



# Bixby Buzz

August 2016

**Library Hours:** Monday 12:30-7; Tuesday 12:30-5; Wednesday 10-5; Thursday 10-7; Friday 12:30-5; Saturday 9.

**Book Sale Hours:** Thursdays 2-6:30; Fridays 2-4:30 and Saturdays 10-1:30.



## Humongous Book Sale Winding Down

There's still time to take advantage of the humongous book sale happening in the Otter Creek Room at the library. Saturday August 6 is the last day and you can name your own price for the books you want to purchase.

Gather up what you want from the great selection and decide what you think a fair price would be! Regular hours resume on Thursday, August 11. Then look for us outdoors in front of the library on Vergennes Day, August 27.

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### Teen and Tween Volunteer Party

Surf's up!!!

Reminder Bixby Tween and Teen Volunteers are having a Beach Party.

We will be headed to Button Bay State Park: August 10<sup>th</sup> to eat, relax, run wild, eat, swim, play games, eat and laugh all afternoon. If you haven't responded to Rachel at Bixby, you need to call or email her soon to be included in the festivities.



## What does writing do?

By Adult Services Librarian  
Muir Haman

Anthony Doerr's Pulitzer Prize-winning *All the Light We Cannot See* holds a chapter, "Around the World in Eighty Days," in which a deftly spun answer lies. Writing is a process central to human identity, a requisite that defines lives, textures experience, and builds our worlds. Writing is memory, storytelling, imagination, thought. It is the inescapable functioning of the human brain. The scratches on paper--what we usually think of as "writing"--are a side effect of the processes that constantly tumble across our neural networks.

We pass through the universe searching, breaking our subjective experiences into quantum of knowledge and belief hoping for love, for connection, for meaning. We write systems of belief into our brains, and we constantly revise them. Our brains have evolved to conflict, half sticking to our beliefs, half battling to change those beliefs, the whole ever-changing.

In my writing workshop, I often suggest that writers look at the world in a certain way. Doerr might argue that they pay attention in a certain way--sight is certainly not a requirement to write or to read or to tell a story or to remember something. And really the method with which writers experience the world is not different than anyone else's, except perhaps in the intensity of attention and the expectation of turning that attention and experience into something blisteringly new on the page as Doerr seems to do on every page of his book. Our brains perform this transformation--from sensory detail to meaning to belief--all the time.

In Doerr's chapter the Marie-Laure recreates the physical world in her head,

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## Art on Display

Pictured above is Kara Greenblott, a Burlington artist whose art reflects her experiences working for world health organizations in third world countries. She creates her art with Sharpies, photographs them, then prints them on canvas. Art is also on display in the Otter Creek Room. Come see work by Jim Bushey, Bethany Farrell and Kendra Schpok.



## Please join us for the Dedication of the Bixby Library West Porch

In honor of former  
Board President  
**Peter Morris**

Thursday, August 18  
Reception 5-7 pm  
Dedication 6 pm

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remapping her nervous system to make sense of a world that has become unfamiliar without her sight. When she attends to her senses, she overcomes fear with the magic of writing. Without her sight, she experiences color--perhaps a form a synesthesia--sounds as color, smells as color. She writes blisteringly new meaning into her mind and across her world.

Doerr also weaves the magic of reading--a mirror-process to writing, and just as mystical--into this chapter as Marie-Laure morphs from reading the layout of the world through several of her senses, to reading the texture of objects with her hands, to reading braille while the world of "reality" falls away to make room for the created world stirred by the writing that she reads through her fingertips.

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### A Few Words from Youth Services Librarian Rachel Plant



Summer is sizzling. Books are popping and expanding on the shelves in the Children's Room. They are breathless from being returned from your vacation destinations. Thanks for taking out so many great books this summer. Some are a wee bit damp, others have sandy feeling pages, and in a few I think I can smell... *hotdogs* with *mustard* and *ketchup*???? No wonder I'm hungry!

All of this reading is a pleasant disease... I hope it is spreading like wildfire through the remaining, yet dwindling weeks of summer vacation. KEEP GOING!!! Keep turning those pages. You will get finger cramps, but create elegantly strong and flexible wrists! Stuck for a good title?? Check out the book reviews below!

## Book Reviews



### Booked for Bikes!

Don't forget to fill in and return your reading entry forms for the Booked for Bikes Annual Summer Drawing. There are plenty of blank forms available at the entrance to the Children's Room.

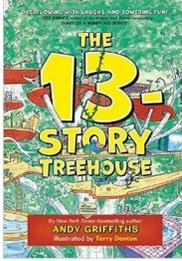
Deadline to turn in entries: Monday, August 22<sup>nd</sup> by 3pm. We've got bikes, Kindles, gift certificates, a manicure, Luigi's pizza, BH Club creemees, Lake Monster game tickets... and sooooo much more to give away!

New this summer: There is a special Kindle prize for Pre- school age Children 3-5. This is a fantastic prize so fill in those entry forms.

This year's drawing will be held at City Park on Vergennes Day: Saturday, August 27<sup>th</sup> at 1:15 at the bandstand. You needn't be present to win. Thank you to Vergennes Rotary members for making this program possible!

## Local Poets

## 13 Story Treehouse



by Andy Griffiths

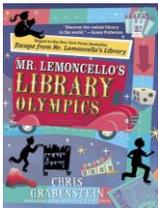
“Andy and Terry live in a treehouse. But it's not just any old treehouse, it's the most amazing treehouse in the world!

This treehouse has thirteen stories, a bowling alley, a see-through swimming pool, a secret underground laboratory, and a marshmallow machine that follows you around and automatically shoots marshmallows into your mouth whenever you are hungry.

Life would be perfect for Andy and Terry if it wasn't for the fact that they have to write their next book, which is almost impossible because there are just so many distractions, including thirteen flying cats, giant bananas, mermaids, a sea monsters pretending to be mermaids, enormous gorillas, and dangerous burp gas-bubblegum bubbles!” from Amazon. Grades 3-5.

(This is the first book in the Treehouse series).

## Mr. Lemoncello's Library Olympics



by Chris Grabenstein

“The much-anticipated **New York Times** bestselling puzzle-packed sequel to the award-winning *Escape from Mr. Lemoncello's Library*!

Welcome, boys and girls, readers of all ages, to the first-ever Library Olympics! Kyle and his teammates are back, and the world-famous

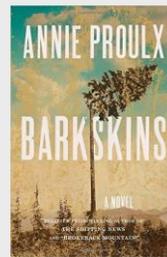
## At Bixby

Tuesday, August 30, 6 pm

Michelle L. Mowery  
Panton  
Christina Caniyo  
Vergennes  
Muir Haman  
Vergennes

The Table Read Series is both a formal reading and a workshop for the writers involved. Following the reading there will be a discussion of the work-and the writer will be silent the whole time. Some of the most interesting conversations about art come from these readings. Each poet will get forty minutes of time for both the reading and discussion.

## New and Waiting for Readers!



Annie Proulx brings us

game maker Luigi Lemoncello is at it again!

This time Mr. Lemoncello has invited teams from all across America to compete in the first-ever LIBRARY OLYMPICS. But something suspicious is going on . . . books are missing from Mr. Lemoncello's library. Is someone trying to censor what the kids are reading?! Now it's not just a game—can Mr. Lemoncello find the real defenders of books and champions of libraries? In between figuring out mind-boggling challenges, the kids will have to band together to get to the bottom of this mystery.

Packed with puzzles, clues, and thrilling surprises, this is a deliciously fun, action-packed sequel to the *New York Times* bestselling *Escape from Mr. Lemoncello's Library*. Let the games begin!" from Amazon. Grades 3-6.

### *Unsinkable Walker Bean/ Graphic Novel*



by Aaron Renier

"Throughout his childhood, pudgy, bespectacled Walker Bean has listened to his grandfather's tales of adventure on the open seas. Now Walker finds himself smack-dab in the middle of his own thrilling escapade when his ailing grandfather asks him to return a human skull to a trench deep in the ocean floor. Once part of a skeleton of a witch's enemy, this skull has now been transformed into pearl. Armed with his grandfather's journal, an amazing message bottle, assistance from a few trusted friends, and his own clever and inventive mind, Walker braves pirates, evil witches, and his own fears in this tale of derring-do and skullduggery. Renier's tale is a youngster's dream: adventure with a capital A. The graphic art moves the story along with excellent page layout and a brilliant color palette that serve as fireworks, lighting up the pages with cannon muzzle blasts and ships ablaze. Clever writing, though sometimes a little convoluted for young readers, is

an epic family story of "tree people" in *Barkskins*, an "intricate, powerful meditation on colonialism...both enthralling and edifying."



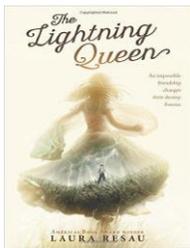
A narrative constructed from pieces of short stories published over a decade, Lavie Tidhar's *Central Station* gives you a cohesive tale about the far-future melting pot of people "just trying to get along" in the community wedged between New Tel Aviv and the old Arab port of Jaffa. A thought-provoking, intellectual sci fi romp.



Joyce Carol Oates's *The Man Without a Shadow* is a "smart and unnerving page-turner" about a neuroscientist

filled with humor and puns. Readers should be prepared to suspend all logic and ties to reality. They will find a ship with a garden complete with large fruit trees and a gardener who practices composting onboard. The crew uses matches and employs phrases such as "Holy Guacamole." But for those who are ready to lay aside these concerns for a while and take off with Walker in an adventure of a lifetime, this is an exciting choice." from School Library Journal. Grades 4-7.

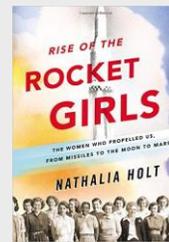
## Lightning Queen



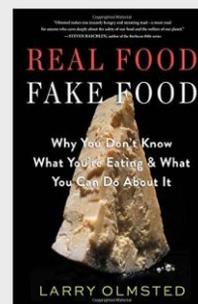
by Laura Resau

"If books were written in black and white, *The Lightning Queen* would be written in color. Esma, a young Romani girl, meets Teo, a young Mixteco living on the Hill of Dust in the mountains of Mexico, when her traveling caravan makes a stop in Teo's small village. The Romani bring with them the magic of cinema films, and after the loss of Teo's father and sister, Esma gives him a reason to feel alive again. When Esma's grandmother, the Mistress of Destiny, reveals Teo's true fortune—that he and Esma will be lifelong friends and will save each other—Esma and Teo work hard to make sure their fortune comes true. Esma gives Teo the courage to save others and ultimately helps him to save himself. In return, Teo lifts Esma up just when she believes that her own dream is an impossibility. Esma and Teo go their separate ways; she becomes a shining star admired by the world, while he becomes a healer like his grandfather—and it is not until they are both in old age that they meet again. With the help of Teo's grandson Mateo and Esma's granddaughter Ruby, Teo and Esma rekindle their lifelong friendship. Like surviving a lightning strike, this book is rare and incredible." from School Library Journal. Grades 3-6. (*Lightning Queen* is a Dorothy's List 2016-2017 book).

who becomes unethically obsessed with a test subject.



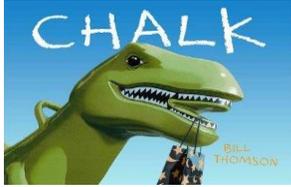
Nathalia Holt's *Rise of the Rocket Girls* tells the forgotten story of the women of the Jet Propulsion Laboratory, the division of NASA that developed *Vorager* and the Mars rovers and came to have the highest concentration of female employees in the agency, and is widely accessible and appealing.



Larry Olmsted argues in *Real Food/Fake Food* that the consequences of the FDA's hands-off approach to foodstuffs in particularly troubling and leads to "official disregard for geographic protections," fake food

## Picture Books

### *Chalk*

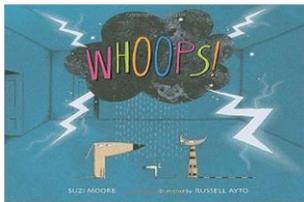


by Bill Thomson

This Picture Book has been a hands down favorite at the Bixby all summer long. A rainy day leads three rain soaked friends on a walk through a playground/ park. Before them they see the large green climbing dinosaur, and hanging from its mouth is a small star spangled gift bag...

*Chalk* is both a visual and imaginary adventure. Perfect for pouring over again and again. Good gift book suggestion.

### *Whoops!*



by Suzie Moore

Three furry friends just can't seem to make the correct animal sounds... the cat can't "meow", the dog can't "woof", and the mouse can't "squeak". They set off to seek help to from the lady in the tumbledown house.

Rhythm and repetition as well as clever detail-changing illustrations keep children amused and engaged. I encourage reading it aloud and having the children join in the repeating chorus. Fun and laughter ensues, and a pretty clever ending puts wide grins on both parents and children's faces.

All of the books reviewed are in the Bixby Children's Room Collection.

marked as top-tier products, and dangerous foodstuffs, and it might encourage consumers to shop more prudently.

### **KEEP IN TOUCH:**

Phone: (802)877-2211

Web: [www.bixbylibrary.org](http://www.bixbylibrary.org)

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