

BiblioBites

Friends of DeSoto County Library Association

October 2022

Volume 11, Issue 10

Director's note

Dear Folks,

Once again life has changed for all of us. Hurricane Ian spent a day with us and has left us with a new and challenging landscape, both physically and emotionally. DeSoto County and our neighbors have been battered by Ian, but we are not beaten. With the help of an army of good people from across the country, we will rebuild. Right now some of our friends from the National Guard are housed at the library while they assist with security, food and water and other responsibilities.

While our physical structure is serving other purposes, you still have access to a large selection of digital materials throughout three online collections and numerous databases online to meet your reading and informational needs.

Together we will come back more powerful than Ian. We are DeSoto Strong!

Hope we have the opportunity to visit and catch up soon.

Linda

Linda recommends

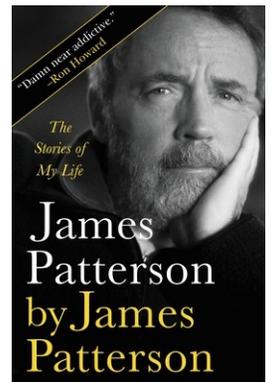
How does he do it so frequently over so many years? **James Patterson by James Patterson: the Stories of my Life**, by James Patterson is the most anticipated memoir of 2022.

"One of the greatest storytellers of all time, Patterson has led an amazing life. James Patterson By James Patterson brings to mind Hemingway's A Moveable Feast. I love the pithy, bright anecdotes, and at times his poignant narrative will bring you to tears."—New York Times bestselling author Patricia Cornwell

"James Patterson does it again. The master storyteller of our times takes us on a funny, poignant, and ultimately triumphant journey through his own life. If you are among the many millions of us who enjoy reading Patterson's books, or if you haven't discovered him yet, you'll love reading this one too."—Hillary Rodham Clinton

"One of the greatest storytellers of all time, Patterson has led an amazing life. *James Patterson By James Patterson* brings to mind Hemingway's A Moveable Feast. I love the pithy, bright anecdotes, and at times his poignant narrative will bring you to tears."—New York Times bestselling author Patricia Cornwell

Read more— https://www.goodreads.com/book/show/58231782-james-patterson-by-james-patterson?from_search=true&from_srp=true&qid=7Dz4IZgrwG&rank=1



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Publishers Weekly Bestseller Lists October 4, 2022

FICTION

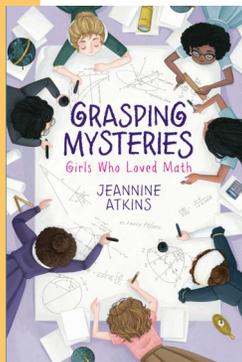
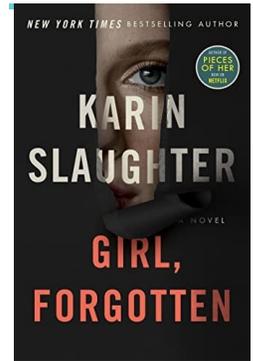
1. *Dreamland*, by Nicholas Sparks
2. *Fairy Tale*, by Stephen King
3. *The Bullet That Missed: A Thursday Murder Club Mystery*, by Richard Osman
4. *Blowback*, by James Patterson and Brendan DuBois
5. *The Butcher and the Wren*, by Alaina Urquhart
6. *Oath of Loyalty*, by Vince Flynn and Kyle Mills
7. *Lucy by the Sea*, by Elizabeth Strout
8. *Carrie Soto Is Back*, by Taylor Jenkins
9. *All Good People Here*, by Ashley Flowers
10. *Clive Cussler's Hellburner*, by Mike Maden

NONFICTION

1. *I'm Glad My Mom Died*, by Jennette McCurdy
2. *The Simply Happy Cookbook*, by Steve Doocy and Kathy Doocy
3. *The Divider: Trump in the White House, 2017-2021*, by Peter Baker and Susan Glasser
4. *Starry Messenger: Cosmic Perspectives on Civilization*, by Neil Degrasse Tyson
5. *Smart Brevity: Write Less. Say More. Get Heard*, by Jim Vandehei, Mike Allen and Roy Schwartz
6. *The Return of the Gods*, by Jonathan Cahn
7. *Good Inside: A Guide to Becoming the Parent You Want to Be*, by Becky
8. *What If? 2: Additional Serious Scientific Answers to Absurd Hypothetical Questions*, by Randall Munroe
9. *Dinners with Ruth: A Memoir on the Power of Friendships*, by Nina Totenberg
10. *The Great Reset: And the War for the World*, by Alex Jones

Liz likes—Liz Coronado

A small town hides a big secret. Who killed Emily Vaughn? There is a girl with a secret on Longbill Beach, 1982. Emily Vaughn gets ready for the prom. For an athlete, who is smart, pretty and well-liked, this night should be the highlight of her high school career. But Emily has a secret. And by the end of the evening, that secret will be silenced forever. Forty years later, Emily's murder remains a mystery. Her tight-knit group of friends closed ranks; her respected, wealthy family retreated inwards; the small town moved on from her grisly attack. But all that's about to change. US Marshal Andrea Oliver arrives in Longbill Beach on her first assignment: to protect a judge receiving death threats. But, in reality, Andrea is there to find justice for Emily. The killer is still out there—and Andrea must discover the truth before she gets silenced, too. *Girl Forgotten* by Karin Slaughter is a great book. I thought I had some of it figured out, but alas, no go! I found the story easy to follow and interesting. *This book is available as a digital loan through TBLC*



Bookmarked—Jolaine Konstantinidis

Grasping Mysteries: Girls Who Loved Math is a thoroughly researched collection of biographies in free verse by Jeannine Atkins. Seven remarkable women are featured whose key to exploring the mysteries of the universe was none other than math.

The book opens with Caroline Herschel, b. 1750, who was the first woman to discover a comet, earn a salary for scientific research and win a gold medal from the Royal Astronomical Society of England. It progresses chronologically to Florence Nightingale, who, a century later used the mathematics lessons of her father to develop charts and graphs reforming hospitals with a system of medical records and becoming the first woman elected to the Royal Statistical Society. Fifty years later, Hertha Marks Arntson graduated as a math major from one of the first colleges open to women, became an electrical engineer and registered 26 patents for her many

inventions. The author follows with the life stories of Marie Tharp who helped create the map of the entire ocean floor, Katharine Johnson who charted courses for NASA astronauts, and the first Native American statistician to work full time at the US Census Bureau, Edna Lee Paisano.

The book ends with the story of Vera Rubin, the second woman to win the Gold Medal of the Royal Astronomical Society. Rubin's life shows that a woman can do ground-breaking work and raise a family as well—something that was not an option for women in previous years. Rubin found the first evidence of dark matter and raised four children teaching them to reach for the stars. One grew up to become a mathematician, another an astronomer, and two became geologists.

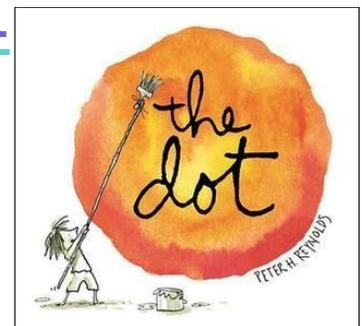
All of these women faced personal obstacles as well as gender bias with men taking credit for many of their efforts. They were pioneers in science and math driven by curiosity. They deserved more respect and recognition than they were given, but despite resistance and discrimination they pursued their work. Atkins has chosen women from history whose astonishing work was inspired by their love for math and can be inspirational for young women of the future.

Choice for Children—Jolaine Konstantinidis

I recently read *The Dot* written and illustrated by Peter H. Reynolds with my granddaughter because she was preparing to celebrate International Dot Day, celebrated Sept. 15 every year since 2009, with her kindergarten class. I am sorry to say this was my first reading of the book which was published almost 20 years ago.

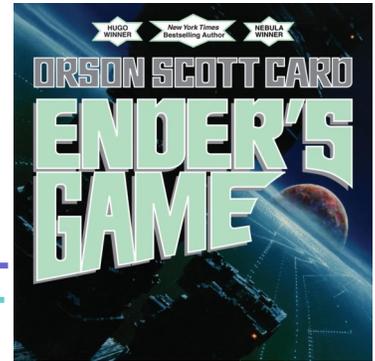
It tells the story of a little girl who dislikes art class because she says she can't draw. Her teacher encourages and boosts her confidence by convincing her she is an artist. This reminded me of *Love That Dog* by Sharon Creech about a child who says he cannot write poetry. In both cases the importance of teacher-student relationships in fostering creativity and confidence is highlighted. The idea that self-expression and skill develop over time with practice is also a theme in both stories.

Both my granddaughter and I found *The Dot* delightful and have read it over and over again. She had a blast on International Dot Day, she had a blast! Students engaged in all sorts of creative activities and were allowed to wear polka dots instead of their uniforms that day. I know what I'll be wearing on September 15, 2023!



Robert recommends—Robert Andres

If you like science fiction, **Orson Scott Card** is a dependable choice. Recently I revisited *Ender's Game*, written in 1985 and the basis for multiple follow up books and a movie. The story has the right mix of highly interesting futuristic and alien ideas and action and plot. Recommend!

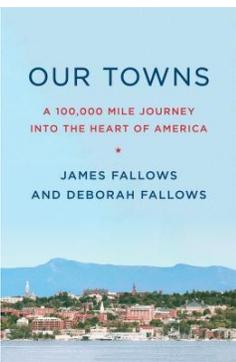


Tips on using Axis 360—Editor

While the library is closed, do you know you can borrow some great titles for children from Axis 360? The collection has over 1,200 new items added recently with grant money, mostly for children and young adults.

Limited Internet? Find you selection and choose Order Now. once the book has opened, use the three bars at upper left to download for offline reading.

Reading Rx—by Karen Smoke



Sometimes books prove to be like a prescription--just the thing you need to restore your well being. Often patrons ask for something, but find it difficult to articulate their needs. We respect your privacy, but you will have to give us some clues as to exactly what you are looking for.

Other times serendipity works out just right. Such was the case when I used TBLC to download *Our Towns: A 100,000-Mile Journey Into the Heart of America*, by **James M. Fallows** and **Deborah Fallows** while wallowing in the despair over the destruction caused by Hurricane Ian.

James and Deborah Fallows spent five years travelling around the country in their private airplane. Long time writers for The Atlantic and other publications, an initial blog post asked for towns with stories--generating over 1,000 replies. They researched towns that have moved forward, often after economic or natural disasters. The groundwork included setting up meetings to visit with local media, community leaders, educators, business people, workers, libraries and more, to take the pulse of the community and see what is going on. They would find a place to stay, preferably downtown in the heart of the community, and often returned several times to gather more information. The book details the civic and economic reinvention that is taking place across the country, town by town and generally out of view of the national media. The last chapter offers up 10 1/2 signs of civic success. One of the common denominators they found in successful towns was that the leaders agreed to move forward with practical local possibilities, even though they did not agree politically. The successful cities know their own story--what makes them unique, and work to preserve and foster it. Top, innovative schools and higher education are part of the formula. Partnerships between the public and private sector are cited as being turning points for communities. The last 1/2 sign is a surprising one that I will leave you to discover.

I recommend this book for anyone who will play a part in the rebuilding of our community. For a sample take a look at this discussion on the book: <https://www.c-span.org/video/?511182-3/washington-journal-james-deborah-fallows-discuss-hbo-documentary-our-towns>

The video is available on HBO, this is the link to the trailer for it: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gyONWu_7sl

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Do a search, or browse from a number of collections such as: I Will Turn This Car Around—Books for Dads, Can you feel the love tonight?, Reading is Timeless: Historical Fiction, Page to Screen, and more. Volumes are checked out for two weeks and you may select up to 20 items.

Book Chat—with Jolaine and Robert

Until we can meet again, you might want to read *The Seed Keeper* by **Diane Wilson** and drive over to Avon Park Public Library, 100 N Museum Ave., to partake in this live event. Phone: 863-452-3803.

Or, there are lots of on-line book discussions, author pages, book review sources and more to explore on the internet. We look forward to catching up again post Ian Recovery!



Highlands County Library System
Book Clubs:



Monthly

November Title:

Meeting Dates:

- October 6, 2022
- ➔ • November 3, 2022

Monthly book club will meet only at the Avon Park Public Library.



10 a.m.

