

Celebrate Your Freedom to Read!

Banned Books Week September 22nd-28th

The First Amendment to the U. S. Constitution grants us a freedom to which we seldom give any thought: the freedom to read.

Started in 1982 by the American Library Association, Banned Books Week draws attention to attempts to remove or restrict access to books across the country, i.e., attempts to restrict our freedom to read. Surveys indicate that 82 to 97% of book challenges—documented requests to remove materials from schools or libraries—remain unreported and receive no media attention. The good news is that, in most cases, the

books have remained available, thanks to the efforts of librarians, teachers, students and community members who stand up and speak out for the freedom to read.



Here are a few titles you will recognize that have been the target of book-banners over the years: *The Kite Runner*, Khaled Hosseini; *Of Mice and Men*, John Stein-

beck; *To Kill a Mockingbird*, Harper Lee; *The Catcher in the Rye*, J. D. Salinger; *Harry Potter* (series), J. K. Rowling; *The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-time*, Mark Haddon; *Beloved*, Toni Morrison; *The Glass Castle*, Jeannette Walls; *A Farewell to Arms*, Ernest Hemingway; *Captain Underpants* (series), Dav Pilky; *The Hunger Games*, Suzanne Collins; *The Hate U Give*, Angie Thomas.

For more information, including lists of banned books over the years, visit the American Library Association's Banned Books site [here](#).

50 Years of the Coretta Scott King Book Awards

I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings.
The Watsons Go to Birmingham—1963.
Roll of Thunder, Hear My Cry.
A Hero Ain't Nothin' but a Sandwich.
The Snowy Day.
Fallen Angels.

— These are but a few of the titles that have won the Coretta Scott King Book

Award in the last 50 years.

Founded in 1969, the awards have become the mark of excellence for books that are authored or illustrated by African-Americans and that demonstrate an appreciation of African-American culture and universal human values. The award commemorates the life and work of Dr. Martin

Luther King, Jr., and honors his wife, Mrs. Coretta Scott King, for her courage and determination to continue the work for peace and world brotherhood.

To learn more about this amazing half-century of literary excellence and read the whole article, click here:

[American Libraries Magazine](#)

(Adapted, with permission, from *American Libraries*, June, 2019)

Roswell Reads 2019 Special Edition: An Evening with Delia Owens

Delia Owens, best-selling author of *Where the Crawdads Sing*, will be in town the evening of September 22nd, to talk about her book at the Roswell Cultural Center. Information about it and all the accompanying programs can be found on the Friends' website: forl.net/deliaowens. Unfortunately, all events, with the exception of a Special Book Discussion are already sold out.

Noonday Nosh is hosting the Special Book Discussion on Tuesday, Sept 17th, at noon

at the Alpharetta Library auditorium. Some of Delia's friends plan to attend and share a video of Delia and her family. (She's a Georgia native.) The event is free but please register at roswellreads2020.eventbrite.com.

If you are unhappy about being unable to see Delia in Roswell on Sept. 22nd and are willing to travel, she is appearing at the Carter Center, 453 John Lewis Freedom Pkwy NE, Atlanta, on Monday, Sept. 23rd at



7PM. The program is free, open to the public and there are no reserved seats. The Carter Center Chapel seats just under 500 and there's no standing room. Doors will open at 6PM and seating will be handled on a first-come, first-served basis. Be early!

President's Letter

Greetings Friends,

You have been so patient. The Roswell Library renovation is finally on the home stretch---a good thing. Whenever I have been in the far reaches of New York State or Florida or even just South Georgia, and "get back on 400 North," I know I am on the home stretch, and it's a good feeling. Same idea with morning walks, I know the ½ point, make the turn and think, once again, I am on the home stretch.

We have been told the library renovation is on track to be completed in October. It could take six weeks or more for our paid librarians to do the restocking. After the ribbon is cut at the Grand Opening, we volunteers will be able to enter and help out. Our book store will then reopen "in good time." We will keep you updated.

Enjoy the Delia Owens events! And then come join us for Jessica Handler at Atlanta Authors! And think about becoming part of our lively book club discussions now held at 12 noon in the Alpharetta Library on third Tuesdays and 6:30 pm for Mystery at the Milton Library on the fourth Tuesday. Stay involved!

Have a safe and healthy Fall 2019.

Cora Cramer

In Memoriam: Arthur C. Williams

Arthur, a native of Atlanta, was a 1971 graduate of Morehouse college and spent his entire career working in academic and public libraries. He was on the Circulation Staff at the Woodruff Library, Atlanta University Center, and since 1991, worked as a Library Associate for AFPLS. While there, he worked at the Washington Park and Perry Homes branches as well as at the Roswell Library, from which he retired in 2010.



Arthur was quick with a smile and always went the extra mile to help library patrons, coworkers and the Friends. He was kind, gentle, generous and never complained; if he saw something that needed to be done, he did it.

He loved the Roswell library. After his retirement, he continued to bake his delicious cakes and would surprise the staff with one from time to time. He also loved Roswell Reads and was often seen among the attendees at the Literary Luncheon in March.

Arthur truly enjoyed his retirement, using his time to paint in oils, create pottery pieces, and play the piano. And, of course, to read!

City of Roswell AmeriCorps After-School Project

Through grants awarded by AmeriCorps to the City, Roswell and two of its nonprofit partners are facilitating tutoring, after school, at select Roswell elementary schools. The 2019 grant allows the recruitment of 24 AmeriCorps members to help with the project, engaging in national service at the local level. Project members will serve as tutors four afternoons a week, M-Th, from 2:00 to 5:00. This program provides benefits including a bi-weekly living allowance and, on successful completion, a sizeable education award. For more information, contact Coordinator Megan Boynton at (770) 817-6715, mboynton@roswellgov.com, or click [here](#).

Noonday Nosh Book Club

Meeting at the Alpharetta Library at noon 3rd Tuesdays
 Sept. 17: *Where the Crawdads Sing* - Delia Owens
 Oct. 15: *Into the Water* - Paula Hawking
 Nov. 19: *Crazy Rich Asians* - Kevin Kwan

BOOK
CLUBS

Mystery Readers' Book Club

Meeting at the Milton Library at 6:30 4th Tuesdays
 Sept. 24: *Night Passage* - Robert B. Parker
 Oct. 22: *Still Life* - Louise Penny
 Nov. 26: *The President is Missing* - J. Patterson/B. Clinton



This picture was taken on August 31st. The current completion date for the library is October 17, 2019. (Read the President's letter, above, for more information.) Stay abreast of changes by checking here:

[Renovation Update](#)

Save the Date for Atlanta Authors



[Jessica Handler](#)

author of

The Magnetic Girl

Roswell Cultural Arts Center
 Second Story Gallery

Saturday, Nov. 23, 2019 @ 3 pm



The Magnetic Girl is Jessica Handler's debut novel. It is based on real-life Lulu Hurst, a Georgia native and vaudeville performer who amazed audiences with her feats of great physical strength. It's a unique portrait of a young woman's power over herself and those around her.

Free and open to the public. RSVP [here](#)