

The Gift of Reading



By Chantal Cagle, Information Assistant

Last year, one night in December, a gentleman pulled up to the Main Library drive-up window to pick up his holds. I scanned his card and saw he had 13 books waiting for him.

"You have a lot to pick up!" I said.

"It's the best part of Christmas," he replied.

As I trundled back and forth between the shelves and the checkout counter with his books, I pondered his words. Surely he knew he had to return the books? I handed him back his library card.

"When you said it was the best part of Christmas, did you mean you have more time to read them, or did you mean giving the books?"

"The books are destined to be wrapped and deposited under the tree," he replied.

"You know you have to return them though, right?"

"Oh yes, that's part of the fun??not holding onto things," he laughed. [Read more](#)

Posted by Mandy H. on December 19, 2019

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Library Receives Grant for Future Southwest Branch Teaching Kitchen



The Community Foundation of Bloomington and Monroe County (CFBMC) awarded the Library a grant for equipment, appliances, and supplies to establish a 600-square foot teaching kitchen as part of the construction of the forthcoming Southwest Branch Library. Scheduled to open in 2022, the kitchen will provide free, hands-on cooking and nutrition programs for all ages, increasing food security and advancing literacy, math, and science. The Library has hired an architect for the new branch and is currently investigating site options. [Read more](#)

Posted by Mandy H. on December 16, 2019

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Halloween Fun at the Library



It's October??time to get ready for Halloween and all things fall with book recommendations and events for all ages! [Read more](#)

Posted by Mandy H. on September 24, 2019

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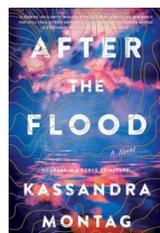
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New National eBook Club



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The Libraries Transform Book Pick is a new digital reading program that connects readers nationwide by offering free access to the same eBook through public libraries. The program, a collaboration between the American Library Association (ALA) and Rakuten OverDrive, gives public libraries the opportunity to bring readers together to discover a new eBook and celebrate the very best in reading.

After the Flood, an inventive and riveting climate fiction saga by Cassandra Montag, will be available October 7th 2019. Use your library card and the [Libby app](#) to download a free copy of the eBook to your personal device. There will be no waitlists or holds for this title. [Read more](#)

Posted by Mandy H. on September 24, 2019

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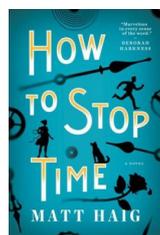
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How to Stop Time



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Despite being over four hundred years old?alive in the time of Shakespeare?Tom Hazard (one of his many *non de plumes*) is still learning how to live life.

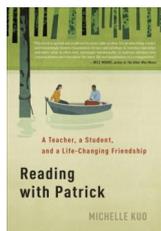
Recently, he relocated to London, and became a history teacher in a secondary school. While lecturing about Elizabethan England or Mussolini during World War II, Tom gets tripped on things he actually saw, versus things he should only be familiar about through books. The students notice and look at him quizzically. [Read more](#)

Posted by Dory L. on June 27, 2018

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Reading with Patrick



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Everyone has heard about the talented, super-smart teachers who work for the [Teach for America](#) program. But why do many of these new teachers only stay for a year or two and then move on? In *Reading with Patrick*, compelling and emotionally resonant memoir, Michelle Kuo, a Harvard-educated Asian American, relates her two years teaching in poverty-torn Helena, Arkansas, a delta town close to the Mississippi state line that has lost nearly all of its industry. Kuo also describes her parents' great expectations for her career, and their deep disappointment when she takes a low-paying position in education. [Read more](#)

Posted by Dory L. on May 9, 2018

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