When school lets out...
Children’s “Book Clubs in a Bag” available this June with classics & popular titles included

Book discussion groups are all the rage, including groups for children. To serve this growing need, the Westfield Memorial Library Youth Services Department has created the new “Book Clubs in a Bag.”

Modeled after the same program that the Adult Services Department initiated in 2008, Book Clubs in a Bag are convenient kits containing six to eight copies of the same book, a list of discussion questions, and word searches based on the books.

Targeted for children in grades 2 through 5, the book kits will be available when school gets out for the summer. According to the head of Youth Services, Kathy Muhm, book clubs for children and their parents are becoming more popular.

What is the value in having book clubs for children? “Peer pressure is powerful, as we know, and this is a great channel for it,” said Ms. Muhm.

“Children who don’t volunteerily pick up a book may decide to do so, if their friends are reading it. Children of varying reading abilities get together to have a lot of fun talking about a book. Reluctant readers often love their book groups as much as good readers do.”

Clubs meet in their own homes, usually with a parent or two facilitating. In order for the club to succeed, “it needs to be fun,” said Ms. Muhm. “This is not school. A group of six children, and one or more adults, will finish discussing a book in fifteen to twenty minutes. The rest of the time should be spent in activities, and then there needs to be time for free play. And food!”

The kits include classics like Charlotte’s Web, Harriet the Spy, and Mr. Popper’s Penguins, while some of the new titles are Diary of a Wimpy Kid and Miss Daisy is Crazy. Stop by the Youth Services desk for more information.
Spotlight

Nehru Nadella, Network Administrator

It’s Tuesday night at the library, and the smell of orange scents the hallway of the administrative offices. That’s a good sign because it means that Nehru Nadella, our part-time Network Administrator, is here enjoying his evening snack. I needn’t fret that the pdf maker just disappeared from my screen or that my email refuses more messages. Nehru will fix it.

For nearly five years, he’s been the technical force behind the scenes, administering, engineering and supporting the library’s information systems; in other words, making sure that the library’s servers are up and running and that the computers are “talking” to one another.

The library uses a software system called Dynix, and Nehru is responsible for maintaining the modules within it, such as the card catalogue, patron information and internal email. Another major part of his job is ensuring that both the public and employee computers are connected to the Internet. He also secures library systems and reconfigures the computers and software when changes or upgrades occur. Finally, he was responsible for installing and maintaining the new timing system, which automatically logs public users out after 90-minute sessions.

Although he often toils away alone in an area filled with servers, computers and cables, his favorite part of the job is helping patrons and staff with questions, both technical and non-technical.

Most often he hears from people when things go wrong. “I enjoy helping people relax when they’re nervous,” he said. “I’ll say to them, ‘Let’s take it step by step, what happened, and then what did you do? Let’s figure it out.’”

A graduate of Andhra University in India, Nehru is also a Microsoft Certified Systems Engineer, a Cisco Certified Professional and has a formidable list of skills in different operating systems, networks, protocols and hardware.

Not only that, when I need to take his picture, he has no trouble resetting the digital camera, nor does he ponder how to pop out the well-hidden plug on the battery charger.

Before Nehru arrives in the evenings, he puts in a full day as a senior network administrator at an urban housing authority. Considering the range of his talents, experience and abilities, could the library be any luckier?
The Library recently received a New Jersey Library Association PR and marketing award in the category of Public Relations. The public relations campaign—“It’s your Library … make the most of it” — was created by publicist Roz Giuditta, pictured above with Director Phil Israel.

The Youth Services department always has the best programs! Juggler Jennifer Slaw (left) had everyone and everything involved in her act, including whirling hoops, spinning plates, peacock feathers and tons of delighted kids. Youth Services Librarian Maureen Cooney (right) conducted an Earth Day activity with children and parents after Freeholder Nancy Ward donated books on recycling to the library and read “Michael Recycle” to the group. Sara Vanek and her daughters, Rachel on the left and Alison on the right, try to decide whether to plant a watermelon or a green bean seed.
Friends announce four Scholarship winners

The four winners of the 2010 Future Librarian Scholarship awards are Brigid Abraham, Deborah Blum, Teresa Gibbons and Kellie Walsh.

Deborah and Teresa were also recipients last year. After long and successful careers, Deborah in medicine, and Teresa in business, they have both completed the first year of their Master’s Degree program in Library and Information Science at Rutgers University and are looking forward to second careers as librarians. Deborah would like to work as a reference or special library librarian, and Teresa hopes to attain a position as an academic librarian in a local college or university.

This year’s new recipients, Brigid and Kellie, will be entering Rutgers University’s School of Library and Information Science Master’s Degree Program in the fall. Both Brigid and Kellie have library or library related experience. Brigid is currently employed at the New York Public Library as a Preservation Senior Pages inspecting microfilms for the National Digital Newspaper Project. Kellie is working at Workman Publishing Company building and administering a Wiki - an online collection of English and foreign language materials – and plans to enter Rutgers with a concentration in digital libraries and archives.

All four of these winners are exceptional, and The Friends are proud to be able to help them achieve their career aspirations.

18th Museum added to Museum Pass Program

The Friends have just added another museum to their popular Museum Pass Program: the Cooper-Hewitt National Design Museum at 91st Street and Fifth Avenue in New York City. Open daily, the museum has a collection that is international in scope and includes both historic and contemporary design from mass produced to one-of-a-kind.

The museum features four areas: Product Design and Decorative Arts; Drawings, Prints, and Graphic Design; Textiles; and Wall coverings.

For a complete listing of all the museums in the program, visit www.wmlnj.org and click on the Museum Pass tab.

Thanks to everyone for supporting the Book Sale!

The Friends Book Sale was a great success, thanks to the leadership of Jody Lipson and the hard work of over 175 dedicated volunteers. The $17,800 that the sale produced will go back to the library in the funding of adult and children’s programs, the Museum Pass Program, scholarships for future librarians, and the purchase of equipment and materials. The leftover books were donated to the Lupus Foundation of America and Happy Endings, which supplies free books to children, seniors and service people. The Friends wish to thank the community members who supported the sale by shopping and volunteering.

Save these dates for The Anne M. Hale Speaker Series

Thursday, June 3 7:30 pm (Town Hall Community Room)
Jeff Torborg “The National Pastime: Major League Baseball” (see pg 6)

Thursday, September 30 8:00 pm Dr. Thomas Farley
“Prescription for a Healthy Nation”

Wednesday, November 17 7:00 pm Arthur Lefkowitz
“George Washington’s Indispensable Men”
Easy Virtue—June 14
Language: English
Rating: PG-13
Running time: 97 minutes

To the delight of his mother, manor-born John Whittaker returns to his family estate after a tour through the Continent in 1929. The delight is short-lived, however, as he brings with him a bride—blonde American Larita, who is a passionate race-car driver. This lively adaptation of a Noel Coward play features an all-star cast.

The Maid—June 28
Language: Spanish (not rated)
Running time: 95 minutes

Raquel has been working for an affluent Chilean family for over 20 years. She is depressed, lonely, and stressed over the needs of the household and the multiple children she cares for. A friend enters her life and appreciates her, causing Raquel to rediscover herself.

Shall We Kiss?—July 12
Language: French (not rated)
Running time: 96 minutes

A choice encounter allows Emilie and Gabriel to enjoy a romantic day together. As the day draws to a close, and Emilie must say goodbye, the two desire to kiss. However, Emilie shares a story about actions and their consequences that keep the two from going further.

Broken Embraces—July 26
Language: Spanish
Rating: R (Sexual content, language)
Running time: 127 minutes

A blind screenwriter in the present day, Mateo Blanco, aka Harry Caine, reminisces about his favorite leading lady to his assistant, Diego. In 1992, when Caine met Lena, stockbroker Ernesto had just made the cash-strapped secretary his mistress. First, Ernesto pays for her mother's medical care; then, he supports her dream to act. In the process, Caine casts her in his screwball comedy and falls in love, and a passionate affair begins. Ernesto suspects something is up, so he hires his shifty son, Ernesto Jr., to film the couple surreptitiously, and a lip reader translates their conversations. By the end, Caine has lost his vision and his girl, and the culprit isn't as obvious as it seems. (Source: amazon.com)

White Ribbon—August 9
Language: German
Rating: R (violence, sexuality)
Running time: 144 minutes

Like a Twilight Zone episode directed by Antonioni, The White Ribbon weaves an unsettling and enigmatic spell. Michael Haneke's film is set just before World War I in a village in northern Germany, where a series of strange occurrences takes place over several months. Sinister and cruel, these occurrences often involve the children of the village— not merely as victims (although child abuse seems to be a far-from-isolated event) but also as perpetrators. At least that's the way it appears. (Source: amazon.com)

Departures—August 23
Language: Japanese
Rating: PG-13
Running time: 130 minutes

Winner of the 2009 Academy Award for Best Foreign Language Film. Diago, a cellist, learns that he’s not talented enough to have a career as a musician. He answers an ad for what he thinks must be a travel agency, only to discover that the company prepares bodies for burial. Fearful of his wife’s response, he hides his new job, but as he grows to appreciate the humbling ceremony of preparing the dead, Diago discovers that he might have a calling.
Adult Programs for the Summer

Anne M. Hale Speaker Series
Made possible by a grant from The Thomas Glasser Foundation and The Anne and Lee Hale Fund
Hosted by the Friends of the Westfield Memorial Library

Jeff Torborg, Former Catcher and Manager
For Major League Baseball and Westfield Native

Thursday, June 3  7:30 pm
Town Hall Community Room

“The National Pastime: Major League Baseball and Its Players”

What do you want to know about major league baseball? Jeff Torborg can answer all your questions. He played ten years for the Dodgers and Angels, caught one perfect game (Sandy Koufax) and two no-hitters (Bill Singer and Nolan Ryan), coached the Yankees, and managed five big league teams. At Town Hall, 425 East Broad St.

MothUP: An Evening of Storytelling
Wednesday, June 9  7:00 pm

Come and tell your own stories at this local version of a “Moth” Event. Prepare a five-minute version of a true story based around the theme of “Down the Shore: Your Favorite Beach Stories.” A team of judges chosen from the audience gives a score. Go to the themoth.org to get ideas on how this event works. This event was so popular last winter that we’ve already hosted two other spellbinding evenings!!

Social Media Business Strategies that Work
Tuesday, June 15  7:00 pm

As Social Media rapidly takes over the Internet, it has effectively changed the landscape of how you market your business. Gone are the days when you could rely on just having a website. Find out what social media can help you build your company and what’s a waste of time. Presented by Dan Beldowicz, Vice President of Business Development with Single Throw Internet Marketing. He discusses:

● What's Twitter really good for?
● Are BLOG's just Big Lumps of Garbage?
● Facebook Follies to Avoid
● Going Viral with Video
● The Secret to Social Media Success
More Adult Programs for the Summer

Violin Solo Concerto  
Saturday, June 19  12:30 pm

The students of local teacher/violinist Stephen Wolosonovich are so good, you’ll think you’re listening to a group of professional musicians. Come early for the best seats!

Harpist Merynda Adams  
Monday, June 21  12:00 pm

It wouldn’t be the first day of a new season at the Westfield Memorial Library without the harpist Merynda Adams. Summer begins today and once again, you can read, relax and listen to the soothing sounds of the harp in our second floor reading area. No need to register, just stop by and listen.

Fiction Book Club  
Wednesday, June 23  7:00 pm
“Thirteenth Tale”  
By Diane Setterfield

Let’s discuss this fascinating book together. Former academic Diane Setterfield pays tribute in her debut to Brontë and du Maurier heroines.

A plain girl gets wrapped up in a dark, haunted ruin of a house, which guards family secrets that are not hers and that she must discover at her peril. Margaret Lea, a London bookseller's daughter, has written an obscure biography that suggests deep understanding of siblings. She is contacted by renowned aging author Vida Winter, who finally wishes to tell her own, long-hidden, life story. Margaret travels to Yorkshire, where she interviews the dying writer, walks the remains of her estate at Angelfield and tries to verify the old woman's tale of a governess, a ghost and more than one abandoned baby. Setterfield's sensible heroine is, like Jane Eyre, full of repressed feeling—and is unprepared for both heartache and romance. Excerpted from Publisher's Weekly (via amazon)

Photographic and video recordings of our events may be used in Westfield Memorial Library publicity materials, or on our website. If you do not want us to use a photo or video of you or your child, please tell the librarian before the event.
Shakespeare's *As You Like It*  
Tuesday, July 6  7:00 pm  

Performed by  
The Next Stage Ensemble from  
The Shakespeare Theatre of New Jersey

Scene from *As You Like It*, Francis Hayman, 1750.

In *As You Like It*, the heroine Rosalind flees persecution in her uncle's court, accompanied by her cousin, Celia, and Touchstone, the court jester, to find safety and eventually love in the Forest of Arden. The play features one of Shakespeare's most famous and oft-quoted speeches, “All the world's a stage,” and is the origin of the phrase "too much of a good thing." The play remains a favorite among audiences and has been adapted for radio, film, and musical theatre.

The Shakespeare Theatre of New Jersey (formerly called "New Jersey Shakespeare Festival") is one of 22 professional theatres in the state. One of the leading Shakespeare theatres in the nation — serving 100,000 adults and children annually — it is New Jersey's only professional theatre company dedicated to Shakespeare's canon and other classic masterworks. Through its productions and education programs, the company strives to illuminate the universal and lasting relevance of the classics for contemporary audiences.

Gabriel Luce  
Wednesday, August 4  7:00 pm

Gabriel is currently the musical director of the band Soundhouse. He also teaches chorus at The Beacon School in Manhattan, and is a composer and musical director at the Lucy Moses Summer Musical Theater Workshop. His latest project, the Gabriel Luce Quartet, combines classic Brazilian themes with funk anthems, and swinging originals that accent the bebop era. The quartet's fresh approach to Brazilian rhythms has made them in demand with audiences from New York City to Philadelphia and eastern Pennsylvania. Come hear Gabriel play solo this evening.
This Restoration Comedy features multiple plots dealing with the amorous adventures of a group of Englishmen in Naples at Carnival time. The “rover” of the play is Willmore, a rake and naval captain, who falls in love with a young woman named Hellena, who has set out to experience love before her brother sends her to a convent. Complications abound when a famous courtesan, who falls in love with Willmore, swears revenge on him for his betrayal. Many complications, as well as laughter, arise.

**Are you ready to take your computer skills to the next level?**

**Google Docs**
*Monday, June 7*
1:30 to 3:00 pm
*and*
*Thursday, July 29*
7:00 to 8:30 pm

Google offers much more than just a search engine. Come and learn about Google’s free, web-based alternatives to Word, Excel and PowerPoint, and never carry a Flash drive again.

**Advanced Microsoft Word**
*Thursday, July 29*
4:15 to 5:45 pm

This class covers many advanced features of Microsoft Word including copying and pasting, keyboard shortcuts, editing photographs, Clip Art, columns and drop cap. The class is taught on the 2003 edition of Word, but many of the skills carry over to Word 2007 and the upcoming Word 2010.

Must have mouse and typing skills to attend this class

**Aphra Behn’s The Rover**
*Wednesday, August 11*
7:00 pm

Performed by
**The Next Stage Ensemble from The Shakespeare Theatre of New Jersey**

Aphra Ben, the first professional woman playwright

This Restoration Comedy features multiple plots dealing with the amorous adventures of a group of Englishmen in Naples at Carnival time. The “rover” of the play is Willmore, a rake and naval captain, who falls in love with a young woman named Hellena, who has set out to experience love before her brother sends her to a convent. Complications abound when a famous courtesan, who falls in love with Willmore, swears revenge on him for his betrayal. Many complications, as well as laughter, arise.
TGIF!

TGIF! Fridays: An Exciting Series of Programs for Adults
Movies, Music and More—All Free
Light refreshments served. All programs begin at 1:30 p.m.
A fun way to socialize and make new friends.
No registration necessary. For further information about TGIF programs, please call the Reference Department at 908.789.4090, X 4130.

DEAN MARTIN
June 4
Examine the life and times of this unforgettable performer.

NO TGIF—June 11
STAFF DEVELOPMENT DAY

BOB FOSSE
June 18
Learn about this Broadway and musical film choreographer.

CLASSIC MOVIE WEEK:
“PAJAMA GAME”
June 25
Starring Doris Day and John Raitt

MOUNT RUSHMORE
July 2
Learn the complete story of the “Four Faces” carved in granite in the Black Hills of South Dakota.

TRAVEL SPAIN
July 9
Enjoy the beauty and culture of this beautiful European country.

FREDERIC REMINGTON
July 16
Explore the life of this 19th century American painter who is best known for his scenes of Western life.

PRINCESS DIANA
July 23
Pay tribute to the “People’s Princess” who touched the lives of many.

CLASSIC MOVIE WEEK:
“42ND STREET”
July 30
Starring Ruby Keeler and Dick Powell

GREGORY PECK
August 6
Celebrate the life and films of this classic actor.

CLASSIC MOVIE WEEK:
“THREE COINS IN THE FOUNTAIN”
August 13
Starring Clifton Webb and Dorothy McGuire

NO TGIF—AUGUST 20
NO TGIF—AUGUST 27

Have a wonderful summer!

Please note: weekly topics are subject to change
Ahoy Readers!

The Westfield Memorial Library invites children to “Make a Splash -- READ!” this summer by joining our 2010 Summer Reading Program. The club is designed to include children of all ages and reading abilities, and features fun prizes and recommended booklists for each grade. Additionally, we offer a variety of story times and special programs.

Registration for the Summer Reading Program is open to full-service Westfield Memorial Library cardholders beginning June 21st and continues through August 28th. For more information, check our website, www.wmlnj.org, or call the Youth Services Department at 908.789.4090 ext. 3.

Summer Reading Program
For Teens Entering 6-12th Grade

We’re also pleased to announce an Online Summer Reading Program designed specifically for teens. The Club takes place from June 21st - August 28th. Any teen entering grades 6-12 who is a full service Library cardholder can join the club via the Internet.

All eligible participants must register online. Registration begins on June 21st and can be done from any Internet-ready computer, including those located in the library. Prizes include a free one night rental from the library’s DVD collection, a $5 gift card from Cold Stone Creamery or Starbucks, and a new hardcover book. Check our website www.wmlnj.org for more information.

See next page for more Teen Programs
Stories of the Sea. For children in grades K-5, read aloud by a children’s librarian. Time: 7-7:45 p.m. Tuesday dates: June 29, July 6, July 20 and July 27. Online registration starts June 1.

Make a Splash Story + Craft. Ages 3 to 7, with a parent or caregiver. Wednesday, July 7 at 7 p.m., Monday, July 12 at 7 p.m., Thursday, July 22 at 10 a.m., Thursday, August 5 at 3 p.m., and Wednesday, September 1 at 10 a.m. Online registration starts June 1.

Math Creativity. Exposure to simple math concepts with stories and activities. For children in grades K-3. Time: 7-7:45 p.m. Thursday Dates: July 8, July 15, July 22 and July 29. Online registration starts June 1.

Paws to Read. Certified therapy dogs love to be read to by youngsters who need practice reading aloud to friendly, non-judgmental ears. Sessions are 15 minutes long. Wednesday nights, July 14, July 21 and July 28. Open to full-service Westfield Library card holders. Children must have their own library card. Call in advance for an appointment. 908.789.4090 ext 3.

Dinosaurs, presented by the Morris Museum. Learn about the giant reptiles that lived on earth millions of years ago! Examine fossils and models—hands-on and up close. For ages 5-9. Children must have their own full-service Westfield Library card. Date: Monday, July 19. Time: 7-8 p.m. Online registration begins June 17.

Memorial Pool Storytime. All ages. Free admittance to the pool storytime (no swimming) with your full-service library card. If you aren’t a member of the Westfield Memorial Pool, there will be a $5 entrance fee per person if the child plans to swim. Children must be accompanied by an adult (who will also be charged $5). Advance registration required; call the library! Time: 3-3:30 pm. Friday Dates: August 6, 13, 20 and 27. Online registration starts June 21.

T-Shirt Design. Bring your own t-shirt to decorate your own way! All ages. For best results, t-shirt should be a cotton-polyester blend, and light-colored or white. Dates: Tuesdays, August 24 or August 31. Time: 2:30-4 p.m. Online registration starts June 21.

Tuesday Preschool Storytime. Listen to stories and do an activity. For children 3-5 years old. Time: 10-10:30 am. Dates: July 6, 13, 20, 27, August 3 and 10. Open to full-service Westfield Library card holders. Children must have their own card. No preregistration.

Wednesday Tots’ Storytime. Listen to stories and do an activity. For children 2 ½ to 3 ½ years old. Parent or caregiver attends with child. Time: 10-10:30 am. Dates: July 7, 14, 21, 28, August 4 and 11. Open to full-service Westfield Library card holders. Children must have their own card. No preregistration.


Young Critics’ Club. Middle schoolers, this one’s for you! Share your ideas about some great teen books. All are invited; please register in advance, if possible. Location is the teen area in the library, on the first floor. Time: 7-8 p.m. Tuesday dates: July 6, July 13, July 20, July 27, and August 3. We will vote on a movie for our last meeting on August 10.

Teen Book and a Movie. Teens will discuss The Absolutely True Diary of a Part-Time Indian, by Sherman Alexie, which is the Young Adult selection for One Book NJ in 2010. The book is about a young cartoonist who has to move off the Spokane Indian Reservation, and starts attending an all-white school where the only other Indian is the school mascot. Copies of the book are available in advance at the library. Following this discussion, we’ll watch the 1998 movie Smoke Signals (based on another Sherman Alexie book). Date: Monday, August 16. Time: 6-8:30 p.m. Advance registration is requested. Pizza will be provided.

Photographic and video recordings of our events may be used in Westfield Memorial Library publicity materials, or on our website. If you do not want us to use a photo or video of you or your child, please tell the Youth Services librarian before the event.