Force

Brad Taylor

The Beginner's Goodbye

Anne Tyler

Dockside

Susan Wiggs

Services

Free Wi-Fi
SAILS Library Network 24/7 borrowing
Homebound Delivery Service
Children's Programs
Manton Community Room – available for nonprofit events
Library Bridge Club
Library Book Club
Museum Passes
Genealogy: Ancestry.com/HeritageQuest
Call the Library for more info...

Library Hours

Monday	12:30-8:30
Tuesday	11:00-5:00
Wednesday	11:00-5:00
Thursday	12:30-8:30
Friday	11:00-5:00
Saturday	9:00-3:00
Sunday	CLOSED

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

Perspectives:

Westport has a wonderful Library. Its Friends have long wanted to provide more ways to connect townspeople with it, first to learn what's always available, and second to find out about special events sponsored by the Library or by FOWL. Fortuitously, we found the right mix of volunteers and staff with computer savvy and editing skills to begin a quarterly newsletter delivered digitally and in print. You'll find here a combination of how-to (unavoidable in a digital age) and book-oriented articles. An all-volunteer newsletter has to start small, but we hope to expand scope of content and frequency of issue. You're looking at a work-in-progress. Welcome to Volume 1.

Kate Kastner
President, FOWL

Library Budget Challenge; Regain Accreditation Funding Level

Topping the Library agenda for the upcoming Financial Year 2014 (7/1/13-6/31/14) is qualifying for state certification by having the Town contribution (Library budget) approved by Town Meeting in April meet the state mandate. For three years running we have had to go back to the Massachusetts Board of Library Commissioners, hat in hand, to request a waiver to continue our accreditation, because the Town didn't provide the minimum mandated community support funding. The Trustees and Library Director are working hard to obtain a departmental budget that this year would meet the minimum and secure our accreditation without a plea for exception, thus assuring a full state grant share (we have been losing thousands of dollars by getting only 75% of the allowable share for those communities meeting the minimum required). More importantly, accreditation allows us to participate in the regional interlibrary loan program (SAILS), which greatly extends our own collection of books, DVDs, e-books and other resources available to our patrons. This coming year the state minimum is \$219,000.

If we were held once again to absolute level funding in the Town budget, we would receive only \$175,000 from the Town and once again be forced to rely on the generous support of FOWL, private gifts and several rapidly depleting trust funds which were designated for other purposes, not for meeting payroll and purchasing supplies. In the upcoming fiscal year, our actual operating expenses for the Library will run to \$262,000, so meeting the state minimum will still leave us short \$44,000 to come up with from other sources. Personnel costs alone (salaries and benefits for only two full-time staff and others part-time) will run to \$193,000 in 2014 with no staff additions and planning conservatively for extra hours. The flat level-funding figure of \$175,000 would not even cover that need.

You may have seen the feature on our Library needs and many appreciated services in the January 17 issue of *Westport Shorelines*, so I will not bother repeating all in this space. Community support such as FOWL's remains crucial to the Library's well being. This year, beyond participation through volunteer work, the Library Trustees ask for your participation at Town Meeting and your active support during the spring budgeting process (FinCom and Board of Selectmen decision-making sessions) to ensure our fair funding.

Bob Gormley
Trustee Chair
rgormley61@charter.net

This quarter's @ the Library was sponsored by FOWL

~ Thank you! ~

Kid's Corner

2013 AWARD WINNERS ANNOUNCED

NEWBERY AWARD:

Grades 4-7

The One and Only Ivan

Katherine Applegate

Ivan's transformative emergence comes to life through a story filled with insights on the nature of friendship, hope & humanity.



CALDECOTT MEDAL:

Preschool – Grade 1

This Is Not My Hat

Jon Klassen

A tiny fish knows it's wrong to steal a hat and the big fish wants it back. Opposing narratives and subtle cues compel readers to imagine the consequences.



LIBRARIAN'S NEW BOOK PICKS

Preschool – Grade 1:

Nighttime Ninja

Barbara DaCosta

Stealthy and silent, a ninja sets off on a midnight mission, breaking into a house to steal some treasure.



Preschool – Grade 2:

Where Do Diggers Sleep at Night?

Brianna Sayres

Rhyming text reveals what trucks, tractors, and construction vehicles do to get ready for bed after a hard day's work.

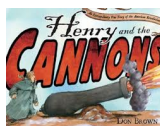


Grades 1-4:

Henry and the Cannons

Don Brown

An extraordinary true story of the American Revolution.



Violet Mackerel's Brilliant Plot

Anna Branford

A seven-year-old girl spots a blue china bird she desperately wants and forms an imaginative plan to get it.



Young Adult:

Don't Turn Around

Michelle Gagnon

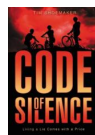
Noa wakes up on an operating table with no memory of how she got there. She teams with a computer hacker to stop a corrupt corporation with a deadly secret.



Code of Silence

Tim Shoemaker

Three friends witness a robbery that leaves a man in a coma. They find themselves tangled in a web of mystery and deceit threatening their lives.



A Chat with...

Sue Branco, Library Director

By Kate Kastner

Could you provide a glimpse into your career?

When I graduated from college with a teaching degree in the 1970's I wasn't able to find a permanent teaching post. After a productive year of substitute teaching, I accepted a job in Australia near Melbourne. The choices offered were to be an elementary school librarian or an art teacher. The library job seemed a better fit, and I discovered I liked it. Upon return to the States I completed my Master's in Library Science and began working in public libraries. I joined the Westport Public Library staff in 1988 as Assistant Director/YA/Children's Librarian. When Anita Baron retired, I was promoted to Library Director in 2004.

In your 25 years here you must have seen many changes.

In the early years, the first computerized network of towns (SEAL) was just starting with far fewer towns than SAILS now includes. We got our first computer and started our on-line card catalog in 1988. Our biggest technology jump was in 2000 when SEAL merged with another network to form what would become SAILS. With a far larger number of towns (SAILS now has 39), our inter-library borrowing scope greatly expanded. Technology from SAILS leaped forward in 2005 with the ability to download audiobooks to computer or MP3 players followed by reading non-fiction titles in e-book format. SAILS continues to have a variety of fiction and non-fiction titles to download to e-readers through Overdrive. In March, SAILS implemented a simpler method of e-book download.

Our building underwent an expansion, which started in December, 2008 with the official opening in January, 2010, although we were open throughout the construction. The additional library and meeting spaces have been wonderful.

Are there any Library services you feel are somewhat under-utilized and may deserve a mention here?

Well, we could always do a better job of advertising our reduced entry-fee passes for the NB Whaling Museum, the Boston Museum of Science, and the Boston MFA. You can reserve them in advance, and they provide a great savings. Also I'm not sure everyone realizes that with a Library card one can place holds on materials located in libraries throughout MA wherever you have access to a computer. We're happy to show patrons how to do this. You now receive notification that materials have come in by text message, email, or automated phone voice message. Very convenient.

What is your favorite part of the job?

Working directly with the public whether finding a book, doing some reference work, or training on the computer.

And in your free time?

Well, I'm not much of a gardener, more of a 'weeder and clipper'. I try to walk daily. Really, my favorite leisure activity is reading. One book I would highly recommend is *Cutting for Stone* by Abraham Verghese. I'm partway through *The Tiger's Wife* by Tea Obreht and am finding it enjoyable. I enjoy novels set in another country, contemporary or historical.

Events

For Kids:

Story Hour: Children age 3 and up / Tuesdays 10:30-11:15

Lap-Sit: Children under 3 and parents / Wednesdays 10:30-11:00
Enjoy books, puppets, songs, poems, finger plays and nursery rhymes.

Summer Reading Program: *Dig into Reading*
June 19 sign-up starts for reading logs

For Adults:

Bridge Club: Wednesdays 12:30-3:00

Library Book Club: 2nd Friday of every month 11:00

April 8:

11/22/63 Stephen King

Named a top ten book of 2011 by *The New York Times Book Review*; a novel about a time traveler who attempts to prevent the assassination of John F. Kennedy which occurred on November 22, 1963.

May 10:

Hunger Games Suzanne Collins

In the ruins of a place once known as North America lies the nation of Panem, a shining Capitol surrounded by twelve outlying districts. The Capitol is harsh and cruel and keeps the districts in line by forcing them to send one boy and one girl between the ages of 12-18 to participate in the annual Hunger Games, a fight to death on live TV.

June 14:

Behind the Beautiful Forevers Katherine Boo

Life, Death and Hope in a Mumbai Undercity - Winner of the National Book Award in 2012; a brilliantly written, fast-paced book, based on three years of uncompromising reporting; a bewildering age of global change and inequality is made human.

Living Literature's *A Celebration of Books*: April 18, 7:00 Community Room

A presentation observing the various roles books play in our lives. Featured authors will be Ray Bradbury, David Eggers, Annie Lamott, Grace Paley, and Carlos Ruiz Zafón. This is the group which did "Caleb's Crossing" last summer. No admission charge.



FOWL Board Meeting: May 9 at 6:30 - *Public Welcome*

April 16-20 National Library Week and School Vacation Week

Remember, the Library has:

Museum passes for

- Museum of Fine Arts, Boston
- Boston Museum of Science
- New Bedford Whaling Museum

DVDs and books for all ages

FOWL is enhancing the offerings for National Library Week:

- Additional books for sale in the entryway for \$1.50 - \$2.00
- FOWL members on hand to chat with patrons and sign up new members
- A dramatic reading by **Living Literature** on Thursday, April 18 at 7:00

Save the Date

Special Family Program

Digging Dinosaurs and Other Tales

Storyteller Diane Edgecomb

July 15th 7:00 pm

These popular dinosaur adventures complement their scientific facts with a happy dose of humor.



FOWL's Summer Paperback Sale:

July 29-Aug. 9

Last year had several thousand mass-market paperbacks to choose from.

You can help:



Bring your **Lees receipts** to the Library – every \$ counts

Volunteers Needed

Book Sale Committee: Sort donated books and/or work at book sales. Discover books you can buy spot on at our bargain prices. Start in May, a few hours every few weeks and end with annual sale in September.

PR/Marketing: Scope can be tailored to your time and skills. Prepare copy for events/programs and distribute to print and online publication outlets. Word Processing and email skills required. For the ambitious, add graphic design, social networking, etc. Spend a few hours approximately eight times per year.

Contact Kate Kastner 508-636-0225 or kate.kastner@charter.net

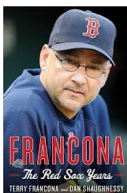
FOWL Book Sale Donations

May through August is collection period for your donations. Donation bin will be in the lobby. Please no encyclopedias, textbooks, books in poor condition, VHS tapes, cassette tapes or magazines.

New to the Collection

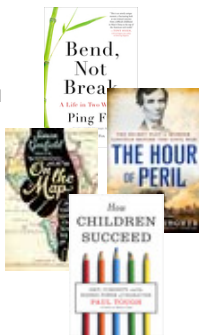
Not to be missed...

Francona: The Red Sox Years Terry Francona
The decorated manager opens up for the first time about his Boston tenure, unspooling the narrative of how this world-class organization reached such incredible highs and dipped to equally incredible lows. But through it all, there was always baseball, that beautiful game of which Francona never lost sight.



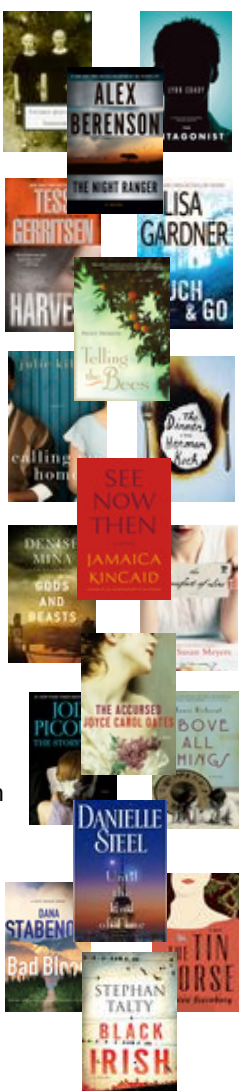
Adult Non-Fiction

Bend, Not Break: A Life in Two Worlds Ping Fu
On the Map Simon Garfield
The Hour of Peril Daniel Stashower
How Children Succeed Paul Tough



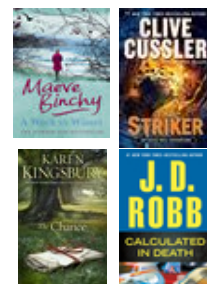
Adult Fiction

Extinction Mark Alpert
Best Place to Die Charles Atkins
Frances & Bernard Carlene Bauer
Night Ranger Alex Berenson
Antagonist Lynn Coady
House Girl Tara Conklin
Good Death Christopher Cox
Harvest Jim Crace
Suspect Robert Crais
Indiscretion Charles Dubow
Touch & Go Lisa Gardner
Arsenic & Old Puzzles Parnell Hall
River Swimmer Jim Harrison
Benediction Kent Haruf
A Cold & Lonely Place Sara J. Henry
Telling the Bees Peggy Hesketh
Obituary Writer Ann Hood
Burning Air Erin Kelly
Calling Me Home Julie Kibler
See Now Then Jamaica Kincaid
Dinner Herman Koch
Prodigal Son Colleen McCullough
Comfort of Lies Randy Susan Meyers
Gods & Beasts Denise Mina
Woman from Paris Santa Montefiore
Ratlines Stuart Neville
Accursed Joyce Carol Oates
The Storyteller Jodi Picoult
Standing in Another Man's Grave Ian Rankin
Above All Things Tanis Rideout
Pretty One Lucinda Rosenfeld
Deniable Death Gerald Seymour
Bad Blood Dana Stabenow
Until the End of Time Danielle Steel
Tin Horse Janice Steinberg
Black Irish Stephan Talty
Proof of Guilt Charles Todd



Large Print

A Week in Winter Maeve Binchy
The Striker Clive Cussler
The Chance Karen Kingsbury
Calculated in Death J.D. Robb



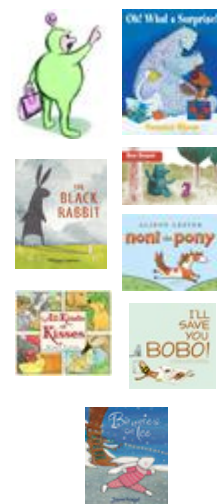
Books on CD

Speaking From Among the Bones Alan C. Bradley
Madame Bovary Gustave Flaubert
Harmless as Doves Paul Gaus
Dearlly Devoted Dexter Jeff Lindsay
The Marseille Caper Peter Mayle
Princess Elizabeth's Spy Susan MacNeal
The Lincoln Conspiracy Timothy O'Brien



Children

The Other Side of Town Jon Agee
Oh! What a Surprise! Suzanne Bloom
A little Bit of Sloth Lucy Cooke
Bear Despair Gaetan Doremus
33 Minutes Todd Hasak-Lowy
A Pet Named Sneaker Joan Heilbronner
Penny and Her Marble Kevin Henkes
Monument 14 Emmy Laybourne
The Black Rabbit Philippa Leathers
Noni the Pony Alison Lester
Road Trip Gary Paulsen
I'll Save you Bobo Eileen Rosenthal
All Kinds of Kisses Nancy Tafuri
Becoming Babe Ruth Matt Tavares
Polar Bear Morning Lauren Thompson
Navigating Early Clare Vanderpool
Bunnies on Ice Joanna Wright



Young Adult

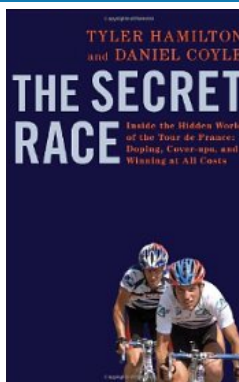
Janie Face to Face Barbara Cooney
Just One Day Gayle Forman
Flash Point Nancy Kress
The Tragedy Paper Elizabeth LaBan
Summer of the Mariposas Guadalupe McCall
Second Chance Summer Morgan Matson
Gone Gone Gone Hannah Moskowitz
Midwinter Blood Marcus Sedgwick
The Madman's Daughter Megan Shepherd



The World of Books

The Spoils of Victory

By Lucy Keefe, Westport resident



In the dispirit of tainted sports and fallen heroes, and because I knew him as a boy, I read Tyler Hamilton (and Daniel Coyle's) *The Secret Race: Inside the Hidden World of the Tour de France: Doping, Cover-ups, and Winning at All Costs*. Whether the lure was the smooth storytelling or the awful fascination of an unfolding catastrophe, I found it riveting.

It's a cautionary tale for adolescent boys and young men, for parents, for sports enthusiasts, and for all citizens of this duplicitous world. Cycling's appeal as a sport of gentlemanly civility (despite its torturous physical requirements) appears, in this appalling memoir, to have become a travesty. The blame falls not only on the athletes, and the most famous American cyclist in particular, but also on the sponsors, team owners, cycling associations and race organizers.

Only the athletes, in fact, had any reason other than greed to be part of what became, for at least a decade, a widespread practice of doping and lying about it. For Tyler Hamilton it was the chance to compete at the highest level of his chosen sport, where drugs had improved scores to the point where "riding paniagua" (pan y agua, or "bread and water") was to be left behind, dropped from the team.

Hamilton, a talented downhill skier forced off the slopes in college by a broken back, had focused instead on cycling and became a teammate, then a competitor, of Lance Armstrong. In 2004 he won an Olympic gold medal. Also, like the majority of the top riders during this time—including Armstrong—he used testosterone, EPO, and eventually transfusions of his own blood removed earlier and bagged for later use.

EPO is a naturally occurring hormone that stimulates production of oxygen-carrying red blood cells, enabling the body to be pushed beyond its normal limits; it does not negate or reduce the pain of doing so. No test had yet been devised to detect the presence of EPO in the bloodstream, so athletes' red blood cell count (hematocrit level) was monitored and a level above 50% was disallowed "for health reasons". Later, as testing methods became more sophisticated, so too did the wizardry of doctors and athletes. "For us," Hamilton explains in his book, "It wasn't like a race at all. It was more like a big game of hide-and-seek played in a forest that has lots of good places to hide, and lots of rules that favor the hidiers."

By his own account, Hamilton's ace card in athletic competition was his ability to endure an enormous, unreasonable amount of pain. He famously finished fourth in the 2003 Tour de France after fracturing his collarbone.

Armstrong, determined to make a comeback after surviving testicular cancer, returned to racing at a fortuitous time for a sport starting to be shadowed by rumors of doping and in need of a real hero. He was gritty, single-minded, relentless, and utterly ruthless in pursuit of the top place. The code of omerta among cyclists decreed that the rest would ostracize anyone caught doping, but he went further. As Hamilton's performance began to threaten his supremacy, Armstrong quietly turned him in.

Cautionary tales do not always have clear winners and losers. Hamilton lost his medals, his reputation, his marriage and his career. Even his dog died. But his voice is that of a pretty good guy, relieved and even made whole by telling his story, taking responsibility—more than his share, at times—and now living a normal, unexceptional—but honest—life.

Tech Bytes

What is OverDrive?

OverDrive is a leading digital distributor of eBooks, digital audio books and music for libraries. These materials can be downloaded through SAILS to use at home and when travelling. Many patrons enjoy downloads on their iPhones, iPads, Nooks, Kindles and other devices. SAILS' Overdrive recently received a facelift. Their Next Generation website offers a more user-friendly means of downloading.

Once you've logged in with your Library card number, it just takes one click to borrow a title. Visit www.sailsinc.org

- * Instructions available on homepage
- * Titles can be placed on hold
- * Multiple copies sometimes available
- * Titles can be checked out for 1- 3 weeks
- * Titles cannot be renewed
- * Titles can be put on hold again any time

How are SAILS eBooks selected?

SAILS formed a committee composed of library directors to oversee the purchase of eBooks, downloadable audio books and music. It's just like purchasing hardcover books and books on CD for the Library. The committee selects a certain number of titles periodically, but only certain publishers loan titles through the Overdrive program. The annual Overdrive software fee is divided amongst all SAILS libraries.



Spotlight

Homebound Delivery

Know of a relative, friend, or neighbor who is unable to visit the Library?



Library volunteers deliver books (including large print), CD books, and DVDs to homebound Westporters. Please call the Library at 508-636-1100 for more information.

The Library thanks Beverly Rich for organizing and launching this service.



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, CD’s, DVD’s, museum passes, and to fund children’s programs. FOWL is the largest funding source for these purchases. **In 2012, member dues and book sales contributed over \$10,000 in Library funding.** If you are not yet a member, fill in the form to the right to join today.

FOWL’s services and activities:

Museum Passes:

- Museum of Fine Arts, Boston
- Boston Museum of Science
- New Bedford Whaling Museum

Bookstore at the Library located in the Library lobby

Summer Paperback Book Sale

Programs/Special Events

Annual Book Sale with Member Preview Night

Paperback Exchange Carousel located in the Library lobby

@ the Library Quarterly Newsletter

*** Membership levels:**

- \$5 Individual \$50 Patron
- \$10 Family \$100 Bibliophile
- \$25 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: PO Box 842, Westport, MA 02790
- 2) Drop off form and payment at Library

Name: _____

Mailing Address: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

- Board Members:**
- President:* Kate Kastner
- Vice President:* Michael Habib
- Secretary:* Karen Nourse
- Treasurer:* Lisa Arnold
- Leona Andrade
- Elizabeth Cady
- Suze Craig
- Jennie Elias
- Cheryl Fournier
- Laurie Marceau
- Linda Olsen
- Marianne Sullivan
- Denise Weaver

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