



Westwood Public Library Director's Report 8 January 2018

Staffing

Hannah Gavalis will be leaving the employ of the Westwood Public Library to take the position of Head of Children's Services at the Westborough Public Library. Her last day of work at Westwood will be January 9th. Hannah has worked here in Westwood for about 4 and a half years, and we will miss her energy, enthusiasm and creativity, but are excited for her new adventures as she takes on additional responsibilities as a department head in Westborough.

The position has been posted, with applications due by Monday, January 8th. As we work through the process, we have asked that any part-time staff who are interested in working additional hours in the children's department to indicate their availability – and Lizzy will walk them through a cross-training session prior to adding them to the rotation. At least 4 staff have expressed interest in pursuing this option.

Islington Center Update:

I reached out to Abby McCabe and Nora Loughnane recently to get updated information about the Islington Center redevelopment plans. A special permit application, along with associated plans and other materials were received by the Planning Board on December 13. The Planning Board's public hearing will open on **Tuesday, January 16 at 6:30 pm at Downey School Cafeteria**. A print copy of the application submission and associated materials are available at both the Main Library and at the Islington Branch. Abby did caution however that the application will likely regularly be revised throughout the public hearing process and the best way to view the most up to date information is on the website. Abby will continue to update the material electronically as it is received.

For materials relating to the 1/16/18 meeting:

<http://www.townhall.westwood.ma.us/cals/default.htm?ViewBy=7&CalDate=1/16/2018&EventDateID=74529>

They are also available on the Planning Board's webpage under "[Current Planning Board Applications](#)" at [this link](#).

Programs/Events



Save the date for the next Book Buzz: Thursday, January 25th at 7 pm.

Readers' Advisory:

Book List: [Westwood Public Library – Top 100 Books of 2017](#) (see attached)

Harry Potter Book Night—Thursday, February 1st

Due to the increasing popularity of this event, the number of participants will be strictly limited –and pre-registration required, in order to safely accommodate all library users and participants in Harry Potter Night. The Children's Department will be handling Harry Potter Night ticket registration as follows:

- Tickets will be released in 2 batches: 100 tickets will be available starting January 8th & 100 tickets will become available on January 15th -- they will remain available until they are claimed
- Registration will be done in-person or by phone only
- Only children in grades K & up will be eligible to register and get a ticket
- Parents/caregivers cannot get tickets but are required to attend with children age 8 & under, and encouraged to attend with children older than 8
- Younger siblings of registered children are welcome to attend if they are 5 and under, but must stay with their adult at all times
- Wrist-bands will be given to registered attendees and must be picked up by January 31.

Other Library events during the month of January include:

Monday, January 8

Technology Help Drop-in 6:00 pm

Tuesday, January 9

Wiggle and Giggle (drop-in, no registration) 10:30 am

Drop-in storytime for all ages. No registration required.

LEGO Mania at the Islington Branch Library 3:45 pm

Kids in grades K and up. Come and build LEGO creations with library LEGOs.

Mother-Daughter Book Club (Grades 3-5 & female adult) 6:30 pm

For girls in grades 3-5 and a female adult. Share your enthusiasm for reading with other book lovers and join us for a lively discussion, a game of Pictionary, snacks, and fun! Books will be available at the Children's Department one month prior to the book club! Email Lizzy at ehmcgovern@minlib.net for more information.

Wednesday, January 10

Wondrous Wednesday Storytimes 10:30 am

For all ages, no registration. Children and their caregiver are welcome to come listen to stories, songs, rhymes, and more! A short activity will be available for those who wish to stay after storytime.

Half-Day Hangtime (Grades K-8, no registration) 1:30 pm

Kids in grades K through 8, no registration. Kids are invited to come for drop-in crafts, activities, games and more! Come for 10 minutes or an hour. Children n grades K through 3 must be accompanied by an adult.

VolunTEENS (No new applications are being accepted at this time) 6:00 pm

Islington Branch Book Group 6:30 pm

Join us for a lively discussion of Jane Austen's "Pride and Prejudice."

YAB (grades 6-12, registration required) 7:00 pm

For tweens/teens in grades 6-12, registration required.

Join the new and improved YAB (Youth Advisory Board)! Yabbers will work with Lizzy and Molly to revamp the Teen Department at the library by planning events, picking out books, movies, and games for the YA (Young Adult) collection, and decorating the teen space. Email Lizzy at ehmcgovern@minlib.net or Molly at mriportella@minlib.net to register, or call (781) 320-1045.

YAB meets the second Wednesday of every month.

Thursday, January 11

Sit and Knit at Islington Branch Library 10:30 am

Cozy Movie Afternoon 3:00 pm

Come sit by the fire and enjoy a movie! No registration is required and all are welcome!

Creative Kids (*REQUIRES REGISTRATION, grades K-1) 4:00 pm

For Kindergarten and 1st graders, registration required. Children will have lots of fun as they participate in creative dramatics and arts and crafts activities.

Friday, January 12

Baby Rhyme Time (0-24 months & caregiver; no registration) 10:30 am

For babies 0 to 24 months and a caregiver, no registration. Come enjoy the magic of rhymes and music with your little one! Lizzy will lead everyone in traditional rhymes and music as well as wonderful new favorites!

Saturday, January 13

Saturday Storytime (all ages, no registration) 10:30 am

All ages, no registration. Kids and their parents/caregivers are welcome to come hear stories, rhymes, and songs!

Monday January 15

Martin Luther King Holiday – Library Closed

Tuesday, January 16

Wiggle & Giggle (drop-in, no registration) 10:30 am

Drop-in storytime for all ages. No registration required.

[Read More](#)

Islington Branch Library

Jan 16

Tue 3:45 pm

LEGO Mania at the Islington Branch Library 3:45 pm

Kids in grades K and up. Come and build LEGO creations with library LEGOs.

Tuesdays, 3:45 – 4:30 pm

Wednesday, January 17

[Wondrous Wednesday Storytimes \(all-ages, no registration\)](#) 10:30 am

For all ages, no registration. Children and their caregiver are welcome to come listen to stories, songs, rhymes, and more! A short activity will be available for those who wish to stay after storytime.

[PAJAMA-RAMA Storytime](#) at the Islington Branch Library 6:30 pm

[Seekers of the Supernatural- an Evening with PXP](#) 7:00 pm

Join Paranormal Xpeditions for an exciting lecture and exhibition of spectral oddities! Learn hands on how to use various ghost hunting equipment and review evidence, followed up by live readings of a portion of our haunted objects. This program is open to both teens and adults. Paranormal Xpeditions, established in 2010, has been featured on the Travel Channel's "Ghost Adventures- Paranormal Challenge", as well as featured on "My Ghost Story" on the Bio channel.

Thursday, January 18

[Sit and Knit at Islington Branch Library](#) 10:30 am

[Creative Kids \(*REQUIRES REGISTRATION, grades K-1\)](#) 4:00 pm

For Kindergarten and 1st graders, registration required. Children will have lots of fun as they participate in creative dramatics and arts & crafts activities.

Friday, January 19

[Baby Rhyme Time \(0-24 months & caregiver; no registration\)](#) 10:30 am

For babies 0 to 24 months and a caregiver, no registration. Come enjoy the magic of rhymes and music with your little one! Lizzy will lead everyone in traditional rhymes and music as well as wonderful new favorites!

Monday, January 22

[Technology Help Drop-in](#) 6:00 pm

Call 781-320-1045, or email mriportella@minlib.net for more information.

Tuesday, January 23

[Wiggle and Giggle \(drop-in, no registration\)](#) 10:30 am

Drop-in storytime for all ages. No registration required.

n Branch Library 3:45 pm

Kids in grades K and up. Come and build LEGO creations with library LEGOs.

Wednesday, January 24

[Wondrous Wednesday Storytimes](#) 10:30 am

For all ages, no registration. Children and their caregiver are welcome to come listen to stories, songs, rhymes, and more! A short activity will be available for those who wish to stay after storytime.

[Teen Book Club \(grades 6-8, no registration—just read the book beforehand\)](#) 1:30 pm

For kids in grades 6 - 8, no registration. Take a break from homework and join Lizzy to talk about books and enjoy snacks! Books will be available at the library. Have a question? Email Lizzy at ehmcgovern@minlib.net for more information.

Thursday, January 25

[Sit and Knit at Islington Branch Library](#) 10:30 am

[Creative Kids \(REQUIRES REGISTRATION, grades K and 1\)](#) 4:00 pm

For Kindergarten and 1st graders, registration required. Children will have lots of fun as they participate in creative dramatics and arts & crafts activities.

Friday, January 26

[Baby Rhyme Time \(0-24 months & caregiver; no registration\)](#) 10:30 am

For babies 0 to 24 months and a caregiver, no registration. Come enjoy the magic of rhymes and music with your little one! Lizzy will lead everyone in traditional rhymes and music as well as wonderful new favorites!

[Friday Morning Book Club](#) 10:30 am

Join us for a monthly book discussion! No registration is required. Copies of the book are available at the Main Library and the Islington Branch Library. Call 781-320-1045 or email Molly at mriportella@minlib.net with questions.

- Friday, Jan. 26, 2018: *To Kill a Mockingbird* by Harper Lee
- Friday, Feb. 23, 2018: *The Underground Railroad* by Colson Whitehead
- Friday, Mar. 23, 2018: *Wonder* by RJ Palacio
- Friday, Apr. 20, 2018: *Tapestry of Fortunes* by Elizabeth Berg
- Friday, May 18, 2018: *Cruel Beautiful World* by Caroline Leavitt
- Friday, June 22, 2018: *Delicious!* by Ruth Reichl
- Friday, July 27, 2018: *Maine* by J. Courtney Sullivan
- Friday, Aug. 24, 2018: *Hillbilly Elegy: a memoir of a family and culture in crisis* by J.D. Vance.
- Friday, Sept. 28, 2018: *My Grandmother Asked Me to Tell You She's Sorry* by Fredrik Backman
- Friday, Oct. 26, 2018: *Clementine: The Life of Mrs. Winston Churchill* by Sonia Purnell
- Friday, Nov. 30, 2018: *News of the World* by Paulette Jules
- Friday, Dec. 14, 2018: Yankee Book Swap

Monday, January 29

[Technology Help Drop-in](#) 6:00 pm

Call 781-320-1045, or email mriportella@minlib.net for more information.

Tuesday, January 30

[Wiggle and Giggle](#) 10:30 am

Drop-in storytime for all ages. No registration required.

[LEGO Mania at the Islington Branch Library](#) 3:45 pm

Kids in grades K & up. Come and build LEGO creations with library LEGOs.

Wednesday, January 31

[Wondrous Wednesday Storytimes \(all-ages, no registration\)](#) 10:30 am

For all ages, no registration. Children and their caregiver are welcome to come listen to stories, songs, rhymes, and more! A short activity will be available for those who wish to stay after storytime.

[Avoiding Online Pitfalls: From Scams to Fake News](#) 7:00 pm

Join Librarian Allison Palmgren to learn about some of the perils of the internet and how to avoid online pitfalls. She will cover the basics of internet privacy, recognizing websites and services that might collect your private information, scams, malware, what steps you can take to protect yourself from data mining and even fake news! Registration is required- please call 781-320-1045 to sign-up!