

THE PAGE TURNER

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July/August
2011

Online access available at
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- Catalog - View the library's card catalog & manage your library account from home.
- Get Library Card - Download & print application.
- Database - Great for research and homework.
- Newsletter - Read "The Page Turner" from home.
- Calendar - Keep up on upcoming events, meetings and closings.
- Service - News about our Children's, Teen and Adult services.

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DIRECTOR'S CORNER

by Gayle Trede

We are off to a **great** start for the Mount Pleasant Public Library's Summer Reading programs!

For the adult program, [Novel Destinations](#), 41 adults are currently participating, [I Hate Reading, But I Love...](#), the teen program, has 59 participants right now and the children's program, [Reading Ranch](#), has 258 participants at this time. You can still register for the programs. We want you to have fun and read to yourself, your child, friend, husband, wife, parents, etc. Just have fun and read!

Thanks to David Casas' magic show, we had a terrific kick-off for all of our Summer Reading Programs! Approximately 271 people attended the show on June 27th. He started off with an illusion set that featured his colorful doves! Several audience members got to "help" onstage during the comedic magic part of his show. He ended the show with a "great escape" from a regulation straight jacket! Everyone left happy and satisfied.

Don't forget the following upcoming events:

- ♦ TEEN TALENT SHOW – July 11th @ 6:00pm in the theater
- ♦ COWBOY RANDY – July 14th @ 4:00pm in the Civic Center meeting room
- ♦ [NOVEL DESTINATIONS FUN NIGHT](#) – July 18th @ 6:30pm in the Civic Center meeting room
- ♦ "EAT, PRAY, LOVE" – July 21st @ 6:30pm in the library's large study room

ADULTS – remember to turn in your book reviews by July 20th and your logs by July 30th.

TEENS – you can participate in the trivia game once a day and your logs are due July 25th.

CHILDREN – bring your logs in to spin for fun prizes and a chance to win one of the grand prizes. Turn in all logs by August 8th.

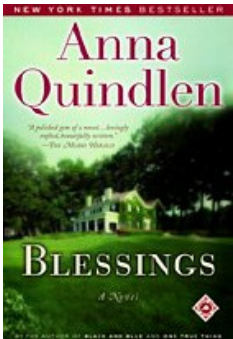
Hope you have a good time this summer and remember to **R E A D!**

DAVID CASAS MAGIC SHOW



FOURTH TUESDAY BOOK DISCUSSION

The Fourth Tuesday Book Discussion Group meets every fourth Tuesday of the month for some lively discussion of interesting books. This is a very informal group and anyone is welcome plus there are no dues and you won't get elected president or secretary if you miss a day.



The selection for July 26th is Anna Quindlen's *"Blessings"*.

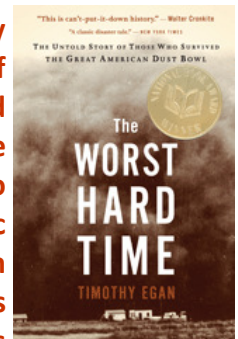
The eponymous Blessings is a stately house now gone to seed, inhabited by Mrs. Blessing, an 80-year-old wealthy semirecluse with an acerbic tongue and a reputation for hanging on to every nickel. Widowed during WWII, Lydia Blessing was banished to her socially prominent family's country estate for reasons that are revealed only gradually. Austere, unbending and joyless, Lydia has no idea, when she hires young Skip Cuddy as her handyman, how her life and his are about to change. Skip had promise once, but bad companions and an absence of parental guidance have led to a stint in the county jail.

When Skip stumbles upon a newborn baby girl who's been abandoned at Blessings, he suddenly has a purpose in life. With tender devotion, he cares secretly for the baby for four months, in the process forming a bond with Mrs. Blessing, who discovers and admires his clandestine parenting skills. A double betrayal destroys their idyll. - from *Amazon.com*

"The Worst Hard Time" by Timothy Egan is the August 23rd book.

Egan tells an extraordinary tale in this visceral account of how America's great, grassy plains turned to dust, and how the ferocious plains winds stirred up an endless series of "black blizzards" that were like a biblical plague: "Dust clouds boiled up, ten thousand feet or more in the sky, and rolled like moving mountains" in what became known as the Dust Bowl. But the plague was man-made, as Egan shows: the plains weren't suited to farming, and plowing up the grass to plant wheat, along with a confluence of economic disaster—the Depression—and natural disaster—eight years of drought—resulted in an ecological and human catastrophe that Egan details with stunning specificity. He grounds his tale in portraits of the people who settled the plains: hardy Americans and immigrants desperate for a piece of land to call their own and lured by the lies of promoters who said the ground was arable. Egan's interviews with survivors produce tales of courage and suffering: Hazel Lucas, for instance, dared to give birth in the midst of the blight only to see her baby die of "dust pneumonia" when her lungs clogged with the airborne dirt. With characters who seem to have sprung from a novel by Sinclair Lewis or Steinbeck, and Egan's powerful writing, this account will long remain in readers' minds.

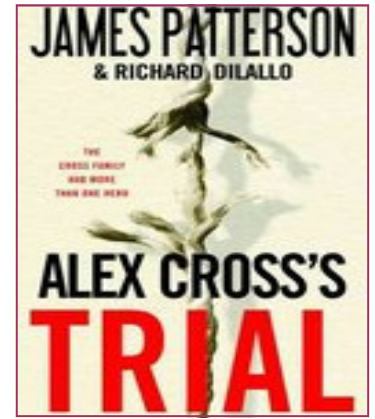
- from *Amazon.com*



The book discussions are held at 1:30 pm in the library's large study room.

PATRON BOOK REVIEWS

“Alex Cross’s Trial” by James Patterson



This review is difficult to write, because pages could be written to tell you about it. It is an unusual style of book by James Patterson, but nonetheless exciting.

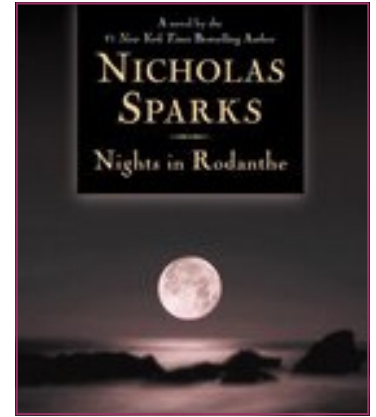
The book is obviously another Alex Cross story, but it comes from the perspective that Alex instead of being a character, is the writer, telling the story of Abraham Cross, an uncle of his grandmother's and his granddaughter, Moody. Alex is a black man, as obviously are the generations he comes from. The storyline takes place in 1906 in Eudora, Mississippi.

The year, location and race should give away some of the plot of the story. Moody Cross is a cousin of Alex Cross and a quote of his regard for her, "Moody is the most loved and unforgettable character" in his family history. He also states that "it is a story that helps illuminate why so many black people are angry, hurt and lost in this country, even today."

I experienced an instance of prejudice when I was a late teen. A man connected with the industry I worked for at the time was in Mt. Pleasant to visit from Georgia. When he went out for his evening meal, a black young man and a white young woman, students at Iowa Wesleyan, came into the same restaurant. The next day he was SO angry by what he had seen and the casual or negligent response of those around him. He stated if one of his daughters were seen with a friend of color, they would be disowned. The man proceeded to tell me that he and his wife were building a summer home two counties north of where they currently reside. They were using predominately black carpenters and laborers as they worked cheaper. The stinger was that all blacks had to be out of that county before dark. He honestly could not see the hypocrite he was in what he was doing. This has probably been at least 25 years ago and I have never forgotten it and never had the same respect for the man. Parts of this book are heart wrenching, sad and making you feel helpless. But it is a must read. The experiences of lynching, other murders, the passion of the man who traveled back to Eudora, his home town, keep you turning the pages. If you take a book to bed like I do, you don't want to fall asleep because the storyline is so great!

PATRON BOOK REVIEWS

“Nights in Rodanthe ” by Nicholas Sparks



I surprised myself in picking this book. Nicholas Sparks writes books that are good to read, but almost always end in sadness and grief. That is what makes them difficult for me to read! In this instance, I have seen the movie, *Nights in Rodanthe*, several times and was curious to read the book. There are always differences in books that become movies and I was interested to see how that may apply in this book.

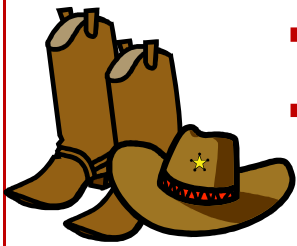
Adrienne Willis and Dr. Paul Flanner are the prominent characters who meet at the "Inn" in Rodanthe, North Carolina. Adrienne is a close friend of Jean, the owner of the Inn, who has a wedding to attend out of town. This is normally off season for the area, but when Dr. Paul Flanner phones and is willing to pay twice the normal rate, Jean can't turn him down. So Adrienne fills in for Jean.

Nights in Rodanthe was somewhat difficult to follow, as the writer starts at the current time, 14 years later, then goes back to the time the events actually happen and repeats this process several times. Having watched the movie I was able to keep up, but otherwise I'm not sure I could have followed the storyline.

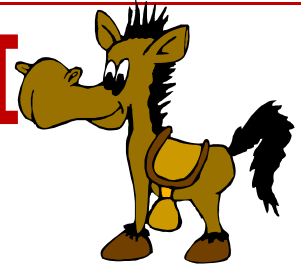
Nicholas Sparks writes a good romantic novel, but what sets this book apart as special is how two "broken" people fall in love and together discover things about themselves that will change their lives forever.

I recommend you check out the DVD, and then read the book. Both are winners.

KID'S PLAY



READIN' RANCH SUMMER ACTIVITIES



CRAFT DAYS (ALL AGES)	July 5th 11am—12pm and 6-7pm	July 11th 5:30-7pm	July 20th 1—2:30pm and 5:30-7pm	July 25th 1:30—2:30pm and 6-7pm	August 3rd 3:30-6pm
STORY HOURS (ALL AGES)	July 6th 3:30-4:30pm	July 12th 11am-12pm	July 21st 5-6pm	July 26th 5:30-6:30pm	August 4th 1:30-2:30pm

JULY 14th
4pm

**Fun for all
ages!!**



We're sorry to say that we were not able to arrange for horse rides as previously announced.

Cowboy boots courtesy
of Shiloh Outfitters!!

Awesome Grand Prizes



**\$50.00 gift certificate
to Pizza Ranch!!**

**Mount Pleasant
Public Library**

307 E. Monroe St.. - Suite 101
Mount Pleasant, IA 52641

Phone: 319-385-1490
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E-mail: directormppl@iowatelecom.net

LIBRARY HOURS

MON-THU	10:00am-8:00pm
FRIDAY	10:00am-5:30pm
SATURDAY	10:00am-5:00pm
SUNDAY	CLOSED

IMPORTANT DATES



BOARD MEETINGS

JULY 12th - 6:30pm

AUGUST 9th - 6:30pm

4TH TUESDAY BOOK DISCUSSION

JULY 26th - 1:30pm

AUGUST 23rd - 1:30pm

REMEMBER...

**BUY A BAG OF USED BOOKS
FROM THE LIBRARY BOOK SALE FOR
ONLY \$4.00 A BAG!!**

**BUY A TOTE BAG!
\$5.00 w/books
\$3.00 empty**

*The Mount Pleasant Public
Library would like to thank
Family Video for cleaning
and repairing our dirty and
damaged CD's and DVD's.*

