

THE LEAFLET

FALL 2021 NEWSLETTER

2021 Gold Leaf Award

The Gold Leaf Reception was held on Friday, October 8th. This year's honorees, Dr. Ellen Madison and Mrs. Rose Marie Pampel Weston, were celebrated for their years of dedication and service to Westerly Library & Wilcox Park.

Ellen has been an Incorporator for several decades. She joined the Board of Trustees in 1991, served as President from 1996 to 1998, and continues to support our mission as a generous donor, a member of the "Friends," and a member of the Wilcox Society.

Rose has been an Incorporator since 2007. She is a passionate liaison, a member of the "Friends," an active volunteer, a member of the Development Committee, and a generous contributor. As a volunteer driver for the library's Homebound program, Rose delivers books to individuals who do not have access to transportation to and from the library.



Pictured: Betty-Jo Cugini, Rose Weston, Ellen Madison, and Brigitte Hopkins

President's Note



— “ —
"If I have seen further, it is by standing upon the shoulders of giants."

— Sir Isaac Newton —

I've had the privilege to learn from many "giants" while serving on the Board. Past President Susan Ogle, who guided us through a robust strategic plan; Gold Leaf Award recipients Ellen Madison & Rose Weston, who are ambassadors for the library and park; and "The Friends," who plan and execute their successful book sales to support the Association, to name a few. Other "giants" cross our path each day and you are one of them. Because of you, we were able to keep the doors open, offer safe activities inside and out, help patrons find trusted sources, and offer a place to land during uncertain times.

During this time of giving thanks, I would like to thank the staff, volunteers, and donors for their commitment to our park and library.

With gratitude,

Betty-Jo Cugini

Betty-Jo Cugini
President, Board of Trustees

Annual Meeting

The [Annual Meeting](#) was held in-person at Westerly Library on September 22, 2021. New Incorporators and Trustees were elected, and retiring Trustees were honored for their years of service to Westerly Library & Wilcox Park.

Newly Elected Trustees:

Maria Bernier
William Miller
Louis Toscano

Newly Elected Incorporators:

Ben Barber
Beth D'Amato
April Dinwoodie
Anna Garceau
Zack Garceau
Robert Gervasini
Doryanne Hamel
Mary Carol Kendzia
Suzanne Lemp
Dr. Lori Liguori
Endawnis Spears

Retiring Trustees:

Mary Goodman- 9 yrs of service
Ian Newbury- 3 yrs of service
Susan H. Ogle- 9 yrs of service

Staff Anniversaries:

Alan Peck, Park Director, and Caroline Badowski, Head of Reference, both celebrated 20 years of dedicated service.



Pictured: Retiring Board President, Susan Ogle, passes the torch to incoming Board President, Betty-Jo Cugini



The Marvelous Masks Margaret Made

Margaret Earle, volunteer and beloved patron, has been hard at work sewing cloth face masks since the pandemic began. Over the past year and a half, she has donated more than 500 masks! Baskets full of her colorful designs were available in the Children's Room and at the Circulation Desk for the public to take, free of charge. As you can see from the photo below of staff modeling Margaret's handmade masks, we are huge fans of her work. We are incredibly fortunate to have caring and generous volunteers like Margaret involved with the library and park.



Pictured: Top Row: Marilyn Russo, Kelli Butler, Margaret Earle, Bill Lancellotta, Stacey Jackson. Bottom Row: Hannah Beldock, Keara Bergey, Morgan Carroll

Service Spotlights



Fine Free

In an effort to remove barriers to using the library, we are no longer charging fines for late or lost items for most materials.



Kanopy

Video streaming service with over 30,000 films available free through library's log in.



Overdrive

Our cardholders can access the Ocean State Libraries eZone to download ebooks and audiobooks instantly!



Homebound Delivery

Monthly delivery service of library materials available to homebound residents of Westerly or Stonington.

Stay Connected

Westerly Library & Wilcox Park
44 Broad Street
Westerly, RI 02891

401-596-2877

www.westerlylibrary.org



Miss Helen Backpacks



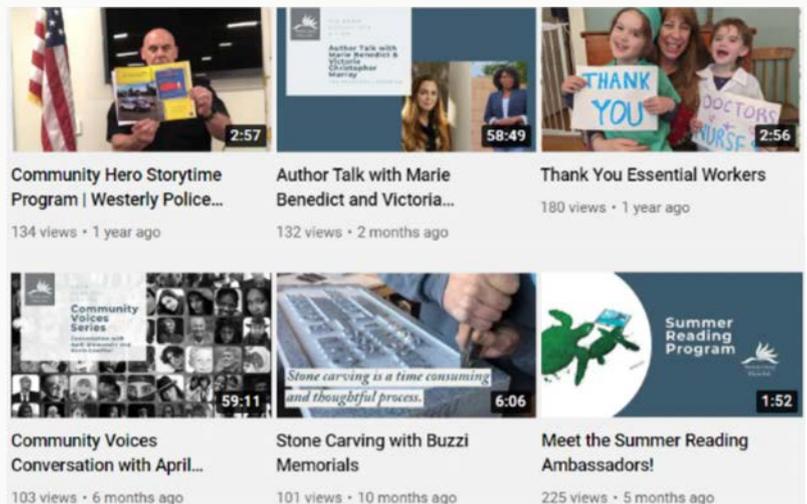
Named in honor of Helen Mochetti, who served as children's librarian for 50 years, the backpacks are now available to check out. Each backpack is full of educational games, books, and other resources to

keep little ones engaged. Support for the backpacks was provided by The Friends of Westerly Library & Wilcox Park.

Programs Without Borders

Though we are offering in-person programs once again, our virtual programs remain popular. Virtual platforms enable us to reach a broader audience and make it easier for out-of-town presenters to participate.

We presented a Virtual Author Talk with [The Personal Librarian](#) co-authors, Marie Benedict and Victoria Christopher Murray in August. The authors joined us from Pennsylvania and Jamaica while our moderators facilitated the conversation from Westerly Library. Virtual programs have opened a world of possibilities for our patrons!



Pictured: Virtual program recordings available on our YouTube page.