

## HILLSBORO COMMUNITY LIBRARY NEWS

...VOLUME 7: NUMBER 3.....

.....MARCH 2012...

### A Tradition (of sorts)

If you took the bestseller list of novels as a picture of America today, no doubt you'd be screaming for "the good ole days." Many of the modern best sellers are thrillers featuring what is actually the rarest of all criminals –the serial killer. This month's featured book is a thriller too, though a true story of a little known American version of Jack-the-Ripper who lived and stalked his prey more than a century ago.

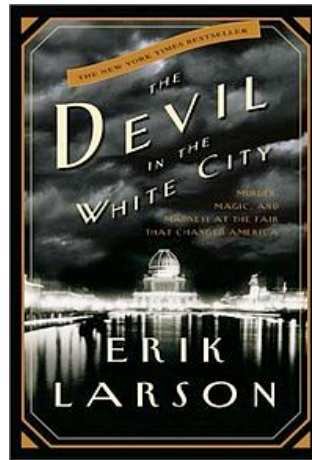
### Featured This Month

*The Devil in the White City* by Erik Larson

This is the second of three epic books by Erik Larson, all of which I have read recently. This book and the third book, *In the Garden of the Beasts*, are in our Library, and I highly recommend both. The other book, *Isaac's Storm*, will be in our Library. It details the 1903 hurricane that nearly destroyed Galveston, Texas. All are non-fiction. *The Devil in the White City* was winner of the Edgar Award for Best Fact Crime.

The sub-title is *Murder, Magic, and Madness at the Fair that Changed America*. The World's Columbian Exposition, 1893, was conceived to honor the 400<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Columbus discovering the Americas. The sub-title graphically explains the book. The story behind the conception of the Fair with its engineering, construction, landscaping and trouble-shooting, combined with severe time constraints, was fascinating. Many of the most prominent and successful Americans were involved in the creation and production of this monumental display of America's inventiveness; i.e., Thomas Edison, Nicola Tesla, Frederick Law Olmstead and George Ferris, who devised the Ferris Wheel especially for this event.

Buffalo Bill Cody, at the height of his Wild West Show career, set up his own exhibit on 13 acres adjacent to the fairgrounds, after his application to join was rejected by the financiers, and he drew the largest crowds of all!



In a parallel story, a demented doctor, who becomes a serial killer in the genre of Jack the Ripper, planned and successfully completed a fiendish scheme to attract, murder and mutilate young women who were attracted to Chicago by the Fair. Dr. H.H. Holmes, handsome, educated, personable and possessed, accomplished his grisly crimes within 3 blocks of the White City.

To quote Larson: "The thing that entranced me about Chicago in the Gilded Age was the city's willingness to take on the impossible in the name of civic honor. The juxtaposition of pride and unfathomed evil struck me as offering powerful insights into the nature of men and their ambitions."

As the CHICAGO SUN said: "Larson is a historian—with a novelist's soul."

*Review by Sandy Ficklin*

### Notes From the Library Board

A message from from Board President John Cornell:

*We are sorry for the passing of newly elected HCL Board Vice President, Carleton Hasbrook. On behalf of the HCL Board, we would like to offer our condolences to his wife, Cathy, and to his family. He will be missed.*

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## New at the Library

### Films On DVD

*Adaptation*  
*Autumn Hearts*  
*Beyond the Sea*  
*The Cider House Rules*  
*Desert Bloom*  
*The Great Escape*  
*Hollywood Ending*  
*The Jane Austin Book Club*  
*Jeopardy!*  
*Pat Garrett and Billy the Kid*  
*The Reader*  
*The Sea Inside*  
*Stanley Kramer Film Collection (5 movies: Guess Who's Coming to Dinner, Ship of Fools, The Member of the Wedding, The Wild One, The 5,000 Fingers of Dr. T)*

### Non-fiction

*Desert Lawmen- The High Sheriffs of New Mexico and Arizona 1846-1912* by Larry Ball  
**United Methodist Historical Journal New Mexico Conference November 2008** various authors  
**United Methodist Historical Journal New Mexico Conference November 2011** various authors  
*Republic Lost - How Money Corrupts Congress and a Plan to Stop It* by Lawrence Lessig

### Books on CD

*Hothouse Orchid* by Stuart Woods  
*Dark of the Moon* by John Sandford  
*Break No Bones* by Kathy Reichs  
*Hidden Prey* by John Sandford

### Fiction

*Privileges* by Jonathan Dee  
*Room* by Emma Donoghue

The monthly **Library Bake sale** has resumed:  
First Saturday of each month  
from 10:00 to 1:00 in front of the Post Office.  
Don't forget to stop by (and buy)!

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

**Bookmobile: Wednesday, March 21**  
Hillsboro: 1:00 - 2:00 pm    Kingston: 2:30-3:30 pm

### 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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