Dear Folks,

March is here and we are busy working for you. Ms Liz is busy preparing for this month’s events as well as working diligently to provide an awesome summer for all our patrons. Check out our timely exhibit of Cracker tales and history, of Florida pioneers and cowboys. Leigh and Karen have prepared quite the selection of books for you. Wendy is busy working with her groups both on and off site and still processing all of our recent additions to our collections.

A huge thank you goes out to two very different benefactors during February. Iris Varner’s children surprised her with a birthday donation in her honor to the library. We really enjoyed the process of selecting books we thought she would enjoy. Check out some of our recent additions and you just might find a book plate indicating her children’s gift in her honor.

Our second donation came from WEDU and the Phyllis L. Ensign endowment. They have provided us with a beautiful “Library Corner” for our children’s area and activities for our little ones. Big red Clifford even joined us for the grand opening.

We are so grateful for each and every one of you.

Come see us!

Linda

Linda recommends

“"A compelling-and illuminating-look at how our daily habits impact the environment.""—Vanity Fair

"Shows how even the smallest decisions can have profound environmental consequences."—The New York Times

From a former New York Times science writer, this urgent call to action will empower you to stand up to climate change and environmental pollution by making simple but impactful everyday choices.

With urgency and wit, Tatiana Schlossberg explains that far from being only a distant problem of the natural world created by the fossil fuel industry, climate change is all around us, all the time, lurking everywhere in our convenience-driven society, all without our realizing it. Read about another selection by Linda on page 4.
Giverny, France. During the day, the town is the home of the famous artist Claude Monet and the gardens where he painted his Water Lilies. But once the tourists have gone, there is a darker side to the peaceful French village.

Black Water Lilies by Michel Bussi is the story of thirteen days that begin with one murder and end with another. Jérôme Morval, a man whose passion for art was matched only by his passion for women, has been found dead in the stream that runs through the gardens. In his pocket is a postcard of Monet’s Water Lilies with the words: Eleven years old. Happy Birthday.

Entangled in the mystery are three women: a young painting prodigy, the seductive village schoolteacher, and an old widow who watches over the village from a mill by the stream. All three of them share a secret. But what do they know about the discovery of Jérôme Morval’s corpse? And what is the connection to the mysterious, rumored painting of Black Water Lilies?

Leigh’s pick—by Leigh Hornbake

The Book of Candlelight is the third installment by Ellery Adams in her Secret, Book, and Scone Society series. It is raining nonstop in Miracle Springs, which is good for business, because the tourists are going into the shops and restaurants to keep dry. Nora goes to the local flea market to find things to sell in her store. She buys a clay pot made by a local Cherokee man who she later finds dead. In addition to solving his murder, she ends up making connections and solving an old mystery.

This is the best of the three! I love murder mysteries, but I really love cold case mysteries. This combines the two and kept me reading anxiously until the end. Ellery Adams is one of my favorite authors. All of her books are great reads.

"Reading forces you to be quiet in a world that no longer makes a place for that."
~ John Green

"I was born with a reading list I will never finish."
~ Maud Casey
Pre-teen read—by Liz Coronado

In one of the last cities standing after the world fell to monsters, best friends Zed Kagari and Brock Dunderfel have high hopes for the future. Zed desperately wishes to join the ranks of the Mages Guild, where his status as Freestone’s only half elf might finally be an asset. Brock, is confident he’ll be welcomed into the ranks of the Merchants Guild. But just as it seems the boys’ dreams have come true, their lives take a startling turn and they find themselves members of the perilous Adventurers Guild.

Led by the fearsome Alabasel Frond, the guild acts as the last line of defense against the Dangers-hungry, unnatural beasts from otherworldly planes. And when the boys uncover a conspiracy that threatens all of Freestone, Zed, Brock, and their new allies must prove their worth once and for all. This start of a thrilling new series is sure to be a hit with readers who like their fantasies clever and action-packed, with tons of humor and heart.

The authors, Zack Loren Clark and Nick Eliopulos, created a unique world with monsters I’ve not read about. The story of how each character became part of the Guild is different for each one, which enriched the tale. At times it was a little telly, but it didn’t prevent me from getting engrossed in the characters adventures and wondering how they’d handle themselves in their situations, and how things would turn out.

Family read—by Karen Smoke

I came across this book looking for novels about the Great Smoky Mountains area of North Carolina. Where the Lilies Bloom by Bill and Vera Cleaver is an award-winning novel about the resilience of the human spirit, the power of duty, the fragile relationship between humans and nature, and the sacrifices we make for family.

Mary Call has promised her dying father to keep her brother and sisters together forever in their poor sharecroppers home and to never take any help from strangers. She is determined to keep her word—and her pride. No matter what.

At first she is sure she can manage. The Luther children scrimp and do all they can to eke out a living for themselves. Romey, Ima Dean, and Devola help gather herbs to sell in town; the riches of the mountains will surely keep the family clothed and fed. But when winter comes, Mary Call learns that the land where the lilies bloom can be a cruel and unforgiving place, and it will take more than a promise to keep her family together.

Mary Call takes refuge in her journal, and the essays she writes for school assignments catch the eye of her teacher who urges her not to waste her talent with words by settling for “a life in the hills,” implying she should pursue a career as an author.

This classic coming of age story explores issues of poverty, character, and perseverance. It is a great selection for reading together as a family—try reading a chapter an evening—there are lots of opportunities to open discussions with your children.

“If there's a book that you want to read, but it hasn't been written yet, then you must write it.”

~ Toni Morrison
Another recommendation from Linda

A longtime backpacker, climber, and skier, **Michael Lanza** knows our national parks like the back of his hand. As a father, he hopes to share these special places with his two young children. But he has seen firsthand the changes wrought by the warming climate and understands what lies ahead: Alaska’s tidewater glaciers are rapidly retreating, and the abundant sea life in their shadow departs with them. Encroaching tides threaten beloved wilderness coastlines like Washington’s Olympic and Florida’s Everglades. Less snowfall and hotter summers will diminish Yosemite’s world-famous waterfalls. And it is predicted that Glacier National Park’s 7,000-year-old glaciers will be gone in a decade.

In **Before They’re Gone**, he takes his nine-year-old son, Nate, and seven-year-old daughter, Alex, on an ambitious journey to see as many climate-threatened wild places as he can fit into a year: backpacking in the Grand Canyon, Glacier, the North Cascades, Mount Rainier, Rocky Mountain, and along the wild Olympic coast; sea kayaking in Alaska’s Glacier Bay; hiking to Yosemite’s waterfalls; rock climbing in Joshua Tree National Park; cross-country skiing in Yellowstone; and canoeing in the Everglades.