Gone are the days for many when “going to work” meant leaving home, arriving at an office, greeting colleagues, and settling at a desk for eight hours. For millions of people, that is an image of the past.

Each day, the Westport Public Library doors open and in stream people with mobile offices seeking their favorite spots, greeting staff and patrons, and grabbing a cup of coffee before connecting to wireless Internet. They take advantage of a river setting with the added feature of having easy access to a research librarian and friendly staff to point out where they can use a computer, scan a document, or check out a laptop or iPad.

The Library is the new floating office, open to all and situated in a space conducive to work and close to community. It’s the place to focus, research, network, create, produce… a place to get it done.
From the Director’s Desk

I’ve had the pleasure of talking to many teens over the past weeks, trying to better understand how the Library can serve them. I was enlightened by their feedback.

“The Library is the place to be,” said Staples High School spring intern Ben Meyers. “Good coffee and food, and fast internet.”

I was surprised by two words I heard: independence and quiet!

Teens said that “going to the Library” was greeted with approval by parents (even though I’m sure many of them, like me, used that same line on their own parents as a ruse for doing something besides studying). But today’s adolescents love the Library, a place they can sit where they want, alone or not, to read or chat without anyone looking over their shoulder. It’s a welcome contrast to the rest of their day.

I was more surprised by the second need — quiet! The world of a teen can be a non-stop conversation, often with accompanying music. They cited the Library as a needed respite from noise, a place where it’s okay to not be in a group or engaged with the outside world.

At a time when children and teens can’t roam as freely as in the past, consider suggesting the Library as their place of exploration — to wander, to work, or to just be.

It sounds like they’ll thank you for it. See you at the Library!

Maxine Bleiweis
Library Director

The Library is better than a toy store or a candy store for my kids. They’re excited by what’s here and I get to say ‘yes, you may have that!’

— Heidi Meyers

LIBRARY NEWSLINE

WestportREADS is coming in January: Be ready to talk about I Was Amelia Earhart by Jane Mendelsohn, a moving novel inspired by Earhart’s life, by borrowing or purchasing a copy at the Library store. And, the author is coming on January 11 — Amelia Earhart Day!

Take the stress out of the holidays: Let the Library be your destination before and after shopping downtown. While you’re here, find recipes for holiday gatherings, pick up a gift certificate for the Library café, or find ideas for making creative gifts.

Advice for holiday book giving: The best advisors on what to give others to read are as close as your local Library staff. Just phone, come in, or email, and we’ll set you up with a “reader’s advisor” to find that perfect gift.

Young children visiting for the holidays? Call the Library for a GrandKit. Library staff will assemble a big bag full of books, toys, DVDs, and music to fit the interests and ages of your young visitors. Call 203.291.4810 or email kids@westportlibrary.org.

Library Closed: November 11 & 24, December 24, 25, 26 & 31, January 1 & 2.
Friends Holiday Book Sale
Good-as-new books at great prices!

12/3 • Saturday 9 am to 5 pm
12/4 • Sunday 1 to 5 pm

Holiday shopping is easy at the Friends Holiday Book Sale! You’ll find crafts, cooking, children, and young adult books, as well as fiction and non-fiction, including history, gardening, biography, and more. Also, DVDs, CDs, and audiobooks.

To volunteer, contact Suzy Hooper at 203.434.7344 or geosoo143@yahoo.com. Many helping hands are needed.

Exhibits

David Levine: The Westport Years
The Great Hall
Through 12/30

Work from one of the great caricaturists, created during the summers he spent in Westport (1956-1977). See his 2008 TV interview on Monday, 11/7 at 7:30 pm, about his life, politics, and work. His son, Matthew Levine, will introduce the 45-minute interview.

PEARL HARBOR, 70 Years Later:
Three Westport Artists Share Firsthand Views of WWII
Riverwalk Display Case
11/1 through 1/31

Drawings and watercolors from the front by artists and servicemen Leonard Everett Fisher, Howard Munce, and Tracy Sugarman.

Book Chat
11/1 • Tuesday 10 am
Drop-in conversation about anything you’re reading. All are welcome. Sheffer Reading Room.

A Memoir About Dyslexia
11/1 • Tuesday 7:30 pm
No one has captured the emotional and difficult experience of growing up with dyslexia as much as Philip Schultz in his memoir, My Dyslexia. Schultz is the author of seven collections of poetry, including the Pulitzer Prize-winning Failure. Co-sponsored with Smart Kids With Learning Disabilities.

Author Looks at Healing Power of Dog Rescue
11/2 • Wednesday 7:30 pm
Named a "Top Ten Memoir of Fall" by Publisher’s Weekly, Julie Klam’s Love at First Bark: How Saving a Dog Can Sometimes Help You Save Yourself, focuses on dog rescue and its healing power.

Take-a-Break: Educate Yourself About TED.com
11/3 • Thursday 10 am
Assistant Director Bill Derry looks at TED.com, a website with free lectures on a variety of subjects, including education and health.

Healing a Wounded World
11/3 • Thursday 7 pm
Over four decades, Dr. Glenn Geelhoed has taken medical volunteers to the poorest parts of the globe to treat patients and train local health care workers. His new book, Gifts from the Poor: What the World’s Patients Taught One Doctor About Healing, proposes a game-changing alternative to traditional medical service. The discussion will be moderated by Steven Greenberg, a CBS radio news reporter and consultant to the Yale University School of Medicine.

Hugo Cabret: The Magical World of Automata
11/5 • Saturday 2 pm
"Automata," the mechanical figures of the 1800s that are a central subject of the award-winning book The Invention of Hugo Cabret by Brian Selznick, will be described by Jere Ryder, Conservator of the Automata Collection at the Morris Museum. Martin Scorsese’s upcoming film Hugo is based on Selznick’s book.

The talk, open to adults and kids (grades 3 and up), will be followed by a hands-on project for kids to make an automata. Register online for both programs.

A Look at Industrial Design
11/6 • Sunday 2 pm
Matthew Bird, who teaches at Rhode Island School of Design, speaks on pioneers in this field, which combines engineering, function, and art; and discusses items and designers selected for the US Postal Service’s Industrial Design stamps.

2008 TV Interview with Caricaturist David Levine
11/7 • Monday 7:30 pm
See Exhibits for more information.
Jobseeker Special: Coping With Stress
11/9 • Wednesday 9:30 am
Using an interactive format, Naturopathic physician Paul Epstein describes mind-body skills of mindfulness meditation and relaxation techniques. Register online.

Author on Art, Culture, and Evolution
11/9 • Wednesday 7:30 pm
Westport native David Rothenberg, Professor of Philosophy and Music, dives into the mysteries of why we create art and have an innate appreciation for beauty in Survival of the Beautiful: Art, Science, and Evolution.

Journalists Marvin and Deborah Kalb on the Haunting Legacy of the Vietnam War
11/12 • Saturday 4:00 pm
This father-daughter team presents a gripping account in Haunting Legacy: Vietnam and the American Presidency from Ford to Obama, on how the Vietnam War has lived on in the psyches of our national leaders and has affected the decisions of our presidents.

Music: American Musicals Celebrate America
11/13 • Sunday 2 pm
Hosted by Arthur Gang, a group of gifted musical performers, Caitlin Collins, Carole Schweid, and Richard Weidlich, perform great American Musical Classics. Whether you are hearing a song for the first or thousandth time, this will be a most enjoyable afternoon. Supported by the Grace K. Salmon Foundation.

Celebrate the 200th Birthday of Charles Dickens
11/14 • Monday 7:30 pm
Claire Tomalin, author of eight biographies, will talk about her newest, Charles Dickens: A Life. Tomalin gives full measure to Dickens’ heroic stature — his virtues both as a writer and as a human being — while observing his failings with an unblinking eye.

Discuss a Book on Sister Dynamics
11/15 • Tuesday 10:30 am & 7:30 pm

Jobseeker Special: The Art and Science of Job Searching
11/15 • Tuesday 7 pm

Who Ya Gonna Call? Investigating the Paranormal
11/19 • Saturday 2 pm
Hear the evidence and research on paranormal phenomena which the CT Paranormal Research Society has gathered from their investigations.

Just Out on DVD
11/16 • Wednesday 6:30 pm
Based on the bestselling book Water for Elephants, this film spins a tale of forbidden love in a magical place, filled with adventure, wonder, and great danger. Stars include Robert Pattinson, Christoph Waltz, and Reese Witherspoon. (120 mins.)

Author of Wendy and the Lost Boys: The Uncommon Life of Wendy Wasserstein
11/20 • Sunday 2 pm
Bestselling author Julie Salamon’s biography reveals the life of a brilliant and complicated American artist, who fiercely kept private a life she seemed so willing to explore in her plays. Wasserstein was the Library’s 2002 BOOKED for the evening honoree.

Discuss a Mystery on a Sunday Afternoon
11/20 • Sunday 2 pm
The Usual Suspects Mystery Book Club discusses The Kill Artist by Daniel Silva. For copies, phone 203.291.4821. New participants always welcome. Seminar Room.

Author Dorothy Wickenden Looks at Two Intrepid Women in Early 1900s Colorado
11/28 • Monday 11 am
Dorothy Wickenden creates an intricate tale in Nothing Daunted: The Unexpected Education of Two Society Girls in the West. Set in 1916, the friends leave for Colorado to teach in a remote mountaintop schoolhouse. This talk is co-sponsored with the Westport Y’s Women and will be held at Christ & Holy Trinity Church.

Energize Your Job Search
11/29 • Tuesday 10 am
Identify key companies, spot industry trends, and get in-depth information through online tools.

World Affairs in Foreign Films
11/30 • Wednesday 7:30 pm
Film is a way to understand today’s geo-political hot spots. Roberta Seret, president and founder of International Cinema Education at the UN, describes this in her new book, World Affairs in Foreign Films, and shows clips from the Afghan film, Osama.

Chef Nicole Gives You More Time To Eat!
12/1 • Thursday 10 am
Award-winning local chef Nicole Straight has great ideas on streamlining time and simplifying dinner prep in More Time to Eat! Delicious recipes from a busy kitchen.
Teen

Teen Zombie Night
11/3 • Thursday 7 pm
Think you have what it takes to survive a Zombie Apocalypse? It’s mind over mind-eaters as you participate in a zombie-themed role-playing game. Middle school ages and up.

Who Ya Gonna Call?
Investigating the Paranormal
11/19 • Saturday 2 pm
Hear the evidence and research on paranormal phenomena which the CT Paranormal Research Society has gathered from their investigations.

Teen Animé Night
11/22 & 12/13 • Tuesdays 6:30 pm
Middle School age & up
Join others who share your passion. Watch DVDs, discuss manga, and meet new friends.

Young Adult Author
Ramin Ganeshram
12/8 • Thursday 7:30 pm
Local cookbook author Ramin Ganeshram will speak about her new young adult book Stir it Up!, a story of the daughter of Trinidadian immigrants who dreams about being a celebrity chef.

Author Sarah Darer Littman
12/14 • Wednesday 7:30 pm
Connecticut author Sarah Darer Littman tackles internet safety in her new young adult novel Want to Go Private?, about a teen who meets her “dream guy” on the Internet and finds her life changed forever.

Questions? Contact Teen Services Librarian Jaina Lewis at 203.291.4809 or jlewis@westportlibrary.org.

All My Dogs, A Memoir
12/1 • Thursday 7:30 pm
Westporter Sybil Steinberg interviews Bill Henderson, founder of The Pushcart Press and editor and publisher of the annual Pushcart Prize, about his new book All My Dogs: A Life, a reflection based on images of the dogs he has loved.

Living With Guilt: A Memoir
12/5 • Monday 7:30 pm
In Half a Life, Darin Strauss begins at the moment a teenage girl swerved her bike in front of his car, a month before his high school graduation, and was killed. Authorities determined he was not at fault, but he still lived most of the next two decades with a secret burden of guilt and shame.

Book Chat
12/6 • Tuesday 10 am
Drop-in conversation on what you are reading. All are welcome. Sheffer Reading Room.

Business Special: Investors Business Daily
12/6 • Tuesday 10 am
Eddie Ramirez, a national education speaker with Investor’s Business Daily, will speak on researching and spotting emerging growth stocks using IBD, a newspaper available at the Library.

What is Happiness and How is it Defined for Scientific Research?
12/6 • Tuesday 7:30 pm
Lynn Wilkinson, Ph.D. discusses how happiness is defined for scientific research and what findings may say about how to optimize personal happiness.

Music: Yale Trombone Quartet
12/11 • Sunday 2 pm
Jennifer Griggs, Brian Reese, and Rubén Rodríguez on tenor trombone, and Craig Watson on bass trombone present a program of holiday brass that glistens, performing a variety of Christmas music, Chanukah melodies, and other selections for the season.

Supported by the Grace K. Salmon Foundation.

Happiness Through Meditation
12/13 • Tuesday Noon
Naturopathic physician Paul Epstein speaks about his newest book, Happiness Through Meditation.

Jobseeker Special: Elevator Speeches That Wow
12/13 • Tuesday 7 pm
Information Technology professional Mark Troncone uses an interactive format to show how to create that ever-important, brief value statement.

12/14 • Wednesday 9 am
Business Special: Profitopoly Returns
Steve Huff created Profitopoly, an electronic, colorful, and visual game that boosts business skills. Solve problems posed by the game and learn key financial concepts in the process. Register online.

Discuss a Mystery on a Sunday Afternoon
12/18 • Sunday 2 pm

Energize Your Job Search
12/20 • Tuesday 10 am
See 11/29 for details.
Specials

Hugo Cabret: The Magical World of Automata — Presentation and Hands-on Project
11/5 • Saturday 2 to 2:45 pm
Grades 3 to adult • McManus Room
“Automata,” the mechanical figures of the 1800s that are a central subject of the award-winning book The Invention of Hugo Cabret by Brian Selznick, will be described by Jere Ryder, Conservator of the Automata Collection at the Morris Museum. Martin Scorsese’s upcoming film Hugo is based on Selznick’s book. Register online.

Meet a Wolf!
11/12 • Saturday 2:30 to 3:30 pm
Grades 1 & up with an adult • McManus Room
Meet Atka, a real wolf, and hear about the history of wolves, their role in the environment, and the mythology when the Wolf Conservation Center visits. Register online.

Thanksgiving Craft
11/23 • Wednesday 11 am to Noon
All ages with an adult • Higgins Room

International Ferdinand Festival
12/29 • Thursday, beginning at 10:30 am
Celebrate the 75th anniversary of The Story of Ferdinand, written by Munro Leaf and illustrated by fellow Westporter Robert Lawson in 1936. The Academy Award-winning Disney short film will be screened in the Children’s Library throughout the day. Join multilingual readings of the book, art projects, plus lots & lots of FERDINAND!

Scout Programs at the Library!

Whether it’s for special events or ceremonies, campfire storytelling, or community service opportunities, the Children’s Library can help!

Collaboration with scout leaders is available to help scouts earn patches, beads, and badges.

Email Lynne Perrigo at lperrigo@westportlibrary.org, or Kris Nash at knash@westportlibrary.org.

Watch the website for details on the ever-popular winter storytime programs! ...starting up the first week of January

— The Children’s Librarians

For questions or registration, phone 203.291.4810, e-mail kids@westportlibrary.org, or register at westportlibrary.org/kids

Highlights
Younger Kids

Baby Mother Goose Time
11/2 to 11/16 • Wednesdays 11 am
Ages 12 months & under with an adult • Higgins Room

Toddler Mother Goose Time
11/2 to 11/21 • Mondays 9:30, Wednesdays 10, OR Thursdays 9:30 am
Ages 13 to 23 months with an adult • Higgins Room

Good Times With Nursery Rhymes
11/1 to 11/22 • Tuesdays 9:45 am
Age 2 with an adult • Higgins Room
Note: Room only for 2-year-olds in this particular program.

Storybook Art
11/1 to 11/22 • Tuesdays 11 am
Ages 2 & 3 with an adult • Higgins Room

PJ Storytime
11/1 to 12/27 • Tuesdays 7 pm
Ages 3 & up with an adult • Higgins Room

Move It!: Music and Marching
11/4 & 11/18* • Fridays 2 pm
Ages 3 to 5 with an adult • Higgins Room

Kids

Reading to Rover
After school, by appointment
Read aloud to a specially trained dog. See website for details.

The Story Vine
11/1 to 11/22 • Tuesdays 4 to 4:30 pm
All ages • Higgins Room
Quiet stories for lazy afternoons.

Afternoon Delight: A Storytime
11/2 to 11/16 • Wednesdays 2:15 to 2:45 pm
All ages • Higgins Room

Chess Club
11/2 to 11/16 • Wednesdays 4 to 4:45 pm
All levels • McManus Room

Note: Caregivers must remain in the Library with children under 12.

November & December 2011

Stop, Drop & Listen
12/6 to 12/27 • Tuesdays 10:30 am
Preschoolers with an adult • Children’s Library

Rhythm & Rhyme
11/7 to 12/19 • Mondays 10:30 am
Ages 5 & under with an adult • McManus Room

Itty Bittys
11/5 to 12/17* • Saturdays 10 am
Ages 5 & under with an adult • McManus Room

Special Itty Bittys Reunion
12/10 •
Saturday 10:30 to 11:30 am
Stop by and visit with old friends as Miss Annie says “thank you” and “goodbye” to Westport.

Friday Fun Films
11/4 to 12/30* • Fridays 11 am
Ages 6 & under with an adult • McManus Room

Book Voyages: Explore Folktales, Poetry & Stories
11/10 &12/8 • Thursdays 4 to 4:45 pm
Grades 1 & 2 • Higgins Room
Register online.
November 10: Funky Families
December 8: Mysterious Mysteries

The Mysterious Book Society
11/14 & 12/12 • Mondays 6 to 7 pm
All ages • Higgins Room
11/14: The Invention of Hugo Cabret by Brian Selznick
12/12: The Sign of the Beaver by Elizabeth George Speare
Enjoy pizza and tales of fantasy and adventure. Open to all who have read the book. Register now.

Puppet Play Time
12/15 • Thursday 10 to 10:30 am
All ages • Higgins Room
Stories and puppet fun.

All programs for younger kids are a half-hour unless otherwise noted. Just drop in!
*No programs 11/11 & 12/3.
From Good to GREAT!

The refrain, “I don’t know how to thank you” is heard daily at the Library — in person, over the phone, via email. Well, here are some suggestions!

Unlike many public libraries throughout the United States, the Westport Public Library is a private/public partnership. It’s a 501(c)(3) organization which depends on contributions to keep it unique and special. It’s the people who thank us each year with contributions large and small that take us from good to GREAT!

There are many ways to support the Library:

- By check made out to the Westport Library Association
- By online contribution through westportlibrary.org
- By discussing a directed gift with Cindy Clark, Director of Development at 203.291.4824
- By setting up a tribute gift or planned gift

A gift to the Library is a gift to the thousands of people who make up our Library community!