

BiblioBites

DeSoto County Library

February 2025

Volume 14, Issue 02



Director's note

Dear Folks,

2025 is rolling right along; how are you doing with your goals, habits, priorities, and intentions for 2025? Since February is the month where we celebrate love, show your library a little love and come volunteer with us. We have the most amazing group of volunteers who practice their love for the library in all kinds of ways. Come and try it out; you will meet the greatest group of people here working together for the good of our community.

February is also National Library Lovers' Month so we want you to know how much all of our patrons are appreciated. We frequently share stories of the fantastic patrons and friends we have at DeSoto County Library with others who in our field. We are so fortunate to have all of you here with us and supporting what we do for and with our community.

Come see us,

Linda

Inside this issue:

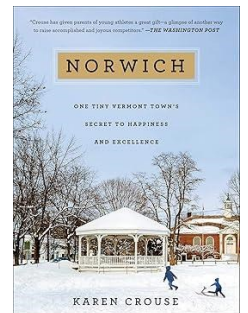
Publishers Weekly	2
Liz likes	2
Bookmarked by Jolaine	2
Robert recommends	3
Choice for children by Ama	3
Fran Recommends	3
Editor's Choice by Reagan	4
Library Info	4
Calendar	5
Children's Wing Calendar	6

Linda recommends

The extraordinary story of the small Vermont town that has likely produced more Olympians per capita than any other place in the country, **Norwich** gives "parents of young athletes a great gift—a glimpse at another way to raise accomplished and joyous competitors" (The Washington Post).

In Norwich, Vermont, a charming town, a culture has taken root that's the opposite of the hypercompetitive schoolyard of today's tiger moms and eagle dads. In Norwich, kids aren't cut from teams. They don't specialize in a single sport, and they even root for their rivals. What's more, their hands-off parents encourage them to simply enjoy themselves. Yet this village of roughly three thousand residents has won three Olympic medals and sent an athlete to almost every Winter Olympics for the past thirty years.

Karen Crouse's story is about more than Olympic athletes and aspirations. The much larger story is one that could easily be shared with Arcadia where folks work together to support and encourage each other so that all may know success in their endeavors.



Publishers Weekly Bestseller Lists January 31st, 2025

FICTION

1. *Onyx Storm (Deluxe Edition)*, by Rebecca Yarros
2. *Onyx Storm (Standard Edition)*, by Rebecca Yarros
3. *James*, by Percival Everett
4. *The Women*, by Kristin Hannah
5. *Witchcraft for Wayward Girl*, by Grady Hendrix
6. *The God of the Woods*, by Liz Moore
7. *The Book of Bill*, by Alex Hirsch
8. *The Wedding People*, by Alison Espach
9. *Beautiful Ugly*, by Alice Feeney
10. *All the Colors of the dark*, by Chris Whitaker

NON-FICTION

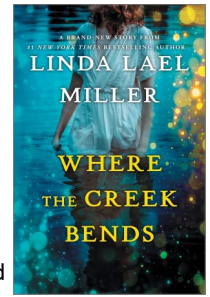
1. *The Let Them Theory:...* by Mel Robbins
2. *Melania*, by Melania Trump
3. *The Anxious Generation:...*, by Jonathan Haidt
4. *The House of My Mother: A Daughter's Quest for Freedom*, by Shari Frank
5. *Good Energy: Fix Your Metabolism to Feel Better Today and Prevent Disease Tomorrow*, by Casey Means
6. *Essential: How Distributed Teams, Generative AI, and Global Shifts are Creating a New Human-Powered Leadership*, by Christie Smith & Kelly Monahan
7. *Dare I Say It: Everything I Wish I'd Known about Menopause*, by Naomi Watts
8. *The Serviceberry*, by Robin Wall Kimmerer
9. *There's Treasure Inside*, by Jon Collins-Black
10. *The JFK Conspiracy: The Secret Plot to Kill Kennedy—And Why It Failed*, by Brad Meltzer

Liz likes—Liz Coronado

Madison Bettencourt has tried to assemble all the pieces of a perfect life, but nothing fits quite the way it should. She's moved back home to Montana to care for her grandmother, who is slipping further and further away. She's called off her wedding, and worries her dreams of a family are fading with it.

As Madison rattles around her family home, childhood memories come flooding back. Bliss Morgan transformed eight-year-old Madison with her loyalty, and for a while, the two girls were as close as can be. But Madison never understood why Bliss suddenly vanished, leaving only a friendship bracelet and a message etched into a matchbook. Before she can begin again, Madison must uncover what happened to Bliss, and Liam McKetrick—a widowed dad trying to repair his relationship with his two children—becomes her unlikely ally. He, too, understands the pang of regret. Yet there are mysteries that Madison hesitates to explore with anyone, and strange energies in Bettencourt Hall that blur the lines between past and present.

Where the Creek Bends by Linda Lael Miller masterfully combines paranormal, romance, time travel, mystery, and western elements, creating a captivating read. This book has a little bit of everything. It also has a whole lot of awesome! I was immediately drawn into the story with "all" the characters that stood out in all the right ways. A sexy cowboy, a strong female, great friends, trying children, and ex boyfriends that earned their titles. I can't think of any part I didn't enjoy. The fantasy of the story was perfect, especially how it unfolded.



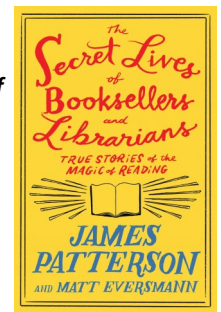
Bookmarked—Jolaine Konstantinidis

The Secret Lives of Booksellers and Librarians: True Stories of the Magic of Reading, by James Patterson and Matt Eversmann

This is a collection of firsthand accounts of those who know books best and are devoted to sharing their love of books. Their stories are compiled by the authors who promote them as "everyday heroes" and "essential pillars in our communities." The book comes as a result of entering hundreds of bookstores and libraries, interviewing their staff, and discovering their "magic" by revealing some of their "secrets."

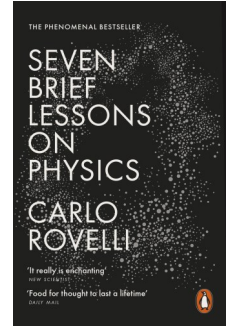
Some famous names (besides Patterson) will pop up as you read through the pages: Judy Blume, Isabelle Allende, Margaret Atwood, Amor Towles, Ann Patchett... but it is the product of ordinary people who love books. The volume is divided into 5 parts joined by a common thread: books change people's lives, both the book handlers and those with whom they engage. The experiences and personal anecdotes shared by the contributors to this book document the many positive ways books influence lives. Examples range from offering a safe haven for people to voice and share ideas, to fostering people struggling with social or emotional pressures and loss, to enriching communities with specialized programs. Bookstores and libraries often sponsor author visits, reading clubs for all ages, hands-on activities designed to stretch the imagination and build relationships. They also visit schools, jails and other establishments in their areas, creating networks, offering assistance, connecting people with resources. Another theme that repeats itself in the testimonies within this compendium is that books are the foundation of society and banning them is extremely dangerous. The choice should always be the reader's. Though online access to buying and borrowing books presents a challenge to bookstores and libraries alike, the consensus is that it will never replace the needs for interaction and camaraderie, and particularly the smell of books that these places provide.

Reading may be predominately a solitary activity, but it becomes a social experience once you share the information on the page or recognize a character, setting, or event that takes you back to a familiar passage in a book, causing a new connection to be made mentally or actually. The process by which books become part of our lives may seem magical, but as this book demonstrates, it doesn't happen without curiosity, enthusiasm, commitment and vision.



Robert recommends—Robert Andres

If you have enjoyed trying to understand the mysteries of just physics, or even astrophysics, or possibly quantum physics, then you may have enjoyed previous recommendations for a sort of overview or primer on these subjects. **Carlo Rovelli's, *Seven Brief Lessons on Physics***, is another such tiny book that tries to make just a few basic concepts understandable. What is heat and why does it determine the direction of time? What is hot gravity? These concepts aren't simple or intuitive but they are fun to try to bend your mind around, if only a little bit.



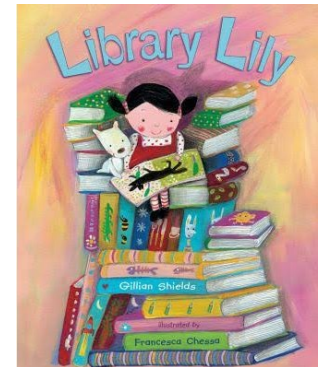
Choice for children—Ama Burns

Library Lily

Written by **Gillian Shields**

Illustrated by **Francesca Chessa**

In honor of National Library Lovers Month, I want to introduce you to Library Lily. She LOVES going to the library as much as she LOVES to read her books. Then one summer she meets a new friend who teaches her to love adventures outside of books while Lily shares her love of reading. A cute story of friendship and learning new things.



Fran Recommends—Fran Kovach

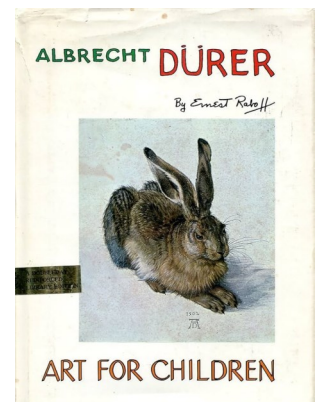
Albrecht Dürer Art for Children by Ernest Raboff

In examining Raboff's work, it becomes evident that the book serves as an accessible introduction to the art of Albrecht Dürer for children. The integration of full-color reproductions of Dürer's paintings, drawings, and designs allows young readers to visually engage with the material, fostering an appreciation for Dürer's artistic contributions. The choice of a large print format further enhances readability, making the text inviting for younger audiences.

Raboff's narrative style is noteworthy for its ability to explain the significance of each included work. The descriptions encourage children to look beyond the surface of the paintings, inviting them to explore deeper meanings and contexts. This approach not only makes art more relatable but also encourages critical thinking and observation skills among young readers.

While the book provides a brief biographical sketch of Dürer, it appears to prioritize the artwork itself over a comprehensive exploration of the artist's life. This focus allows for a concentrated discussion on the pieces. Nonetheless, the subtitle "Art for Children" aptly captures the essence of the book's intent, suggesting that it is meant to be both educational and engaging for a younger demographic.

Raboff's book stands as an effective resource for introducing children to the world of Dürer. Its focus on accessibility through large print, vivid reproductions, and engaging explanations promotes an environment where young readers can discover and appreciate art.



**Friends of DeSoto
County Library
Association**

P O Box 444
Arcadia, FL 34265

DeSoto County Library

125 N Hillsborough Ave
Arcadia FL 34266
www.myhlc.org/des
Phone: 863-993-4851

Linda Waters, Library
Director

E-mail:
LindaW@myhlc.org

Reagan Bordner,
Newsletter Editor
reagan@myhlc.com

Friends email:
deslibassoc@gmail.com



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



Editor's Choice—by Reagan Bordner

The adopted human daughter of the Nightborn vampire king, Oraya carved her place in a world designed to kill her. Her only chance to become something more than prey is entering the Kejari: a legendary tournament held by the goddess of death herself.

But winning won't be easy amongst the most vicious warriors from all three vampire houses. To survive, Oraya is forced to make an alliance with a mysterious rival.

Everything about Raihn is dangerous. He is a ruthless vampire, an efficient killer, an enemy to her father's crown... and her greatest competition. Yet, what terrifies Oraya most of all is that she finds herself oddly drawn to him.

But there's no room for compassion in the Kejari. War for the House of Night brews, shattering everything that Oraya thought she knew about her home. And Raihn may understand her more than anyone – but their blossoming attraction could be her downfall, in a kingdom where nothing is more deadly than love.

Don't get me wrong, this IS a romance story, but what really drew me to it was the action and high stakes competition. *The Serpent and the Wings of Night* feels like if *The Hunger Games* and *A Court of Thorns and Roses* was mashed together with a sprinkle of vampires and a (very) complicated father-daughter relationship.

So, if that sounds like something you would be a fan of, I'd recommend you give **Carissa Broadbent's** duology a try. The last few hundred pages left me in shock, I had expected part of the ending, but the other snuck up on me! I just had to know what happened next, so I am in the midst of reading the second book. So far so good!



DCLA Update—by Elizabeth, VP

Hello, Everyone,

The DeSoto County Library Association will have its quarterly Board meeting **Wednesday, February 5th at noon at the Library**. All are invited to hear the results of our annual yard sale. This is our yearly fund raiser for the Library's summer reading program.

Have you gotten your Southwest Florida Library Network sticker for your Library card? It means you can check out items from a number of southwest libraries without charge! I use mine at the Port Charlotte libraries all the time. Ask about it.

See you on the 5th.



FEBRUARY

2025

SUN

MON

TUE

WED

THU

FRI

SAT

DeSoto County Library

125 N Hillsborough

863.993.4851

Partially funded through
FL Dept of State grants

1
11:00
Bring your Child to
the Library Day



2

3

4

7:30 Walk & Talk
10:30 Toddler Time
10:00 Crocheting
with Connie
3:30 Kids STEAM
Day

5

11:00 Book Group
12:00 Friends of the
Library meeting
3:30 Kids' Art

6

2:00 Internet Basics
3:00 Cybersecurity
3:30 Kids Storytime

7



2:30 Big Brother Big
Sister
3:30 Photography
Group

8

11:00 Game day

9

10

11

7:30 Walk & Talk
10:30 Toddler Time
3:30 Kids STEAM
Day

12

11:00 Book Group
3:30 Kids' Art

13

11:00 Adult Craft
2:00 Android
3:00 Email basics
3:30 Kids Storytime



1:00 Movie for
Adults

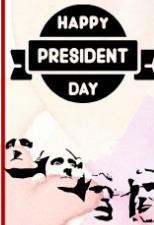
14

11:00 Kids' Movie
Day



16

17



18



7:30 Walk & Talk
10:30 Toddler Time
10:00 Crocheting
with Connie
3:30 Kids STEAM
Day

19

11:00 Book Group
3:30 Kids' Art



20

2:00 Zoom Basics
3:00 Windows 10
3:30 Kids Storytime

21

4:00 Teen Program

22

11:00 Lego Building

23

24

25

7:30 Walk & Talk
10:30 Toddler Time
3:30 Kids STEAM
Day

26

11:00 Book Group
3:30 Kids' Art

27

28

2:30 Big Brother Big
Sister



Open to our patrons:

Tuesday & Thursday: 9:00—6:00

Wednesday & Friday 8:30—6:00

Saturday: 9:00-2:30



MON

TUE

WED

THU

FRI

SAT

SUN

27

28

29

30

31

1

2

Children's Activities



3

Toddler Time
10:30 am
STEAM
3:30 p.m.



Story & Craft
3:30 p.m.

Big Brothers Big Sisters.
Story and Craft
2:30 PM

GAME DAY
11 A.M.

9

10

Toddler Time
10:30 am
STEAM
3:30 p.m.



Story & Craft
3:30 p.m.



11 A.M.

16

17



Toddler Time
10:30 am
STEAM
3:30 p.m.



Story & Craft
3:30 p.m.

Teen Program
4:00pm

LEGO CHALLENGE
11 A.M.

23

24

Toddler Time
10:30 am
STEAM
3:30 p.m.



Story & Craft
3:30 p.m.

Big Brothers Big Sisters.
Story and Craft
2:30 PM



FEBRUARY

2025

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

★ DIY STAMPS ★

CARVE YOUR VERY OWN STAMP



Friday: February 21st 4:00pm - 5:30pm
@The DeSoto County Library