

## HILLSBORO COMMUNITY LIBRARY NEWS

...VOLUME 8: NUMBER 4.....APRIL, 2013...

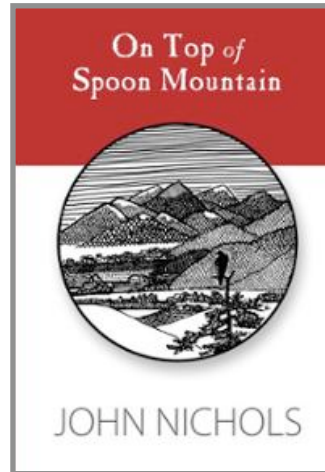
### Quoth the Raven

If you have lived in New Mexico for any amount of time, you have probably heard the name John Nichols. He is most widely known for the novel **The Milagro Beanfield War**, the first in a trilogy set in Northern New Mexico. Its success led to his invitation to write the screen play for the movie with the same title. His most recent novel may be a bit of an autobiographical sketch in that Jonathan Kepler, the main character, is an over the hill author/screen writer who, when approaching his sixty-fifth birthday, decides he needs to rekindle his relationships with family, friends and Mother Nature.

### Featured This Month

**On Top of Spoon Mountain** by John Nichols  
**On Top of Spoon Mountain** is the tale of a man who has let himself lapse into an obese asthmatic with heart problems. He has been divorced three times and is currently involved with a woman whose ex is insanely jealous and under a restraining order to keep away (which he doesn't). He describes himself as .." an almost sixty-five-year-old man with a bad heart condition, asthma, a potbelly and zero equilibrium. Just for starters, I won't even mention my personal life." A visit to the emergency room with symptoms of a heart attack awakens his desire to get back to nature and family; to relive happier times with his now adult children by inviting them to celebrate his birthday with a last climb to the top of 13,000 foot Spoon Mountain.

His children had been suspicious of their father's mental state long before this invitation. He had taken up conversing with ravens, bought his granddaughter, Lizzy, a raven-speak CD and had spent most of his visitations with her parked behind Bob's Diner watching, listening and interpreting the dumpster-diving ravens. To attempt a climb to the top of any mountain in his current state of health, they felt



would not just be insane, it would be suicidal.

When his children absolutely forbid him to attempt the climb and refuse to accompany him, he strikes out on his own to conquer the mountain and hopefully regain a sense of value from his family, friends and mostly himself.

Nichols' ability to poke fun and crack jokes about even the most deadly situations takes the reader on a rollercoaster ride from the depths of near death to the heights of love. It is possibly another story of love conquers all but told in a way that only he could accomplish. In short, a thoroughly enjoyable read filled with laugh-out-loud passages intermingled with a few tears and in the end, maybe a few lessons learned.

*Introduction and review by Robbin Brodsky*

### Notes from the Library Board

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## New at the Library

### Films on DVD

**The Crew ... In Which We Serve**  
**The Italian Job ... My Big Fat Greek Wedding**  
**Ninotchka ... The Palm Beach Story**  
**Pinky ... Sophie's Choice ...Cleopatra**  
**Water for Elephants ... All About Eve**  
**The Sisterhood of the Traveling Pants**  
**The Day of the Jackal ... The Dead**  
**Gone with the Wind ... Norma Rae**  
**The Great Northfield Minnesota Raid**  
**Million Dollar Baby ... The Pianist**  
**Seraphim Falls ... To Kill a Mockingbird**  
**The Wicker Man**  
**Close Encounters of the Third Kind**

### Films on VHS

**Any Given Sunday ... Extreme Measures**  
**Maverick ... Remember the Titans**  
**The Spitfire Grill**

### Classics

**Madame de Treymes, and Others** by Edith Wharton  
**Roman Fever, and Other Stories** by Edith Wharton  
**For Whom the Bell Tolls** by Ernest Hemingway

### Mystery

**A Question of Belief** by Donna Leon  
**Quietly in Their Sleep** by Donna Leon  
**Die a Stranger** by Steve Hamilton  
**The Affair** by Lee Child  
**Bait** by Kenneth Abel  
**The Uncommon Appeal of Clouds** by Alexander McCall Smith

### Fiction

**Randy Lopez Goes Home** by Rudolfo Anaya  
**The Round House** by Louise Erdrich

### Nonfiction

**Let Me Be Free** by David Lavender  
**New Mexico Rocks & Minerals** by Frank Kimbler  
**Box of Light/Caja de Luz** by Susan Gardner  
**The Other Rodeo** by M E (Jr.) Gomez

### Audio Book (CD)

**Dead Watch** by John Sandford

The Hillsboro Community Library gratefully acknowledges the recent contribution from:



### Bookmobile Schedule

**Wednesday, April 17**

Hillsboro: 1:00 – 2:00 pm    Kingston: 2:30-3:30 pm

For a complete listing of Library materials, visit  
<http://www.hillsborocommunitylibrary.com>

### Library Hours:

Sunday & Monday: closed  
Tues. 3:30 - 5:30pm    Wed. 1:00 – 4:00pm  
Thurs: 3:30 - 5:30pm    Fri: 10:00am – 1:00pm  
Saturday 10:00am–2:00pm

### Published by

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P.O. BOX 205, HILLSBORO NM 88042 (575-895-3349)