Dear Library Patron,

I spent a couple of weeks out of December serving on jury duty for Franklin County. Whenever I mention that I served on jury duty, people have interesting stories of their own experiences. One college student told me that her professor had missed class recently for jury duty and came back saying, “I have lost all faith in humanity.” I can only assume that he was joking (at least partially).

In my case, I can honestly say that my faith in our judicial system was strengthened and that both the plaintiff and the defendant seemed like very nice people. They just happened to have a difference of opinion, which is what I want to talk about this month. Is it possible for two people to have a difference of opinion and still both be very nice people? To some, this is a shocking idea.

Over Christmas, my 13-year-old granddaughter told us that one of her classmates had mentioned that her parents were Republicans, and another classmate responded by saying, “Wow, they seemed like really nice people!”, as if being Republican and being nice were mutually exclusive. Unfortunately, our society now does not support the idea that people with whom we differ politically, philosophically, or in myriad other ways, can possibly be good, nice people. But, in a town like Rangeley, we have the advantage of getting to know people in person prior to learning all of their labels. We can become friends with other people before finding out that they do not share our views of the world, and we can know that they are indeed nice people, worthy of our respect, and even friendship. But, our young people need us to model the idea that people different from us are not the enemy, but deserve to have us listen to their ideas even if we disagree with them. In support of this idea, I would like to suggest that Rangeley Public Library patrons try an experiment this year. Try picking a topic and reading two books on it: one that supports one position and one that comes from the opposite perspective. While our core beliefs may not be changed, we may find that we can understand how someone else could come to a different conclusion from our own. And we may be able to model what respectful disagreement looks like. If it can't be done in a town like Rangeley, I am not sure that it can be done anywhere.

Keep Reading,

Janet Wilson, Director
director@rangeleylibrary.org
LIBRARY HOURS
Tuesday, Thursday, Friday 10:00-4:30
Wednesday 10:00-7:00
Saturday 10:00-2:00

PROGRAMS

ADULT BOOK GROUPS

Rangeley Readers
3rd Wednesday @3:00 PM

Adventure Book Group
Last Wednesday @4:00 PM

January Book Discussions
Wednesday, January 18th, 3:00 PM Rangeley Readers will discuss The Secret Chord by Geraldine Brooks.
Wednesday, January 25th, 4:00 PM Adventure Book Group will discuss Alone On the Ice by David Roberts.

Preschool Story Hour
Fridays at 10:00am
All preschool-aged children are welcome to join us for stories and other fun activities.

OWL Club
(Our Weekly Library)
For kids in grades K-2
Thursdays 2:45-4:00
FUNDRAISING

"Spaghetti Sauce Plus" Take Out

The Rangeley Public Library will once again be taking orders for some of Patty Cerminara's delicious homemade Italian sauce. Each order of sauce will be accompanied by a package of spaghetti and some biscotti so that you can create your own Italian feast in the comfort of your own home. Orders should be placed by Friday, February 10th, and will be ready to be picked up at the library on Saturday, February 18th between the hours of 10:00 and 2:00.

LIBRARY RESOURCES

NEW MEDIA IN JANUARY

Adult Fiction
Keep Moving, Keep Shooting by Clay E. Novak
Nine Liars by Maureen Johnson
Ms. Demeanor by Elinor Lipman
One Last Secret by Adele Parks
Hide by Tracy Clark
Code 6 by James Grippando
The House in the Pines by Ana Reyes
Sleep No More by Jayne Ann Krentz
Rough Justice #2 by Ralph Compton
Blaze Me a Sun by Christoffer Carlsson
Love, Clancy by W. Bruce Cameron
The Villa by Rachel Hawkins
Without a Trace by Danielle Steel
The House of Wolves by James Patterson
Dark of Night by Colleen Coble
Observer by Robert Lanza
Off the Deep End by Lucinda Berry
Hell Bent by Leigh Bardugo
All the Dangerous Things by Stacy Willingham
The Three Lives of Alix St. Pierre by Natasha Lester
The Deluge by Stephen Markley
Five Winters by Kitty Johnson
Really Good, Actually by Monica Heisey
How to Sell a Haunted House by Grady Hendrix
The Cabinet of Dr. Leng by Douglas Preston
The Mitford Affair by Marie Benedict
The House at the End of the World by Dean Koontz
The Devil's Ransom by Brad Taylor

Adult Nonfiction
1000 Hours Outside by Ginny Yurich
The Noom Mindset by Noom, Inc.
Code Name Blue Wren by Jim Popkin
Spare by Prince Harry, Duke of Sussex
A Few Days Full of Trouble by Rev. Wheeler Parker, Jr.
The Good Life by Robert Waldinger

Young Adults
The Poison Season by Mara Rutherford
No Accident by Laura Bates
Nine Liars by Maureen Johnson

Older Kids
Pokemon: Sword & Shield Vol. 2 by Hidenori Kusaka
Mary Anne’s Bad Luck Mystery (Baby-Sitter’s Club Graphix #13) by Ann M. Martin
Karen’s Birthday (Baby-Sitter’s Little Sister Graphix #6) by Ann M. Martin
The Superteacher Project by Gordon Korman
The Lost Galumpus by Joseph Heigerson

Younger Kids
Shiny Snow Machines by Tony Mitton
Bad Kitty Does Not Like Valentines Day by Nick Bruel
Minnie Mouse - I Lost My Polka Dots by Annie Auerbach
The Kindest Red by Ibtihaj Muhammad
Alan’s Big, Scary Teeth by Jarvis

Library Staff
Janet Wilson - Director
Erykah Condon - Cataloging Librarian
Brittany Wetherill - Children’s Librarian
Sue Damm - Aide
Debbie Ladd - Aide

Consultants to the Board
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