

*Connection. Collaboration. Creativity.*

## GOOD NEWS: A letter from the WPLF



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### **Because of You**

Your gifts to WPLF made possible more than 1,000 life-enriching programs in 2022 for 24,362 people of all ages. With our focus on increasing young readers, WPLF-funded programs at the Library reached 16,092 children who had opportunities to expand their learning and literacy. Thank you for all you do to change the trajectory of a child's life.

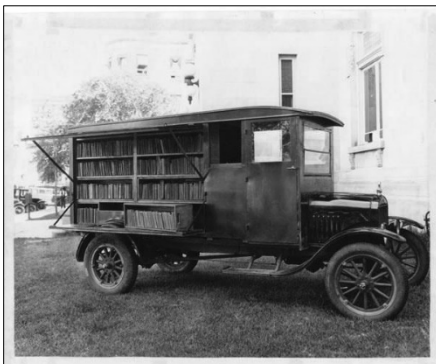
### **NEA Big Read: Wichita**

The NEA Big Read: Wichita kicks off at 2 p.m. Sunday, March 12, at the Advanced Learning Library. Join us to celebrate Roz Chast's memoir "Can't We Talk About Something More Pleasant?" This graphic novel warmly and hilariously explores Chast's experiences providing end-of-life care for her aging parents. Chast will speak in person at 6 p.m. Saturday, April 15, at the WSU Hughes Metroplex, 5015 E. 29th St. N. More information is available at [bigreadwichita.org](http://bigreadwichita.org).

### **Westlink Remodel and Expansion**

This spring, the Westlink Branch (8515 Bekemeyer) will move to a temporary location (southeast corner of Central and Ridge). The almost 40-year-old building and busiest branch library is undergoing a major remodel and expansion. The renovation will double its size, add community meeting and collaboration rooms, expand the children's section, add a drive-up window, and provide updated technology, furniture, and amenities. Completion is anticipated in spring 2024.

### **Did you know?**



Wichita Public Library has always been at the forefront of innovation. Since 1987 your donations to the Wichita Public Library Foundation have increased the Library's ability to create a Margin of Excellence, creating more young readers, ensuring digital inclusion, and providing equitable access to information. 2023 will be full of more innovations. Stay tuned for more exciting news on outreach services to serve those needing our help the most. (1925 Wichita Public Library Model T Bookmobile)

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## Library Programs

Programming is one area almost entirely underwritten by your financial support of the WPLF. Because of you, many program options are available. Remember, your donations will increase the number and quality of programs the Library can provide!

**Severe Weather Training: Storm Fury on the Plains**, 6:30-7:30 p.m. March 1, Advanced Learning Library. Developed in partnership with the National Weather Service, this program will cover storm development, cloud feature recognition, radar interpretation, and safety. Co-sponsored by the Wichita Amateur Radio Club.

**Author Event: C.J. Box**, 6-7:30 p.m. March 2, Advanced Learning Library. Watermark Books & Café and the Wichita Public Library welcome bestselling author C.J. Box in person to celebrate his newest Joe Pickett novel, "Storm Watch." Books will be available for purchase at the event with a book signing by C.J.

**Academy Award Events**, check topics, times, and locations, March 4 through March 11 at the Advanced Learning Library, Alford, Westlink, or Evergreen branches for screenings nominations for shorts, animated and live action, and documentaries. Find pertinent information at [wichitalibrary.org/events](http://wichitalibrary.org/events).

**NEA Big Read Events**, check topics, times, and locations, March 14 through April 24, for events related to Roz Chast's "Can't We Talk About Something More Pleasant?" Programs range from the emotional impact of aging, social interaction, and critical connections, natural burials, in-person and virtual book discussions, avoiding spam and scams, aging well, downsizing, a movie screening of "The Farewell," <https://wichita.evanced.info/signup/eventdetails?EventId=14409>, and a Senior Wednesday with Larry Hatteberg and "Hatteberg's People."

Visit [bigreadwichita.org](http://bigreadwichita.org) for more information.

**Before Rosie -- The Women of the Great War**, 1-2 p.m. April 15, Advanced Learning Library. Explore the different areas where women participated during the Great War and the records a genealogist might find helpful. Danni Altman-Newell has been an active genealogy researcher for more than 20 years. She volunteers at the National World War I Museum and Memorial Research Center in Kansas City.

**Social Media Marketing**, 1-2:30 p.m. April 22, Advanced Learning Library. This SCORE program will demonstrate how to use social media to increase sales and market to your customers. Learn more about using social media as a marketing tool and social media marketing resources available at the library. Registration is required and is open from March 1 until April 22. Call (316) 261-8500 or register online.

Visit [wichitalibrary.org/events](http://wichitalibrary.org/events) for more programs and information.

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*The Wichita Public Library Foundation's mission is to fund Library operational needs directly benefiting the public and not covered in the tax-supported budget. The mission directs the Foundation's activities through private fundraising, foundation, individual and corporate grants, and annual endowment distributions to the Library.*