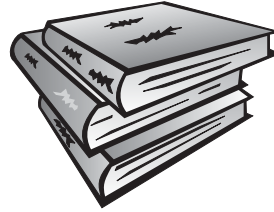


BOOK

Remarks



Fall 2012-Winter 2013 Sioux City Public Library

Visit www.siouxcitylibrary.org for the latest news

Take Charge—Use Your Card!

In celebration of National Library Card Signup Month, staff launched a promotion inspiring and empowering patrons to make full use of their Library cards. The message? Simple, yet multi-faceted:

Try self-checkout: Patrons who used self-check were entered in a drawing for an iPad2 tablet. “The self-service kiosks really let people take charge of their library borrowing,” said Library Director Betsy Thompson. “Kids especially



iPad2 winner Sawyer McDonald and sisters Winona and Angaleigh stand by their “favorite” self-check machine.

like to checkout their own books, and during September we are encouraging everyone to try it.” As it turned out, a 6-year-old won the coveted device and the percent of circulation via self-check at The Wilbur Aalfs Library hit 25%, the highest mark since the service debuted in January.

Power after hours: Staff routinely help users navigate the physical bookstacks when the doors are open. With a full-service Library card you can connect to the Library’s Online Branch (www.siouxcitylibrary.org) from any Internet computer in the world any time of the day or night. Browse for the newest Library additions, request items to be held, renew titles already checked out, download eBooks and music, and explore specialty databases covering everything from auto repair to zoology—even read full-text magazine and journal articles.

Download eBooks and music: Research consultants are available to help you with your devices one-on-one at a time convenient to you, or at regularly scheduled *Tech Talks* (4th Tuesday of the month). (Continued on back side)

My Library Story

Growing up, I was always at the Library—my stars on the summer reaching charts on Library walls were ludicrously numerous. But the true joy of my life has been sharing the joy of reading and thus the joy of a public library with my children. William, Mary Beth, Ivey and I have enjoyed our searches, our requests, our finds, the preschool story times, reading to dogs, school trips, and the seemingly countless books we have checked out over the years. I look forward to watching them develop their own relationship with the library and am excited to see how it will be different and yet fundamentally similar to my own.

— Mary Pickens (and Mary Beth)



An Invigorating Grant

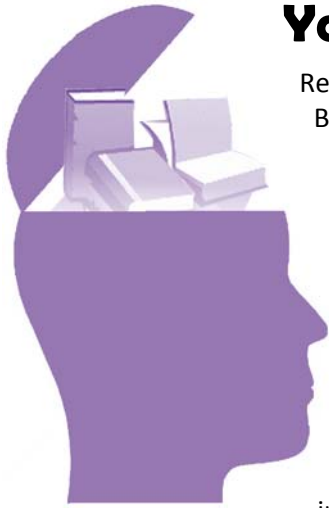
Sioux City Public Library received a \$40,000 grant to reinvigorate its collections during the next year. The funding is from the Gilchrist Foundation, which furthers the philanthropy of the late Jocelyn Gilchrist and her family.

“We’ll be able to add new titles in the areas of health, nature, wildlife, the environment, art and music,” said Sarah Doyle, Research and Reader Services Manager at the Sioux City Public Library. “It’s a welcomed boost given our recent budget cuts. Besides adult and children’s books



GILCHRIST
FOUNDATION

we will add music, DVDs, magazines and electronic resources.”



Your Brain on Fiction


Reading great literature, it has long been averred, enlarges and improves us as human beings. Brain science shows this claim is truer than we imagined. In the *New York Times* article, “Your Brain on Fiction,” Annie Murphy Paul explains how this is so: The brain makes little distinction between reading about an experience and encountering it in real life. Words like lavender, cinnamon, and soap elicit a response from the area of the brain devoted to dealing with smells—the olfactory cortex. Metaphors dealing with texture, as in, he has leathery hands or a velvet voice, activate the sensory cortex responsible for perceiving texture through touch. Words describing motion, like, he grasped the wheel, or he kicked the ball, stimulate activity in the motor cortex which coordinates body movement.

Research also shows that the brain treats fictional interactions among characters as something like real-life social encounters. There is substantial overlap in the brain networks used to understand stories and the networks used to navigate interactions with individuals—in particular, interactions in which we’re trying to figure out the thoughts and feelings of others. The capacity of the brain to construct a map of other people’s intentions is called “theory of mind.” Novels offer a unique opportunity to engage this capacity, as we identify with characters’ longings and frustrations, guess at their hidden motives, and track their encounters with other characters. Thus reading hones real-life social skills. It suggests that individuals who read fiction seem better able to understand and empathize with people, and see the world from other perspectives. (NY Times, 03/17/12)

How else does reading benefit your brain? Your visualization skills sharpen as you picture the action. Memory and focus get a workout as your brain organizes incoming details. Critical thinking cranks up as you evaluate what you’re absorbing. People who read for pleasure are 52% less likely than reluctant readers to develop mild cognitive impairment. So keep reading; and if you’d like a little direction, we’ll help you find a novel best suited to your tastes.

NEXT ISSUE: What constitutes a “good” book? 

“Avast, Me Hearties—It be Pirate Week!”


How one thing leads to another... While looking for a “hook” to help raise awareness of our self-checkout service, one staffer mentions that Library card signup month is in September, another adds, so is International Talk Like a Pirate Day. Still another is aware of a pirate-lingo download compatible with our kiosks. Suddenly, we’re planning Take Charge—Use Your Card! and Pirate Week at the Library, with pirate storytimes, book displays and movies. The read-to-me story dogs come dressed as buccaneers. Kids make pirate hats, enjoy a Library treasure hunt, collect pirate booty, and pose for photos with favorite “pirate” storybook characters. The pirate lingo option on the self-check kiosks is a huge success, bringing smiles and giggles to all ages. Given this precedent, what might the future hold for our clever self-check machines—an Irish brogue on St. Patrick’s Day, perhaps? 



Highlights from the Annual Report

As a community partner in learning, the Library collaborated with the Iowa Mathematics and Science Education Partnership and Morningside College, hosting a second installment of Mom’s Night Out for Science, Technology, Engineering and Math, a hands-on program designed to inspire the next generation of scientists. The Library invited nonprofit grantwriters to Grantseeking Basics with Foundation Directory Online by Kief Schladweiler, Coordinator of Cooperating Collections at The Foundation Center. From Head Start classrooms to the Siouxland Center for Active Generations, the Library plays an active role in lifelong learning.

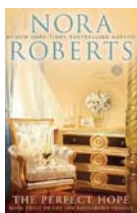
An after-hours event, The Hunger Games, Library Style, helped bring the book to life for young teens who earned points with Wii Archery and other “survival” challenges. Staff helped 193 children and adults in Beyond the Bell programs explore new ways to tell familiar stories using simple props like puppets and a shadow box, and 9,651 people attended 354 Library-sponsored children’s events.

To read the full report, visit www.siouxcitylibrary.org and select Publications under the About Us tab. 

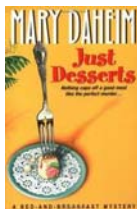
Book Remarks & Recommendations

Welcome to a reader advisor page featuring new and popular titles. For a **complete list of new titles** visit www.siouxcitylibrary.org and click the All About Books tab. Use the dropdown menu under *Our Newest Titles* for a list of items by category. Visit the Kids Zone and Teen Scene pages to find the newest additions for these reading levels. Questions? Call us at 255-2933 x 221.

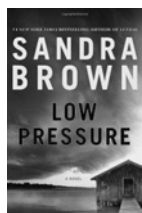
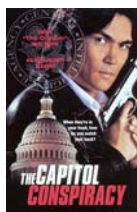
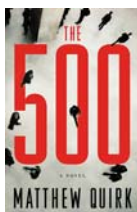
POPULAR READ-ALIKES



The Perfect Hope by Nora Roberts ends the *Inn Boonsboro* trilogy with a seductive romance between the historic Inn's owner and its manager. If you like heart-warming, leisurely-paced stories with a bed-and-breakfast setting, try **1105 Yakima Street** and **311 Pelican Court** by Debbie Macomber, or **Full Bloom** by Janet Evanovich. Mary Daheim's series of B & B mysteries begins with **Just Desserts**.



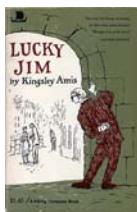
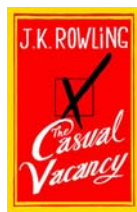
The intricately-plotted legal thriller, **The 500**, by Matthew Quirk, pits a Harvard Law student against a Washington DC-based consulting firm whose specialty is pulling strings for the most powerful people inside the Beltway. In John Grisham's classic, **The Firm**, another Harvard Law graduate is caught between sinister employers and the need to protect and provide for his family. Or, try **Capitol Conspiracy** by William Bernhardt, where a terrorist attack prompts the President to call for drastic constitutional reforms, and a Senator questions his decision to back the bill.



The author of a best-selling novel, based on her sister's murder 18 years earlier, is put in danger when a tabloid reporter reveals her true identity in **Low Pressure**, by Sandra Brown. For another fast-paced, steamy suspense story try **Backfire: An FBI Thriller** by Catherine Coulter. In this case, a San Francisco judge is shot, a once-relentless federal prosecutor turns cautious, and FBI agents receive an ominous note blaming them.



In **The Casual Vacancy** by J. K. Rowling, deep-rooted conflicts are brought to the surface in a story about small-town politics. For



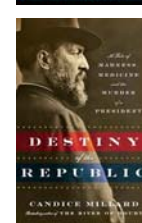
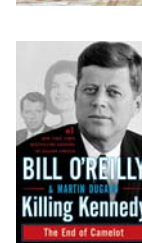
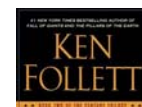
another study in English social satire, try **Lucky Jim** by Kingsley Amis, in which a young man embarks on a humorous crusade against traditional class structures in the academic world.

Book 2 of the *Century* trilogy, **Winter of the World** by Ken Follett, continues the story of five families who struggle with social, political, and economic turmoil in the mid-20th century, during

which they witness the rise of Nazi Germany, the Spanish Civil War, and the horrors of World War II. Book one is **Fall of Giants**.

Fans of epic historical fiction might enjoy **The Eleventh Man** by Ivan Doig which follows the members of an undefeated high school football team from Montana, strewn all over the globe during WWII. Written with warmth and a strong sense of place, Doig has important things to say about our thirst for heroes and heroic stories, while showing great sympathy for the unheralded men and women who fought this war.

Killing Kennedy: The End of Camelot by Bill O'Reilly and Martin Dugard (New Nonfiction 973.922092 ORe) recounts how a sequence of gunshots on a Dallas afternoon killed a beloved president and sent the nation into the cataclysmic division of the Vietnam War and its culture-changing aftermath. Other history writing about the deaths of American presidents include **Killing Lincoln: The Shocking Assassination that Changed America Forever** by Bill O'Reilly and Martin Dugard. (New Nonfiction 973.7092 ORe), and the tragic death of James Garfield in **The Destiny of the Republic: A Tale of Madness, Medicine, and the Murder of a President** by Candice Millard (New Nonfiction 973.84 Mil).



Waiting for **Gone Girl**, the latest novel by Gillian Flynn? Psychological suspense stories where seemingly devoted husbands become prime suspects in their wives' disappearances are plentiful. Type "husband suspect" in Novelist Plus (one of the Library's premium online resources for readers) and you'll find thousands of titles. Here are two to start you off:

In **The Breaker** by Minette Walters, a three-year-old girl is found wandering the streets and hours later, her mother's body washes up on the beach. In **Before I Go to Sleep** by S. J. Watson, a woman whose memory was damaged by a long-ago accident, begins to remember her former self—a process that raises disturbing questions when inconsistencies begin to emerge.



BOOK Remarks



Sioux City Public Library

529 Pierce Street
Sioux City, IA 51101-1203


RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

MISSION: The Sioux City Public Library connects people and ideas to empower and enrich our community.

The New Online Branch


The Library's new website launched in July, providing more interactivity and enhanced content.

- Go to **Downloads** for eBooks, audiobooks and music. Read, email or print full-text magazine articles 24/7 with your full-service Library card.
- The **Kid Zone** and **Teen Scene** are back with book recommendations and websites tailored to younger readers and their parents.
- **What's New?** boxes allow users to find newly-added titles quickly and easily from multiple pages.
- Library **News** articles can be liked on Facebook, shared or printed.
- The Library **Calendar** works with Google Calendars so you can "save the date" and search events by date or Library location.
- **Banner ads** promote Library services and events.

Additional content is still in the works; the site is by no means finished. Explore www.siouxcitylibrary.org and tell us what you think. 

Take Charge (continued)

Find your next good read: The program *Good Books, Good Times!* included a demo showing how to get the most out of Novelist Plus, a powerful online resource for readers. If you missed that session, no worries; trained librarians stand ready to help you find your unique answer to the question: What do I read next?

Library card signup month is over, but the empowering message for Library patrons continues: Take Charge—Use Your Card! 

Enhancing Library excellence today... Endowing Library excellence for tomorrow

Support the 2012 campaign for Library excellence
Give to the Sioux City Public Library Foundation



Mail your donation to:

Sioux City Public Library Foundation
529 Pierce Street
Sioux City, IA 51101

Gifts of any amount designate the donor as a
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