

BiblioBites

DeSoto County Library

April 2024

Volume 13, Issue 04

**April 16
National
Librarian
Day!**

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Director's note

Dear Folks,

April brings many events to anticipate. DeSoto County will once again welcome Remake Learning Days to a number of venues around the area. The Historical Society, the Garden Club, Saturday Night Lights, several churches and many other groups will be participating, creating lots of family activities across the three weekends, two week span at the end of April, beginning of May. Be sure to check out the sites and choose your favorites to participate.

April also brings the point where we must wish Ms. Tonya a fond farewell and best wishes for her new adventures. We have been so fortunate to have her at the helm in our children's area (and well beyond that) for well over a year. We will miss her, but wish her the best. She has made us all better for spending this time with us.

Check out all the happenings at the library.

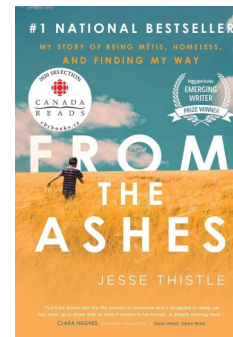
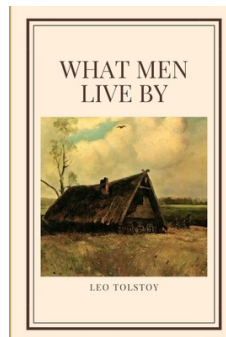
Come see us,

Linda

Linda recommends

***What Men Live By*, by Leo Tolstoy & *From The Ashes*, by Jesse Thistle**

Two stories of man, his resiliency, his kindness, and his overcoming difficult situations. One old, one new. One a tale, one true. Both the story of love that brought life to the barely living.



Publishers Weekly
Bestseller Lists
March 29, 2024

FICTION

1. *The Women*, by Kristin Hannah
2. *The #1 Lawyer...*, by James Patterson & Nancy Allen
3. *James*, by Percival Everett
4. *Forth Wing*, by Rebecca Yarros
5. *Iron Flame*, by Rebecca Yarros
6. *A Fate Inked in Blood*, by Danielle L Jensen
7. *The Heaven and Earth Grocery Store*, by James McBride
8. *House of Flame and Shadow*, by Sarah J Maas
9. *First Lie Wins*, by Ashley Elston
10. *Expiration Dates*, by Rebecca Serle

NON-FICTION

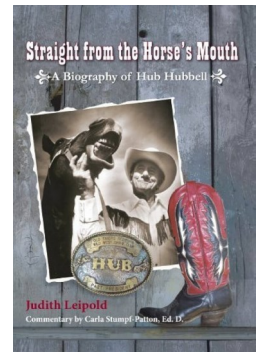
1. *Get It Together: Troubling Tales from the Liberal Fringe*, by Jesse Watters
2. *Barbie(tm): The World Tour*, by Margot Robbie & Andrew Mukamal
3. *Ghost Town Living: Mining for Purpose and Chasing Dreams at the Edge of Death Valley*, by Brent Underwood
4. *Blood Money: Why The Powerful Turn a Blind Eye While China Kills Americans*, by Peter Schweizer
5. *Bad Therapy: Why the Kids Aren't Growing Up*, by Abigail Shrier
6. *Zaytinya: Delicious Mediterranean Dishes from Greece, Turkey, and Lebanon*, by Jose Andres
7. *We've Got Issues: How You Can Stand Strong for America's Soul and Sanity*, by Phillip C McGraw
8. *The Wager: A Tale of Shipwreck, Mutiny, and Murder*, by David Grann
9. *Elevate and Dominate: 21 Ways to Win on and Off the Field*, by Deion Sanders
10. *The Art of Final Fantasy XVI*, by Square Enix

Fran Recommends —by Fran Kovach

***Straight from the Horse's Mouth A Biography of Hub Hubbell* by Judith Leipold**

The title of this book might equally have been, “A Cowboy from Connecticut,” as it unfolds the compelling biography of Hub Hubbell, his wife Eunice, and their adventures in the world of rodeo. It delves into the evolution of Florida rodeos, particularly in the Sarasota area, including Arcadia, and paints vivid descriptions of circus performers making Sarasota their winter haven.

The book features over fifty black and white photographs that chronicle Hub's journey from his teenage years, through his days as a rodeo personality, and finally, moments of tragedy. While the narrative can be somewhat restrictive, revisiting themes and events across multiple chapters, it remains a treasure trove for those fascinated by local and regional Florida history, offering a rich, visual glimpse into the past.



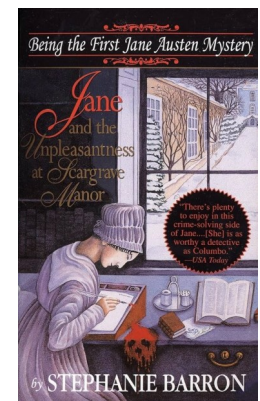
Bookmarked—Jolaine Konstantinidis

***Jane and the Unpleasantness at Scargrave Manor* by Stephanie Barron**

Barron begins with an editor's foreword which describes the discovery in 1995 of the Austen manuscripts in an outbuilding located on the premises of the Westmoreland family estate belonging to distant relatives of the famous author Jane Austen. It continues to tell how Barron came to be chosen as the writer who would compile and edit Austen's manuscripts into publishable form. So convincing was this description that I had devoured not only “...the First” but “...the Second” and “...the Third” of the mysteries marveling at the fact that this famous literary figure was a truly talented mystery writer, and in this respect, I believed Jane Austen to be on a par with Sir Arthur Conan Doyle and Agatha Christie if not surpassing and moreover, predating them! All this was before I bothered to glance at the copyright page and came to discover an author note which clearly states, “Not only are Paul and Lucy Westmoreland and Dunready Manor fictional, but the treasure trove found in the cellar of the former overseer's house...[etc.]...are entirely figments of my imagination, as are all the pages that follow.” Initially, I was stunned; everything about the style and language of these mysteries seemed so authentic of Austen's time, the places and characters so genuine, the “editor's” (S. Barron) notes so thoroughly supportive of the context. How could it be untrue that Austen penned these mysteries? I had been duped!

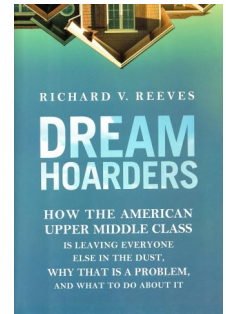
So, the mystery I sought to uncover was who the author Stephanie Barron is and how she became the twin voice of Jane Austen. Barron is American, not even of English heritage, yet her extensive reading of the Austen novels and letters has made her quite the expert at what she calls “Austenese” which is representative of the Georgian period. She also spent several years as an intelligence analyst with the CIA which she claims makes her adept at studying information and developing plots for mystery novels. But it is what Barron does with respect to her embodiment of Jane Austen herself that brings out my appreciation for what she has created in these works which she attributes to the latter. It is apparent that Barron has studied and knows Jane Austen and brings out her brilliance which she feels “lies in her perception of universal human foibles, follies... hopes and humor...” <https://austenblog.com/2022/02/14/a-conversation-with-stephanie-barron/>

The first of the Jane Austen mysteries was so satisfying I have kept reading and am happy to say there are 15 in all. Barron also has a Nantucket Mystery series and several standalones under the name Francine Mathews.



Robert recommends—Robert Andres

The book *Dream Hoarders* by **Richard V Reeves** is a well written, not too thick, book on socio-economic strata in America. While the great widening of the gap between the highest and lowest paid in our society has received some attention in the past years, this book covers the broader "upper middle class". The book is well researched with over 20 pages of endnotes. Given that the text is 140 odd pages that is a solid percentage. Not everything is gold but worth the read!



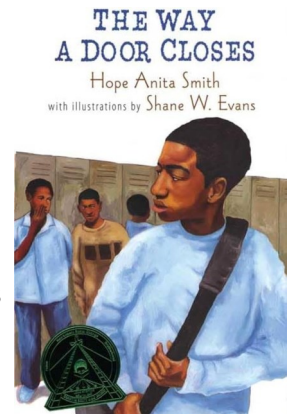
Choice for children—Tonya Bordner

The concise language that paints the picture of *The Way a Door Closes*, by **Hope Anita Smith** speaks to my word-smith **soul**. The cover didn't attract my attention when I recently checked it in, but the title beckoned me to open it to the inside cover blurb. Then, I was **hooked** and HAD TO READ MORE.

I've always been a sucker for a **poem**, especially a book written in verse. There's something concise and freeing when reading and writing poetry. This 52 page story recounts the moments before and after his father left; and then when he **returned**.

The verses capture the small moments of a family as interpreted by a **youth**: the phrases grandma always says, the Sunday afternoon routines, a child's thoughts when he looks at family photos and the like.

It's a story of struggle and ultimate triumph that celebrates **family**.



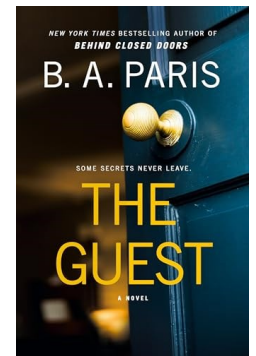
Liz Likes—Liz Coronado

Iris and Gabriel have just arrived home from a make-or-break holiday. But a shock awaits them. One of their closest friends, Laure, is in their house. The atmosphere quickly becomes tense as she oversteps again and again: sleeping in their bed, wearing Iris' clothes, even rearranging the furniture.

Laure has walked out on her husband—and their good friend—Pierre, over his confession of an affair and a secret child. Iris and Gabriel want to be supportive of their friends, but as Laure's mood becomes increasingly unpredictable, her presence takes its toll.

Iris and Gabriel's only respite comes in the form of a couple new to town. But with them comes their gardener, who has a checkered past. Soon, secrets from all their pasts will unravel, some more dangerous than they could have known.

I'm a longtime fan of **B.A Paris** and her thrillers, but this book, *The Guest*, is shooting high on my list of her books. This psychological thriller was a little slow to start. The character's are not very likeable, parts were a little predictable, but when you get to the end...BAM, you will not see this twist coming! This is my favorite part about B.A. Paris, just when you think you know everything, she adds in a zinger that you never see coming, but fits so well within the story it is completely plausible. When I tell you the epilogue to this story had my jaw on the floor, I really mean it. After reading the last chapter I wondered how the story could be ending with so many unanswered questions. In the epilogue we get every answer we could have wanted and more, and it was sooo satisfying seeing it all wrapped up with a bow. I had some suspicions of who was behind all the drama throughout the story, but I was wrong because the ending was totally shocking.



**Friends of DeSoto
County Library
Association**
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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



YA Choice—Reagan Bordner

Niamh Ó Conchobhair has never let herself long for more. The magic in her blood that lets her stitch emotions and memories into fabric is the same magic that will eventually kill her. Determined to spend the little time she has left guaranteeing a better life for her family, Niamh jumps at the chance to design the wardrobe for a royal wedding in the neighboring kingdom of Avaland.

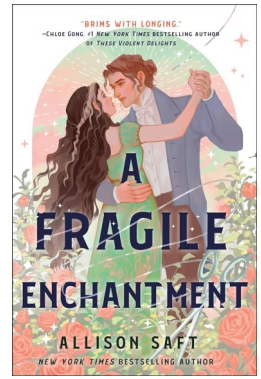
But Avaland is far from the fairytale that she imagined. While young nobles attend candlelit balls and elegant garden parties, unrest brews amid the working class. The groom himself, Kit Carmine, is prickly, abrasive, and begrudgingly being dragged to the altar as a political pawn. But when Niamh and Kit grow closer, an unlikely friendship blossoms into something more—until an anonymous columnist starts buzzing about their chemistry, promising to leave them alone only if Niamh helps to uncover the royal family’s secrets. The rot at the heart of Avaland runs deep, but exposing it could risk a future she never let herself dream of, and a love she never thought possible.

A Fragile Enchantment, a new release and new addition to our library, is a regency, England-inspired, fantasy love story.

Allison Saft has such strength in creating magical worlds that you are truly transported into another realm while reading. The romance had a bit of a slow start, but it is worth it to follow through.

This book had a lot of your common romance tropes such as grumpy x sunshine, forbidden love, enemies to lovers, ect. So if you are a fan of any of those, you will most likely like this book.

The historical and regency vibes of this book also reminded me a lot of Bridgerton, so if you are a Bridgerton fan, I’d give this book a try.



COMING SOON
to the
**DeSoto County
Library**

April 20th -
May 4th 2024

Download The App

DCLA Update—by Elizabeth, VP

Hello, Everyone,
The DeSoto County Library Association board treasurer Susan Barnes has paid our Florida Not for Profit Corporation annual report fee for another year. Have you seen board secretary Kari Jackson’s flyer on display at the Library: Volunteers are always welcomed! **Hisashi Kashiwai’s, The Kamogawa Food Detectives**, offers a different slant on mysteries—can’t recreate a childhood favorite dish? It is so important to some that they call upon a father and daughter team to help them out. Very ingenious and also mouth-watering. Try it.



DeSoto County Library

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2 8:00 Walk & Talk 9:00 ARC 3:30 STEAM for Kids	3 10:00 Grace's group 10:30 Toddler Time 11:00 Book Group 3:30 Kids' Art	4 9:00 @ ARC 2:00 Internet Basics 3:00 Cybersecurity 3:30 Storytime	5	6 11:00 Game day
7	8 Mobile Li- brary 1:00 Harwood Community Conversation	9 8:00 Walk & Talk 9:00 ARC 3:30 Storytime	10 9:00 Indelible Rebuild Florida 10:00 Grace's group 10:30 Toddler Time 11:00 Book Group	11 9:00 @ ARC 2:00 Android Basics 3:00 Email 3:30 STEAM	12 3:30 Photography Group 4:00 Teen Activity	13 11:00 Kid's movie
14	15	16 8:00 Walk & Talk 9:00 ARC 3:30 STEAM	17 10:00 Grace's group 10:30 Toddler Time 11:00 Book Group 3:30 Kids' Art	18 9:00 @ ARC 11:00 Adult Crafting 2:00 Zoom Basics 3:00 Windows 10 3:30 Kids' Activity 5:00 Nocatee Elem	19 1:00 Movie for adults 	20 11:00 Remake Learning Days 
21	22	23 8:00 Walk & Talk 9:00 ARC 3:30 Storytime	24 10:00 Grace's group 10:30 Toddler Time 11:00 Book Group 3:30 All Faiths	25 9:00 @ ARC 3:30 Storytime	26	27 11:00 Kid's Activity
28	29	30 8:00 Walk & Talk 9:00 ARC 3:30 Storytime 	<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px;"> <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> </div>		<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 10px;"> <p><i>DeSoto County Library</i></p> <p><i>125 N Hillsborough</i></p> <p><i>863.993.4851</i></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

APRIL 2024

MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	SUN
1	2 STEAM 3:30 p.m.	3 Toddler Time 10:30 a.m. Art 3:30p.m.	4 Storytime & Craft 3:30 p.m.	5	6 GAME DAY 11 A.M.	7
8	9 Storytime & Craft 3:30 p.m.	10 Toddler Time 10:30 a.m. Art 3:30p.m.	11 STEAM 3:30 p.m.	12 TEEN Ages 13-19 PROGRAM! Puzzle Mystery	13 MOVIE DORA 11 A.M.	14
15	16 STEAM 3:30 p.m.	17 Toddler Time 10:30 a.m. Art 3:30p.m.	18 Storytime & Craft 3:30 p.m.	19	20 BUBBLES 11 a.m. Make wands Paint w/bubbles blow gigantic bubble and bubble snakes	
22	23 Play dough Sensory Jar 3:30 p.m.	24 Toddler Time 10:30 a.m. Cookies & Canvas 3:30 p.m.	25 Starry night in a jar 3:30 p.m.	26	27 MARBLE Run 11 a.m.	28
	30 Racing Robots 3:30 p.m.	1 Faiths Food Bank Very Hungry Caterpillar inspired Snacks Book giveaway 3:30 p.m.	2 Circuit building 3:30 p.m.	3 TEEN Ages 13-19 PROGRAM! Virtual Reality with Merge VR	4 Technology & toys! 11 a.m.	5



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.

TEEN PROGRAM

Ages 13 - 19

The Nation Library of Scotland's prized possession was stolen and they need help getting it back!

Can you help them solve the mystery in a mini escape room puzzle?

April 12th
4pm - 5:30pm
DeSoto County Library

125 N Hillsborough Ave
Arcadia FL
34266

contact us at:
863-993-4851