September Programs

Summer may be ending but the library programs will keep on going! This September we have some pretty cool programs coming up. First, the Kuskokwim Consortium Library will be doing our first ever Makerspace Pop-Up September 6th-8th from 5 pm to 7 pm! A Makerspace, or Hackerspace, is a place where people can come in with an idea and leave with a product. The library will provide sewing machines, a button press, and other materials so that the community can let their imagination become a reality. This makerspace is craft themed so all materials provided will be centered around crafting.

The Junior Librarian League has a meeting Saturday September 17th @ 1 pm to go over some potential programs for this Fall and Winter. If you are a kid interested in supporting your local library through programs, volunteer opportunities, and helping to build our collection, consider joining the Junior Librarian League. Finally, Toddler Time will be on September 14th @ 11 am. We will have a storytime accompanied by a craft.
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**Library Closed**

**Makerspace Workshop:** All ages welcome 5 to 7 p.m.

**BANNED BOOKS WEEK**

"Books Unite Us; Censorship Divides Us"

**Junior Librarian League Meeting** @ 1 p.m.

**Toddler Time** @ 11 a.m.

**Library Closed**

**Makerspace Workshop:** All ages welcome 5 to 7 p.m.

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New Whodonits for Fall

By: Theresa Quiner

Fall is my favorite time for new books coming out because it is when some of my favorite mystery writers publish their new books. There is nothing better than cozying up with a good mystery as the weather turns to fall. I am excited to recommend a few of the ones that I am most excited about. Ruth Ware, British author who is known in the library world as the modern Agatha Christie, has a new one this fall called “The It Girl”. Each book published by Ware is better than the last, and they have all been fantastic! “The It Girl” will keep you guessing right until the end as protagonist Hannah Jones unravels the mystery surrounding the murder of her best friend during her first year of college. A man was convicted of the murder based on Hannah’s testimony, but 10 years later Hannah starts to wonder if maybe she got it wrong. She starts to wonder who in her closest circle of friends could have gotten away with murder.

Next up is another British great, Lisa Jewell. I would recommend Lisa Jewell to fans of Liane Moriarty. Her books all deal with the complexities of family dynamics and have a mystery at the heart of each story. Her new book, “The Family Remains”, is the sequel to her bestselling book “The Family Upstairs”. If you are wondering whatever happened to cult victims and survivors Lucy and Henry Lamb, now is your chance to find out!

Since I am on a roll with my British faves, I have been eagerly anticipating the new installment in Robert Galbraith’s (aka J.K. Rowling) Cormoran Strike series “The Ink Black Heart”. The slow burn between Private Eyes Robin Ellacot and Cormoran Strike continues to build as they unravel the mystery of YouTube star Edie Ledwell’s murder after a prolonged social media bullying campaign. As I am writing this, I am about halfway through the book, and I can’t wait to get home so I can keep reading. This book has some very thought-provoking themes surrounding the power that social media can have when it is used to manipulate popular opinion.

I don’t know who the actual antagonist is yet, but I would say that social media is as much the evil villain in this book as the person that committed the murder.

On a similar theme, sometimes the mysteries in real life are even crazier than anything that can be fabricated in fiction. “Slenderman: Online Obsession, Mental Illness, and the Violent Crime of Two Midwestern Girls” by Kathleen Hale is the true crime story of two twelve-year girls who stabbed their classmate after becoming obsessed with fictional online character “Slenderman”. This story unravels what really happened as the author investigates the mystery of two 12-year girls who committed a crime that led to them being convicted as adults in our justice system. I can’t wait to read this one.

To wrap up, best-selling American mystery writer Riley Sager has a new book called “The House Across the Lake”. Sager’s books always have great atmosphere, and this one takes place in an idyllic lake house in Vermont- perfect for fall reading! Actress Casey unwinds after escaping from some bad press and enjoys watching her glamorous neighbors through binoculars. After striking up a friendship with the wife, her neighbor suspiciously disappears. Find out more by checking the book out at the library!

These are all books that will keep you reading late into the night as you try to convince yourself that you will only read one more chapter before turning off the light. All are available in the Alaska Digital Library as well. Happy reading!
"Mine Till Midnight" by Lisa Kleypas, A Book Review

By: Olivia Stemkowski

With no desire to marry, Amelia Hathaway dedicates her life to saving her family from falling into further hardship. With this, Amelia is seen as the image of independence and self-sacrificing for a woman of her time period. Her intuition and fight-back attitude enable Amelia to be the leading figure in her demonstration of strong morals. As the story continues, the Hathaway siblings experience hardship after losing their parents but gain an unforeseen inheritance after these misfortunes. To help her family's image and legacy, Amelia becomes the person to raise her family up in society when they move to the Ramsey Estate. But with an abrupt turn of events, Amelia meets Cam Rohan, a Roma Gypsy, who changes her perceptions of love as the story deepens. With a cluster of family problems and her willingness to live a life as a spinster, Amelia faces internal conflicts that change her original plans in life.

It is nice to see the progression of Amelia's character as one could see the determination and constant persistence of her personality. Though overall, the audience can see that Amelia wants her siblings to be taken care of and governs many parts of her siblings' lives in different aspects. She invests so much of her time into caring for her siblings when she should explore life a bit more. I feel that she has cornered herself into this one aspect of life that revolves around taking care of her family where she is not able to further define herself individually. But with the threat of a cursed title for her brother Leo to inherit, it seems that this family is in need of doing whatever they can to survive. So Amelia becomes the main contributor of taking care of the family and the household after Leo falls into a deep depression. Personally, I think Amelia can learn to adjust to a new lifestyle out in the country where she can discover a happy ending for herself. Sometimes, I find Historical Romance is hard to get into because it always contains a detailed background in order for the reader to understand what the author is trying to write about. However, it does provide an entertaining narrative for people with imaginations to explore.

Consider donating to the Friends of the Library at bcsfoundation.org to support the library, library programs, and really great causes like the Dolly Parton Imagination Library where free books are sent monthly to kids ages birth to 5.