



# PLACITAS Community LIBRARY NEWS

## DECEMBER 2018

### HOURS

Tuesday	10 – 7
Wednesday	10 – 5
Thursday	10 – 5
Saturday	10 – 5
Sunday	1 – 4


To go to our website, click:  
[www.placitaslibrary.com](http://www.placitaslibrary.com)

### What's Inside

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<i>and more!</i>	

# DECEMBER 2018

at PCL

- Dec 7 **Game Night!** 7:00 PM -See p. 11
- Dec 8 **Holiday Open House!** 10:00 AM -See p. 4
- Dec 12 **FILM: Sacred Land, Sacred Water: Confluences in the Rio Grande Valley,** 7:00 PM -See p. 9
- Dec 14 **Artists' Public Reception: Passages,** 5 - 7:00 PM -See p. 8
- Dec 15 **Placitas Elves Workshop: Wrapping Station,** 1 - 4:00 PM -See p. 2 
- Dec 20 **Board of Directors Meeting,** 6:00 PM -See p. 3

### LIBRARY CLOSURES & SPECIAL HOURS

December 23, 24, 25	CLOSED
December 26, 27	OPEN 1:30 - 5:00
December 29	OPEN 10:00 - 1:30
December 30, 31	CLOSED
January 1, 2019	CLOSED

# Celebrate!



# Christine's Corner

Christine Mathias, Library Director

Happy Holidays from the Placitas Community Library!

We hope you'll join us for our *Holiday Open House* on Saturday, December 8 (please see pg. 4), celebrating Kwanzaa, Hanukkah, and Christmas. The Open House is jam-packed with fun activities, including crafts, games, stories, and of course photos with Santa. We will also explore New Mexican holiday traditions and have refreshments. Although this is technically a children's program, I think the holidays bring out the kids in all of us.

The following Saturday, December 15, stop by the library to get your presents wrapped for free! Our *Placitas Elves Workshop: Wrapping Station* will have wrapping paper and talented wrappers on hand. Bring your presents any time from 1:00 - 4:00 PM. Donations appreciated.

We also have plenty of holiday books, CDs, and movies to get you in the spirit. A *Christmas Carol* by Charles Dickens is a go-to classic, or you could check out *Skipping Christmas* by John Grisham for a fun and more modern read. If you're the crafty type, take a look at *Origami Holiday Decorations for Christmas, Hanukkah, and Kwanzaa*, or *Simply Handmade: 365 Easy Gifts & Decorations You Can Make*. We also have all the music you need for your holiday parties, whether you're in the mood for Enya, James Taylor, Frank Sinatra, or classic carols. Stop by and explore!



— Christine

## Thank you, Wolfgang!

Many thanks to master woodworker, **Wolfgang Vogt** who recently refurbished our beautiful library sign with new wooden letters and numbers.

Also, a shout-out to mosaic artist, **Laura Robbins**, for her beautiful part of our fabulous sign. (Take a closer look!)



### Holidays

The holiest of all holidays are those  
Kept by ourselves in silence and apart;  
The secret anniversaries of the heart,  
When the full river of feeling overflows;—  
The happy days unclouded to their close;  
The sudden joys that out of darkness start  
As flames from ashes; swift desires that dart  
Like swallows singing down  
each wind that blows!  
White as the gleam of a receding sail,  
White as a cloud that floats and fades in air,  
White as the whitest lily on a stream,  
These tender memories are;— a Fairy Tale  
Of some enchanted land we know not where,  
But lovely as a landscape in a dream

— Henry Wadsworth Longfellow

# BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

THURSDAY, DEC 20

6:00 PM



"What if we don't change at all ... and something magical just happens?"

The public is welcome. Agendas are posted on [placitaslibrary.com](http://placitaslibrary.com) and at the library.

## A Note from the Board:

We are pleased to announce that the Library General Obligation Bond was approved by voters, giving \$3.35 million to 17 libraries in Sandoval County. PCL will receive the requested amount of \$124,000. This will allow us to purchase library books and resources, including online databases and computer equipment. As we mentioned in our article last month, we are not funded like municipal libraries and must fundraise for most of our operating costs. The passage of this bond will ensure that our stacks are stocked with new books for children and adults, including books for our many book clubs.

Thanks again to our volunteers for helping with the transition to our new library director. We are fortunate to have Christine on board and are looking forward to an exciting 2019.

Happy holidays to all and we hope you have a wonderful new year! 🍷

- PCL Board of Directors

"Darkness cannot drive out darkness: only light can do that. Hate cannot drive out hate: only love can do that."

— **Martin Luther King Jr.**  
A Testament of Hope: The Essential Writings and Speeches

Man reading should be man intensely alive. The book should be a ball of light in one's hand.

— **Ezra Pound**, Guide to Kulchur

행복 휴일	HAPPY HOLIDAYS	FELIZ JÁNUCA	BUON NATALE
SRETAN BOŽIĆ	NIZHONIGO KESHMISH	A FREYLEKHN YONTEV	
FELICE HANUKKAH	FELICES FIESTAS	Καλά Χριστούγεννα	JOYEUSES FÊTES
BOAS FESTAS	HAPPY KWANZAA	节日快乐	GOD JUL
FROHES LICHTERFEST	BUONE FESTE	FORHE FEIERTAGE	FELIZ NAVIDAD
幸せな休日	JOYEUX NOËL	חנוכה שמח	
HAPPY HANUKKAH	MELE KALIKIMAKA	GLADA HELGDAGAR	VESELÉ VÁNOCE
HAU'OLI LANUI	GOZHQQ KESHMISH	圣诞快乐	
JWAYE NOWE	HANUKKAH HEUREUX	MERRY CHRISTMAS	HAPPY FESTIVUS

CELEBRATE **LIGHT** BY HONORING SOMEONE WITH AN INSCRIBED BRICK TO BE ADDED TO PCL'S BEAUTIFUL LANDSCAPE.

FOR DETAILS:  
<http://placitaslibrary.com/how-you-can-help/>

# KIDS' COLUMN

Join us for our

# Holiday OPEN HOUSE SAT. DEC 8. 10:00 AM

**CELEBRATE**  
a New Mexican Christmas along  
with the traditions & principles of  
Hanukkah and Kwanzaa!

**READ** holiday books!

**CREATE** crafts (corn husk angel and tree ornament)

**ENJOY** refreshments!

**VISIT** with **Santa** (don't forget your camera!)

**PLAY** holiday games like dreidels and bingo!

**BRING** a new children's book  
(ages infant to teens) for the  
*Sandoval County Blessings Day!*



## COMING UP!

Saturday, January 26, 2019 at 10 AM  
"Songs of Peace," with Sagit Zilberman.



# CHILDREN'S BOOK NEWS

by Nancy Guist, Children's Collection Coordinator



One of the most loved aspects of holiday times is the traditional food that is intertwined in these celebrations. The books below might just evoke those wonderful fragrances which are a part of our winter festivities.



## The Borrowed Hanukkah Latkes

Written by Linda Glaser

Illustrated by Nancy Cote

Suggested ages: 4 - 8

Rachel feels like she is in heaven as she samples her mother's delicious potato latkes in preparation for their large family gathering on the last night of Hanukkah. Then comes a last minute phone call from Aunt Tilly which means eight more people and so the need for more latkes. But soon Rachel's mother discovers there are not enough potatoes and then insufficient eggs. Rachel runs over to their neighbor, Mrs. Greenburg, in hopes to borrow these items and also invite her to their celebration. As in times past, their elderly neighbor declines to come but generously shares the requested items with a smile.

As Rachel's mother declares, Mrs. Greenburg has a "heart of gold," but is "as stubborn as an ox." Soon, Rachel's small home is filled with family, but now without enough chairs. Being a bit stubborn herself, Rachel comes up with a creative solution.

This is a heartwarming tale that reflects generosity, as well as sensitivity and care for others. An added bonus is a recipe for potato latkes so all readers can have a taste!



## Jasmine Toguchi, Mochi Queen

Written by Debbi Michiko Florence

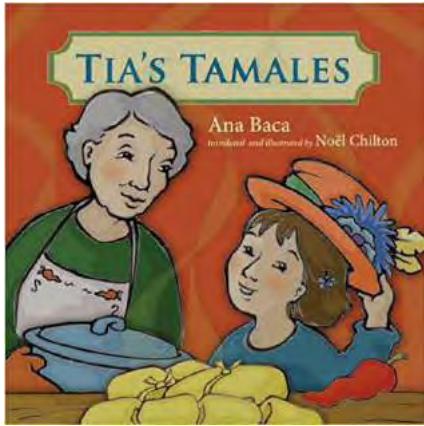
Pictures by Elizabet Vuković

Suggested ages: 6 - 8

Spunky eight-year-old Jasmine has a goal: she wants to participate in the annual making of mochi, a Japanese rice dessert, which her extended family gathers to make as part of their New Year's celebration. The problem is that she is too young – not until one turns ten is she permitted to be part of this tradition. Not only does Jasmine want to help, she is determined that she be allowed to pound the rice – a task reserved for the men of the family. Jealous that her older sister, Sophie, can help this year and provoked by her unpleasant cousin, Eddie, Jasmine puts together a plan. Children will empathize with her as she sets forth – sometimes with humorous consequences – to achieve her dream.

Realistic family relations along with an appealing main character make this a perfect introduction to the *Jasmine Toguchi* chapter books series. For those who wish to try a simpler version of making mochi, a microwave mochi recipe is included at the book's end.

Cont'd.




**Tía's Tamales**

**Written by Ana Baca**

**Translated and Illustrated by Noël Chilton**

**Suggested ages: 5 - 8**

*Tía's Tamales* is a family folktale embedded in the contemporary story of Luz and her *abuelita* making tamales together. Luz's grandmother arrives with a mysterious, colorful box which she sets aside as she declares that this snowy day is perfect for tamal making. But first she shares with her granddaughter the story of Luz's great-grandfather, Diego, when as a young boy he worked tirelessly to take care of his ailing mother. When Diego's *tía* unexpectedly arrives in a colorful, feathery hat, he finds himself helping his aunt make tamales. He learns that the land about them offers many edible riches and that the few foods left in the pantry can be creatively used in this traditional food. And so together aunt and nephew work at "making happiness," as Diego learns how to "make something out of nothing." During the retelling of this tale, Luz and her *abuelita* have made their own tamales. As they steam, Luz opens her grandmother's mysterious box which reveals an heirloom that ties the family legend to Luz's here and now.

Children will have fun spotting an illustration of that colorful box along with a playful chick on each page. This bilingual tale includes a brief history of tamales, as well as a traditional tamal recipe. 

*"Like it or not, we either add to the darkness of indifference and out-and-out evil which surround us or we light a candle to see by."*  
 — **Madeleine L'Engle**  
*A Circle of Quiet*



The only people for me are the mad ones, the ones who are mad to live, mad to talk, mad to be saved, desirous of everything at the same time, the ones who never yawn or say a commonplace thing, but burn, burn, burn like fabulous yellow roman candles exploding like spiders across the stars and in the middle you see the blue centerlight pop and everybody goes "Awww!"  
 — **Jack Kerouac**, *On the Road*

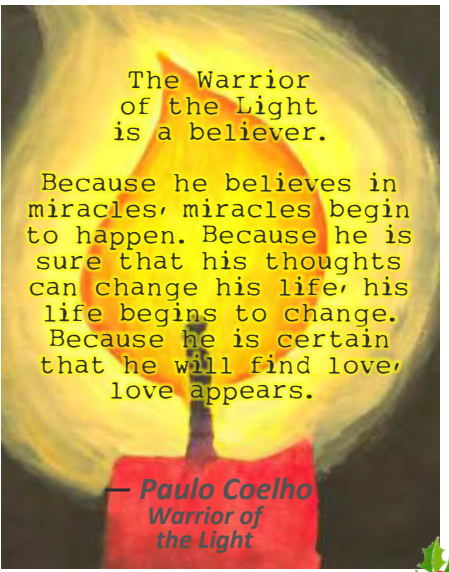


González, Edward. from *The Farolitos of Christmas*, by Rudolfo Anaya. 1990.

*"The moment we cease to hold each other, the moment we break faith with one another, the sea engulfs us and the light goes out."*  
 — **James Baldwin**, *Nothing Personal*

*"yours is the light by which my spirit's born: yours is the darkness of my soul's return - you are my sun, my moon, and all my stars."*  
 — **e. e. cummings**, from "dive for dreams"

*"Man must have light. He must live in the fierce full constant glare of light, where all shadow will be defined and sharp and unique and personal: the shadow of his own singular rectitude or baseness. All human evils have to come out of obscurity and darkness, where there is nothing to dog man constantly with the shape of his own deformity."*  
 — **William Faulkner**, *The Mansion*



The Warrior of the Light is a believer.  
 Because he believes in miracles, miracles begin to happen. Because he is sure that his thoughts can change his life, his life begins to change. Because he is certain that he will find love, love appears.  
 — **Paulo Coelho**  
*Warrior of the Light*



## Children's Committee



We are looking for **IDEAS** for our  
2019 Summer Reading Program.

The theme is a

***"UNIVERSE OF STORIES,"***

commemorating the 50th anniversary of the  
Apollo moon landing. We are especially  
looking for science programs involving space  
travel, rockets, astronauts, the solar system, etc.  
Children love experiments and interactive  
presentations. The age range is pre-k through  
age 12. Do you have a program you could  
share? If so, please call the library at  
505-867-3355 and leave a message  
for Nora Timmons.

*Thank you!*


Art: December

# PASSAGES

For Placitas Community Library's December exhibition, artists were challenged to portray truth, beauty and memory. Peering through doorways, staring across meandering streams toward mountainous expanses and up at a seemingly endless starry sky, these artists share a mystical journey that is both personal and universal. Their paintings, pastels, prints and mixed media two- and three-dimensional works beckon viewers to follow along.

Coordinated by *Margaret Bruch*, participating artists include: *Bunny Bowen, Rebecca Cohen, Deborah Cole, Jim Forcier-Call, Linda Heath, Karl Hofman, Evey Jones, Lázaro Iglesias, Meg Leonard, Bobbye Middendorf, Bonnie Mitisek, Carol Mullen, Linda Nisenbaum, Alfons Schuster, Elaine Scott, and Pam Troutman.*

The public is invited to attend the artists' reception on Friday, December 14 from 5 - 7:00 PM, and to view the exhibit during library hours. Artworks are available for purchase and a portion of every sale will benefit the library.

The January 2019 exhibition is entitled "Faces." 



Troutman, Pam.  
*Hobbit Door.*



Schuster, Alfons.  
*Long Walk.*



Bowen, Dorothy Bunny.  
*Passage.*

**EXHIBIT**

**12/01-12/27**

**ARTISTS'  
PUBLIC  
RECEPTION**

**FRI. 12/14**

**5 - 7 PM**





# PCL COLLIN THEATRE

**ONE NIGHT ONLY!**

## **SACRED LAND, SACRED WATER**

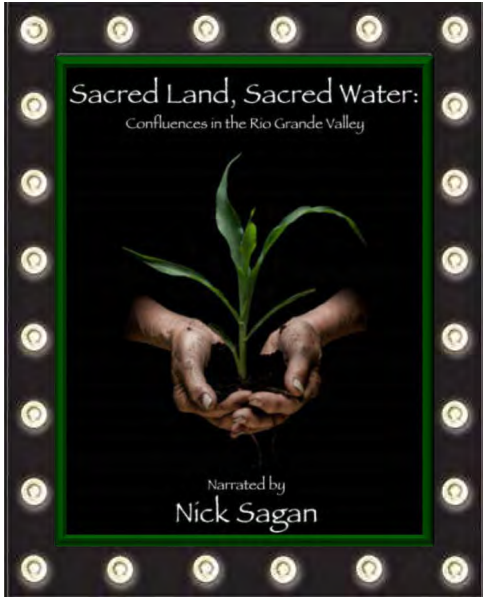
**WEDS. DEC 12 @ 7 PM**

By Victoria Bell

**Sacred Land, Sacred Water: Confluences in the Rio Grande Valley** is a 53-minute documentary that features the story of science and citizens working together to resist the oil and gas lobby's ongoing efforts to pass a fracking-friendly ordinance in Sandoval County, New Mexico - threatening the sole drinking water aquifer for the entire population of the greater Albuquerque area from Cochiti Lake to Belen. *Sacred Land, Sacred Water* will be shown at the Placitas Community Library's Collin "Theatre" on **Wednesday, December 12 at 7:00 PM.**

Inspired by the geologist and best-selling author, Donald T. Phillips, this documentary includes interviews of concerned citizens, clips of public testimony, and a highly illustrated presentation of the subsurface geology of the Rio Grande Rift, as well as of the techniques of horizontal drilling and hydraulic fracking. Animated sequences demonstrate the dangers fracking poses to the one, continu-

ous aquifer underlying the entire Albuquerque Basin which provides 85% of the drinking water to its nearly one million residents.



Illuminated throughout the film are the confluences unique to the Rio Grande Valley. In addition to emphasizing the confluence of our water with the unique subsurface geological formations, the film highlights our region's enduring cultures - our Native American, Spanish, and European traditions -

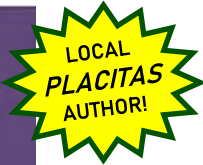
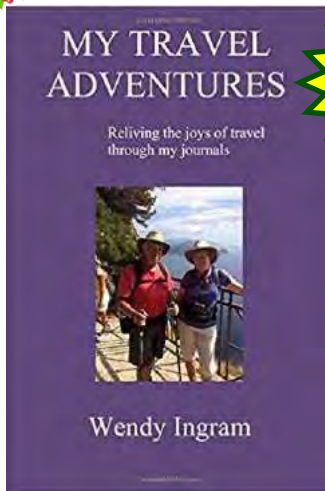
each contributing distinct influences in faith and spirit, architecture and the arts, song and dance, science and technology, and more to the beating heart of our Valley. Integral to the conflux of water, geology and cultures, our thriving local food movement is featured actively supporting the healthy confluence of the Earth and all living beings within the Rio Grande ecosystem.

**Special Guest: Lewis Jacobs, one of the producers, will be joining us for a post-film discussion.**

**THE FILMMAKERS**, led by Lewis Jacobs and Craig Barth, are a small team of six concerned residents of the Rio Grande Valley who produced this film specifically to counter the impending threat to our drinking water in order to inform and educate all policy makers and residents about the unique subsurface geology that makes fracking here, in the active Rio Grande Rift, a serious peril.

# Susanne's Selections

Reading Recommendations by Susanne Domínguez



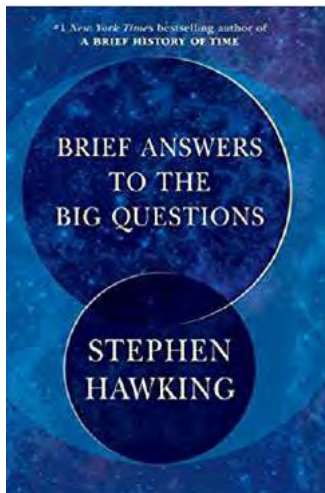
## My Travel Adventures: Reliving the Joys of Travel Through My Journals

By Wendy Ingram

World traveler, globe trekker, and Placitas resident Wendy Ingram has completed a remarkable compilation of her diverse travels dating from 1991 to 2017.

An avid hiker and nature lover, Wendy has walked part of the famed Camino de Santiago, aka the Way of St. James. Commonly referred to as "the Camino," this has been a renowned pilgrimage route to Santiago de Compostela, Spain since the 9th Century. Wendy has also trekked in Nepal twice, as well as hiked Peru's Inca trail to Machu Picchu. Other travels include an adventure to Patagonia and to Brazil and Argentina's shared Iguazú Falls, which are waterfalls of the Iguazú River and comprise the largest waterfall system in the world. Other stamps in Wendy's passport include journeys to Iceland, New Zealand, and Tanzania. These are only some of her notable destinations.

A very personal memoir, it has a conversational sense. Reading it, I felt I was having a relaxed chat with Wendy over a cup of tea or coffee. Her descriptions are honest and often humorous. After finishing her journal, I was ready to embark on a journey myself. A rewarding read, not only does it transport you to other lands, it's sure to motivate readers to travel either vicariously or in person and to journal about their travels!



## Brief Answers to the Big Questions

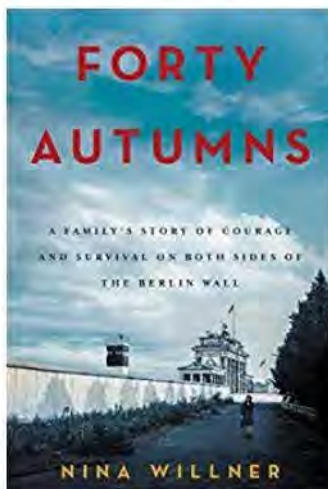
By Stephen Hawking

In his magnificent final book, cosmologist and theoretical physicist Stephen Hawking attempts to answer some of the more popular and pressing questions he was often asked. Witty, passionate and creative, his explanations and answers are easy to comprehend. Each chapter explores a different question, such as: "Is time travel possible?" and "Will artificial intelligence outsmart us?"

Concerned that youth today not only lack interest in science, but that science and scientists are held in low esteem, he encouraged the development of a crewed space program, believing it would ignite interest and enthusiasm for science and space, in much the same way as it did with the space program under President Kennedy. The "space race helped to create a fascination with space and accelerated our technological progress." He also stresses the importance for young people to understand science and technology and warns that "a world where only the tiny super-elite are the ones capable of understanding advanced science and technology and its applications would be, to my mind, a dangerous and limited one... Our future is a race between the growing power of our technology and the wisdom with which we use it. Let's make sure that wisdom wins."

Hawking was a humble, dedicated genius who was above all, curious. He defied all odds by living until age 76 after being diagnosed with ALS (amyotrophic lateral sclerosis) at age 21 and advised he had only five years to live. In his daughter Lucy's afterword, she states, "At the age of seventy-five, completely paralyzed and able to move only a few facial muscles, he still got up every day, put on a suit and went to work. He had stuff to do and was not going to let a few trivialities get in his way."

*Cont'd.*



## Forty Autumns: A Family's Story of Courage and Survival on Both Sides of the Berlin Wall

By *Nina Willner*

This extraordinary and deeply human memoir of heartbreak and courage tells the story of how Nina Willner's mother, Hanna, escaped as a teenager from East to West Germany when the Soviet Union took control of East Germany after World War II. Hanna left behind her parents, grandparents, and eight siblings and didn't see them until after the fall of the Berlin Wall, forty years later. The story of her escape and her East Berlin family's lives during the Cold War is riveting.

Born in the U.S. in 1961 when the Berlin Wall was erected, Willner became the first female U.S. Army intelligence officer to lead missions into East Germany while it was controlled by the brutal Stasi secret police. Herself the daughter of a U.S. Army intelligence officer (who is his own family's lone survivor of the Holocaust), Willner's story provides a personal view of the devastating effects of Germany's partition and life under the yoke of a barbaric communist dictatorship, where media was censored, private property was confiscated, people were encouraged to report on others (1 in 6 did so), all food was relinquished to the Soviet Command, and entire industrial buildings were dismantled and sent to the Soviet Union to be re-constructed there.

She relates the story of how her mother's escape affected the rest of her East Berlin family. Her relatives were sent to rural villages and forced out of their professions. Her grandfather was forced to undergo "intensive reeducation training" at a mental hospital. The 12-foot high, electrified, 100-mile Wall was built to prevent citizens from escaping because the East German labor force was being depleted by the escapees. Border guards were ordered to "shoot to kill" anyone attempting an escape. According to Willner, who conducted extensive research for this book, 2000 people were escaping daily until the Wall was erected.

Although bleak at times, her book also celebrates the resilience of the human spirit. Her grandparents died before the Wall was removed in 1989, but they always lived with the belief that it would happen, despite the grim adversity they experienced.

**Monthly!**

G<sub>2</sub> A<sub>1</sub> M<sub>3</sub> E<sub>1</sub>

★

N<sub>1</sub> I<sub>1</sub> G<sub>2</sub> H<sub>2</sub> T<sub>2</sub>

**Dec 7 @ 7 PM**  
Every First Friday

18 and older, please.

THERE ARE DARK SHADOWS ON THE EARTH, BUT ITS LIGHTS ARE STRONGER IN THE CONTRAST.

— Charles Dickens  
*The Pickwick Papers*

WE MUST BRING OUR OWN LIGHT TO THE DARKNESS."

— Charles Bukowski  
*Septuagenarian Stew*

