

# Books, Bytes and More

February 2012

Northwest Regional Library System  
Serving the Florida Counties of  
Bay, Gulf and Liberty



Headquarters

Bay County Public Library  
898 W. 11th Street  
Panama City, Florida  
850-522-2100

[www.nwrls.com](http://www.nwrls.com)

## booksALIVE

It's finally here—Books Alive 2012! This will be the 13th annual Books Alive Festival of Reading. Don't miss the many free author presentations occurring all day long at Gulf Coast State College.

Most of the presentations are free, and the schedule can be found on page 3 of this newsletter.

Throughout the day attendees will have the opportunity to purchase books written by presenting authors and have them signed.

Books Unlimited is again providing the books and will donate a portion of the proceeds to the Bay County Public Library.



Jeffrey Toobin

Our ticketed events include a Keynote and Luncheon featuring Jeffrey Toobin. Toobin's latest book

is "The Nine: inside the secret world of the Supreme Court." He is an NPR Commentator, CNN Senior Legal Analyst and Columnist for the *New Yorker*.

On Saturday evening there is a formal gala event where the authors, including Mr. Toobin, will eat and chat during a lovely evening in a beautiful local home. The food is being catered by Firefly, one of our best local restaurants.

Tickets for the keynote and gala events are available at the Bay County Public Library and the Panama City Beach Public Library. Tickets will also be available at the registration table at Gulf Coast State College—if any are remaining!

There is a discounted student price for the Keynote

booksALIVE  
Festival of Reading

Saturday  
February 11  
9:00 am—4:00 pm

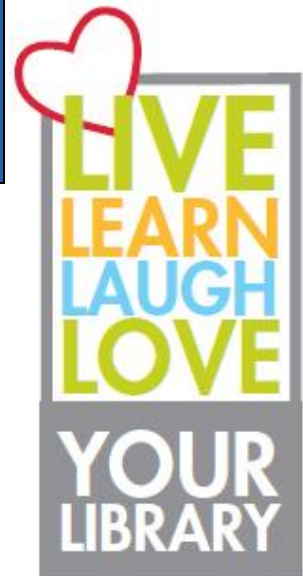
Gulf Coast  
State College

[www.booksalive.net](http://www.booksalive.net)

Luncheon of \$15.00. Just show your student ID.

Books Alive is a project sponsored by the Bay County Public Library Foundation.

For additional information please contact Bettina Mead at the Bay County Public Library, 850-522-2120 or [bmead@baycountyfl.gov](mailto:bmead@baycountyfl.gov).



## OverDrive—Coming February 27

Our new eBook service, OverDrive, will be available to customers from our website beginning Monday, February 27. The eBooks available will work with Kindle and EPUB compatible devices such as the Nook, Sony, Kobo eReaders, as well as many others.

Our collection will begin with over 430 popular fiction and non-fiction books, including

titles for children and teens. We will continue to add titles as the year goes on. Customers who would like to suggest a title for us to purchase for the eBook collection should complete our online *Suggest a Title* form available on the [nwrls.com](http://nwrls.com) website (under the Books, Etc. tab).

In order to use OverDrive customers will need a valid

NWRLS library card and PIN number. If you do not know your PIN number please contact your local branch.

If you have questions about this new service please call your local branch or the Bay County Public Library Reference Desk at 850.522.2107 or [ReferenceDesk@nwrls.com](mailto:ReferenceDesk@nwrls.com).

Please check our website for more details.



**OverDrive**  
leading digital media services

## Director's Corner



This is such an exciting month at the Northwest Regional Library System! The 13th annual Books Alive Festival of Reading and Gala is happening February

11 & 12. I attended my first Books Alive last year and was very impressed. Books Alive features authors from all over Florida and up and down the East Coast presenting programs, most of which are free. Last year there were between 400 and 500 people in attendance. It was really a lot of fun and the authors were interesting and enthusiastically signed copies of their books. The evening Gala fundraiser was held in a beautiful local home and attendees had the chance to eat delicious food and chat with the authors.

I highly recommend any and all of these events. Tickets for the keynote and gala events can be purchased at the Bay County Public Library and the Panama City Beach Public Library.

Another exciting happening at the library this month is the launch of our new eBook service called OverDrive. For the past year we have offered access to downloadable eBooks, but only with this new service will Kindle users have the ability to borrow eBooks from the library. Please see the OverDrive article on page 1 for more details.

February is Black History Month and there are two very special events happening at the Bay County Public Library to celebrate. During the entire month there will be an exhibit by artist Carl Webb called "The World of Global Art." On February 28 the Youth

Services Department will present "I hear the rhythm: a history of African-American music. This program features live music and is a must see for the whole family.

The Panama City Beach branch is continuing their "Lunch and Learn" series with a program called "Florida during the Civil War" presented by library staff member and local historian Ann Robbins.

There are so many interesting things going on at the public library. Please visit our website and Events Calendar for more information about our programs and services. And please give us a call, send an email, or send us a message on Facebook if you have comments or suggestions. We look forward to hearing from you soon.

*Robin Shuler*

## Love is on display at the library

What will you be reading or watching on Valentine's Day? Here are some suggestions, many of which are on display this month in our library locations.

"Dating after 50"  
by Sharon Romm M.D.

"Cooking with Aphrodisiacs" DVD

"Mr. and Mrs. Happy Handbook"  
by Steve Doocy



"Summer Desserts" by Nora Roberts-audiobook

"Wuthering Heights"-DVD

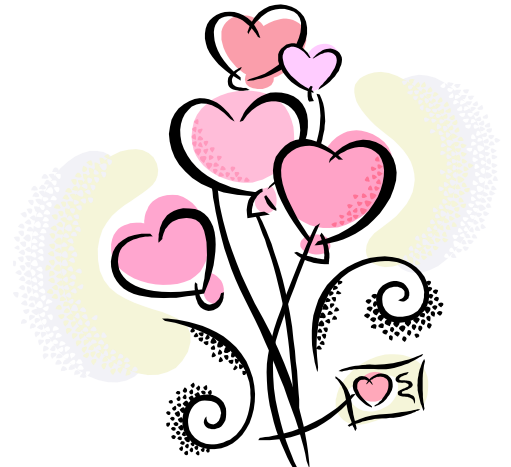
"You Only Love Twice"  
by Loria Wilde

"The Chocolate Lover's Club"  
By Carole Mathews

"My Nerdy Valentine"  
By Vicki Lewis Thompson

"Blame it on Cupid"  
By Jennifer Greene

"Valentine"  
by Tom Savage



"Making Love Last Forever"  
By Gary Smalley

"Will You Marry Me?-Popping the Question With Romance and Style"  
By Jason Rich

"Dateworthy"  
By Dennie Hughes

You can check the availability of these and other titles at [www.nwrls.com](http://www.nwrls.com).

### First Session 9:00–10 am

Gibson	Allyson Lewis—Creating a Life with Meaning: 7 Minutes at a Time Moderator: Pat Sabiston
Room 243 SUE	Terry Tomalin—Everday Adventures Moderator: Lori Carver
Room 244 SUE	Robert Leleux—Living End: A Memoir of Forgetting and Forgiving Moderator: Kathie Bennett
Room 259 SUW	Sid Matthew—Where Have You Gone...Bobby Jones Moderator: John Robert Middlemas

### Second Session 10:15–11:15 am

Gibson Hall	Jeff Shaara—Writing the Past: Historical Fiction Moderator: Dr. Glenda Waters
Room 243 SUE	Michael Morris—Southern Fiction...Southern Style Moderator: Olivia Cooley
Room 244 SUE	Melissa Conroy and Kerry Madden—Writing Your Inner Child: Children and Teens Moderator: Kathie Bennett
Room 259 SUW	Dr. David Ott—Noteworthy Lives of Composers Moderator: Joanne Cox
Room 260 SUW	Dr. Sharon Draper—Literacy, Laughter, and Learning Moderator: Sandra Pierce
Room 261 SUW	Lynne Hinton—Why I Can't Stop Writing Moderator: Karon Phillips

### Third Session 11:30–12:30 pm

Gibson	Joyce LaFray and Patricia Mack—Florida Cuisine and Tropical Cooking Moderator: Paul Ashman
Room 243 SUE	Michael Morris—Southern Fiction...Southern Style Moderator: Olivia Cooley
Room 244 SUE	Jim Brogan—Rare and Miniature Book Collecting: Yesterday, Today, Tomorrow Moderator: Adele Head
Room 259 SUW	Dr. David Ott—Noteworthy Lives of Composers Moderator: Joanne Cox
Room 260 SUW	John DeDakis—From Journalist to Novelist (or how I learned to start making it up) Moderator: Ruth Corley
Room 261 SUW	Terry Tomalin—Everyday Adventures Moderator: Lori Carver

### Literary Luncheon 12:45-2:15 pm

### Fourth Session 2:30–3:30 pm

Gibson	Allyson Lewis—Creating a Life with Meaning: 7 Minutes at a Time Moderator: Pat Sabiston
Room 243 SUE	Panel: Melissa Conroy, Kerry Madden, Lynne Hinton—Writing from the Heart Moderator: Karon Phillips
Room 244 SUE	Robert Leleux—Living End: A Memoir of Forgetting and Forgiving Moderator: Kathie Bennett
Room 259 SUW	Joyce LaFray and Patricia Mack—Florida Cuisine and Tropical Cooking Moderator: Paul Ashman
Room 260 SUW	John Dedakis—From Journalist to Novelist (or how I learned to start making it up) Moderator: Ruth Corley
Room 261 SUW	Sid Matthew—Where Have You Gone...Bobby Jones Moderator: John Robert Middlemas

# Upcoming Programs and Exhibits at NWRLS



Please check out the Northwest Regional Library System **Events Calendar** to see what is happening in all eight library locations. From the library homepage, [www.nwrls.com](http://www.nwrls.com), click a date on the calendar to see more information, or click the "Calendar" link under the "Events" tab.

The calendar can be searched by library location or type of program, so you can easily limit to the types of programs you want.

Below is a list of some of our upcoming programs and exhibits. Please access the calendar for a complete list.

Tuesday, February 7

## **Lunch & Learn (PCB)-Florida during the Civil War**

Panama City Beach Public Library  
12 pm-1 pm

Thursday, February 9

## **BCPL Book Club**

Bay County Public Library  
10 am-11 am

Tuesday, February 14

## **Pinkalicious Party**

Bay County Public Library  
3:30 pm-4:30 pm



Wednesday, February 15

## **Internet Basics/Email (1 of 3)**

Panama City Beach Public Library  
9:30 am-11 am  
Call 850.233.5055 to register

Thursday, February 16

## **Internet Basics/Email (2 of 3)**

Panama City Beach Public Library  
9:30 am-11 am  
Call 850.233.5055 to register

Friday, February 17

## **Internet Basics/Email (3 of 3)**

Panama City Beach Public Library  
9:30 am-11 am  
Call 850.233.5055 to register

Tuesday, February 28

## **I Hear the Rhythm: A History of African-American Music**

Bay County Public Library  
6:30 pm-7:30 pm

Monday, March 5

## **New PCB Library Book Club**

Panama City Beach Public Library  
12 pm-1 pm  
Call 850.233.5055 to register

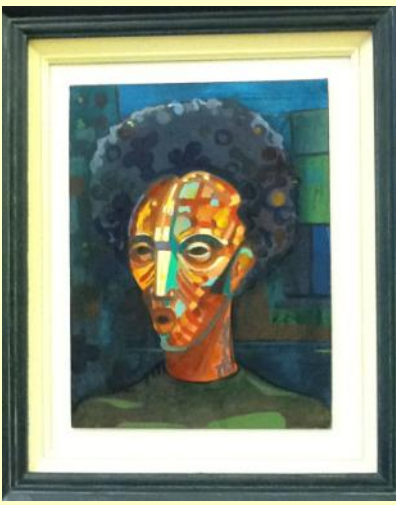
Tuesday, March 6

## **The Hunger Games Teen Program**

Panama City Beach Public Library  
3:30 pm-4:30 pm  
Call 850.233.5055 to register

**Carl Webb**  
**The World of Global Art**  
February 3-29 2012

An exhibit at the  
Bay County Public Library



## Spotlight on ... Book & Authors

Book fans know the feeling: finishing a thrilling novel or an engaging nonfiction work and wanting to sustain that momentum to the next book. But what is that next book?

**Books & Authors** is a resource that offers ways to explore the endless possibilities and combinations of books, authors and topics. Search according to author, title, series, awards and other criteria. An "if you like" search connects readers to themes and genres

that may have otherwise gone unnoticed.

Readers can use **Books & Authors** to enhance the experience of the book they are reading; dig deeper into its themes and origins; or learn how the author's life and times contributed to the work.

It's also a great source for reading groups and book clubs to help the

group determine the next book to read.

You can access Books & Authors via the NWRLS website ([www.nwrls.com](http://www.nwrls.com)). Access the Research tab, then Databases. **Books & Authors** is part of the Florida Electronic Library and you will need to use your library card to gain access. Check it out today!



# News from the Panama City Beach Library



It's the beginning of Snow Bird season at the beach and at the Panama City

Beach Library. From January 2 to January 12 we've had 3,669 visits. On our busiest day thus far we had 565 visits. We are averaging 456 visits each day. We've issued 159 library cards of which 33 were non-resident cards.

For most of each day it takes all hands at the circulation desk to check things

in and out, provide computer assistance, help with reader's advisory, register new borrowers and answer the phone, but we love it! The winter visitors really like our book sale area. They'll buy some, read them, and then give them back so we can resell them. Plus when they leave the area, they donate all the books they'd bought during their visit. Computer access is also very popular.

To help us cope with the flood of materials being returned, staff member Jackie Papke has recruited additional teen volunteers to add to our already fabulous group dedicated PCB Library volunteers. High school students desir-

ing to earn a Bright Futures Scholarship Award are required to earn 30-100 volunteer hours during their 4 years of high school. We are excited to assist these students with earning these hours, while at the same time have the extra hands to assist us here at the PCB Library. We also hope that these teens will influence other teens to visit their library.

Come see us, and if there is a line at the front desk consider trying our new Express Checkout machine.

We look forward to seeing you soon.

Submitted by Frank Walker  
PCB Branch Manager

## New DVDs

Did you know that the library offers DVDs for all ages? There are currently over 4,600 DVD titles in our collection.

Here's a list of a few of our most recent additions. Please search our catalog for a complete list.

Limitless



Below



Zookeeper



Unknown



Rango



Rio



Irish Lighthouses



## Library Catalog: Now in a Mobile Version



One of the great new features of our updated library catalog, called LS2, is the availability of mobile apps for smartphones and other electronic devices like Apple's iTouch. The mobile version of the full library catalog allows you to search for library items, place holds and access the "My Account" feature, just like you can on the full version. The mobile version just makes it all easier to use on the small screen. In order to download the app for an

iPhone, iTouch or iPad, access the app store at iTunes. For Android users, download your app from the Android Market.

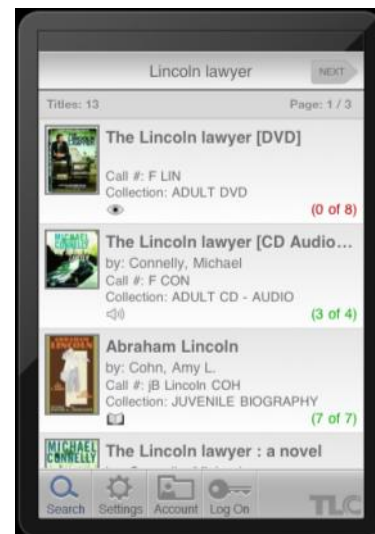


Download from Android Market



Download from iTunes

Right: A screenshot of the LS2 Mobile Catalog from an iPad2



## Read-Alikes

### Read everything written by your favorite author?

The Northwest Regional Library System keeps a list of read-alike authors; these are authors that write using similar styles.

For example,

If you like... **Jean Auel** ...you would probably also like...

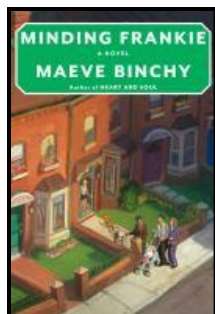
Katherine Gear  
Harry Harrison  
Sue Harrison  
William Sarabande  
Judith Tarr  
Joan Wolfe

#### Russel Banks

Paul Auster  
Stephen Dobyns  
Richard Ford

#### Maeve Binchy

Lois Battle  
Barbara Bradford  
Susan Howatch  
Belva Plain  
Anne River Siddons  
Joanna Trollope



#### Lillian Jackson Braun

Lydia Adamson  
Garrison Allen  
Marian Babson  
Rita Mae Brown  
Carole Nelson Douglas  
Shirley R. Murphy

#### Terry Brooks

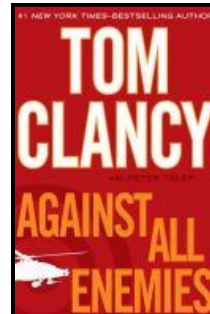
David Eddings  
David Drake  
Raymond E. Feist  
Terry Goodkind  
Robin Hobb  
Robert Jordan  
George R.R. Martin  
J.R.R. Tolkien

#### Sandra Brown

Catherine Coulter  
Tami Hoag  
Kay Hooper  
Linda Howard  
Iris Johanson  
Karen Robards

#### James Lee Burke

Lawrence Sanders  
Robert Crais  
Loren Estleman  
Ed McBain  
Walter Mosely  
Robert Parker  
George Pelecanos  
Bill Pronzoni  
John Sandford  
Andrew Vachss  
Stuart Woods



#### Tom Clancy

Larry Bond  
Dale Brown  
Stephan Coonts  
Harold Coyle  
W.E.B. Griffin  
David Poyer  
Martin Cruz Smith  
Craig Thomas

For more "Read-Alikes"  
check out Reader's Corner  
at [www.nwrls.com](http://www.nwrls.com)

## Library Statistics—At a Glance

The fiscal year for the library is October 1—September 30. Since October 1, 2011, checkouts of library materials from all of our locations combined is 8.2% higher than during the same period last year. Between October 1, 2011 and January 31, 2012—the library checked out 210,366 items.



Selected statistics for the month of January...

#### Items Borrowed

Bay County Public Library—36,975  
Panama City Beach Library—13,425  
Parker Library—1,100  
Springfield Library—1,331  
Port St. Joe Library—3,107  
Wewahitchka Library—1,169  
Liberty County Library—504  
Hosford Library—192

#### Customer Visits

Bay County Public Library— 29,593  
Panama City Beach Library— 11,403  
Parker Library— 1,730  
Springfield Library— 2,240  
Port St. Joe Library— 1,979  
Wewahitchka Library— 1,602  
Liberty County Library— 1,150  
Hosford Library— 755

## On display...



This South African display was created by staff member Edith King at the Jimmy Weaver Memorial Library, Hosford.

Staff at the Jimmy Weaver Memorial Library in Hosford used their Christmas tree in a creative way to promote many of the fun celebrations that happened in January, including National Kazoo Day and Squirrel Appreciation Day. The kids loved it!



## Celebrating Literacy Week



Sandra Pierce and Elaine Everett of the Bay County Public Library Youth Services participated in Bay

District School's Celebrate Literacy Week at area schools in January.

A poetry Slam at New Horizons Learning Center, Oscar Paterson, Parker and Beach Elementary enjoyed a storytel-

ling program, and Family Reading Night at Springfield Elementary.



Sandra Pierce and Elaine Everett

What a great week for reading ...over 1,200 children and teachers attended programs!



## New Book Club at Panama City Beach

We are excited to announce that the Panama City Beach Public Library is starting a new book club.

The first meeting will be March 5th from 12:00 Noon to 1:00 P.M in the meeting room at the PCB library. Subsequent meetings will be the first Monday of each month at the same time, so mark your calendars now!



For the first meeting, we will be discussing "Still Alice" by Lisa Genova. We'll discuss potential titles for April and May during our March meeting, so come ready to help decide.

We hope that you will join us for our first meeting and look forward to many lively discussions!

Questions? Call 233-5055 or [jpapke@nwrls.com](mailto:jpapke@nwrls.com)

Read Again Bookstore  
@ the Bay County Public Library

Nothing over \$1.00!

Hardcover books

Paperbacks

Magazines

VHS & DVD Movies

CDs

Cassettes

Gift Certificates available



Open 7 days, during all library hours

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### **Bay County Public Library**

898 W. 11th Street  
Panama City, FL 32401  
Phone: 850-522-2100

**Hours:** Monday—Wednesday 9AM—8PM  
Thursday—Saturday 9AM-5PM  
Sunday 1PM—5PM

### **Springfield Public Library**

408 School Avenue  
Springfield, FL 32401  
Phone: 850-872-7510

**Hours:** Monday & Tuesday—Closed  
Wednesday—Friday 9AM—5PM  
Saturday 9AM—1PM  
Sunday—Closed

### **Gulf County Public Library**

110 Library Drive  
Port St. Joe, FL 32456  
Phone: 850-229-8879

**Hours:** Monday & Tuesday 10AM—6PM ET  
Wednesday—Closed, Thursday & Friday 10AM—6PM ET  
Saturday & Sunday—Closed

### **Harrell Memorial Library of Liberty County**

12818 NW Hwy 12  
Bristol, FL 32321  
Phone: 850-643-2247

**Hours:** Monday 9AM—7PM ET, Tuesday 9AM—6PM ET  
Wednesday & Thursday 9AM—5PM ET, Friday Closed

### **Panama City Beach Public Library**

12500 Hutchison Blvd  
Panama City Beach, FL 32407  
Phone: 850-233-5055

**Hours:** Monday—Wednesday 9AM—6PM  
Thursday & Friday 9AM—5PM  
Saturday 9AM-4PM, Sunday Closed

### **Parker Public Library**

4710 Second Street  
Parker, FL 32404  
Phone: 850-871-3092

**Hours:** Monday & Tuesday 10AM—5PM  
Wednesday—Closed, Thursday 10AM—5PM  
Friday—Closed, Saturday 10AM—5PM  
Sunday—Closed

### **Wewahitchka Public Library**

314 North 2nd Street  
Wewahitchka, FL 32465  
Phone: 850-639-2419

**Hours:** Monday & Tuesday 9AM—5PM  
Wednesday—Closed, Thursday & Friday 9AM—5PM  
Saturday & Sunday—Closed

### **Jimmy Weaver Memorial Library**

22149 NE Hwy 20  
Hosford, FL 32334  
Phone: 850-379-3300

**Hours:** Monday 2PM—7PM ET, Tuesday 9AM—5PM ET  
Wednesday Closed, Thursday 9AM—5PM ET, Friday Closed

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## **What people are saying about us...**

*Regarding the displays in and around the Local History Room...*

“I love how you all are making all these individual venues for people to enjoy. Makes the library serve a dual purpose of being a museum as well! Good Job!”

Bay County Public Library  
Genealogy & Local History Dept.

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“The sign language videos for babies are wonderful. My child knows at least 40 signs and he wants to watch them all the time.”

Bay County Public Library  
Youth Services

“So appreciative of the good attitude concerning my overdues and misplaced books!”

Panama City Beach Public Library

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“Who needs cable when you can get all of these wonderful things for free!”

Bay County Public Library  
Youth Services

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“I like the hat book. It was lyrical and informative.”

Panama City Beach Public Library

*Preschooler at the Youth Services desk...*

“I love this place!”

Bay County Public Library  
Youth Services

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“My daughter enjoys coming each week and always learns something at storytime.”

Panama City Beach Public Library

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We're on the web  
@ [www.nwrls.com](http://www.nwrls.com)