



WESTCHESTER PUBLIC LIBRARY

Announcing the Nature Discovery Challenge!

The Westchester Public Library is excited to announce that we are a recipient of a **Reaching across Illinois Library System (RAILS) Partnership Grant!** These grants encourage RAILS libraries to pursue partnerships featuring creative solutions that address community needs and further our library system's goals and strategic initiatives.

We received \$4,560 to begin the **Nature Discovery Challenge** – a STEM project focused on natural biology and digital photography.

The Nature Discovery Challenge represents a three-way partnership between the Westchester Public Library, the **Forest Preserves of Cook County**, and the **Save the Prairie Society**. Westchester youth will attend naturalist-led hikes and use digital photography to explore the science, biology, and beauty of our local landscapes. After completing hikes, participants will review their photos with experts who will assist in identifying specific varieties of flora and fauna.

With this grant award, the Library purchased eight Nikon DSLR camera kits, filters, tripods, and other accessories. In addition to the kits' standard and telephoto lenses, we also purchased three high quality 40mm Nikkor DX macro lenses designed for photographing small subjects up close. As part of our local contribution, the Library purchased four HP laptops equipped with Adobe Photoshop Elements 2019, a popular photo editing and organizing software. With this computer equipment, participants will enhance their photos, which they can keep or share.

This project offers a unique no-cost opportunity for Westchester youth to step away from their phones and screens and immerse themselves into scientific and

photographic exploration outside the classroom. Participants will develop photography skills, discover the need for conservation efforts, and enjoy an active, hands-on experience with the outdoors.

The Nature Discovery Challenge will last for one year. Trips will be monthly and are initially aimed at Westchester youth. Depending on demand, trip frequency may increase and expand to other age groups. Keep your eyes open for information about upcoming trips. Details will be shared within the Library and through our monthly newsletters, social media accounts, and website. Space is limited on these trips so be sure to reserve your space when the time comes!

Ryan Flores is a librarian in the Adult Services Department.

The Library will be closed Sunday, September 1, and Monday, September 2, for Labor Day. Have a safe holiday weekend!

Labor Day also marks the end of our summer hours. Normal hours will resume **Tuesday, September 3:**

Monday-Thursday	9:30 am - 9:00 pm
Friday	9:30 am - 6:00 pm
Saturday	9:30 am - 5:00 pm
Sunday	1:00 - 5:00 pm



FOR TEENS

Chess Tournament with Mr. Tom

Tuesday, August 6
2:00 - 5:00 pm



Advance registration requested. Contact (708) 562-3573.

LOST RESTAURANTS OF CHICAGO WITH GREG BORZO

Many of Chicago's greatest or most unusual restaurants are "no longer taking reservations," but they're definitely not forgotten! From steakhouses to delis, these dining destinations attracted movie stars, fed the hungry, launched nationwide trends and created a smorgasbord of culinary choices. Join us as noted author **Greg Borzo** dishes out course after course of fondly remembered fare, from Max-im's to Charlie Trotter's and Trader Vic's to the Blackhawk! As always, we will hold a **raffle**, so be sure to reserve your spot today!

**SATURDAY,
SEPTEMBER 14
2:00 PM**

*Advance registration requested.
Contact (708) 562-3573.*

★SPECIAL EVENT★

AN EVENING WITH ALEX KOTLOWITZ

★RAFFLE WILL BE HELD

BESTSELLING AUTHOR • JOURNALIST • DOCUMENTARY FILMMAKER

National bestselling author **Alex Kotlowitz** is recognized for his unflinching portrayals of race and poverty in America. For more than three decades, he has brought an acute and empathetic lens to on-the-ground reporting in many forms of media—print and radio journalism, documentary film, and books. His 1991 book, There Are No Children Here: The Story of Two Boys Growing Up in the Other America, was selected by the New York Public Library as one of the **150 Most Important Books of the 20th Century**. Join us as Mr. Kotlowitz presents a very special talk on the "Journalism of Empathy: The Craft of Nonfiction Storytelling." Due to anticipated attendance, this event will be held off-site at:

**WESTCHESTER COMMUNITY CHURCH
1840 WESTCHESTER BLVD, WESTCHESTER, IL 60154.**

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 24 @ 7:00 PM

Advance registration requested. Contact: (708) 562-3573. Sponsored in part by the Friends of the Library.

Friends of the Library August Book Sale

During the month of August, the Friends are running a special half price sale on everything on their BOOK SALE shelves. You can't beat the prices: Hardbacks 50 cents, paperbacks 25 cents, magazines 10 cents. The Friends will keep the shelves well-stocked throughout the month. This is a great time to get a head start on holiday gifts, so we recommend "Shop early and shop often!"



WESTCHESTER PUBLIC LIBRARY • 10700 Canterbury Street • Westchester, IL 60154

708-562-3573 • TTY/TDD 708-562-9364 • askus@westchesterpl.org • www.westchesterpl.org

Hours: Monday-Thursday 9:30 am-8:00 pm, Friday 9:30 am-6:00 pm, Saturday 9:30 am-5:00 pm, Sunday CLOSED.

Library Director Fidencio Marbella • **Board of Trustees** Demitrus Evans, president, Krista Brazel, Jenice Hampton, Elizabeth Hunter, John Lamberti, and Fred Poppe • **Board Meetings on 4th Monday of every month.**