



# PLACITAS Community LIBRARY

## NEWSLETTER JUNE 2019

### HOURS

Tuesday	10 – 7
Wednesday	10 – 5
Thursday	10 – 5
Saturday	10 – 5
Sunday	1 – 4

To go to our website, click:  
[www.placitaslibrary.com](http://www.placitaslibrary.com)

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# JUNE 2019 at PCL



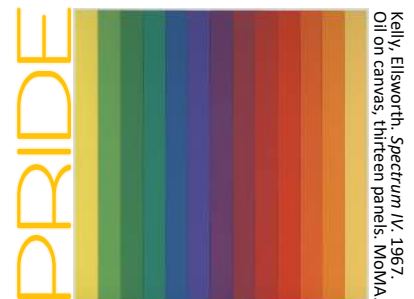
Twombly, Cy. *The Rose I, II, III*, from *The Rose Series*, 2008. Acrylic on plywood. Cy Twombly Foundation.

- June 1 ***Eight Years Across the 'American Southwest,'*** with Dennis Herrick, 2:00 PM -See p. 12
- June 14 **Artists' Public Reception: *Wheels and Motion*,** 5 - 7:00 PM -See p. 11
- June 15 **A Universe of Stories: *Summer Reading & Math Challenges Liftoff!*,** 10:00 AM -See p. 8
- June 20 **Board of Directors Meeting,** 6:00 PM -See p. 3
- June 22 **Placitas Community Flea Market,** 7 AM - 2 PM -See p. 2
- June 22 **A Universe of Stories: ¡EXPLORA!**, 10:00 AM -See p. 8
- June 29 **A Universe of Stories: *Moon, Mars, & Meteorites*** with Jacki & Carl Allen and Michelle Palmer, 10:00 AM -See p. 8

## Celebrate!

Happy  
Father's  
Day 

 HAPPY  
SUMMER



Kelly, Elsworth. *Spectrum IV*, 1967. Oil on canvas, thirteen panels. MoMA.

 World Oceans Day

# Christine's Corner

Christine Mathias, Library Director

We love stocking our shelves with new books, but patrons often don't know much about the other side of library management: *weeding*. This is a library term that describes the process of getting rid of books. Weeding is commonly misunderstood and sometimes upsetting to witness, especially when libraries go too long without weeding, and then patrons see librarians discarding hundreds of books at once (we'll try not to do that). The truth is that we do not have unlimited stack space, nor will we ever, so if we want to remain relevant to our users and bring in new books, we have to clear out some of the old ones.

We have a process for weeding, where we check our records and see what books have not checked out in the last several years. We always keep the classics, and also make sure not to break up a series. Plus, we want to make sure we have a robust local author section, and there are some titles I simply can't let go. In some ways, weeding is an art.

Where do all the old books go? We stack them up with books that come in as donations, and our donated books team sorts through them to see if they are worth it to sell on Amazon, or to sell in our lobby. Books left over after that process go to other local nonprofits, such as Big Brothers Big Sisters. I'm happy that I don't have to put any of the books in the recycling bin.

 Christine



## Placitas Community Flea Market

Saturday,  
June 22

7 AM - 2 PM

Merc /  
Homestead  
Village field

Please drop off any small household items at the library. All proceeds go directly to PCL to help us keep the lights on!



# HONOR DADS

with an inscribed brick to be added  
to our beautiful landscape.

<https://placitaslibrary.com/help/brick-campaign/>



# BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

THURSDAY, JUNE 20

6:00 PM



The public is welcome. Agendas are posted on [placitaslibrary.com](http://placitaslibrary.com) and at the library.

*"Great meeting, R.M.—and, hey, thanks for the incandescence."*



TO OUR NEW

## Board Members



### Debra Yoshimura

I am excited to join the Placitas Community Library Board of Directors. I believe the amazing support for our library reflects the wonderful values of our community. It is

an honor to be able to help the library grow and ensure its sustainability.

My background is in finance and internal controls. I was the city auditor in Albuquerque for many years. I also served as the director of internal audit at both the University of New Mexico and the U.S. Olympic Committee. I believe the board must fulfill its fiduciary duties transparently and with the sustainability of the library as its primary driver.

I have lived in the Village of Placitas for six years with my husband, Jaime Coulter, and our two cats. I am an avid reader and mosaic "artist."



### Dr. Doris Fields

New board member, Dr. Doris Fields, has volunteered with the Placitas Community Library since its inception fifteen years ago in 2004. Passions: learning and deep exploration of feeling

and thought with the intention of developing a philosophy and practice of compassion. Special talent: totally awesome with a chainsaw!!!

Dr. Fields is a founding member of the Placitas Holocaust Remembrance and Genocide Awareness Group that organizes activities in Placitas and Albuquerque. In addition to being an artist, poet, and scholar, she is past chair of the New Mexico Humanities Council Board of Directors and current treasurer of the Holocaust and Intolerance Museum of New Mexico.

"In serving on the PCL Board of Directors, I hope to put into play my Placitas experiences with bears, rattlesnakes, and the occasional wild coyote – not to mention the many lizards whose tails have been lost to stealthy neighborhood cats. Two of the things I love most about Placitas are the people and the dark night skies blanketed with stars. Introspection and personal growth are the most important aspects of who I am and who I aspire to be. I seek understanding, wisdom, and social justice in everything I do. I look forward to serving my community further as a member of the board and am hoping for exciting and joyous progress in the new phase of the library!"



# calendar

# PLACITAS

# Arts

## June 8: "Brilliance! Visions in Glass"

### Wild Hearts Gallery Art

Featured artists: *Lisa Chernoff*, fused glass sculptures; *Nancy Couch and Jon Couch*, stained glass art.

Reception: Sat, June 8, 1-4 PM  
[www.wildheartsgallery-nm.com](http://www.wildheartsgallery-nm.com)

## June 14: "Wheels and Motion"

### Placitas Community Library

Reception: Friday, June 14, 5-7 PM  
[www.placitaslibrary.com](http://www.placitaslibrary.com)

## June 21: "Summer Solstice"

### Wild Hearts Gallery Art

Celebrate the Summer Solstice!  
 Friday, June 21, 5-6 PM  
[www.wildheartsgallery-nm.com](http://www.wildheartsgallery-nm.com)

**VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY**

**NEWS LETTER** / DESIGNER / EDITOR

**PCL 867.3355**



Neel, Alice. *Kate Millett*. 1970. Acrylic on canvas. National Portrait Gallery, Smithsonian Institution, Washington, DC.

SOMEBODY, YOUR FATHER OR MINE, SHOULD HAVE TOLD US THAT NOT MANY PEOPLE HAVE EVER DIED OF LOVE BUT MULTITUDES HAVE PERISHED, AND ARE PERISHING EVERY HOUR ... FOR THE LACK OF IT.

**James Baldwin**  
*Giovanni's Room*

THE POSSIBILITIES ARE NUMEROUS ONCE WE DECIDE TO ACT AND NOT REACT.

**Gloria E. Anzaldúa**  
*Borderlands/La Frontera: The New Mestiza*



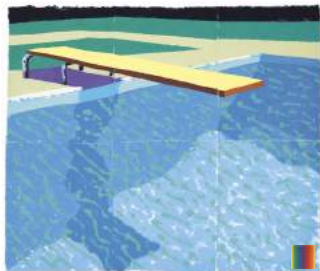
Katsushika Hokusai. *The Great Wave Off Kanagawa*. c. 1829-1833. Color woodblock. Metropolitan Museum of Art, NYC.

IF THERE IS POETRY IN MY BOOK ABOUT THE SEA, IT IS NOT BECAUSE I DELIBERATELY PUT IT THERE, BUT BECAUSE NO ONE COULD WRITE TRUTHFULLY ABOUT THE SEA AND LEAVE OUT THE POETRY.

**Rachel Carson**



Delaney, Beauford. *Portrait of James Baldwin*. 1965. Oil on canvas. Chrysler Museum of Art, Norfolk, VA.



Hockney, David. *Sprungbrett mit Schatten (Paper Pool 14)*. 1978. Colored, pressed paper pulp. Private.

Once upon a time you were a fish. How do you know? Because I was also a fish. You, too? Sure. A long time ago. Anyway, being a fish, you knew how to swim. You were a great swimmer. A champion swimmer, you were. You loved the water. Why? What do you mean, why? Why did I love the water? Because it was your life! And as we talked, I would have let him go one finger at a time, until, without his realizing, he'd be floating without me. Perhaps that is what it means to be a father-to teach your child to live without you.

— **Nicole Krauss**  
*The History of Love: A Novel*

**IN MY DREAMS MY FATHER IS ALWAYS KIND...**

**Paula Gunn Allen**  
 from "Paternity"



brought to you by: **ATHLETE'S EDGE RUNNING COMPANY** and **Vulcan**

**LAS MONTAÑAS**

**FUNRACER**

a **FUNRAISER** for **KLIPP** 99.9 FM from the Heart of Placitas connecting communities

**PLACITAS Community LIBRARY**

**9/21/19**  
**\$30** \*early bird special!

**10K 8:30**  
**5K 8:45**

**Forest Loop Road 445**  
**Placitas, NM**  
[www.runsignup.com/funracer-nm](http://www.runsignup.com/funracer-nm)

Thomas, Mickalene. *Three Graces: Les Trois Femmes Noires*. 2011. Rhinestone, acrylic, oil enamel on wood panel. North Carolina Museum of Art.



Give me the splendid, silent sun, with all his beams full-dazzling;

**Walt Whitman**, from *Leaves of Grass*

# Remembering Martin



## our fellow volunteer and good friend



Santa Claus, aka Martin Bradshaw, with one of his fans, Eve Houston. 2015.

Photo: J. Trujillo

By Judy Gajkowski

The Placitas Community Library family of volunteers has lost one of our oldest and longest supporters, **Martin Bradshaw**, who passed away on May 10 at the age of 82.

Martin was born in Missouri, but had been a resident of Placitas for 36 years, many of which he spent as a professor of electrical engineering at UNM.


Martin was one of the Placitas residents who answered the call in 2003 for people to become members of the board of directors for a new library in Placitas. In addition to joining the board, he became active in fixing up the funky building we'd been given rent-free as a first home. The old building on Tierra Madre and HWY 165 had a wooden door with peeling paint and dry wood. Martin spent weeks sanding that

wood so we could paint it with our logo as a welcoming symbol of this new community gathering place. That logo continues to represent our library today.

It was Martin who again volunteered when we began our annual "Holiday Open House." He was the perfect Santa with his year-round white beard and happy nature. One year, all the children had left the celebration after visiting with Santa, so Martin changed his clothes and started to his car. A few minutes later, a young girl and her family came into the library asking if it was too late to see Santa. A volunteer ran to the parking lot, told Martin the story and about ten minutes later, Santa appeared for a visit with another young fan.

Jo, Martin's wife, raises and trains Basenjis and very often

Martin found himself traveling to dog shows and meetings of the Basenji Clubs, where he built a network of friends all over the country. He shared his interest in model planes with kids at the library and faithfully attended the Lobo women's basketball games.

Martin always left you with a joke. Usually they were corny jokes, but we always had to laugh because he laughed and enjoyed them no matter how many times he'd told them before. We'll remember Martin Bradshaw for his kindness, his friendship, his continued support of the library, and the jokes that always left us with a smile on our faces. 

Kent Rockwell. Killer Whales in Resurrection Bay, Alaska. 1919. Oil on panel. Seattle Art Museum.



Why did the old Persians hold the sea holy? Why did the Greeks give it a separate deity, and own brother of Jove? Surely all this is not without meaning. And still deeper the meaning of that story of Narcissus, who because he could not grasp the tormenting, mild image he saw in the fountain, plunged into it and was drowned. But that same image, we ourselves see in all rivers and oceans. It is the image of the ungraspable phantom of life; and this is the key to it all.

 **Herman Melville**, *Moby-Dick*

**A father has to be a provider, a teacher, a role model, but most**



**importantly, a distant authority figure who can never be pleased. Otherwise, how will children ever understand the concept of God?**

Cassatt, Mary. Alexander J. Cassatt and his Son Robert. 1884. Oil. Philadelphia Museum of Art.

— **Stephen Colbert**

# THANK YOU!



## for supporting our LIBRARY EXPANSION FUNDRAISER

By *Harriet Neal*

At Anasazi Fields the room is quiet, the tables are put away and the chairs stacked. The balloons are gone, as are the people. But it was very different on May 25. The room buzzed with lively conversation, tables for 130 were filled with people and activity bustled as food was brought out. Live music played in the background.

This scene was an event to raise money for the Placitas Community Library expansion. The new addition will add space to the current library so that the needs of the community can be fulfilled.

The current library has become a community institution, but is no longer big enough to handle the large numbers of people who wish to attend events. The children need a room of their own, with their books, and furniture that fits them.

The atmosphere at this event had an undercurrent of excitement as guests browsed auction items and talked about signing up for a cooking class, going on the hike, or bidding on a sculpture. There were 22 silent auction items, including four signup events, and five live auction pieces. The items ranged from therapeutic massage to a week in Bar Harbor, Maine; from a wine basket to an outdoor sculpture.

**Jon Ghahate**, our master of ceremonies, urged people to bid on the silent auction and to consider things that would be on the live auction.

*Cont.*



Photos by: Barb Belknap (1), Harriet Neal (2), and Pam Troutman (3).

# LIBRARY EXPANSION FUNDRAISER *Thank You* Cont.

3

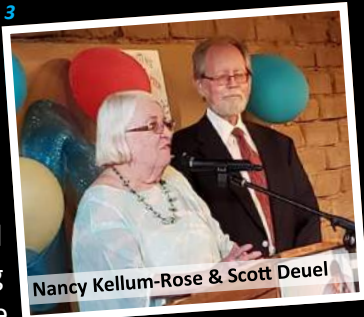


Anne Hillerman

Our featured guest was **Anne Hillerman**, who shared her love of libraries, and this one in particular. She had a live auction item to offer: the highest bidder would get their name or a name of their choosing in the next book of the *Leaphorn, Chee, & Manuelito Series*. Bidding was quite lively! Anne also donated two signed first editions

by her father Tony's last book, *The Shape Shifter*, and all the income from the sale of 50 books of her latest mystery, *The Tale Teller*.

**Nancy Kellum - Rose** and **Scott Deuel** shared their reasons for their generous donation to really get the expansion plans moving. And **Jenny** and **Tim Trujillo** gave a moving talk about the importance of the library in their lives. **Ruth Bouldes**, library board chair, sketched the journey that got us where



Nancy Kellum-Rose & Scott Deuel

we are and acknowledged the very first expansion donors — the **Fleck Bumgarner** family.

**Bob** and **Judy Gajkowski** were recognized for their many years of volunteering for PCL. They symbolize the many volunteers who have created and maintained this library for 16 years. Truly, they are the “heart of PCL.”

The evening ended with **Jake Lovato**, auctioneer, directing the live auction and a paddle raise, where people pledged a donation amount. Many comments were heard as people were leaving or waiting to pay for their auction items about how wonderful the food was and how much fun they had. They were pleased that the event had been a success for the library, having raised a considerable amount of money. All the figures are not in, but the paddle raise resulted in almost \$85,000!



Harriet Neal

3



Jake Lovato & Jon Ghahate

3

## *It took a lot of work to put on the event and thanks go to following people:*

- Planning Committee:** Margaret Bruch, Patt Cain, Karen Cox, Anne Frost, Judy Gajkowski, Kathy Hays, Nancy Kellum-Rose, Harriet Neal, and Geri Verble
- Cooks and Kitchen Crew:** Margaret Bruch, Kathy Hays, and Alfons Schuster
- Wine Servers:** Don Duszynski and Chuck Leopold of Merc wine tasting fame
- Master of Ceremonies:** Jon Ghahate
- Auctioneer:** Jake Lovato
- Music:** George Koinis and Laura Robbins
- Special Guest:** Anne Hillerman
- Anasazi Fields:** Barb and Ty Belknap
- Parking:** Boy Scouts Troop 708



2

*Thanks also go to the community for all the donated items. All the food, wine, and auction items were also donated.*



# LIBRARIES = *Strong* COMMUNITIES



# KIDS' COLUMN

# Summer Reading Program 2019



## A UNIVERSE OF STORIES

© 2019 CSLP

### JUNE

All programs are on **SATURDAYS** at 10:00

# 15



**\*\*\*NOTICE\*\*\*  
Program  
Change**

Scheduled guest Curious Chris will NOT be able to join us.

**HOWEVER, our countdown to liftoff WILL continue!**

★ Come help draw the SOLAR SYSTEM! ★ Begin our reading and math challenges ★ Get reward stickers! ★ RAFFLE ★ Book Give-away! ★ MUCH MORE! ★ It's not too late to register!

# 22



**EXPLORA**  
staff

Interactive space experiments.



# 29



**Moon, Mars,  
& Meteorites**

with Jacki and Carl Allen  
and Michelle Palmer



Presented by PCL patrons! Jacki and Carl Allen are both retired space scientists specializing in planetary science, specifically the Moon, Mars, and meteorites. Jacki was a space science education specialist at NASA Johnson Space Center and Carl was the Astromaterials Curator. Michelle Palmer volunteered at the Natural History Museum in Albuquerque teaching kids and adults about space rockets and Mars and worked on Asteroid Day.



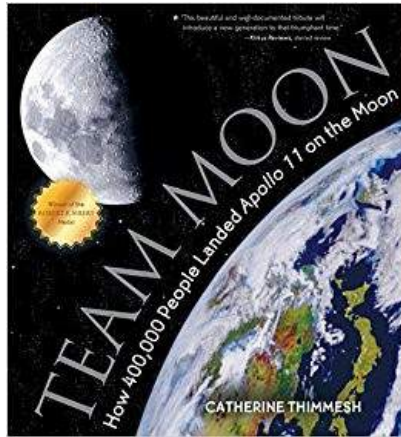
# CHILDREN'S BOOK NEWS

By Nancy Guist, Children's Collection Coordinator

The theme for the library's summer reading program is "Universe of Stories." Thus, many of the children's summer programs will have space as a theme. June's program will include solar system fun, interactive activities with ¡Explora!, and fun with the moon, Mars, and meteorites! Here are a few of our "moon books" to get us ready for blastoff!



DeBriencat, AM. Astronaut Roses. 3-color risograph.



## Team Moon: How 400,000 People Landed Apollo 11 on the Moon

By Catherine Thimmesh

Suggested ages: 10 years and up

Fifty years ago this coming July the amazing feat of landing two men on the moon was realized. Some of us will always remember those incredible pictures beamed from the moon as Walter Cronkite, CBS anchor, echoed our credulity at such an accomplishment. But for many readers, adult and child alike, books such as this are some of the only windows to this past milestone. In either case, *Team Moon* offers a fascinating account of the "10,000 individual tasks" to be faced before this event could be called a success.

400,000 people and eight years of planning and working contributed to this historical milestone. In *Team Moon* we get a glimpse into the work of engineers, computer software specialists, flight controllers, space suit designers, seamstresses, photo developers - all experts in their fields who devoted innumerable hours to the Apollo 11 project. This book's recounting of the various problems that had to be solved and the errors to be avoided make for a fascinating story for adults, as well as older children. Learning that all did not go smoothly on this first moon trip - from the master alarms that sounded in the lunar module (LM) to the rise in fuel temperature in the LM - makes for a breathtaking account, even though we are aware of the mission's success.

*Team Moon's* story is supported by an array of photos, as well as direct quotes from many of those who took part in this unforgettable undertaking. Catherine Thimmesh masterfully weaves Apollo 11's story,

keeping the reader's attention along the way. It is no wonder that *Team Moon* was awarded the Robert F. Sibert Informational Book Medal in 2007 for the most outstanding informational book for children. *CBN, Cont.*

## A fundraiser for PCL, KUPR, & Mothers' Day Out!

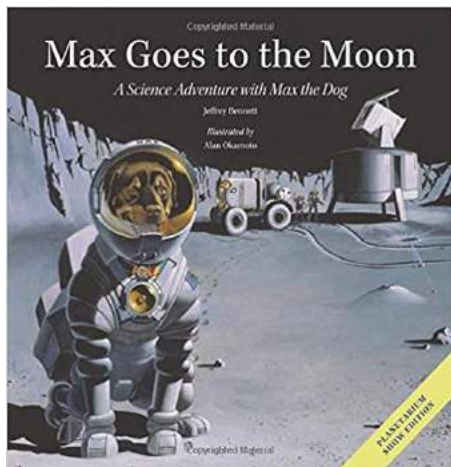
**LAS MONTAÑAS**  
*FunRacer*

**KIDS' FUN RUN**

**1 mile, 9/21/19, 8 AM, \$15**

**Forest Loop Road 445 in Placitas**

[www.runsignup/funracer-nm](http://www.runsignup/funracer-nm)



**Max Goes to the Moon: A Science Adventure with Max the Dog**

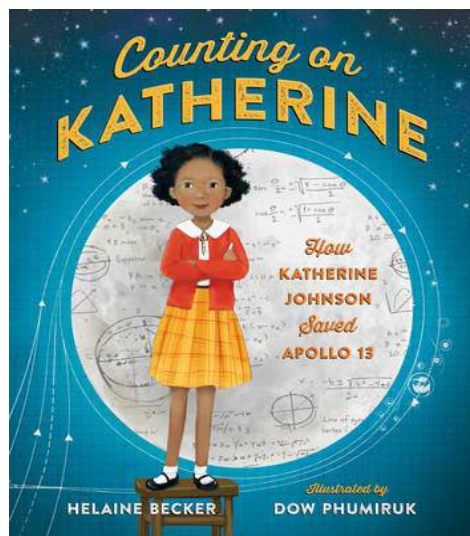
**By Jeffrey Bennett  
Illustrated by Alan Okamoto**

**Suggested ages:  
7-10 years**

has just returned from an expedition to the Space Station. Next, Max wants to visit the moon, which he eventually does along with six astronauts and his friend, Tori. The ensuing story tells of Max's moon trip

and all he learns in the process with a final hope of establishing a moon colony. Large, colored illustrations accompany this tale.

The second segment of the book is contained in what the author refers to as "Big Kid Boxes." These provide background and explanatory information for parents and older children supporting the science behind the fictional story on each page. It's a clever way of appealing to various age groups and connecting fiction to reality.



**Counting on Katherine: How Katherine Johnson Saved Apollo 13**

**By Helaine Becker  
Illustrations by Dow Phumiruk**

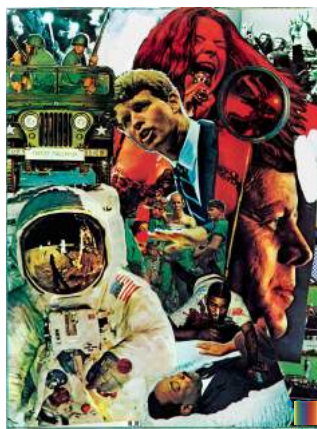
**Suggested Ages:  
5-9**

(please see previous page). One of the necessities vital to success for a moon landing was expert ability in mathematics in order to calculate the innumerable operations required for the operation of the rockets and landers. Katherine Johnson was a mathematical genius who dealt with such problems, but who is particularly remembered for recalculating Apollo 13's flight path back to earth after a life-threatening explosion in space.

Exploring and enhancing our knowledge about the moon rested on the shoulders of many, as cited in *Team Moon* (please see previous page). One of the necessities vital to success for a moon landing was expert ability in mathematics in order to calculate the innumerable operations required for the operation of the rockets and landers. Katherine Johnson was a mathematical genius who dealt with such problems, but who is particularly remembered for recalculating Apollo 13's flight path back to earth after a life-threatening explosion in space.

This thoughtfully-illustrated and written book introduces children to an amazing individual and is a particular inspiration to girls to shoot for the moon and reach for the stars!

This picture book begins with Johnson as a young girl and her fascination with the universe and numbers. Helaine Becker is successful in conveying Johnson's story in a manner that will captivate young readers. It recounts her pursuit of becoming a research



Rauschenberg, Robert. *Signs*, 1970. Photomontage. Robert Rauschenberg Foundation

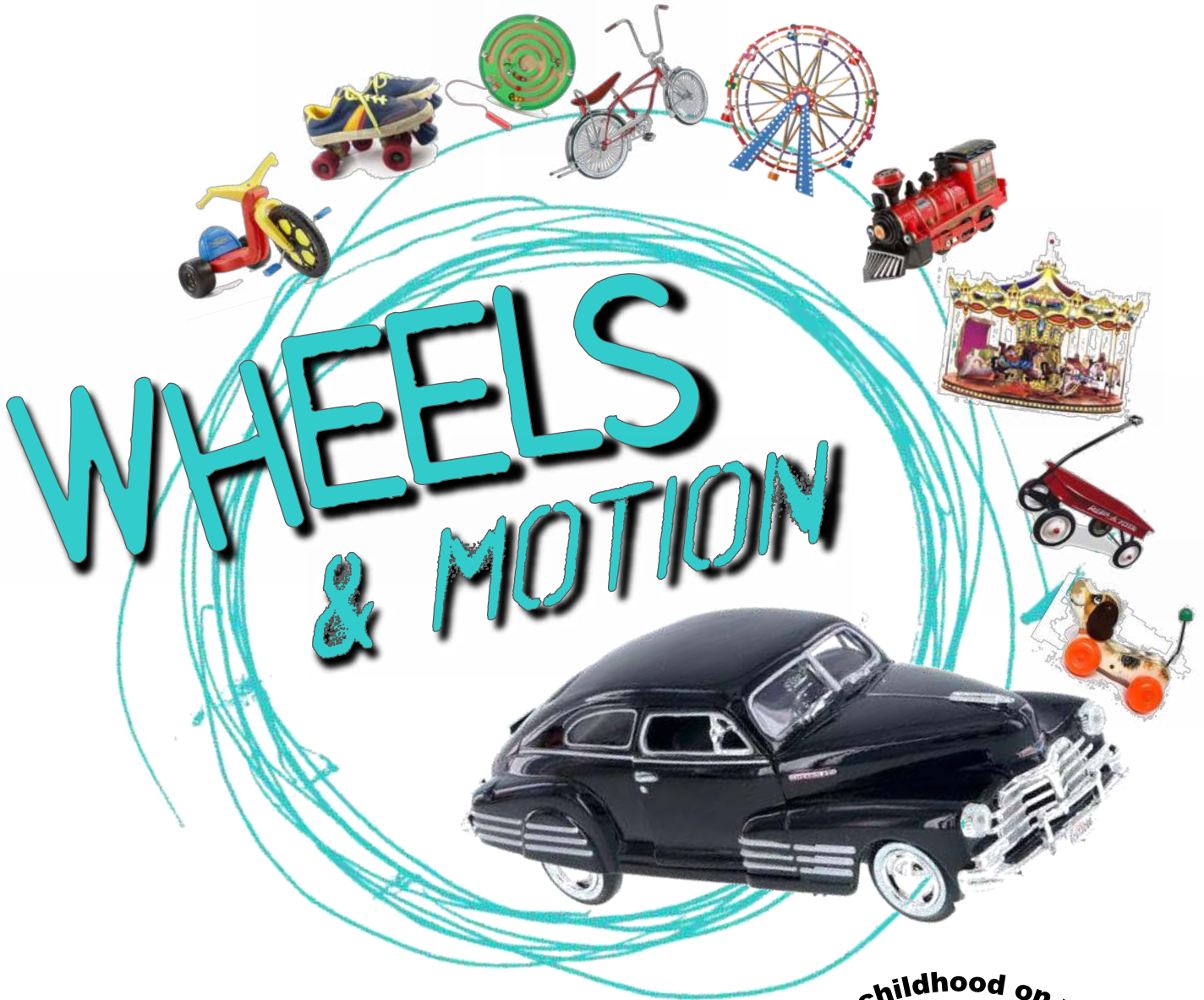
**WEIGHTLESSNESS IS A GREAT EQUALIZER..**

**Dr. Sally Ride**

I was born in 1958, the same year NASA was established, which I like to think of as not a coincidence. I was 11 when they landed on the moon, Apollo 11. And, of course, everybody in the whole world was watching that. But I can tell you, at that time, nobody ever asked a girl, 'Is that something you want to grow up and do?'

**— Dr. Ellen Ochoa**

Art: JUNE



# WHEELS & MOTION

exhibit  
**6/1-6/27**  
Fri. 6/14. 5-7 PM  
artists' public reception

From childhood on we are fascinated  
with things that go round...

Trains, planes and automobiles, etc.  
bikes, skates, amusement rides, etc.  
The faster the better.

Come see how local artists  
imagine the ride...

# EIGHT YEARS ACROSS THE

# 'AMERICAN SOUTHWEST'

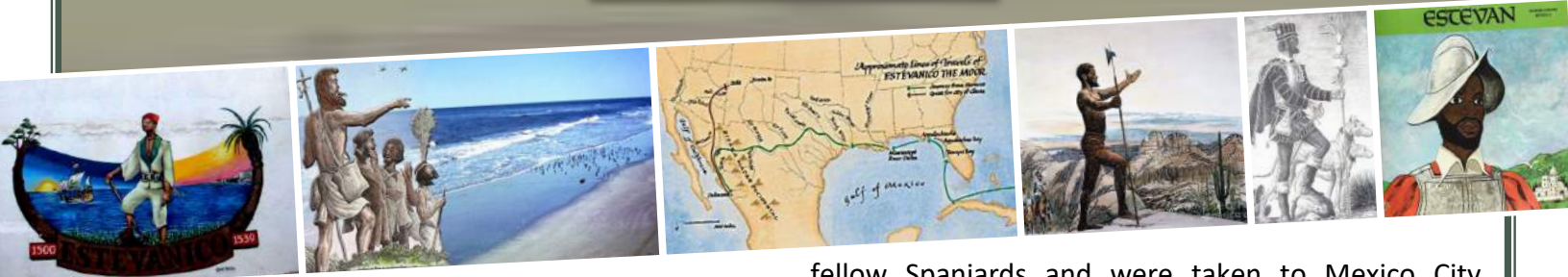


with  
**DENNIS  
HERRICK**

**Esteban**  
THE AFRICAN SLAVE  
WHO EXPLORED AMERICA

Dennis Herrick

**Sat. June 1  
at 2 PM**




By **Bob Gajkowski**  
Placitas History Project

In 1528, during a desperate naval retreat from the colony of “La Florida” (today’s state of Florida), four men were cast ashore on islands off today’s coast of Texas. These four — three Spanish noblemen and a slave owned by one of them — became the sole survivors of the Spanish Navárez expedition to explore the Florida peninsula. Once cast ashore, they began an odyssey that would be recorded in history as an eight-year trek across the unexplored ‘American Southwest’ and northern Mexico.

The men — Álvaro Núñez Cabeza de Vaca, Alonso del Castillo Maldonado, Andrés Dorantes de Carranza and Dorantes’s black slave Esteban — would be enslaved by native tribes they encountered and forced to labor for their captors, but ultimately would be welcomed and honored as medicine men within the tribes. In 1536, they were able to make contact with

fellow Spaniards and were taken to Mexico City where they were celebrated. Their stories of the wealth of the northern native peoples they had encountered served to fire the imaginations of the city’s populace.

In 1539, the Spanish Viceroy of Mexico City authorized Frey Marcos de Niza to travel north in search of the reported wealth and the fabled “Seven Cities of Gold.” Esteban accompanied Niza as guide. Traveling ahead of the main party with a group of Mexican Indians, Esteban reached a Zuni village in present-day New Mexico where he was reportedly killed.

This is the point at which historian/author **Dennis Herrick** takes up the story in his latest book, *Esteban: The African Slave Who Explored America*. Following biographical information about Esteban, details concerning the Navárez expedition’s disaster at sea, and the incredible journey of the four explorers, Herrick puts forth his case for the demise — or not — of Esteban at Zuni. 

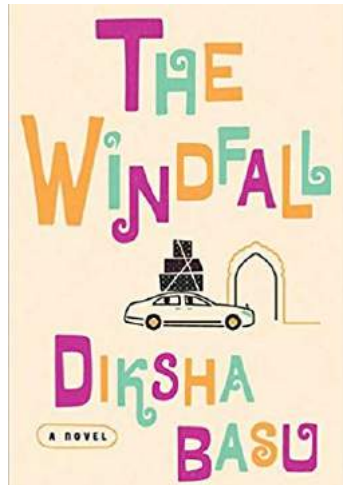
*Images:* 1) Mural in hometown of Azemmour, Morocco. Artist name illegible; 2) Cisneros, José. *Cabeza de Vaca and His Three Companions on the Texas Coast*. Museum of South Texas History; 3) Approximate Map of Esteban’s route. [blackhistoryheroes.com](http://blackhistoryheroes.com); 4) Artist unknown. *Estevanico*. The Granger Collection. New York; 5) Artist unknown. *Estevanico (Stephen the Moor)*. *Wisconsin Muslim Journal*, Feb 20, 2018; 6) *Estevan*, ed.2. 1974. Allyn and Bacon, Boston.

# Susanne's Selections

Reading Recommendations by Susanne Domínguez

*In early June the world  
of leaf and blade  
and flowers explodes,  
and every sunset  
is different.*

—John Steinbeck,  
*The Winter of Our Discontent*

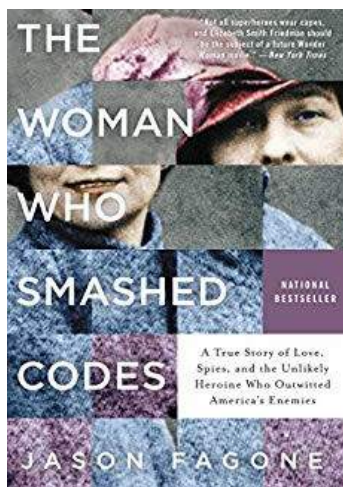


## **The Windfall**

**By Diksha Basu**

This heartfelt story is about the Jha family: Mr. Jha, an electrical engineer, Mrs. Jha, a social worker, and their twentysomething son, Rupak. They lived in their middle class, close-knit neighborhood of Mayur Palli in Delhi for decades. When Mr. Jha sold his website he became a multi-millionaire, so the Jhas decided to enjoy their "windfall," and they moved to the swanky suburb of Gurgaon. However, after relocating, they discover their new social status confers unfamiliar, puzzling norms. For instance, in Gurgaon, every home has a guard who guards the entry gates and every home has fancy showers, unlike the bucket and mug, which the Jhas used in their former home.

"Mayur Palli felt like a different country that they had left behind and here, in this new country, Mrs. Jha did not know the language." While they are attempting to gain acceptance from their new neighbors, Mrs. Jha is mortified after being mistaken for one of the servants, since her dress is similar to the neighbor's servant's dress. Then she is questioned why she plans to return to her previous career, which she enjoyed, by a neighbor whose only pastime is shopping. The Jhas desire to "fit in" drives their obsession with what to wear and drive, how to behave, one-upmanship, judgmental neighbors, and other silly antics of the *nouveau riche*. Perfect for those interested in a light, comedic read, *The Windfall* is a satirical novel that also adroitly addresses socioeconomic issues, personal values, and expectations.



## **The Woman Who Smashed Codes: A True Story of Love, Spies, and the Unlikely Heroine Who Outwitted America's Enemies**

**By Jason Fagone**

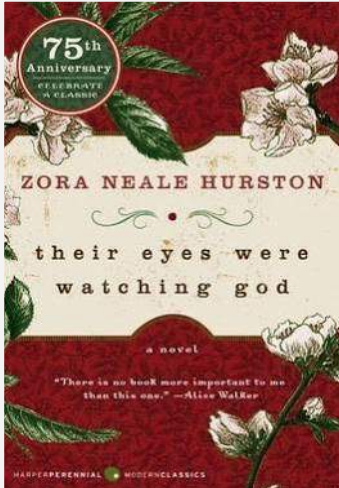
This fascinating book chronicles how a code-breaking Quaker poet, Elizebeth Smith Friedman, was instrumental in creating the science of cryptology. Indispensable to the FBI during World War II, she located and tracked hundreds of Nazi spies who were creating secret radio stations and provided the plain texts to the FBI, British intelligence, and related intelligence agencies.

The FBI didn't have the expertise to intercept or decipher the secret radio codes the Nazis used to send secret messages. Elizebeth possessed that knowledge. Legendary Bill Donovan - the first director of both the OSS (Office of Strategic Services), the forerunner of the CIA, and then the CIA (Central Intelligence Agency) - asked Elizebeth's boss to lend her to his office to write a code-breaking manual, as well as organize and teach his recruits how to decipher codes and communicate with field agents. "Whenever someone in government didn't know what they were doing, someone would say, "Send for Mrs. Friedman," and she'd go in and straighten things out.

Why have you never heard about her? Several reasons:

- She wanted to promote the career of Thomas Friedman, her husband and fellow codebreaker.
- J. Edgar Hoover took credit for most of her work. **SS, cont.**

- A modest person, she preferred staying away from public attention, and at that time women usually relegated themselves to the background.
- Together, the Friedmans invented ingenious new methods of breaking encrypted code. They wrote about their groundbreaking achievements, but the published papers were all under Thomas's name. Luckily, "Elizbeth's war records are available in the National Archives, and the story they tell is stunning."




***Their Eyes Were Watching God***

**By Zora Neale Hurston**

One of the most profound novels I've read in years is acclaimed author Zora Neale Hurston's, *Their Eyes Were Watching God*, published in 1937. It takes place during the Jim Crow days of the early 20th century in Eatonville, Florida, which, founded in 1887, is the nation's oldest incorporated black community.

Janie, the teenage protagonist and narrator to her friend, Phoebe, lives an impoverished life with Nanny, her grandmother. Nanny, a former slave, marries her off to an older man hoping to ensure Janie will be taken care of and have a better life. As the story unfolds over a 25-year period, Janie experiences numerous struggles and tragedies throughout her three marriages, which she heroically overcomes through her resilience and tenacity.

Her dream of seeking happiness and independence finally come to fruition in the end as she evolves from a naïve, submissive teenager to an independent, confident woman. The first chapters are mostly written in a colloquial style and, for me, are a bit difficult. (I have difficulty reading dialects for some unknown reason). Not merely a plot-driven story, it powerfully encompasses such subjects as infidelity, subjugation, and gender attitudes and roles. Besides being a noteworthy, sagacious read, it's sure to provide lively discussions in book clubs. 

Höch, Hannah. Struss. 1979. Collage on paper. Germanisches Nationalmuseum, Nürnberg.



You know your children are growing up when they stop asking you where they came from and refuse to tell you where they're going.

— P. J. O'Rourke



Picasso, Pablo. *Homme à la flûte et enfant (Paternalité)*. 1971. Oil on canvas.

God does not require us to achieve any of the good tasks that humanity must pursue. What God requires of us is that we not stop trying.

 **Bayard Rustin**



Bradford, Mark. *Scorched Earth*. 2006. Billboard paper, photomechanical reproductions, acrylic gel medium, carbon paper, acrylic paint, bleach, and additional mixed media on canvas. Private.

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**REFUGEES ARE NOT TERRORISTS. THEY ARE OFTEN THE FIRST VICTIMS OF TERRORISM.**

— António Manuel de Oliveira Guterres

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