

PLACITAS Community LIBRARY

News

January 2018

HOURS Tuesday 10-7Wednesday 10-5Thursday 10-5Saturday 10-5Sunday 1-4

To go to our website click: www.placitaslibrary.com

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- Art Exhibit
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- and more!

Happy New Year! January 2018 at PCL

January 12	Flights of Fancy: Artful Representations of Birds, Artists' Reception 5:00 - 7:00 See p. 4
January 13	A Who's-Who of New Mexican Movies with Jeff Berg 2:00 See p. 5
January 18	Board of Directors Meeting 6:00 pm The public is welcome. Agendas are posted on the PCL website and at the library
	Turn On, Tune In Community Storytelling Project - The 1960s and 1970s Counter- culture and Its Relevance Today:
January 19	 Public presentation about the project 6:00 pm
January 20 & 21	 Digital storytelling workshop registration required
January 28	 Community Listening Event (results of the storytelling workshop) and discussion at 2:00 at the Placitas Community Center See p. 6 for details about each event
February 2	Family Game Night 7:00 See p. 8
February 3	Navajo Storyteller Sunny Dooley 2:00 See p. 3

TRY OUR 2018 READING CHALLENGE

on page 10

FROM MARIAN'S DESK

Marian Frear, Library Director

Since it's a new year, let me tell you about a new service and remind you of a couple of old ones.



First of all, something to ease the access to our e-book collection. OverDrive has put out a new app called *Libby* to make downloading easier. You can get it at <u>https://meet.libbyapp.com/</u>. Remember, if you can't find a title you want on our OverDrive collection, you can always request it online.

Secondly, just to remind everyone, we do provide inter-library loans here. The New Mexico State Library actually runs this service; PCL is merely a client. But it does give us access to materials in public and academic libraries around the southwest region. A word of warning, audio and video materials are not generally available through this service, since most of the lending libraries are reluctant to mail them, and we cannot select the library to do the lending, even if the item is clearly available in their online catalog. PCL covers the cost of returning all items, so we ask for a \$3 donation for each request.

And finally, for those strong and brave enough to bike on Highway 165, we do have a bike rack. It's over on the far east side of the parking lot, right next to the entrance to the labyrinth. If you have the stamina to ride a bike up and down this hill, PCL salutes you - and provides you with somewhere to lock your bike.

BUY A BRICK PROGRAM

Here is an opportunity for you to make a lasting contribution to Placitas Community Library. We are raising money to help pay for the operational expenses of the library by starting a *Buy a Brick* program. You can purchase a brick and have it engraved with your name or that of a business, family member, friend, or in memory of a loved one. The engraved bricks will be set within a section of the library landscape. This area will be a continuous project that will grow over time, enhancing the beauty of our outdoor scape.

The Placitas Community Library resulted from a grassroots effort, and we believe it is an essential building block in developing a sense of community pride and spirit. In addition to loaning books and materials, the library provides important services, internet access, interlibrary loans, and copier/fax use. Patronage has tripled in the past year, and our collection has rapidly expanded to exceed 14,000 items, 1,000 CDs, DVD's, audiotapes, largeprint and Spanish-language books.

PCL is not a government-owned library. State and county general obligation bonds provide financial support to the library for books and other items in the collection, equipment, and other limited expenditures. But all the library's operational expenses – such as utilities, maintenance and office supplies, programming, and our one paid staff member (the Library Director) - must be covered by your donations and by other fundraising efforts.

You can order a 4" x 8" brick with up to three lines of engraving and up to 18 characters per line for \$50, or an 8" x 8" brick with up to six lines of engraving and up to 18 characters per line for \$100. There is an order form on page 12 at the end of this newsletter.

If you have any questions, please contact Pam Buethe - 771-8941 or pam.buethe@comcast.net.



We have no formal programs scheduled for January, but we encourage kids of all ages to visit, browse, do homework, play with some of our friendly Book Characters, look at the artwork about birds in the Collin meeting room, use our Wi-Fi, or just kick back and read.

Next month we will have a very special program for you. Navajo Storyteller Sunny Dooley will visit the library to present Winter Tales from the Navajo Nation. Her stories will be for children and adults so all



ages are welcome. Please note that this is an afternoon program. This program is co-sponsored by the New Mexico Humanities Council and the library. Join us on Saturday, February 3, at 2:00.



If you want your children to be intelligent, read them fairy tales. ~ Albert Einstein

CHILDREN'S BOOK NEWS

by Nancy Guist, Children's Collection Coordinator

We're sorry to report that Nancy Guist, our talented children's book reviewer, is down with pneumonia. Please recover quickly, Nancy.

Art: January

Flights of Fancy: Artful Representations of Birds







Artists' Reception Friday, January 12 From 5:00 to 7:00

Although many of our feathered friends have moved south for the winter, avian visions remain through myriad artful representations of birds. From ancient Pueblo dwellers to Audubon and Picasso, artists throughout time have turned their gaze to the bird for inspiration. This month's exhibit will feature the work of local artists who portray these winged wonders using photography, pastel, fused glass, clay, beadwork, fiber art, and mixed media.

Seventeen artists will exhibit their work. Photographers Nancy Bennett, Alan Davis, Bebe Marks, and Jim Wiesner have photographed birds both familiar and exotic. Glass artists Linda Nisenbaum, Denise Elyrum, and Lisa Chernoff employ a glistening array of techniques in both two- and three-dimensions. J. Kenny Halstead and Mary Ellen Merrigan offer both beaded bird sculptures and pins. Fiber artists Kelly Butterman, Lana Muraskin, Linda Nystrom, and Judith Roderick soften our perception of birds with sculpture and quilts, while Gayle Elaine Scott takes a hard look at the raven in a series of small mosaics. Rebecca Cohen, Tolly Hicks, and Meg Leonard employ traditional fine arts media such as pastel, acrylic and collage for their homage to birds.

"Flights of Fancy" is the first in PCL's 2018 series of themerelated exhibitions to be presented by the library's art committee. The community is invited to attend the artists' reception on Friday, January 12, from 5:00 to 7:00.

Works in the exhibit are available for purchase and a portion of each sale will benefit the library.

This show runs from Saturday, December 30, through Thursday, January 25, during normal library hours.

PLACITAS HISTORY PROJECT

by Robert Gajkowski



The motion picture business in New Mexico is booming. Almost every week articles in newspapers or reports on radio and TV boast of the new movies that are in production in the Land of Enchantment. Today seems to be a "golden age" for the New Mexico film industry. But, is it?

Certainly, film production in the state is doing well. But perhaps a look-back at the earlier years of New Mexico's participation in film-making would be informative. Perhaps the actors and producers and film crews of only a few years back can show us the foundations of today's successes.

Film historian/author Jeff Berg will return to the library's "Collin Theatre" with another in his series "Movies Made in New Mexico." In past presentations he has discussed the variety of dramas, westerns, and comedies produced in the state since 1897 [when Thomas Edison visited Isleta Pueblo and filmed *Indian School Days*.]

In his most recent production (premiering at PCL!) Berg will introduce his audience not only to several New Mexico films, but also to the history of stars and producers such as Val Kilmer, Shirley MacLaine, producer Hal Wallis and actress Martha Hyer. With a deep knowledge and appreciation for his subject, Berg will demonstrate how Hollywood personalities over the years have laid the foundation for today's New Mexico film industry.

Everyone is invited to this free presentation at 2:00, January 13, at the library. POPCORN WILL BE SERVED !





The 1960s and 1970s Counterculture and its relevance today

Stemming from the New Mexico History Museum (NMHM) and the Palace of the Governors' exhibition *Voices of Counterculture in the Southwest* (on display until February 11, 2018) is a series of regional workshops and community

presentations relating to the ethos and reverberations of the late 1960s/early 1970s signature movements. The counterculture era ignited a unique brand of alternative life styles, social and political activism, artistic expression, and resistance in response to the Vietnam conflict, civil rights injustices, environmental degradation,

 and spiritual neglect. These themes are as relevant and palpable today as they were 50 years ago. NMHM's project intends to shine light on counterculture's relevance and how it may activate and inspire us today.

Placitas is one of five communities chosen to participate in NMHM's sponsored program starting with a Friday night public presentation about the exhibition on January 19 from 6:00 to 7:00 at the library. On January 20 and 21 co-facilitators from the Museum will facilitate a two-day weekend storytelling workshop, relating to counterculture experiences and reflections, from 9:00 to 3:00 each day, with lunch provided. The results of the workshop will be presented to the public with a Community Listening Event and discussion at Placitas Community Center on Sunday, January 28, from 2:00 to 4:00. Local residents are encouraged to sign-up for the workshop and turn their personal histories into a legacy that will broaden our understanding of the impact of these times. The stories will be recorded for public access at the Placitas Community Library, online through the Museum's *Soundcloud* account, and potentially made available through a radio broadcast series.

"In today's complicated political and social environment, it is a powerful thing to look back at some of the movements and efforts from the 1960s that laid the groundwork for today's understanding of equal rights, awareness of our environment, and what it means to be an engaged citizen," said Meredith Davidson, curator of the NMHM exhibition and co-facilitator of the upcoming

workshop. "We want to make public the poignancy of this time period by honoring those who built that history and by recognizing what parts of that history we carry into our actions today," echoed Judy Goldberg, independent radio producer/educator and the other co-facilitator of the workshop.

To sign-up for the Placitas weekend storytelling workshop occurring January 20 and 21, download the application at: www.nmhistorymuseum.org/storytelling or email: turnontuneinNMHM@gmail.com. Deadline is first come, first served, provided the application is in accordance with the area of focus. Anyone 19 or older is encouraged to apply. If space is still available on Friday, January 19, you may sign up at the public program. The intent is to represent a diversity of voices, experiences, backgrounds, and ages.

This program is developed in collaboration with the Placitas Community Library and KUPR-LP, 99.9 FM Community Radio Station. All presentations, workshop, and events are free and sponsored, in part, by the Museum of New Mexico Foundation.



Placitas Adult Community Education (PACE)

Looking for ways to exercise your brain?

PACE is a new nonprofit, non-credit, lifelong learning program open to all adults who live in and around Placitas, over the age of 50, and will be membership driven. Our operating funds will come from our membership dues, donations/gifts and grants.

Classes will be offered at the Placitas Community Library ranging from 1 ½ to 2 hours in length usually for four to 14 weeks per semester. Most of our classes (also known as Study Groups) will be created and led by our own members. All members who lead Study Groups are passionate about their topic and happy to share their knowledge with others. Our Study Groups will hopefully be informal; members and leaders both should enjoy a "give and take" atmosphere. We will also value and welcome the participation of outside speakers/experts/professionals from our community.

Here are some examples of classes we hope to provide, based on the expertise of our Placitas residents:

- The Scientific Method And Its Relevance To Everyday Life
- Nurture-Nature, Violence in America and How We Can Help Our Communities
- How To Track Lions and Other Hair-Raising Adventures
- Oceanography: Why Are Our Oceans So Important?
- Is Einstein Relative in Today's World?
- Truth or Fiction: Critical Thinking
- Great Decisions: Foreign Policy Association
- Climate Science and Global Climate Change
- Jazz: The Music, The Stories, The Players
- Opera 101 for Non-believers
- The Power of Myth
- Art Movements from the Renaissance to Post-Modern
- Analyzing Classic Literature from Twain to Moliere to Melville

Please use this link <u>http://placitasadulteducation.org/?page_id=48</u> to express your interest in attending a PACE organizational meeting on January 16, at 3:00 in the library conference room. If you are interested but can not attend, please indicate so in the comment section, and, in addition, if you are passionate about a subject and might want to be a Study Group Leader, again please indicate this in the comment section.

It is not true that we have only one life to live. If we can read, we can live as many lives and as many kinds of lives as we wish. $\sim S$. I. Hayakawa

New in the Collection

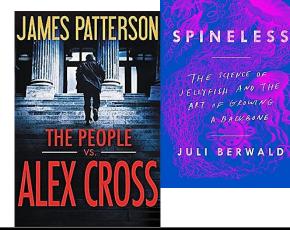
FICTION

Crimes of the Father, by Thomas Keneally Death in St. Petersburg, by Tasha Alexander Deep Freeze, by John Sandford The Future Home of the Living God, by Louise Erdrich Hard Core Twenty-Four, by Janet Evanovich

In the Midst of Winter, by Isabel Allende Mrs. Fletcher, by Tom Perotta The People vs. Alex Cross, by James Patterson The Rooster Bar, by John Grisham The Rules of Magic, by Alice Hoffman

The Scribe of Siena, by Melodie Winawer

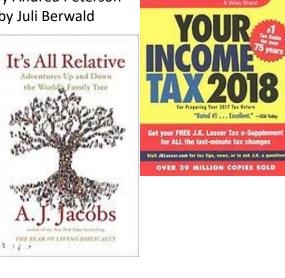
Two Kinds of Truth, by Michael Connelly The Western Star, by Craig Johnson



NONFICTION

Economics for the Common Good, by Jean Tirole Grant, by Ron Chernow It's All Relative, by A.J. Jacobs J.K. Lasser's Your Income Tax 2018 Leonardo da Vinci, by Walter Isaacson

Life 3.0, by Max Tegmark On Edge, by Andrea Peterson Spineless, by Juli Berwald



J.K.LASSER'S

Family Game Night starts in February!

Join us Friday, February 2, at 7:00 for the first PCL Family Game Night. Bring a game to share. Game Nights will be the first Friday of every month. Many thanks to Lisa Rossi for organizing this.





Reading recommendations by Susanne Dominguez

MESSAGE from

CHINESE

Мотныя

Message From An Unknown Chinese Mother

by Xue Xinran

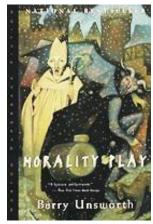
Xue Xinran, a British-Chinese journalist and women's advocate, wrote this edifying book for orphaned Chinese girls and their adoptive families to understand why their mothers gave them up and to understand the Chinese culture and traditions regarding family. *Message From An Unknown Chinese Mother* provides immeasurable insight into the Chinese "orphan" phenomenon. By 2010, 120,000 orphans had been adopted worldwide. Most were adopted by North Americans.

In 2004 Xinran created The Mothers' Bridge of Love (MBL) to reach out "to Chinese children in all corners of the world: those who have been adopted by Western families,

those who have been raised abroad, and those living in China, often in destitute conditions." [http://www.mothersbridge.org] After establishing MBL, she received many requests from adoptive parents and their adopted children, along with the urging of mothers who gave up their children to answer questions concerning them. Why didn't my Chinese mummy want me? is the most common question these children ask.

Ten true stories about Chinese mothers who lost, deserted, or sacrificed their daughters are chronicled. Many of the mothers are from rural areas where a son is considered necessary to provide labor and to carry on the family lineage. Some of the mothers from rural villages traveled to urban areas for various reasons, such as to find work, leaving the harsh working conditions and poverty in their villages. They were shocked to discover how well orphans are cared for there. Their hope is for their daughters to be adopted by a kind and/or well off family where they will not be forced to labor as they would in their villages.

Writer Amy Tan aptly describes Xinran as "a mesmerizing storyteller." In addition to giving voice to the women, *Message* puts distinctive human faces on them and their daughters. You'll never think the same about adoption.



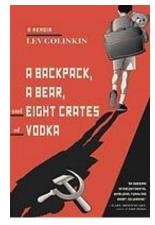
Morality Play by Barry Unsworth

Reading this book will transport you to 14th Century England, where morality and mystery plays were the only theatrical entertainment. The purpose of the plays was to teach biblical stories and morals to illiterate audiences. The protagonist represented Everyman or Humanity while the other players personified the vices and virtues such as Justice, Mercy, Greed, or Sin. In the later Middle Ages morality plays transitioned from strictly biblical to secular themes.

No worries, this novel is not a morality play. It's a murder mystery in which an errant and adulterous monk, Nicholas, flees from his paramour's angry husband and joins a

band of roving actors. He also is the story's narrator. On the way to their next scheduled performance, the troupe stop in a village and decide to perform a secular play based on a recent murder. A young girl is accused, but the actors don't believe she is the perpetrator and plan to discover the truth during the performance. If you enjoyed reading *The Name of the Rose* by Umberto Eco or Ken Follett's Kingsbridge Series, you will find this an engrossing historical novel.

Susanne's Selections, cont'd



A Backpack, a Bear, and Eight Crates of Vodka by Lev Golinkin

This book is a compelling and poignant memoir of Golinkin as a nine-year-old Jewish boy who, with his family, escaped from anti-Semitic persecution and the Soviet Union regime during the Soviet Union's final years. It is surprisingly not sad. It's uplifting and philosophical, about life, our purpose, and the effects we have on others.

After emigrating to the U.S., Golinkin's family ends up in a small town in Illinois. His father, formerly a successful engineer, has to begin working at entry-level jobs, and his mother, who was a physician, can only find work as a security guard. "I look back and see my childhood," Golinkin says, "the result not just of the dark streets of Kharkov, but

the combined efforts of thousands of protesters, dozens of human rights workers, politicians, philanthropists, activists, and everyday people. I've been lucky to meet a few of them; most I will never know. Some devoted their careers to the struggle; many did nothing more than sign a petition, or mail a check, or process paperwork, or drop off a jacket. Small deeds that wound their way through the world to become a part of me and shape me in ways unexpected and unknown."

Years later, as an American citizen, Golinkin confronts his past, along with its terrible memories of hate and oppression. He plans to locate the people who assisted his family in their journey to freedom or provided acts of kindness and personally thank them. They range from a refugee relief worker who provided Golinkin and his family with necessary winter clothing, to an aristocrat who played an instrumental role in helping the family emigrate. He successfully finds a majority of them. Through this personal quest, Golinkin also finally accepts himself for who he is and gains an understanding of his past.

2018 READING CHALLENGE

It's a new year. What better time to expand your reading horizons. Challenge yourself to read books outside your comfort zone this year. Who knows what wonders you'll discover! Here are 24 ideas to get you started.

Your challenge is to read a book in each of these categories:

- o a retelling of a classical myth or fairy tale
- $\circ \quad$ about a place you've never been
- o set in the place you grew up
- about food
- o first published more than 100 years ago
- $\circ \quad \text{written for children}$
- a memoir by an old person (you define "old")
- o nonfiction history, and then
- $\circ \quad$ a historical novel about the same era
- o written from the point of view of an animal
- a graphic novel (it has comic book-type art)
- something from Dewey Decimal section 342
- o a book you were supposed to read in school

- o by a Placitas author
- o by a scientist
- o by a philosopher or religious leader
- \circ by a foreign woman
- o by someone 20 to 30 years old
- something scary (you know gothic horror, true crime, global warming)
- o something funny (best if laugh-out-loud)
- o banned, at some time, somewhere
- o a mystery classic
- $\circ \$ a biography of a person you never heard of
- a book sitting, unread, on your bookshelf

New York, New York! Tour

A fundraising event to benefit Placitas Community Library APRIL 26 - MAY 1, 2018

Land Package priced from \$3,110 per person, based on double occupancy. Price includes a donation to PCL. Tour is limited to 24 participants





DAY ONE – Thursday, April 26: Arrive in the Big Apple, New York City. Check into Hotel Henri before your welcome reception at the hotel's top floor Sir Henri Penthouse & Lounge with views of Lower Manhattan. Enjoy heavy hors d'oeuvres and an open bar for two hours while you get acquainted with your fellow travelers. Meals included: Reception with heavy hors d'oeuvres

DAY TWO – Friday, April 27: After breakfast at the hotel you head for a tour of the flagship building of The New York Public Library, a magnificent example of the Beaux-Arts style of architecture. It houses NYPL's world-renowned collections in the humanities, social sciences, and fine arts. We'll hear how the NYC school system works with NYPL. Then stroll along Library Way (41st Street) for a perfect view of the building, passing inspirational quotes along the way. You'll have a light lunch at The Campbell, a historic bar in Grand Central Terminal. The remainder of the day is to enjoy on your own. Meals included: B, L

DAY THREE – Saturday, April 28: After breakfast at the hotel you depart for the Museum of Modern Art (MoMA) for a one-hour highlights tour. One of the largest museums devoted to modern and contemporary art, MoMA is a place which fuels creativity and ignites minds. Its collection contains almost 200,000 works, from Van Gogh to Rauschenberg to today's leading artists. After your tour return to the hotel. The afternoon is free for you to explore. This evening enjoy a three-course dinner and show at the Blue Note Jazz Club in Greenwich Village, a twenty-minute walk from the hotel. Meals included: B, D







DAY FOUR – Sunday, April 29: Board your mini-coach late this morning for the Gospel Brunch at the Red Rooster's Ginny's Supper Club in Harlem. You'll enjoy a soulful brunch smorgasbord to the sounds of a local Harlem gospel choir. Next, walk to the Studio Museum for a guided one-hour tour. This museum is the nexus for artists of African descent, nationally and internationally, and for work that has been inspired and influenced by black culture. It is a site for the dynamic exchange of ideas about art and society. The rest of the day is for you to explore on your own. Meals included: B, Brunch



DAY FIVE – Monday, April 30: Walk the High Line, a park featuring gardens and art built on a historic elevated freight rail line, to the Whitney Museum of American Art for a guided tour with a Whitney Teaching Fellow, PhD candidate in art history. As

a preeminent institution devoted to the art of the United States, the Whitney is dedicated to collecting, preserving, interpreting, and exhibiting twentieth-century and contemporary American art. The museum's signature

exhibition, The Biennial, is this country's leading survey of the most recent developments in American art. Lunch will be at Untitled at the Whitney, which features seasonal ingredients. You will have the rest of the afternoon free before your farewell, a three-



course dinner at State Grill and Bar on the ground floor of the Empire State Building. Meals included: B, L, D

DAY SIX – Tuesday, May 1 – Departure: Enjoy breakfast at the hotel before heading on your own to the airport for your return flight home to Albuquerque. Meals included: B

PCL BUY A BRICK PROGRAM

4 x 8 BRICK - \$50 8 x 8 BRICK - \$100

4 x 8 BRICK CAN HAVE 3 LINES AND 18 CHARACTERS – USE ALL CAPS 8 x 8 BRICK CAN HAVE 6 LINES WITH 18 CHARACTERS – USE ALL CAPS

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PLEASE RESERVE A BRICK AND ENGRAVE OUR BRICK AS FOLLOWS:

ANY SYMBOL (PERIOD, COMMA, DASH, etc) IS CONSIDERED ONE SPACE ALL TEXT IS CENTERED UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED

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8 x 8 Brick

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EXAMPLE

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If you have any questions, please contact PAM BUETHE at 771-8941 or pam.buethe@comcast.net