

THE **chronicle**

A WLWP Digital Publication

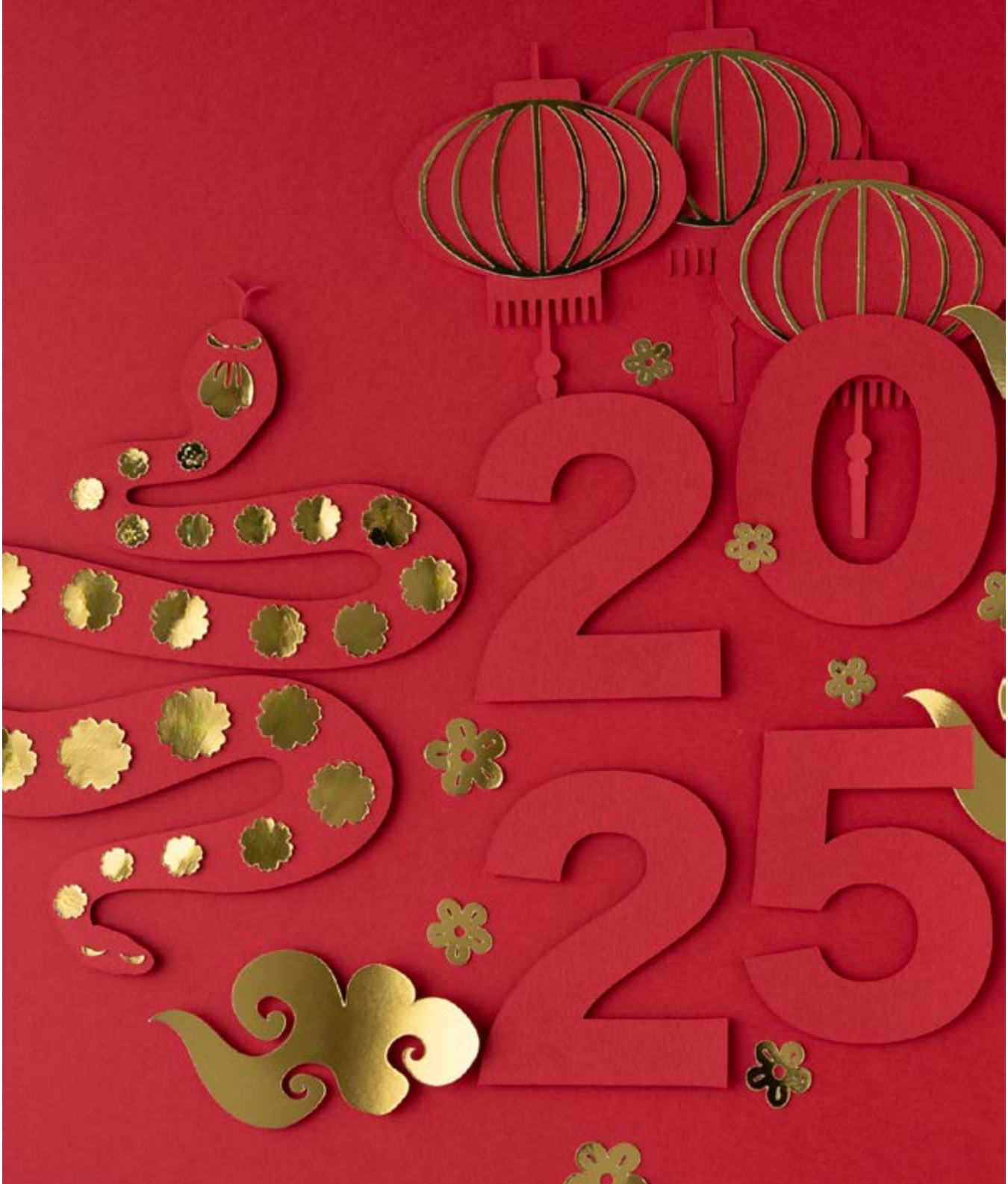


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volume 1 • issue 2 / february 2025

Celebrate Library Lover's Month by filling out a heart at Circulation and let us know what you love about WLWP!

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Library Lover's Week 2024



from the Executive Director

I love libraries and not just because I work in one. I love them for all the possibility they hold and all that they offer their community; a chance to learn a new language, the tools to apply for a job or unemployment; a person to notarize important documents; a possibility to meet new people; and the wonder of discovering new concepts. Libraries help improve the lives of their users; grant them access to places and ideas they never dreamed of knowing; and they offer lots of memories to be made.

I have fond memories of all the time spent in libraries growing up. I checked out stacks of books at a time as well as books on record that I could listen to over and over again. I loved getting scratch and sniff stickers for my summer reading prize. I attended library programming and classes including one to become a certified babysitter. I tore through Beverly Cleary and Judy Bloom and Baby-sitters Club books faster than they could be published. Such comforting memories are one of the reasons why I chose my profession.

I am sure many of you have memories like this that have nurtured your own love of libraries. So this month is for you! February is Library Lovers' Month dedicated to everyone who loves libraries and all they that provide.

If you're wondering how you can show us how much you love Westerly Library & Wilcox Park, my number one answer is to use the library. We have something for everyone. Of course we have books, movies, and magazines in both print and digital formats, but we also have storytimes for kids, D&D for Tweens & Teens, adult programs and clubs, a Library of Things including museum passes and hotspots, private study rooms, an art gallery and so much more!

If you already use the library, you might also consider volunteering to shelve books, weed in the park, or help during special events. You can support us by making a monthly or annual donation (we are a non-profit organization) OR by purchasing tickets to our fundraisers. The next one, Caddy Stacks, is mini-golf in the library on Saturday, March 8; families are invited to play in the morning and adults only later in the day. It's going to be the best, by par!

Please read on to discover all the reasons why libraries are priceless treasures and so easy to love.

Warmly,

Brigitte S. Hopkins
Executive Director



adult

Have you ever wondered how books, DVDs, or items from the Library of Things are added into the library collection? Once items are ordered and arrive from our vendors, our Collection Management (CM) department receives them. Here, invoices are checked and coded to the appropriate fund, and items are processed so that they are available on the shelves for you, our patrons.

Collection Management is one of the busiest departments as deliveries are made every day—not just for library materials like books, but for items related to programs in every department. In addition, damaged items are also sent to CM to evaluate whether it is possible to repair them. Although their work is often behind the scenes, the library's operations would not be possible without our team in CM!

Some of the more unusual items that have to be cataloged are from our Library of Things including a knife sharpener and disco ball. Working to build our collection is never ending!



number of
items added to
our collection
in 2024

5,832



the mysterious everlasting pumpkin

This gorgeous pumpkin won our pumpkin decorating contest, held last year on October 26th during our annual pumpkin stroll. There were so many incredible entries! We have been displaying it in the 2nd floor Reference Department since Halloween. At this point, we are convinced that it must be inhabited by small fairies or gnomes that come out at night and shore up their magical home, because this pumpkin has not begun to deteriorate at all. We cannot figure out why it still is so fresh. But early morning library staff that begin their days when the library is closed report seeing a faint yellow light emanating from the cottage windows as the night darkness fades away...

adult programs

FEBRUARY						
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9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
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Westerly Writers Group • 1st & 15th • 10 am-12:30 pm • Makerspace

This supportive and inclusive community for amateur writers meets every 1st, 3rd, and 5th Saturday. Share work, discuss readings, and write in response to prompts in this group-led writing workshop. All experience levels and genre interests are welcome. If you are interested in joining the group please first contact Jean: jean4nier49@gmail.com



Irish Coastal Club presents “Celebrating Irish Women on St. Brigid’s Day” • 1st • 1-2:15 pm • Auditorium

Please join the Irish Coastal Club in presenting “Women of the Irish Language Revival” with Fulbright Irish Scholar, Édith de Faoite, focused on the often forgotten women of the Irish Language Revival. This lecture will be followed by a Celtic harp performance by Rhiannon Ramsey-Brimberg, 2024 winner of the Scottish Harp Society of America’s US National Harp Championship.



Crafternoon To-Go • 3rd • 9 am-8 pm • Makerspace

Our Crafternoon To-Go kits will now be available on the 1st Monday of each month. This month, we’re making Air Dry Clay Decorated Terra Cotta Pots! 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. You can access the video tutorial on our YouTube Channel on the day of the program.



Sewers in Stitches • 3rd, 10th & 24th • 2-4 pm • Terrace Room

Join this weekly group to share ideas, ask advice and practice your crafting skills. We help with quilting, embroidery, felting, knitting and crocheting. This group is open to everyone from beginners to experts, please bring your own supplies.



Monday Night Movie • 3rd & 10th • 5:30-7:30 pm • Auditorium

This week, we’re showing “Conclave”, a 2024 film starring Ralph Fiennes and directed by Edward Berger. Conclave follows one of the world’s most secretive and ancient events – selecting the new Pope. Cardinal Lawrence (Ralph Fiennes) is tasked with running this covert process after the unexpected death of the beloved Pope. Once the Catholic Church’s most powerful leaders have gathered from around the world and are locked together in the Vatican halls, Lawrence uncovers a trail of deep secrets left in the dead Pope’s wake, secrets which could shake the foundations of the Church.

The movie is Rated PG for thematic material and smoking.. The movie is 2 hours long. Registration is NOT required.



Knit & Crochet Group • 4th, 11th, 18th, 25th • 5:30-7:30 pm • Makerspace

This group is a social event, please drop in anytime and bring a project to work on and talk about! This program is not a class for learning to knit or crochet, but attendees are usually willing and able to answer questions if you’re having trouble with something specific. This group meets weekly.



Sewing Basics • 4th & 18th • 6-6:30 pm • Makerspace

We will go over the sewing equipment available in our Makerspace and how to use it, as well as beginner project ideas. Children must be accompanied by an adult.



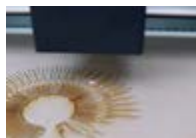
Meet the Artist: February Exhibit with Ellen Gregory • 5th • 5-7 pm • Hoxie Gallery

This month's exhibit will feature pieces from local artist Ellen Gregory! Head to the Hoxie Gallery for an opportunity to enjoy light bites and meet the artist. Her pieces can be viewed in the Hoxie Gallery through the month of February during library hours.



Learn the Language of Ireland with Irish Coastal Club • 5th • 6:30-7:30 pm • Terrace Room (hybrid)

Join the Irish Coastal Club for Irish Language Classes. Classes are fun and informal, with a focus on conversation and basic grammar. Beginners welcome. Bígí Linn! Join Us! Classes are held on the First & Third Wednesdays of the month and are free and open to the public. To attend virtually, please register by emailing irishcoastalclub@yahoo.com.



Laser Cutting Basics with the Glowforge • 6th & 20th • 6-6:30 pm • Makerspace

Join us in the Makerspace for an info session on engraving, fabricating, and designing with the Glowforge. All experience levels welcome! Children must be accompanied by an adult.



Lunar New Year Celebration 2025: Year of the Snake • 8th • 1-2 pm • Terrace Room & 2-3 pm • Auditorium

Come celebrate Lunar New Year with us and usher in the Year of the Snake! To celebrate, we will gather in the Terrace Room at 1pm for crafts, a live art demonstration by illustrator Regina Linke, and a lesson in hand folding dumplings from Terese Kung, founder and chef of Morsel Dumplings based in Westerly. Immediately following at 2pm in the Auditorium will be spectacular lion dance performance from The Rhode Island Kung Fu & Lion Dance Club. All ages are welcome to join for this great event!



The Poetry Gathering • 10th • 5-7 pm • Terrace Room

This monthly gathering invites brand-new and long-time poets, plus appreciators of poetry, to bring up to two of their own poems or those of a favorite poet to share. Good listeners are also welcome. The Poetry Gathering meets on the second Monday of each month.



Monday Night Book Discussion • 10th • 5:30-6:30 pm • Roberts Room

New members are welcome to join this monthly book club! This month we're reading "The Bluest Eye" by Toni Morrison, the story of black, 11-year-old Pecola Breedlove who prays for her dark eyes to turn blue so that she will be as beautiful and beloved as all the blonde, blue-eyed children in America.



Mostly Fiction Book Club • 11th • 6-7:30 pm • Terrace Room

Join us for this month's book discussion of "Chasing Beauty" by Natalie Dykstra, the vivid and masterful story of Isabella Stuart Gardner—creator of one of America's most stunning museums located in Boston. New members always welcome!



Tech Social • 12th & 26th • 1-2 pm • Makerspace (hybrid)

Problems with technology? Each Tech Social meeting has a guiding topic followed by time for questions and discussion. This group is for anyone who wants to troubleshoot and learn about everyday technology topics. The event will meet in person and virtually via Zoom. Please contact the tech department for a meeting link: tech@westerlylibrary.org.



Caregiver Support Group • 12th • 5:30-6:30 pm • Roberts Room

Presented by Alzheimer's Association RI Chapter, join this monthly support group to help build a support system with people who understand. Conducted by a trained facilitator, this group meets on the 2nd Wednesday of the month. For more information please contact Suzanne Varhol: varholfam3@gmail.com.



Project Outreach Veteran's Assistance • 14th • 10-11 am • Roberts Room

Members of organization Project Outreach of Westerly will be available for assistance on the second Friday of every month to aid veterans in navigating available benefits and other services. The program is staffed by certified Chapter Service Officers that have attended the yearly Disabled American Veterans training.



Altered Books Craft • 15th • 1-3 pm • Terrace Room

Have a ball making art out of an upcycled older book! Join an instructor from the Florence Griswold Museum to learn how to turn an unwanted book into a 3-D piece of keepsake art. Space is limited so please see our website calendar of events to register.



Cookbook Club: Hygge Week • 19th • 6-7:30 pm • Terrace Room

Please join us on the 2nd Wednesday of each month to share our prepared dishes and experiences with recipes from the selected cookbook. This month, we're meeting during the library's Hygge Week to enjoy a cozy and delicious meal full of favorite comfort foods! Our chosen book for this meeting is "Jamie Oliver's Comfort Food: The Ultimate Weekend Cookbook" by Jamie Oliver. and copies will be held at Circulation. Registration is required for this program, please see our calendar of events to register.



Literacy Volunteers of Washington County: Immigration Lawyer Q&A • 19th • 6-7:30 pm • Auditorium

Join Literacy Volunteers of Washington County as Carl Krueger from Dorcas International answers audience questions about the immigration and citizenship process. (Se habla español.) For more information or questions please contact Theresa with LVWC at lvwctgstaff@gmail.com or call 401-596-9411.



Learn the Language of Ireland with Irish Coastal Club • 19th • 6:30-7:30 pm • Roberts Room (hybrid)

Join the Irish Coastal Club for Irish Language Classes. Classes are fun and informal, with a focus on conversation and basic grammar. Beginners welcome. Bígí Linn! Join Us! Classes are held on the First & Third Wednesdays of the month and are free and open to the public. To attend virtually, please register by emailing irishcoastalclub@yahoo.com.



Musical Theatre Audition Workshop with Artist-in-Residence Dave Solomon • 20th & 27th • 5-7:45 pm • Auditorium

Please join our current Artist-in-Residence, Broadway Associate Director, Writer and Educator Dave Solomon for a Musical Theatre Audition Workshop! Participants will get one-on-one time and training working on a musical theatre song of their choosing. Over two sessions, the group will first audition their piece, then get direction and audition advice that they will continue to develop and work on for the following session. Registration is required for this two-session workshop, please see our website to register.



Hygge & Hot Chocolate • 21st • 9 am-12 pm • The Pop-Up at Coy

We're celebrating all things "Hygge" (the Danish concept/tradition of coziness and comfort) this week, and what's more cozy than hot chocolate?! Stop by for a free hot chocolate or tea. You can also pick up a coloring page, crossword puzzle, or other quick activity to cuddle up with while you enjoy your treat. This event is free and open to all ages!



Hygge Week: Drop-In Tile Decorating • 22nd • 10 am-12 pm • Makerspace

Stop by our 1st floor Makerspace between 10 am-12 pm to decorate your own ceramic tile! Paints and markers will be available, and staff on hand to help guide you. This is a fun and informal program for kids and adults, and no registration is required.



Dante Society Presents Jazz Musician Arthur Migliazza • 22nd • 5:30-7 pm • Auditorium

Please join the Dante Society of Westerly and award winning pianist Arthur Migliazza, as he brings the Boogie Woogie and Blues piano tradition back to life through truly unbelievable piano playing and engaging storytelling.



Silent Book Club • 26th • 5:30-7 pm • Old Main Reading Room

Bring any book you are currently reading and join us for our monthly Silent Book Club! We start by mingling with other readers for 15 minutes followed by 1 hour of silent reading and then wrap up with another 15 minutes of discussion (or continued silent reading). Silent Book Club is a great way to meet other readers in the area and learn about new (and old!) books others are currently loving.

in the vault



Sallie Coy was the longest-serving Librarian and Library Director in the history of our organization. She joined WLWP in 1911 as the first Librarian and quickly rose through the ranks, ultimately holding the position of Director until her retirement in 1960.

Our reimagined space within the library is The Pop-Up at Coy. This area is a small activation space at the front of the library, adjacent to the main entrance. Originally the reception office, the space has served many other purposes over the years including Sallie Coy's office, the circulation desk, Friends Bookstore, and following a renovation in 2017, a Café. It is now ready for its next chapter as The Pop-Up at Coy.

The space was named after Sallie Coy, honoring her contributions to the organization and her many years of dedicated service.

We hope to see you at The Pop-Up at Coy soon.





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 [click here](#).

CADDY STACKS

MINI GOLF IN THE LIBRARY

SATURDAY, 3/8/2025

WESTERLY LIBRARY & WILCOX PARK

<p>ALL AGES MINI GOLF</p> <p>\$5 PER PLAYER \$20 FAMILY</p> <p>Drop in and play! 10:00 AM to 1:30 PM</p> <p>9 Holes of Mini Golf Snacks</p>	<p>ADULT (21+) MINI GOLF</p> <p>\$50 PER PLAYER \$200 FOURSOME</p> <p>Tee Off Times: 3:00 PM, 5:00 PM, or 7:00 PM</p> <p>18 Holes of Mini Golf Hors d'Oeuvres Beer & Wine</p>
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REGISTER TO PLAY TODAY!

Scan QR code or go to: westerlylibrary.org/minigolf
 401-596-2877 X 322 | sjackson@westerlylibrary.org



TITLE SPONSOR

MASTERS SPONSOR

EAGLE SPONSORS

BIRDIE SPONSORS

BEVERAGE SPONSORS



hanging in the hoxie • Ellen Gregory Exhibit

This month's exhibit will feature pieces from local artist Ellen Gregory! Head to the Hoxie Gallery from 5-7 pm on Wednesday, February 5th for an opportunity to enjoy light bites, and to Meet the Artist. Her pieces can be viewed in the Hoxie Gallery through the month of February during library hours.

About Ellen Gregory:

Years of painting as a hobby morphed into a more polished style. Although not an art student, I used my free electives in high school and college to take courses in painting, drawing and 3-D design. Over the years I have taken additional courses at the Wadsworth Athenaeum in Hartford, Connecticut and the Lyme Art Association, Lyme, Connecticut. I am constantly polishing my skills. Currently, I am working in oil. Most of my inspiration comes from the way colors look next to each other. My paintings are eclectic but may eventually evolve to one style. Who knows? Right now vibrant, rich colors make me happy and I love to share that with people. Some of my paintings seem to glow and I think that's a good thing. My paintings have been shown at the Lyme Art Association, Norwich Arts Center and The Red House Cultural Arts Center. I am an Associate Artist at the Lyme Art Association and a member of the Madison Art Society.

Opening
Reception
Feb 5th • 5-7 pm

Find more on the artist and her work at ellengregoryart.com.



AiR
artist-in-residence



Dave Solomon
www.dave-solomon.com



Musical Theatre Audition Workshop • 20th & 27th • 5-7:45 pm • Auditorium

With twenty years of Broadway experience, director Dave Solomon will lead an Audition Workshop where participants will get one-on-one time and training working on a musical theatre song of their choosing. Over two sessions, the group will first audition their piece, then get direction and audition advice that they will continue to develop and work on for the following session. Participants should expect a supportive, fun and character-based approach to auditioning; with skills and advice that can also be used for theatre and film performance.

Registration is required for this two-session workshop. [Click here](#) to register.

Film Screening and Q&A | Mr. Holmes • March 15th • 1-3:30 pm • Auditorium

In addition to his own film work, Dave Solomon worked as the Assistant to Oscar-Winning screenwriter and director Bill Condon on the films *Mr. Holmes* and Disney's live-action *Beauty and the Beast*. Solomon lived in London for two years and spent the summer of 2014 in the English countryside working alongside Condon, and acclaimed actors Ian McKellen and Laura Linney, on the picturesque, mysterious and moving story of an aging Sherlock Holmes. In the film, McKellen plays a retired Sherlock who struggles with dementia, but develops an unexpected friendship with a young boy who encourages him to dig into his deepest memories to solve one of his final cases. Solomon will be present at the screening and offer a Q&A after to answer questions about the process and his experience working on the film.

Registration is not required, but it is encouraged. [Click here](#) to register.



If you are interested in applying for a 2026 residency, please [click here](#).





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 here](https://www.westerlylibrary.org/book-your-event) for more information.

atta•dude

At WLWP we celebrate our dedicated staff members monthly. Colleagues are nominated for going above and beyond by their peers. Atta•dudes, as we call them, are awarded to the staff member who receives the most nominations in a month. Keara was our winner of December's atta•dude!

Keara was recognized for taking detailed staff meetings notes, helping clean up a settee in the Old Main Reading Room and assisting with a potential building leak.



community spotlight

After the hustle and bustle of the holiday season and busy downtown streets, the community has continued to brace the cold to gather together at Westerly Library & Wilcox Park. We are proud to work in collaboration with other local organizations to host programs and events throughout the year to help support and bring our community together.

On January 15th, we honored the life and contributions of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. through an exceptional event created in partnership with the Westerly Area Peace and Justice Group, Westerly Anti-Racism Coalition, and the Rotary Club of Westerly. Together we listened to short readings from his written work and broke into small groups to discuss his legacy and continued impact on our community and on others around the world.

In partnership with Green Planet Films and the Dante Society of Westerly, neighbors joined on the 25th for a documentary screening of “Naples and the Amalfi Coast: La Dolce Vita?” (soon to be available for circulation on DVD). Viewers stayed for a vibrant discussion on the impacts of tourism around the world and in our own backyards. Together they noticed similarities and differences between the seaside Italian villages and our own coastal town. Many left with an appreciation for our local summers and also a renewed appreciation for our quiet winters and year-round active community.



If you represent a local organization which may be interested in partnering for future events at Westerly Library & Wilcox Park please contact our Program & Outreach Associate, Julianna Risica: jrisica@westerlylibrary.org or 401-596-2877 ext. 344.

public services



So you're walking through Wilcox Park and notice your phone is running low and will not last through the podcast/playlist that accompanies your journey. Or you're deep into a term paper, and your tablet decides to go dark along with all of the research you've completed. Maybe you're in the reading room basking in the afternoon glow and your Air pods just turn off. Now, the question is, where can you charge your device? Thanks to a RI Legislative Grant through our local Senator Victoria Gu, we have has acquired an Honest Waves Secure Tech 8 Plus Charging Locker – the perfect solution!

You will find our new charging locker across from the Circulation Desk. The Charging Locker consists of eight lock-

ers that have three charging cables: a Micro USB, Lightning and Type C that will fit most devices. Bonus feature: the charging locker will also sanitize your device using an Ultraviolet-C light! The lockers are sized for your smartphone or tablet.

You don't need a library card to use the charging locker – it's available to everyone! To get started, press the green Sterilization & Charge button below the keypad. Follow the prompts on the charging locker to choose a bay, enter a 4 digit pin you create (and you must remember for later), and plug in your device. When you're ready to reclaim you're now charged and sanitized device, push the Retrieve button and follow the prompts. Happy Charging!



stop in and say
hello
to Susan & Toby!

service highlight

**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.

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

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

makerspace



27
sessions

Your place for all things creative....your Makerspace. Come in and explore all our equipment available for you to utilize for FREE!

The Makerspace was a busy place during the holiday season. Our Technology Associates scheduled 27 appointments during the month of December to assist individuals with holiday gifts. A patron created a pillow on the sewing machines. Someone made a fun keychain and another individual burned a labyrinth on a cutting board, both created using our Glow Forge Laser Printer.

Looking to convert old family slides to a digital format, create a podcast, personalize items, sew clothing and so much more... look no further than the Makerspace.

To schedule an appointment please contact our Technology staff at 401-596-2877 ext. 9 or [click here](#) to email.





We are excited to announce that we have been awarded Arbnet Arboretum Accreditation Program!

The ArbNet accreditation is important to our arboretum at Westerly Library and Wilcox Park because it solidifies the essence of what our historic Park represents. Since the inception of Wilcox Park in 1898, we have had many knowledgeable and skilled Park Superintendents and Park Staff that contributed to the development of our arboretum. Currently, 2 full-time and 3 part-time staff dedicate their time to the park. The stewardship of our tree collection has been a high priority for the Memorial and Library Association which brings great pleasure to local and seasonal visitors. The value of our arboretum is evident by our patrons' deep appreciation of the visual beauty of our trees, as well as arborists' and other horticultural specialists' deeper understanding of our individual specimens and collections as a whole. The Wilcox Park arboretum enhances our nationally significant listing on the National Register of Historic Places and is a worthy example of Landscape Architect Warren Manning's (associate of Frederick Law Olmsted) work who designed the Park from 1898-1904.

Enhancements to Warren Manning's design include the addition of formal and perennial gardens, a native pollinator garden and rain garden. These gardens are seamlessly integrated within the arboretum. With over 60 dedicated volunteers per season, mostly seasoned University of Rhode Island

Master Gardeners, our vast array of plants and trees are meticulously maintained throughout the growing season.

The Wilcox Park arboretum is home to 8 RI Champion trees as designated by the RI Tree Council. These trees, along with approximately one-third of the trees in the arboretum are individually labeled by genus, species, and common name. In fact, the trees and select woody shrubs in the park have been inventoried in a comprehensive database in Google Maps which is accessible to the public by QR code or link.

The Wilcox Park arboretum has been home to a number of public educational programs for years. This year we will host the 41st annual Garden Market Fair that boasts a variety of local vendors and community organizations, complete with alpacas and a host of children and adult activities. For years, the URI Master Gardeners have led monthly Specimen Tree and Native Plant tours on the second and fourth Saturdays from May through October. Private tree tours are also conducted ~10 times per year. Patrons are very appreciative and often return more than once over the growing season as the trees transition from leafing out, to bloom, to producing fruit, to preparing for winter. If scheduling is prohibitive, patrons can pick up a hard copy of the self-guided tour of Wilcox Park at the our Public Services desk in the library for a small fee, and tour our specimen trees, monuments, and gardens at their leisure.

From our newly planted grove of dawn redwoods (*Metasequoia glyptostroboides*) to our well established Cherry Alee, along with our recognized 8 RI Champion trees, our historic 15-acre arboretum hosts a wide variety of trees and woody shrubs comprised of 159 different tree species and 43 unique cultivars. Securing Level II accreditation is an honor, confirming Wilcox Park as a bona fide premier arboretum.



youth

This February, Westerly Library & Wilcox Park invites kids, tweens, and teens to get comfy and cozy while enjoying a variety of fun and engaging programs. Whether you're looking to celebrate cultural traditions, embrace cozy activities, or simply enjoy some indoor fun, the library has something special for everyone.

Start the month by joining the Lunar New Year Celebration 2025 on February 8th from 1-3 pm. Celebrate the Year of the Snake with an exciting performance by traditional Lion Dancers from RI Kung Fu & Lion Dance Club, bringing joy, energy, and good luck to the library. This family-friendly event will also feature crafts and activities to help children learn about the rich history of Lunar New Year traditions.

From February 18th-22nd, take part in Hygge Week, where kids, tweens, and teens can embrace the Danish concept of coziness and well-being. Throughout the week, enjoy activities like cozy craft sessions, relaxing storytimes, and mindfulness practices. The library will also offer a selection of Hygge-inspired books and activities to help young visitors unwind and feel at home.

Whether you're snuggling up with a good book, crafting, or participating in these exciting events, February at Westerly Library & Wilcox Park is all about getting comfortable and making lasting memories. It may be cold outside, but it is warm and welcoming in Youth Services!



service highlight

In case you missed our recent Library of Things Demo Day...we have added Youth Services items. Be sure to come in and browse. There's busy boards, keyboards, cardboard tool set, leapfrog globe and many other fun and educational items.

To view items contained within our Kids Library of Things please [click here](#).



youth programs

FEBRUARY						
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Kids Take and Make: Pop-Up Valentine's Day Cards • 3rd • 9 am-8 pm • Kids Room

This month's craft is Pop-Up Valentine's Day Cards! Crafts can be taken to go or made in the Kids Room. Supplies are first come, first served.



Tween Dungeons & Dragons (Ages 8-12) • Weekly Tuesdays (4th, 11th, 18th, 25th) or Wednesdays (5th, 12th, 19th, 26th) • Tween Space

Homeschool Group: Tuesdays 1:30-3 pm

Group 1: Tuesdays 3:30-5pm

Group 2: Tuesdays 5-6:30 pm

Group 3: Wednesdays 4:30-6 pm

Join one of our four Tween Dungeons and Dragons groups run by our Tween Librarian! Space is limited and usually at capacity but newcomers are always welcome. Please contact our Tween Librarian, Ben, for availability in each group: bgreen@westerlylibrary.org.



Teen Dungeons & Dragons • 4th, 11th, 18th, 25th • 4 pm-5:30 pm • Auditorium

Our teen-led Dungeons and Dragons campaign is currently at capacity. Stay-tuned for future openings!



After School Storytime • 4th • 4-4:30 pm • Terrace Room

Will anyone ever say Mirha's name correctly? Find out when we read "That's Not My Name!" by Anousha Syed and embrace our own amazing names. Join us for a new After School Storytime, where we will read a book aloud and create a craft that stems from the book.



Sewing Basics • 4th & 18th • 6-6:30 pm • Makerspace

We will go over the sewing equipment available in our Makerspace and how to use it, as well as beginner project ideas. Children must be accompanied by an adult.



Storytime • 5th, 12th, 19th & 26th • 10-10:30 am • Terrace Room

Join us for our weekly storytime! Come grab a cozy spot and get ready for a story.



Playdough Playtime • 5th • 4-5 pm • Kids Room

In this program, kids use their imagination and get creative with homemade playdough. Whether you want to make awesome sculptures, cool shapes, or just have fun squishing and molding this is the perfect place for you!



Baby Playtime • 6th and 20th • 10-10:45 am • Terrace Room

Join us for 45 minutes of lap-sit fun with your baby including stories, rhymes, songs, and free-play time. Children ages birth-14 months welcome, no registration required.



Kids Craft Time • 6th, 13th, 20th & 27th • 4-4:30 pm • Kids Room (Castle)

Stop by the Kids Room Castle for a new craft project every week! This month we will be making Valentines Lovebugs, Homemade Valentines, Pom Pom Animals, and Paper Squishy Toys!



Teen Crafternoon • 6th, 13th, 20th & 27th • 4-5 pm • Teen Space

Anytime is a good time for crafting, let your creativity shine! Teens in grades 7-12 are welcome to join us for weekly craft projects in Teen Space.



[Tween Alliance for Acceptance](#) • 6th, 13th, 16th, 23rd & 30th • 4-5 pm • Tween Space

All tweens are welcome to join us in the Space to hang out, chat about books, play games, and appreciate all of our differences!



[Laser Cutting Basics with the Glowforge](#) • 6th & 20th • 6-6:30 pm • Makerspace

Join us in the Makerspace for an info session on engraving, fabricating, and designing with the Glowforge. All experience levels welcome! Children must be accompanied by an adult.



[Readers Welcome: Tween Book Club](#) • 7th • 4-5 pm • Tween Space

Whether it's graphic novels, fantasy, historical fiction, or realistic novels, come on in to whatever you're reading with fellow tweens and swap recommendations! Tweens ages 8 to 12 welcome.



[Sensory Saturday](#) • 8th • 1-2 pm • Kids Room

Join us for a sensory friendly playtime! This program is designed to be open play with different sensory items to stimulate the senses.



[Lunar New Year Celebration 2025: Year of the Snake](#) • 8th • 1-2 pm • Terrace Room & 2-3 pm • Auditorium

Come celebrate Lunar New Year with us and usher in the Year of the Snake! To celebrate, we will gather in the Terrace Room at 1pm for crafts, a live art demonstration by illustrator Regina Linke, and a lesson in hand folding dumplings from Terese Kung, founder and chef of Morsel Dumplings based in Westerly. Immediately following at 2pm in the Auditorium will be spectacular lion dance performance from The Rhode Island Kung Fu & Lion Dance Club. All ages are welcome to join for this great event!



[Natural Arts: Flower Petal Valentines](#) • 10th • 10-11 am • Toddler Time & 4-5 pm • After School • Kids Room

Join us as we create art using natural art supplies. This month we will be using painting with ice! This program will run twice, first at 10:00 am for Toddler Time and again at 4:00 pm for after school.



[Toddler Playtime](#) • 13th & 27th • 10-10:45 am • Terrace Room

Join us for 45 minutes of movement fun with your toddler, including stories, rhymes, songs, and free-play time. Children ages 14 months to 3 years are welcome, no registration required.



[Hygge Week: Playdough Palooza](#) • 19th • 4-5 pm • Terrace Room

Join us as we embrace the Danish tradition of Hygge, getting cozy in the winter! We will be having a special edition of our Playdough Playtime with a Playdough Palooza! We will be playing with all things playdough. We will have a variety of colors, tools, and building challenges!



[Hygge & Hot Chocolate](#) • 21st • 9 am-12 pm • The Pop-Up at Coy

We're celebrating all things "Hygge" (the Danish concept/tradition of coziness and comfort) this week, and what's more cozy than hot chocolate?! Stop by for a free hot chocolate or tea. You can also pick up a coloring page, crossword puzzle, or other quick activity to cuddle up with while you enjoy your treat. This event is free and open to all ages!



[Tween Librarian Club](#) • 21st • 4-5 pm • Tween Space

Join fellow library fans to create interactive displays, create art for the Tween Space, and discuss all things books!



[Hygge Week: Drop-In Tile Decorating](#) • 22nd • 10 am-12 pm • Makerspace

Stop by our 1st floor Makerspace between 10 am-12 pm to decorate your own ceramic tile! Paints and markers will be available, and staff on hand to help guide you. This is a fun and informal program for kids and adults, and no registration is required.



[Kids, Tween & Teen Monthly Homeschool Hangout](#) • 24th • 2-3 pm • Westerly Library

A time for homeschooled families to come to the library and connect with each other. Plus, learn about and explore our library services, resources, and tools, including our hydroponics unit, coding tools, and so much more!

tv series & movies

for customized
recommendations

[click here](#)



[American Rust](#) • season 1

Recommended by Kelli

Set in a dying Pennsylvania steel town, follows the chief of police who takes on an investigation after a dead body turns up in an abandoned steel mill and the son of the woman he loves is accused of the murder.



[It Ends with Us](#) • movie

Recommended by Kelli

Grappling with a painful past, Lily embarks on a new life in Boston and opens her own flower shop. After falling in love with Ryle, Lily begins to see sides of him that remind her of her dangerous father. With the support of her friends and allies, Lily must find her own strength to break the pattern or the pattern will break her.



[The Terror](#) • season 1 available

Recommended by Claire

Inspired by a true story, follow the British Royal Navy's perilous voyage into uncharted territory as the crew attempts to discover the Northwest Passage. Faced with treacherous conditions, limited resources, dwindling hope and fear of the unknown, the crew is pushed to the brink of extinction.



books



[Hacks](#) • season 1 available

Recommended by Sara

A comedy-drama television series about a legendary Las Vegas comedian and the new young comedy writer hired to reinvent her aging act.



[Hollow Kingdom](#) by Kira Jane Buxton

Recommended by Caroline

Humanity's extinction has seemingly arrived, and the only one determined to save it is a cowardly crow whose only knowledge of the world comes from TV. Funny and sweet!



[Walking Dead: Daryl Dixon](#) • season 1 available

Recommended by Sara

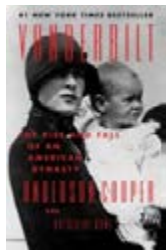
Daryl faces old demons, recalling the circumstances that landed him in France. Isabelle's sacrifice forces her to consider drastic measures. Genet commences a celebration for the people of Paris.



[Writers & Lovers](#) by Lily King

Recommended by Julianna

Blindsided by her mother's sudden death, and wrecked by a recent love affair, Casey Peabody has arrived in Massachusetts in the summer of 1997 without a plan.



[Vanderbilt: the Rise and Fall of an American Dynasty](#) by Anderson Cooper

Recommended by Caroline

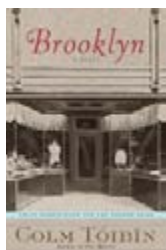
Drawing on never-before-seen documents and told from a unique insider's viewpoint, the CNN anchor tells the story of his legendary family and their remarkable influence. I listened to this one and he's a great narrator.



[The Eyre Affair](#) by Jasper Fforde

Recommended by Maria

The first novel in the renowned Thursday Next series, which "combines elements of Monty Python, Harry Potter, Stephen Hawking, and Buffy the Vampire Slayer" (The Wall Street Journal).



[Brooklyn](#) by Colm Tóibín

Recommended by Cassie

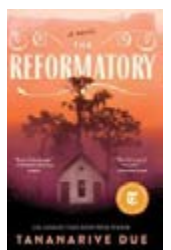
Coming of age in small-town Ireland in the years following World War II, Eilis Lacey is one among many of her generation who cannot find a job in the miserable economy. When an Irish priest from Brooklyn offers to sponsor Eilis to live and work in America, she decides she must go, leaving her fragile mother and her charismatic sister behind.



[Long Island](#) by Colm Tóibín

Recommended by Cassie

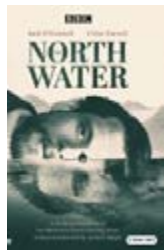
Eilis Lacey is Irish, married to Tony Fiorello, one of four Italian American brothers, all of whom live in neighboring houses on a cul-de-sac in Lindenhurst, Long Island, with their wives and children and Tony's parents, a huge extended family that lives and works, eats and plays together.



[The Reformatory](#) by Tananarive Due

Recommended by Stacey

A gripping, page-turning novel set in Jim Crow Florida that follows a boy sent to a reform school that is an absolute nightmare.



[The North Water](#) by Liz Moore

Recommended by Claire

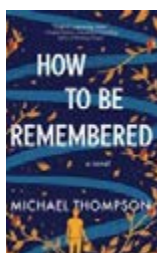
After joining an Arctic whaling trip in 1859 aboard the Volunteer, Patrick Sumner, a disgraced, former army surgeon and the ship's medic, becomes involved in a confrontation with the brutal harpooner, Henry Drax.



[Eileen](#) by Ottessa Moshfegh

Recommended by Stacey

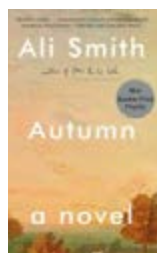
This dark mystery/thriller follows the story of a young woman who strikes up a friendship with a new colleague at the boys' prison where she works. The relationship pulls Eileen into complicity in a crime. The novel was adapted to film in 2023, starring Anne Hathaway.



[How to be Remembered](#) by Michael Thompson

Recommended by Brigitte

"For fans of Matt Haig and The Invisible Life of Addie LaRue comes a big-hearted novel following a man who can never be remembered and his journey to become unforgettable..."



[Autumn](#) by Ali Smith

Recommended by Julianna

From the Man Booker-shortlisted and Baileys Prize-winning author of How to be both: a breathtakingly inventive new novel--about aging, time, love, and stories themselves--that launches an extraordinary quartet of books called Seasonal.



[The Measure](#) by Nikki Erlick

Recommended by Julianna

When every person, all over the globe, receives a small wooden box bearing the same inscription and a single piece of string inside, the world is thrown into a collective frenzy, in this novel told through multiple perspectives that introduces an unforgettable cast of characters.

[Westerly Writers Group](#) • 1st & 15th • 10 am-12:30 pm • Makerspace

[Irish Coastal Club presents “Celebrating Irish Women on St. Brigid’s Day”](#) • 1st • 1-2:15 pm • Auditorium

[Crafternoon To-Go](#) • 3rd • 9 am-8 pm • Makerspace

[Kids Take and Make: Pop-Up Valentine’s Day Cards](#) • 3rd • 9 am-8 pm • Kids Room

[Sewers in Stitches](#) • 3rd, 10th & 24th • 2-4 pm • Terrace Room

[Monday Night Movie](#) • 3rd & 10th • 5:30-7:30 pm • Auditorium

[Tween Dungeons & Dragons \(Ages 8-12\)](#) • Weekly Tuesdays (4th, 11th, 18th, 25th) or Wednesdays (5th, 12th, 19th, 26th) • Tween Space

[Homeschool Group](#): Tuesdays 1:30-3 pm

[Group 1](#): Tuesdays 3:30-5pm

[Group 2](#): Tuesdays 5-6:30 pm

[Group 3](#): Wednesdays 4:30-6 pm

[Teen Dungeons & Dragons](#) • 4th, 11th, 18th, 25th • 4 pm-5:30 pm • Auditorium

[After School Storytime](#) • 4th • 4-4:30 pm • Terrace Room

[Knit & Crochet Group](#) • 4th, 11th, 18th, 25th • 5:30-7:30 pm • Makerspace

[Sewing Basics](#) • 4th & 18th • 6-6:30 pm • Makerspace

[Storytime](#) • 5th, 12th, 19th & 26th • 10-10:30 am • Terrace Room

[Playdough Playtime](#) • 5th • 4-5 pm • Kids Room

[Meet the Artist: February Exhibit with Ellen Gregory](#) • 5th • 5-7 pm • Hoxie Gallery

[Learn the Language of Ireland with Irish Coastal Club](#) • 5th • 6:30-7:30 pm • Terrace Room (hybrid)

[Baby Playtime](#) • 6th and 20th • 10-10:45 am • Terrace Room

[Kids Craft Time](#) • 6th, 13th, 20th & 27th • 4-4:30 pm • Kids Room (Castle)

[Teen Crafternoon](#) • 6th, 13th, 20th & 27th • 4-5 pm • Teen Space

[Tween Alliance for Acceptance](#) • 6th, 13th, 16th, 23rd & 30th • 4-5 pm • Tween Space

[Laser Cutting Basics with the Glowforge](#) • 6th & 20th • 6-6:30 pm • Makerspace

[Readers Welcome: Tween Book Club](#) • 7th • 4-5 pm • Tween Space

[Lunar New Year Celebration 2025: Year of the Snake](#) • 8th • 1-2 pm • Terrace Room & 2-3 pm • Auditorium

[Sensory Saturday](#) • 8th • 1-2 pm • Kids Room

[Natural Arts: Flower Petal Valentines](#) • 10th • 10-11 am • Toddler Time & 4-5 pm • After School • Kids Room

[The Poetry Gathering](#) • 10th • 5-7 pm • Terrace Room

[Monday Night Book Discussion](#) • 10th • 5:30-6:30 pm • Roberts Room

[Mostly Fiction Book Club](#) • 11th • 6-7:30 pm • Terrace Room

[Tech Social](#) • 12th & 26th • 1-2 pm • Makerspace (hybrid)

[Caregiver Support Group](#) • 12th • 5:30-6:30 pm • Roberts Room

[Toddler Playtime](#) • 13th & 27th • 10-10:45 am • Terrace Room

[Project Outreach Veteran’s Assistance](#) • 14th • 10-11 am • Roberts Room

[Altered Books Craft](#) • 15th • 1-3 pm • Terrace Room

[Hygge Week: Playdough Palooza](#) • 19th • 4-5 pm • Terrace Room

[Cookbook Club: Hygge Week](#) • 19th • 6-7:30 pm • Terrace Room

[Literacy Volunteers of Washington County: Immigration Lawyer Q&A](#) • 19th • 6-7:30 pm • Auditorium

[Learn the Language of Ireland with Irish Coastal Club](#) • 19th • 6:30-7:30 pm • Roberts Room (hybrid)

[Musical Theatre Audition Workshop with Artist-in-Residence Dave Solomon](#) • 20th & 27th • 5-7:45 pm • Auditorium

[Hygge & Hot Chocolate](#) • 21st • 9 am-12 pm • The Pop-Up at Coy

[Tween Librarian Club](#) • 21st • 4-5 pm • Tween Space

[Hygge Week: Drop-In Tile Decorating](#) • 22nd • 10 am-12 pm • Makerspace

[Dante Society Presents Jazz Musician Arthur Migliazza](#) • 22nd • 5:30-7 pm • Auditorium

[Kids, Tween & Teen Monthly Homeschool Hangout](#) • 24th • 2-3 pm • Westerly Library

[Silent Book Club](#) • 26th • 5:30-7 pm • Old Main Reading Room

FEBRUARY						
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16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	

holidays • closings

Monday • February 17th • Closed for Presidents Day
Tuesday, March 4th • Open at 1 pm • Staff Development

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

westerlylibrary.org



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