June 30, 2021

Library Services Expanding

As we move into July, we are re-introducing many of our services, plus some new ones. For questions, or to book a service, call (914) 422-1480.

Public computing is back. This week we brought five computers online, and will add more in the coming weeks. Copying and faxing—20 pages maximum—is also back.

Seating is now available, including the long study tables as well as the counters behind the fiction collection.

We've launched a new service: lending laptops. Each laptop comes bundled with a hotspot. Read more about our circulating laptop program here.

Beginning tomorrow, July 1st, you can reserve a study room for up to two hours, for a maximum of two people. Read more about our study rooms here.

On Tuesday, July 6th, the Friends Bookstore will reopen. The café will be opening later in the summer. We will begin accepting book donations later in the month, date TBD!

Remember, masks must be worn at all times when in the Library. Please practice social distancing.
Take care,

Brian Kenney
Library Director
bkenney@whiteplainslibrary.org

We appreciate support from the White Plains Library Foundation for many of our programs. Events funded by the Foundation are noted with an ⭐.

Happy Fourth of July
Please note that the Library will be closed Saturday, July 3rd, through Monday, July 5th for Independence Day Weekend. The Library will reopen with regular hours from 10:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m. on Tuesday, July 6th. The outer bookdrop will

For more information about the Comprehensive Plan
914-422-1300
openhwp@whiteplainsny.gov

Share your vision for the future of White Plains

www.onewhiteplains.com

Venngage

NATIONAL BESTSELLING AUTHOR
SUNNY HOSTIN

Summer on the Bluffs

“A delicious, shimmering novel… Escape, through its pages, to the golden dunes of Martha’s Vineyard.”
—AMANDA LYNE, USA TODAY BESTSELLING AUTHOR

A Novel
remain open for returns while the Library is closed.

**English Conversation Group**
Wednesday*, July 7th
2:00–3:00 p.m.
*Note the new day
ESL speakers, come practice your English conversation skills in this fun, supportive virtual setting! Feel free to bring your own conversation topics. Find out more and get the Zoom link [here](#).

**Local History: The Westchester County Jail Riots of 1981**
Thursday, July 8th
7:00–8:00 p.m.
Jails and prisons that offer little in the way of rehabilitation. Drug laws that unfairly target people of color. These conditions plague today’s criminal justice system. Forty years

**Summer Staff Picks**
Whether you’re looking for a steamy romance or a great rib recipe, we’ve got a variety of titles for you to enjoy this summer.

**Poetry Open Mic**
Wednesday, July 7th
7:00–9:00 p.m.
Join Zork and Kristen for the First Wednesday Poetry Open Mic! Pre-registration is required to try and accommodate as many poets as possible. [Register here](#) to attend or perform. If you plan on performing, please send your name (how you’d like to be introduced), email address, and a short 60-word bio to kthornton@whiteplainslibrary.org.

Adults & teens welcome!

**Remembering 9/11 Writing Workshop**
Tuesdays
July 13th–September 14th*
7:00–8:30 p.m.
*Class will not be held on August 24th.
ago, they were also the focus of complaints by Westchester County Jail inmates, leading them to stage an unprecedented uprising. Seth Kershner, a researcher at the University of Massachusetts, discusses the July 1981 uprising at Westchester County Jail—three riots in three days that caused one million dollars in damage. You won’t want to miss this presentation, which promises to add valuable context to contemporary debates over prisons and policing. Click here to register.

In this workshop, we will explore memories of and around the events of September 11th, 2001. Around the country, twisted bits of metal from the Twin Towers are displayed in memorials with the words “Never Forget.” But what exactly do we want to remember about that day? What should we remember? Join us for a deep but gentle dive into our memories around the tragedy, and how we’ve grappled with it in the twenty years since. To register and find out more, click here.
### Rent Relief for Westchester Tenants

The Emergency Rental Assistance Program assists households behind on their rent that have experienced financial hardship due to COVID-19.*

*If you are a Yonkers resident, please visit YonkersNYGov to learn about their unique application process.

**Who is Eligible**

Westchester County residents, regardless of immigration status, applying for the New York State Emergency Rental Assistance Program must meet the following criteria:

2. The applicant has rental arrears at their current residence for rent owed on or after 3/13/2020.
3. The household is at risk of experiencing homelessness due to rental arrears owed on or after 3/13/2020.
4. Eligible households income must be no more than 80% of the Area Median Income (AMI)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Persons in Household</th>
<th>1</th>
<th>2</th>
<th>3</th>
<th>4</th>
<th>5</th>
<th>6</th>
<th>12</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Income Level</td>
<td>$63,400</td>
<td>$72,400</td>
<td>$81,000</td>
<td>$89,500</td>
<td>$97,000</td>
<td>$105,000</td>
<td>$140,500</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**What it Covers**

- Up to 12 months of rental arrears payments for rents accrued on or after 3/13/2020.
- Up to 12 months of electric or gas utility arrears payments for arrears that have accrued on or after 3/13/2020.
- Up to 3 months of additional rental assistance if the household is expected to spend 30% or more of their gross monthly income to pay for rent.

**What you'll need**

- Personal identification for all household members.
- Proof of rental amount.
- Proof of address (i.e., lease, rent receipt, utility bill).
- Proof of income.
- Copy of gas or electric utility bill, if applying for help paying for utility arrears at the same rental unit.

**Apply Today**

nysrenthelp.otda.ny.gov

For questions, call 2-1-1

**Or Visit**

www.westchesterny.com/housinghelp

A complete list of non-profit partners who can support you during the application process is available on our website.

In partnership with New York State Office of Temporary and Disability Assistance

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**Around the Web**

**Facts on Coronavirus.**

Need a writing soundtrack? **Listen to James Baldwin's record collection in Spotify playlist form.**

18 of the best **trans fantasy and sci-fi books.**
The rise of BookTok: meet the teen influencers pushing books up the charts.

Attention: LeVar Burton wants to read your short stories.

Photo of the Week

Above: Young woodchuck in the garden. By Karen T.

We want your photos! In each issue of This Week on Martine we feature one patron submitted photo that was taken in White Plains. To submit your photography for a chance to be featured, visit our submission page, upload a photo, and fill out our form with a short description of the photo and your name.