2025 2025

THE ANNUAL REPORT OF THE WALLINGFORD PUBLIC LIBRARY ASSOCIATION



Where everyone is a VIP!

[MEET THE CAST]

July 1st 2024 - June 30th 2025

Board of Managers

Jared Liu, President Deron Chang, 1st Vice President Suzanne Wright, 2nd Vice President Kristi Doerr, Treasurer Art Elliott, Secretary Lisa-Marie Bellmore Patricia Bentley Tricia d'Oliveira Jaime Hine Robbin Jackson Maria Rodrigues McBride Umera Raza Dara Solan Willi Stahura Andrew Whitehouse Megan Grossman, Board Fellow Kate Zolner, Board Fellow











[Top, then clockwise: Some new faces on staff this fiscal year include Head of Adult Reference, Meghan Currey; Creative Technologies Associates, Rosie Luther and James Morrison; Digital Navigator, Connor Bailey; and Head of Facilities, Joe Proto. **]**

Library Staff

Library Director: Sunnie Scarpa **Assistant Director:** Julie Rio*

Head of Adult Programming: Rachel Taylor Head of Adult Reference: Meghan Currey Head of Borrower Services: Barbara Cangiano

Head of Cataloging &

Collection Management: Liz Gatter
Head of Children's Services: Kari Hamad
Head of Emerging & Creative Technologies:

Janet Flewelling

Head of Facilities: Joseph Proto, Rich Heidgerd*
Head of Teen Services: Kayleigh Sprague
Administrative Assistant: Windsor Geraci
Business Manager: Deborah Ward

Children's Librarians: Kristina Garner, Josh LeBlanc, Erin Lynch

Creative Technology Associates:

Jon Kolton, Rosie Luther, James Morrison, Kimberly Musket

Creative Technology Librarians: Katie Dygon, Max Spurr

Custodians: Laura Hugo, Ted Muszynski, Midnight Nathan, Han Nguyen*

Digital Navigators: Elijah Mitchell-Sanchez, Connor Bailey

Library Assistants (part-time):

Patricia Bathrick, Raymond Brumleve, Daniella Derraugh, Mickey Dichele, Kara Felegian*, Rebecca Funaro, Anthony Giordano, Thirl Gravell, Sue Krol, Linda Muszynski, Katherine Novko, Sylvia Ohlrich, Daniel Robinson, Jennifer Ryder, Lenny Schnerr, Tierra Shannon*

Library Monitors: Tony Kowalski, Ed Nelson*
Library Pages: Ginnie Albraccio, David Andrews,
Cathy Burns, Elise Engelhardt, Natalia Garcia,
Samantha Goode, Sam LeGrand,
Sarah Shideler*, Emily Zajac*

Library Technical Assistants (full-time):

Kaleb Cahoon, Caitlin Serra, Michelle Wooding

Library Technical Assistants (part-time):

Jesse Bernier, Dune Bryant, Gina Cabrera, Rebecca Paniagua, Janelle Rosales

Publicity & Public Services Librarian:

Christopher Ciemniewski

Readers Advisory Librarian: Cindy Haiken Reference Librarians (part-time):

Amy Humphries, Chris Siloac*

a letter from the DIRECTOR & BOARD PRESIDENT

Dear WPLA members and friends,

As we reflect on Fiscal Year 2024–2025, I am proud to share some of our most meaningful accomplishments—milestones made possible by your continued support and our exceptional team.

A major highlight this year was the addition of three new study rooms, designed to better meet the needs of our community. Requests for meeting rooms previously outpaced the space available, so the library prioritized our role as a hub for community initiatives. These updated spaces offer greater capacity and flexibility, providing welcoming environments for learning and collaboration.

We also began work on a new strategic plan, a roadmap that will guide us as we continue to evolve and respond to the changing needs of Wallingford. This forward-looking effort is grounded in community feedback and a deep commitment to innovation and accessibility.

Throughout the year, we maintained our focus on fiscal responsibility, ensuring that every dollar is spent with care and purpose. Much of our funding comes from Wallingford taxpayers, and we take that responsibility seriously. Especially when budgets are tight, patrons rely on library programs and services even more for everything ranging from movies and entertainment, SAT

study guides and language learning modules, graduation poster-making and tool rentals, career services, safe spaces for teens, and more. Cuts to library programs and services would result in the loss of significant community supports. Our goal is always to provide the greatest value to the Town of Wallingford, balancing excellence in service with sound financial stewardship.

Of course, none of this would be possible without you. We also rely on public support. Whether you've made a donation, completed our community survey, volunteered your time, or simply walked through our doors—you are essential to our work!

Finally, I must thank our incredible staff. We continue to attract and retain top talent, thanks in part to our strong reputation as a great place to work in a town that values all we do.

All of us together—our Board of Managers, staff members, and YOU our friends and supporters—have created a place that reflects endless possibilities and the best of what our town has to offer.

With gratitude and excitement for the year ahead,

Sunnie Scarpa library director

Jared Liv president of the board

FACILITIES Ready for Our Close-Up!



Library visitors appreciate all the space Wallingford Public Library has to offer for quiet study and work—our Study Rooms are especially in high demand. This past year we added more, including one that fits up to eight people. With the addition of these new study rooms, the number of room users this past fiscal year was 3,392, up 10% from the previous year.

With more patrons spending time in the building than ever, we were glad to have 8 new HVAC Roof Top Units (RTUs) installed in the spring. These new units are more efficient than the old ones and will keep our V.I.P. visitors comfortable through all seasons.

Left: Head of Facilities Rich Heidgerd, Project Manager with Litchfield Builders Tony Bonito, and Assistant Director Julie Rio on completion day of the Study Rooms expansion. **]**



the library welcomed 208,311 visitors



The Library has 61 exterior windows and 305 doublepanes of glass

BOOKKEEPING Revenue Expenses

This is draft information, pending our full audit and is not intended to present the full financial position of Wallingford Public Library as of Oct 27th, 2025.

Support & Revenue	Without Donor Restrictions	With Donor Restrictions	Total
Town of Wallingford	3,459,876		3,459,876
Donations	27,683	13,670	41,353
Book Seller	28,728		28,728
Dues	28,397		28,397
Copier/Printing	19,147		19,147
Collaboratory	17,614		17,614
State of CT	11,163		11,163
Misc. Sales & Consumables	5,006		5,006
Material Replacement Fees	3,219		3,219
Other Grants	1,100		1,100
Total	3,601,933	13,670	3,615,603
Net assets released from restriction: Satisfaction of program restrictions	40,623	(40,623)	
Total Revenue	3,642,556	26,953	3,615,603

Expenses	Total
Employee expenses	2,636,182
Capital Projects	598,809
Materials to Borrow	266,279
Utilities	109,642
Automated Systems	102,239
Equipment & Improvements	95,641
Maintenance Services & Supplies	54,666
Programs & Publications	52,261
Repairs & Maintenance	47,137
Insurance	43,927
Legal & Professional	29,312
Copier Lease & Related Expenses	23,290
Collaboratory	22,764
Postage and miscellaneous	15,310

Expenses (continued)	Total
Library Supplies	15,258
Continuing education and membership	13,112
Marketing	11,707
Auditing	11,654
Merchandise	8,614
Payroll Processing	8,554
Meetings & Events	6,035
Total Expenses	4,172,393
Increase (Decrease) in Net Assests Before Other Income	54,762

Other Income

Total Other Income	251.014
Reimbursements and other	4,787
Interest and dividends	49,461
Net realized and unrealized gain on investments	196,766

	Without Donor Restrictions	With Donor Restrictions	Total
Change in Net Assests	(341,435)	35,659	(305,776)
Net Assets — Beginning of Year	3,474,473	592,044	4,066,517
Net Assets — End of Year	3,133,038	627,703	3,760,741



Blockbuster Year at the Box Office!

CHILDREN'S Setting the Stage!

The children's room was buzzing this past year with little ones attending story times, older kids making friends and learning about the library by completing our ever-popular Pokemon Scavenger Hunt, builders constructing marble mazes in the Wonder Room, and families snuggling under the tree reading books together.

This year we added more opportunities for you to learn while having fun with the addition of two new collections: toys available for checkout and Decodable Kits, both of which were an instant hit! The Decodable Kits contain books to support the way reading skills are taught at the public schools. Toy Kits for a wide variety of ages allow kids to try something new.



12,803 patrons attended 463 children's events

K-5th graders read over 375,000 minutes during summer at the library, earning the chance to SOAK THE LIBRARIANS





[WATCH]

The new toys are great! We checked out one of the kits for our grandkids, and they loved it so much that we purchased a set of our own. We never would have bought it without having the chance to try it out first.

[From top to bottom: Enjoying the bubbles during Baby Prom; Digging up shells during Sensory Story Time; Learning about bugs with Mr. Josh on Take Your Child to the Library Day. 1

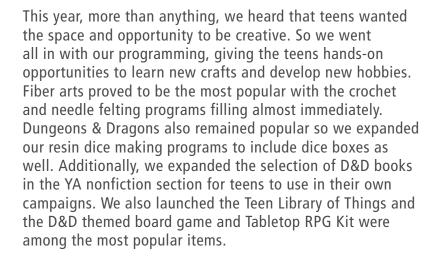






TEENS Up and Coming Talent!







You made my day by showing me the manga section! I'm excited to come back soon and explore the Collaboratory. You showed me so many things I never thought a library would even have.



1,654 teens attended 118 events







2,529 volumes of manga were checked out 6,794 times



ADULT SERVICES In the Spotlight!

This year, our adult programming was all about seeing the world from new perspectives. We had our most successful "One Book, One Wallingford" event to date, featuring Monica Wood's *How To Read a Book*. Highlights included our conversations on justice reform, two live bird programs, and a public reading by nationally renowned poet Reginald Dwayne Betts. We also continued our multicultural food series The Wallingford Table with events like "Cooking with Ana," "An Eastern European Carnival," and "A Dragon Boat Festival," sponsored by donations from the Great Give. We celebrated Pride with a shadow cast performance of *The Rocky Horror Picture Show* and launched new recurring programs such as ASL Conversation Group and International Movie Night.



10,887 patrons attended 402 events



7 wifi hotspots were borrowed a total of 105 times and 4 chromebooks were borrowed 72 times

I feel so much better about coming to the library because of how welcoming and helpful the staff were, especially because English is not my first language and the staff were able to assist me in locating books in Spanish.

[From top to bottom: Monica Wood speaks about how books change our lives during One Book One Wallingford 2025; Panelist representatives from Ukraine, Poland, and Hungary talk about Eastern European Carnival traditions while attendees sample homemade cuisine; The shadow cast takes bows after a performance of *The Rocky Horror Picture Show*.]



BORROWER SERVICES Bonus Materials!



[Above: Kaleb pulling "homegrown" vegetables out of the ground to promote the Seed Library as part of the "Cardholder Perks" video series.]



145,475 self check-out transactions



36,527 check-outs to non-wallingford residents

It's always a joy to welcome new Wallingford residents who would like to get their first Wallingford library card! We made it even easier to get a library card by moving the library card registration desk front and center stage in our Borrower Services Department. In addition, we added a new sorting area for delivery bins of items from other libraries so we can get materials back onto the shelf or in your hands as soon as possible.

The Borrower Services Department initiated a monthly column in *Words* and a video series on social media to showcase "Cardholder Perks" highlighting all the incredible things that you can do with your library card—from downloading e-books and music, to borrowing sewing machines, puzzles, video games and tools.



Borrower Services staff created 2,238 new library cards



4,014 bins of library materials processed



44,197 holds placed

CATALOGING Behind-the-Scenes!

The Cataloging Department works diligently behind-the-scenes to process all new physical library materials—including books, magazines, DVDs, games, kits, and equipment—and maintain the online catalog. Preservation of existing materials, including repackaging and mending items as needed, is also a core responsibility of the department.

7,825 new items were added to the collection





total collection size is 179,346 items

COLLABORATORY

Lights, Artists, Action!

The quilting and embroidery machines have always been among the Collaboratory's most popular pieces of equipment. To provide an even better experience for our textile enthusiasts this year we upgraded our embroidery and longarm quilting machines and added a fabric printer and pattern projector. The staff kept busy learning all of the new equipment first and then training patrons.

We welcomed our Digital Navigators as a library-funded service when our Town of Wallingford ARPA grant expired in October 2024. In addition to providing one-on-one digital skills training, assistance in obtaining low-cost home Internet connectivity, and long-term loan of Chromebooks to the public, our navigators partnered with Town Hall to assist town employees in the transition to Microsoft 365.

[The Collaboratory] is a huge contribution to the community by and materials for little, and in many cases no, cost. There is not another place like it for us.



patrons made 179 equipment training appointments for the embroidery machine, the long arm quilting machine, and the serger

providing access to these services 1,238 patrons attended 172 events [From top to bottom: A patron shows off a completed quilt made on the Collaboratory's long-arm quilting machine; two program attendees painting a picture of their dog during a "paint your pet" workshop for National Pet Day; Digital Navigators Connor Bailey and Elijah Mitchell-Sanchez.





MEMBER LIST, JULY 1ST 2024 - JUNE 30TH 2025

LIFETIME (\$1.000)

Lisa & Peter Barr Abby & Christopher Beale Sharon Benard Barbara & Jeff Borne Emily & Dean Brenner Karen & Richard Caplan Deron Chang & Penny Post MaryEllen & Bruce Connell Judy Donald Kathleen Elwell Marie C. Hulicki Virginia Kazimer Kristin & Jared Liu Mary Ann Moran Michele Massores Maria Rodrigues McBride Daniel McDonnell Linda Mercuri Karen Rabis Susan Rhodes Heather Robison Joanne C. Sullivan Virginia Towle Ginny White Sharon Willhelm

LIBRARY LOVER (\$500)

Anonymous Fish Window Cleaning Rita C. Kovacs Pam Savenelli

(\$250)

James Hine

Stephen & Catherine Knight Linda Lane Doug & Galyna Latham Janet Lyons Cynara McPhail & Jon Kornacki Carol Mikulski Fred Monahan Jon Mroz Joan M. Munger Paulette Rydzy Ashlev Sinclair

& William Corey Rudolph Jane Socha Susan Stewart Richard Towne

LIBRARY ENTHUSIAST (\$100)

Marjorene Ainley

Janet Amento Lisa Barillaro Jack & Barbara Beecher Sharon Benard Erin Benham Doug Benham & Diane Chandler Nancy Benson Eleanor Benson Thal Richard Brennan Beth Brooks June D. Carroll Richard Cassello Colleen Cervero Elise B. Chapman Ashley Clayton Marlene Cohen Jan Cook Ann Dallas

Kristi J. Doerr

Patricia Gormican d'Oliveira Brian Farrell Brenda Fazzino Maris Fiondella & Sean O'Connor Jane Fisher & Kevin O'Rourke George Foulds Benjamin & Bethany Fox Eric Friede Eugene S. Gazda Chris Gingras Susan Gomes Cindy & Matt Haiken Barbara & Philip Hannon Noelle Johnson Nancy & Lee Kaplan Jane Kinkead Grace Kopakow Cissy Kulakowski Barbara Lathrop Steven LeClair Dianne Lendler Stephen MacKenzie Rose Malfa, M.D. Vincent & Leigh Mascia Jane & Dana Masson Angela Milani Charles & Carol Moakley Pat Morse Elizabeth Nann Bette Niezgorski Laura Noto Daniel Pimentel Neel Pizinger

Anne Marie Rivard Kathy A. Schave Susie Schon Barbara Self Robert Silvia Richard John Sinkiewicz Wilma Stahura Helen & Larry Stowe Lorraine Tagliatela Madonna Terrell Richard Towne Jean R. Valenti John D. Venter Carmelina C. Villani Deborah & Mark Ward Nancy & Stephen Wikel Kathy & Paul Womelsdorf Phil & Suzanne Wright

BIBLIOPHILE (\$50)

David Andrews Gianna Ardito Rebecca Augur Jean Balslev Jacqueline Barbato Jill Bishop Debra Bozzi Kevin Buno Katherine Renata Burghart Laura Callinan Larry Campane Robert Carmody Anne-Marie Cella Nancy Cerrotti David Cooper Cyrus Cook & Megan Shea Tony & Heather Correia Lourdes Cruz Pat H. Dellaripa Gerald Dembiczak Diana Reilly Lynn A. DiNallo

KNOWLEDGE SEEKER

Jean A. Anderson Norma Buchanan Frank & Amy Campbell Jennifer Casev Aleda, Anna, & Teddy Franz







Suzanne Ramsdell

Julie Rio & Gladys Alcedo

Umera Raza

Martin Regan

Bernice Riha



Dee Anne Dodd Patricia B. Dokas Scott & Valerie Drake Mara Dunleavy Arthur Elliott Marianne Federici Norman

& Christina Fishbein Lori Folk-Barron Carol, Guy

& John Gennette
Karen Audrey Grava
Brian & Laurie Gray
Veronica Haeberlen
Elizabeth & John Hart
Susan Huizenga
Amy Humphries
Neal & Jean Hurwitz
Deryth Jacobs
Renee Janes
Katharine Jewett
Brian Johnson

& Margaret Ennever Richard Johnson Pam Jones Nill Jennifer Keohane Michael Lobasz Joyce Lynch James Mansfield Ann Marie & John Marriott Carol Meade Jill Meister Larry & Gina Morgenstein Sara Munson Russell Naylor Michelle O'Connell Ian O'Loughlin Jennifer Passaretti Lou Passariello Jean Pawlich Mona Perlot Paula Perrelli Anne Porier Jeanne Raccio Kathleen Raven Stanley & Sandra Sablak Karen M. Serafino Lynn Seresin James Soha Lorna Thibeault

Joan Troccolo
Marfha & Gus Trujillo
Joe Turecek
Mr. & Mrs. Gordon Turnbull
Patricia Twohill
Jane & Philip Wargo
Sally & Alan Weisker
Judith Yale
Tammy Zorn

LIBRARY GROUPIE (\$25)

Davis Abbott **Edward Adams** Virginia Albraccio Elisa Allardice Patricia Astorino Gregory M. Austin Matthew Bailey Judith Paula Barillaro Scott Baylow Jane Bayusik Ralph Beauchamp Jane Bedard Jonathan & Robyn Bennett Pat Bentley Katherine Birney Robert Bonvini Kathleen Boyd Marianne Brady Chester Lucas Britt Sue Brosnan Natalie Bruneau Barbara Cangiano Marie Carbone Robert Carmody Alice Carpenter Maggie Carr James D. Catala Lawralee Chadbourne

& Mary Jane Chicoski Carol Christmas Karen C. Connell Patricia Coppola Eleanor Corazzini Sheila & Jay Cosgrove David & Carol Cotton Gina Marie Corea Cross Susan P. Crowther

Nancy Charles

Thomas

Pamela Cucinelli Patricia Dering William Dickinson, Jr. Janet Dorsey Claudia Dunton Paula Durso Janice Egan Lori Feeney Linda & Tom Fisher Janet & Josh Flewelling Alberta T. Flynn Amy & Thomas Foster Kristina Foye Carole Franceschet Henrietta Fried-Stolzman Deborah Furtado Victoria Gerace Pamela Gorman Thirl & Debbie Gravell Scott & Sonya Gray-Wulff Greta Gribkoff Michael & Linda Griglun Dolores Ann Gudain Elizabeth Guidone Hiedi Hajna Kari Hamad Erica Andrea Hanson Marilyn Hausmann Deborah Hill Anna Hladky Carol Hotz Thomas M. Hughes, Jr. Carol B. Isaacs Cynthia Jedynak Isabella Jump Mary & Matt Kelley Kate Kelly Donald & Lyvia King Adelheid Koepfer Richard & Pam Krombel Shirley Lagerstrom Catalina Langin John Peter Langin, Jr. Luke Lauretano Jeanne & George Lawrence

Steven L. Lazarus & Celeste Yanni Barbara Libby Peg Limbacher Nancy & Ron Lindsay Dorothy Lipton MaryAnn & Edward Martindale Joyce Martineau Anna Mastroianni Janet McCool Jared & Cecelia McQueen Nancy Millett James Roger Morrison Nancy Mueller Barbara Mushinski Elizabeth Ann Napolitano Joellen Nellums Susan O'Brien Carissa Neubig Denise Nigro Sylvia Ohlich Jose Oro & Mary Porfido David Ortoli Cliff & Kris Overstrum Alex Penczynzyn Susan Pierson Aaron Poach Yves & Ines Poirier Melanie Pontbriand Jan Pucci Donna Rackie Jean Regnier Gerald & Mary Reid Marci K. Resler Frank & Alexis Rinaldi Tom & Brianna Robert Julie & Neal Robison Karen Roesler Charles Rogers Maureen Rowe Chris Rynerson Linda Sacco Janice & Richard Sansoucy Sunnie & Steve Scarpa Marie J. Scharf Robin Schlick Stacie Schon Karen Scorel Caron Shanahan Martha Shea Mauri Shields Edie Simon









Kate Slomkowski

Tom Smith

Dara Solan

Jana Staffaroni John & Suzanne Sullivan Michelle Thibeault Kathryn Thompson Robert & Elizabeth Torino Kathrvn Tuttle Marilyn & Louis Ulizio Ramon Vallejos Debra & Richard Voelker Blair Wagner Caroline & William Wall Johanne Walworth Dorena Wasik & James Twigg Andrew Whitehouse Emily Whitehouse Carol Whitney

Donna Wiedenmann

Stephen Randall Young BOOKWORM (\$10) Melissa Abelli Dolores Adamo Rebecca Aldrich Jacob Thomas Allaman Anthony Michael Annunziata Mary Beth Applegate Natalia Arboleda Kayce Averna William Avery Krystyna Bak Fred Baptist, Jr. Rae Barbieri Barbara Battles Catherine G. Bemis Heather & Bob Beverage Gustaf Bodin Ernest Boehm David Boober Susan H. Brosnan Baylee Burk Catherine Burns Cary Lou & Glenn Canfield Allison Carboni Vivien A. Carrano John Cipolli Patsy Cleaves Nancy Elizabeth Colavolpe Myrtle Connolly Carole Conroy Janet & Charles Craig Joyce Crebase Mary Anne Cresman Barbara Culbertson Marvann D'Addario Molly Daniels Nancy Davis

Geraldine R. Deangelis

Leah Demetropoulos Patricia Derenzo

Nancy Dedmond

Carol Desiardins Peter C. Doyle Joyce Ellen Doreen Ely Eileen Flynn Karen Foster Gavle Franceschetti Bettyjane Fulton David Furtak Sharon A. Furtak Fatoumata Gakou Liz Gatter Victoria Lucia Gau Marian Gemmell Windsor Geraci Kathrvn Giffin Michael Giffin Ed Glazewski Eve Gold Linda Gordon Crystal Gwizdala Michael J. Hall Joan Harlow Kerry Hatch Sharon R. Healey Richard Heidgerd Heather Hinckley Sheila Holdt Cvnthia Holland-Toftness Linda Howe Robert Howell Tanisha Catherine Inman Emily Johnson Kate Johnson Patricia Johnson Linda Kane Adele Kiernan John Kedves Vincent Kiernan Robin Koutsopolos Roberta LaBelle-Thomas Paul & Roslyn Lamoureux Rose Gaudio Lamy Doreen Patricia Lang Catalina Langin Pauline Lawrence Donald & Patricia Lee, Jr. Kristen Leigh **Eleanor Lentine** Patricia Levasseur Rose C. Lordi Cheryl R. Lucas Cynthia Mansfield Louis Marino Debbie Markiewicz Eldo & Patricia Maschio Chelsea Mastriano Nancy Maynard Johanne McLean Emma Mendillo

Jeanette Mercadante

Diane & Richard Mesite

Laura Michnowski Stephen Miller Wendy Murphy Linda Musco Joellen Nellums Denise Nigro Susan O'Brien Michael J. O'Herron Elissa A. Orio Bertha Parese Kathy Partesano Ronak Dilip Patel Patricia Bathrick Patricia Petrelli Joan Petro Cheri Piascik Rosemary Pilch Jane Reed Traci Resler Jillian Revnolds Mildred Rodriguez Charlene Rohloff Roseanne Bilodeau Andrea S. Rosner Madyson Elizabeth Ruggiero Sarah Schon

Laura Schuster Judy Scinto Elizabeth Shutts Doreen Simjian Jennifer Sims Coleen Singer Judy & Larry Singer Mary & Ole Siversten Kayleigh Sprague Janet Sudol Kate M. Sullivan Susan Tarantino Eleanor Tessmer Maria Toczko Nancy S. Toomey Linda Valente Laurel Vanstone Joan Vergean Beth Vumbaco Nancy Wailonis Jolvn Walker Arlene Weimer Amv Wexler Zack Witzel Michelle Wooding Elizabeth Zalonski



[Above: Mayor Vincent Cervoni (left) joined WPL librarians for the unveilling of the "Wallywood" mural by artist Rola Ramadan (center) to kick-off Summer at the Library 2025. **Below:** Staff members model retro t-shirts available for \$10 featuring the WPL logo from the 1980s. All proceeds benefit the library.]



