

October 26, 2011

**Author Joanne Clarkson teaches:
“Writing Miracles: Sharing the Great and Small Triumphs”**



Create your own story at a hands-on writing workshop with author and award-winning poet, Joanne Clarkson. A free class will be held at the Westport Timberland Library on Saturday, November 5 from 1 to 3 p.m. Both experienced and first-time writers are welcome.

Ms. Clarkson will guide participants through activities geared toward describing events that have touched them in significant ways. Clarkson believes that all of us have moments—ranging from birth and death, to an encounter with nature, to an unexpected human kindness—that touch us profoundly. “By finding the words to describe these experiences, we preserve and define them for ourselves. By sharing them with others, we give hope and beauty to the world,” she said.

Participants may write in the form of their choice: autobiography, memoir, poetry, even short stories or novels based on incidents in their lives. Clarkson covers everything from choosing and defining a topic to organizing, editing and finding a voice through excellent writing skills. Helpful library resources will be highlighted and worksheets will be provided.

A former librarian for 20 years, Ms. Clarkson has Master’s Degrees in Creative Writing and Library Science. She is the author of two chapbooks of poetry and publishes regularly in magazines and journals. In 2010 she was a winner of the Pacific Northwest Playwright Association’s annual poetry contest. She had poems accepted for an anthology on memoirs and a poem included in the Alzheimer’s Anthology. After caring for her mother through a long illness, she pursued a new career and currently works as a registered nurse in home care, experiencing miracles every day.

The [Westport Timberland Library](#) is located at 101 E Harms Drive, Westport. For more information, please call the library at (360) 268-0521 or go to www.TRL.org.