

BiblioBites

DeSoto County Library

February 2024

Volume 13, Issue 02

Director's note

Dear Folks,

We are continually amazed by our community. There are so very many organizations who are willing to partner with us to enrich our programs and extend our reach in the community. Among those who have joined us this month are the First 1000 Days group, helping parents provide the best quality of life for their very young children; The Mana Vault has arranged to help with some teen programming coming up soon, and the Peace River Audubon Society is providing birding backpacks for family use. Individuals in our community post our need for buttons, yarn, cardboard tubes and someone shows up with boxes of buttons, tubs of yarn, large bags of cardboard tubes and the list goes on. We have been looking for someone to teach crocheting and Connie Williard offers her services. Our Friends had a book sale and people donated boxes of books.

We truly are so blessed to have such a giving community that we are privileged to serve.

Come see us,

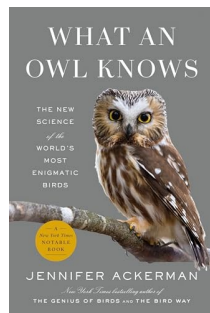
Linda



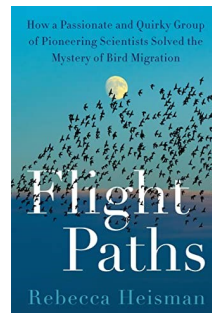
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Linda recommends

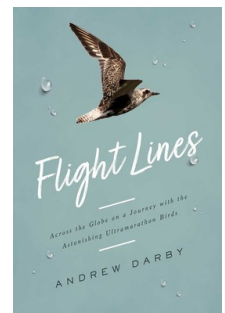
The Peace River Audubon Society is partnering with the library to offer birding backpacks to our patrons. They will be offering a family friendly introductory presentation On **Feb. 17**. So it seems only appropriate to feature a few of our books about birds and their fascinating stories this month. How does a first year swallow tail kite make the trek from North to South America without adult guides? How do owls fly quietly enough to go undetected by their prey? Why do some birds never travel more than five miles from their birthplace while others move across continents annually? The stories in many cases are unbelievable. Read and see for yourself.



What an Owl Knows by Jennifer Ackerman



Flight Paths by Rebecca Heisman



Flight Lines by Andrew Darby

Publishers Weekly
Bestseller Lists
January 26, 2024

FICTION

1. *Iron Flame*, by Rebecca Yarros
2. *Forth Wing*, by Rebecca Yarros
3. *The Fury*, by Alex Michaelides
4. *The Heaven & Earth Grocery Store*, by James McBride
5. *First Lie Wins*, by Ashley Elston
6. *Holmes, Marple & Poe...*, by James Patterson & Brian Koppelman
7. *Emily Wilde's Map of the Otherlands*, by Heather Fawcett
8. *Sanctuary of the Shadow*, by Aurora Ascher
9. *The Little Liar*, by Mitch Cullin
10. *The Exchange: After the Firm*, by John Grisham

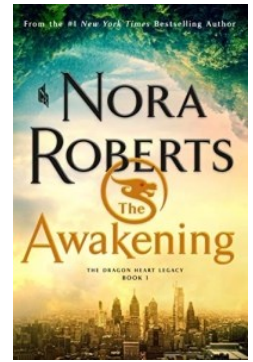
NON-FICTION

1. *Breaking Free from Broke...*, by George Kamel
2. *Practicing the Way: Be with Jesus. Become Like Him. Live as He Did*, by John Mark Comer
3. *Come Hungry: Salads, Meals, and Sweets for People who Live to Eat*, by Melissa Ben-Ishay
4. *Oath and Honor: A Memoir and a Warning*, by Liz Cheney
5. *The Creative ACT: A Way of Being*, by Rick Rubin
6. *The Wager: A Tale of Shipwreck, Mutiny, and Murder*, by David Grann
7. *Outlive: The Science and Art of Longevity*, by Peter Attia
8. *Black Liturgies: Prayers, Poems, and Meditations for Staying Human*, by Cole Arthur Riley
9. *How to Know a Person: The Art of Seeing Others Deeply and Being Deeply Seen*, by David Brooks
10. *The Kingdom, the Power, and the Glory...*, by Tim Alberta

Liz likes—Liz Coronado

In the realm of Talamh, a teenage warrior named Keegan emerges from a lake holding a sword—representing both power and the terrifying responsibility to protect the Fey. In another realm known as Philadelphia, a young woman has just discovered she possesses a treasure of her own. When Breen Kelly was a girl, her father would tell her stories of magical places. Now she's an anxious twenty something year old drowning in student debt and working a job she hates. But one day she stumbles upon a shocking discovery: her mother has been hiding an investment account in her name. It has been funded by her long-lost father and it's worth nearly four million dollars. This newfound fortune would be life-changing for anyone. But little does Breen know that when she uses some of the money to journey to Ireland, it will unlock mysteries she couldn't have imagined. Here, she will begin to understand why she kept seeing that silver-haired, elusive man, why she imagined his voice in her head saying Come home, Breen Siobhan. It's time you came home. Why she dreamed of dragons. And where her true destiny lies—through a portal in Galway that takes her to a land of faeries and mermaids, to a man named Keegan, and to the courage in her own heart that will guide her through a powerful, dangerous destiny.

The Awakening is the first book in the trilogy of an exciting and whimsical fantasy written by **Nora Roberts**. I have been waiting a few year to start this series because I hate waiting for the next book to come out, but all three books are now available. The awaking is set in a world connected to our own, I was swept away by the land of fae in this novel. The world-building takes on a mystical quality that is totally suited for the connection to Ireland. The characters are well-developed and relatable despite the magical abilities, and the magic system is traditional so far. It begins pretty slow, with too many small details bogging my reading pace down. Still, it quickly picks up speed once the main character gets to Ireland and starts making life-altering discoveries. And did I mention that there are dragons!?!? Yes, dragons! Overall, I found this an entertaining start to what could be an outstanding trilogy. I still haven't read book two and three in the series, but I am excited to start them soon.



Editor's Choice—Reagan Bordner

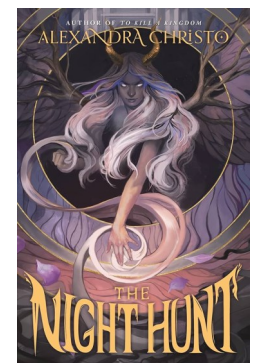
Atia is a monster who feeds on fear. As the last of her kind, she hides in the shadows of the world to escape the wrath of the unpredictable Gods. Silas is a Herald, carrying messages and ferrying the dead as punishment for a past he can't remember. Stripped of his true name, he yearns to recover his identity.

Atia would never dream of allying with someone like him, but when she breaks a sacred law and the Gods send monsters to hunt her, Silas offers an irresistible deal: he'll help avenge her family and take on the Gods who now hunt her, if she helps him break his curse and restore his humanity. All they need to do is kill three powerful creatures: a vampire, a banshee, and one of the very Gods who destroyed both their lives. Only together can they finally rewrite their destinies.

Dark fantasy, mythology, found family, self-acceptance, romance; *The Night Hunt* by **Alexandra Christo** has it all! However, the main reasons I liked this book were for its quirky characters and world building.

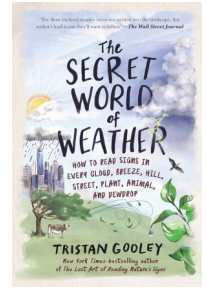
There were so many twists and turns in this book, especially near the end, that it had me on the edge of my seat in shock, then relief, every 2 seconds.

A lot of people say that this book differs from Alexandra Christo's usual writing style, so now I have to read her other books to see for myself!



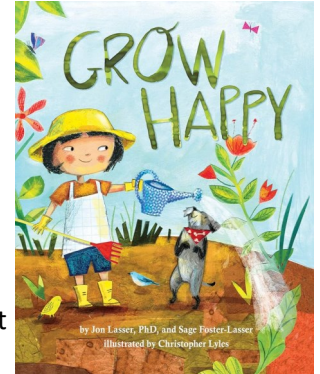
Robert recommends—Robert Andres

The Secret World of Weather by **Tristan Gooley** is a deep dive into weather. From reading clouds and other indicators to looking at smaller local phenomena like dew there is a lot of info here. What do the clouds tell us about weather tomorrow? Getting into weather might be a new area of interest that can help us connect with the natural world wherever we are.



Choice for children—Tonya Bordner

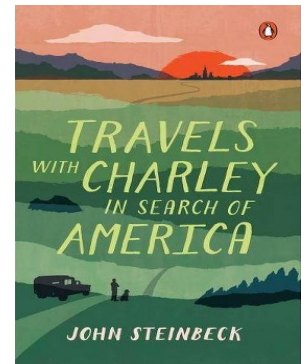
The book appropriately titled, *Grow Happy*, by **Jon Lasser, PhD**, and **Sage Foster-Lasser** compares growing a garden to **self care** in a way that children can understand. Its **bright** illustrations by **Christopher Lyles** chronicle the steps a child takes to cultivate and keep a garden growing. It highlights **problems and solutions** a garden can have and compares them to issues children might have and presents **strategies** they can use to overcome their negative feelings and instead “grow happiness.” This book has a natural flow that is more story-like than other children’s books that I’ve read on the same topic that seem forced.



I recommend this book and the practice of including books in your children’s reading that promote self care and mental health strategies.

Bookmarked—Jolaine Konstantinidis

In his own description, **John Steinbeck’s** “wandering narrative” *Travels With Charley* is as close to an autobiography as he ever managed. The reader gets to know some of the qualities, likes and dislikes, habits, beliefs and opinions of the author as he drives along in his mobile home named Rocinante along with his French poodle Charley. As an American writer, Steinbeck, towards the end of his life, felt compelled to refresh his aging memory of the land and people he wrote about. True to his mission he traveled from coast to coast on highways and country roads writing stories in his head (he rarely took notes and did not keep a journal) and reflecting on past memories and how they compared to this newer view by his older self.



I believe there is a reason the title includes Charley—the author and his companion are on the same page so to speak. He relies on Charley’s instincts and approval or disapproval of the people he meets along the way. He talks often with Charley (also in his “golden years”) and listens to him, watches for signals and gets inside his head. Sometimes I believe he identifies with his dog whom he writes, “has always associated with the learned, the gentle, the literate, and the reasonable...” Now, both are interested in getting the views of ordinary Americans to discover if “...all America smells alike? Or are there sectional smells?” Steinbeck witnesses the regional differences as he explores all corners of America at a time wrought with racial tension and political upheaval of the 1960s.

Once or twice, he remarks on loneliness and reassures the reader that he does check in at least three times a week with his wife, but overall Steinbeck seems content with his journey and sees it as an adventure if not a research expedition. At one point speaking of his solitary trip, he writes that having a human companion fixes one in present time, “...but when the quality of aloneness settles down, past, present and future all flow together...” In *Travels With Charley* the reader will have a first person perspective of the author and find the same Steinbeck style he exhibits in his fictional works; his syntax, use of figurative language and rhetorical devices, his development of character, details and dialect are all here. Be ready to write down some quotes.

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DeSoto County Public
Library is partially
funded through a grant
from Florida Department
of State.

LIBRARY HOURS
Tuesday & Thursday:
9:00—6:00
Wednesday & Friday
8:30—6:00
Saturday:
9:00-2:30
Closed Sunday and Monday



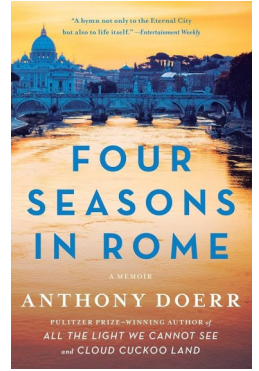
Fran Recommends –by Fran Kovach

Four Seasons in Rome a Memoir by Anthony Doerr

How does a writer begin a novel? Anthony Doerr, in the memoir, takes us through the painstaking and difficult process. Mr. Doerr was awarded a fellowship in literature by the prestigious American Academy in Rome. Shauna, his wife and three-month old twin sons, move from Boise, Idaho to join in this endeavor.

During the course of the year, the Doerr family experience four seasons in Rome. In the writing studio, he found composing a historical fiction novel and raising twins could be described as the life before twins and the time of parenthood. Lack of sleep and the frustration of new parents influence his day. Some days were not conducive to sentences and structured composition. In six months, the novel was produced between life questioning events, the exhaustion of his wife, and more.

Notably, a historic event occurred during this time in Rome. The current Pope died and the successor elected by the evidence of white smoke. Paragraphs and sentencings extensively tell the process of writing. Even if the left pages were the only pages read in this book, it would enrich vocabulary and expand our thinking. How does a writer develop the craft of writing? By practicing every day (sometimes) the story truly satisfies the reader.



Wax Candle Painting

@ the

DeSoto County Library
Thursday, 2/8/24 at 11am

**Come paint with wax and
design your own unique candle**

Adult Program



DCLA Update—by Elizabeth, VP

Hello Everyone,

I hope you found some nifty books at our book sale last month. It is our fundraiser for the Library’s Summer Reading Program.

Well, last month I was off to Lagos, Nigeria by way of **Chibundu Onuzo’s** novel *Welcome to Lagos*. Chike Ameobi was certainly an interesting character to follow.

Don’t forget our DeSoto County Library Association Board meeting at the Library at **noon on Wednesday, February 7th**. All are welcomed—see you there!

February

DeSoto County Library

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	<p>Open to our patrons:</p> <p>Tuesday & Thursday: 9:00—6:00</p> <p>Wednesday & Friday 8:30—6:00</p> <p>Saturday: 9:00-2:30</p>			<p>1</p> <p>9:00 @ ARC</p> <p>2:00 Internet Basics</p> <p>3:00 Cybersecurity</p> <p>3:30 Storytime for kids</p>	<p>2</p>	<p>3</p> <p>11:00 Game day</p>
<p>4</p>	<p>5</p>	<p>6</p> <p>8:00 Walk & Talk</p> <p>9:00 ARC</p> <p>3:30 Storytime for Kids</p>	<p>7</p> <p>10:00 Grace's group</p> <p>10:30 Toddler Time</p> <p>11:00 Book Group</p> <p>12:00 Friends' Group</p> <p>3:30 Kids' Art</p>	<p>8</p> <p>9:00 @ ARC</p> <p>11:00 Adult Crafting</p> <p>2:00 Android Basics</p> <p>3:00 Email</p> <p>3:30 Kids STEAM</p>	<p>9</p> <p>10:00 Marco Rubio's rep office hours</p> <p>3:30 Photography Group</p> <p>4:00 Teen Activity</p>  	<p>10</p> <p>11:00 Valentine's Party with</p> 
<p>11</p>	<p>12</p> <p>HLC Mobile Library</p>	<p>13</p> <p>8:00 Walk & Talk</p> <p>9:00 ARC</p> <p>3:30 STEAM for kids</p> 	<p>14</p> <p>10:00 Grace's group</p> <p>10:30 Toddler Time</p> <p>11:00 Book Group</p> <p>3:30 Kids' Art</p> 	<p>15</p> <p>9:00 @ ARC</p> <p>9:30 Adult Crafting</p> <p>2:00 Zoom Basics</p> <p>3:00 Windows 10</p> <p>3:30 Kids' Storytime</p>	<p>16</p> <p>11:00 Arcadia Housing Authority Community Day</p> <p>1:00 Movie for adults</p> 	<p>17</p> <p>11:00 Family Birding Backpacks with Audubon</p> 
<p>18</p> 	<p>19</p>	<p>20</p> <p>8:00 Walk & Talk</p> <p>9:00 ARC</p> <p>3:30 Storytime for Kids</p>	<p>21</p> <p>10:00 Grace's group</p> <p>10:30 Toddler Time</p> <p>10:30 HLC Board</p> <p>11:00 Book Group</p> <p>3:30 Kids' Art</p>	<p>22</p> <p>9:00 @ ARC</p> <p>3:30 STEAM for Kids</p>	<p>23</p> <p>4:00 Teen Gaming Activity</p>	<p>24</p> <p>11:00 Kids' movie</p>
<p>25</p>	<p>26</p>	<p>27</p> <p>8:00 Walk & Talk</p> <p>9:00 ARC</p> <p>3:30 STEAM</p>	<p>28</p> <p>10:00 Grace's group</p> <p>10:30 Toddler Time</p> <p>11:00 Book Group</p> <p>3:30 Kids' Art</p>	<p>29</p> <p>9:00 @ ARC</p> <p>10:30 Nature Presentation</p> <p>3:30 Storytime for kids</p>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 10px; text-align: center;"> <p><i>DeSoto County Library</i></p> <p>125 N Hillsborough</p> <p>863.993.4851</p> <p>Partially funded through FL Dept of State grants</p> </div>	



DeSoto County Library

Children's Activities

125 N. Hillsborough Ave.
Arcadia, FL 34266

FEBRUARY

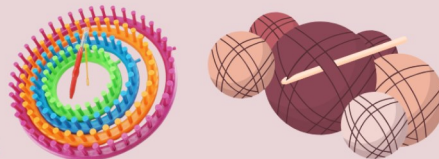
2024

T&Th: 9 a.m. - 6 p.m.
W&F: 8:30 a.m. - 6 p.m.
Sat.: 9 a.m. - 2:30 p.m.

	MON 29	TUE 30	WED 31	THU 1	FRI 2	SAT 3	SUN 4
				Storytime & Craft 3:30 p.m. 		GAME DAY 11 A.M.	
5		Storytime & Craft 3:30 p.m. 	Toddler Time 10:30 a.m. B C C Art 3:30p.m. 	STEAM 3:30 p.m. 	TEEN PROGRAM! Ages: 13-19 4 p.m. Loom & crochet 	Valentine's Day party FIRST 100 DAYS 11 A.M.	
12		STEAM 3:30 p.m. 	Toddler Time 10:30 a.m. B C C Art 3:30p.m. 	Storytime & Craft 3:30 p.m. 		Family Birding presentation 11 AM 	
19		Storytime & Craft 3:30 p.m. 	Toddler Time 10:30 a.m. B C C Art 3:30p.m. 	STEAM 3:30 p.m. 	TEEN GAMING PROGRAM! Ages: 13-19 4 p.m. 	MOVIE 	
26		STEAM 3:30 p.m. 	Toddler Time 10:30 a.m. B C C Art 3:30p.m. 	Storytime & Craft 3:30 p.m. 			

TWO Teen Programs This Month

FEBRUARY 9TH - LOOM/CROCHET (4PM - 5:30PM)



With Special Guest
Connie Williard

FEBRUARY 23RD - GAMING NIGHT (4PM - 5:30PM)



In Partnership With
"The Mana Vault"