

Book Beat

Book reviews by Andrea Barilla

The Man Who Walked Between the Towers Written and Illustrated by Mordicaí Gerstein

This picture book took my breath away. In 1974, Philippe Petit, a young red-haired street performer, stepped out with the rising sun to walk between the World Trade Center towers. Not only did he walk between the quarter mile high towers, but he knelt, ran, and even danced upon the wire. Petit's walk, one of many beautiful moments in the towers' history, offers a positive way to commemorate 9/11 with younger children. As we remember our loved ones when they pass and moments that endeared them to us, we will remember the towers and this spectacular day in 1974. I felt I was right there, watching the whole event. 2003 Caldecott Medal winner. Ages 5-8.



Pictures of Hollis Woods By Patricia Reilly Giff

Deep down, Hollis Woods wants a family. But for some reason she keeps running away from them. Now she is staying with an old art teacher named Josie, a strikingly beautiful woman, with her scarves and hats and talent for woodcarving. But most of all, she loves Hollis. Still, Hollis cannot get the Regan family out of her mind. This family had wanted her, but did they really? As Hollis looks back at drawings she made during her stay with this family, she learns many important lessons, one that art can uncover truth. And as Josie becomes more and more forgetful, Hollis decides she won't let anyone separate the two of them. Her desperate plight to keep them together, along with the vivid descriptions of Hollis's art, make for a rare blend of a suspense story and literary novel. A Newbery Honor Book. Ages 12 and up.



Local Storytimes

Barnes & Noble Mayfaire Town Center 850 Inspiration Drive (910) 509-1880

Tuesday Storytime (Tuesdays at 10 am)

Join Barnes & Noble's lead children's bookseller, Brandi, for storytime on September 7, 14, and 28. Appropriate for children under 5.

Thursday Storytime (Thursdays at 10 am)

Join Barnes & Noble's lead children's bookseller, Brandi, for storytime on September 2, 9, 16, and 30. Most appropriate for children 3 and up.

Bilingual Storytime (Third Tuesday and Thursday)

Each month, storytimes during the third week of the month (September 21 and 23) will be in English and Spanish. Volunteers from Amigos International will assist resident storytellers in reading the same book in English and Spanish. Snacks and coloring will follow the reading.

Children's Book Club (Monday, September 6, 13, 20, 27 at 7 pm)

Join Miss Rita as she reads books from the American Girl, Magic Treehouse, and Boxcar Children's series. Crafts and related activities follow each storytime.

Storytime With Miss Rita (September 10, 17, 24)

Join Miss Rita in the Children's Department at Barnes & Noble Friday evenings at 7 pm for children's storytime, followed by a craft activity. For ages 5 - 12.

Special Guest: Biscuit the Dog!

Join this special storytime that features a visit from a favorite furry friend on Friday, September 3 at 7 pm.

New Book Group: "Tweens and Teens

This month's choice is "The Wave" by Todd Strasser. This book is a powerful novel about peer pressure. Most appropriate for ages 12 and up. The group will meet on Monday, September 27 at 6 pm.

Discussion/Signing: "Bob Garner's Guide to North Carolina Barbecue"

Bob Garner will visit Barnes & Noble on Saturday, September 4 at 12 noon to share his 100 favorite barbecue joints from across the

Tarheel state. Pick up a signed copy of "North Carolina Barbecue: Flavored by Time" or "Bob Garner's Guide to North Carolina Barbecue."

Books-A-Million 3737 Oleander Dr. 452-1519

Storytime at Books-A-Million takes place every Saturday afternoon at 3:30 pm. Children will enjoy a story, followed by a craft activity. The program lasts approximately one hour.

New Hanover County Public Libraries

New Hanover County Public Libraries offer storytime programs for toddlers (18 - 36 months), and preschoolers (3 - 5 years old) at the Main Library (798-6303), Myrtle Grove (452-6414), Northeast Regional (256-4468). All programs are free and open to children of the appropriate age group. To arrange an on-site storytime at your day care center, please call 798-6308.

*Toddler Time (18 - 36 months)

A 20-minute program of stories, songs, and fingerplays for little ones and their adult chaperone.

Main Library: Tuesdays at 10 am

Myrtle Grove: Wednesdays at 10 am

Northeast Regional: Thursdays at 10 am

*Preschool Storytime (3 - 5 years)

30 minutes of stories, songs, and activities for preschoolers.

Main Library: Tuesdays at 10:30 am

Myrtle Grove: Wednesdays at 10:30 am

Northeast Regional: Thursdays at 10:30 am

Growing Readers

Growing Readers is a Smart Start funded program that provides a range of library-based activities to New Hanover County children ages birth to five, their parents, teachers, and child care providers. Programs include: storytime programs at child care facilities and family child care homes, theme book bag literature collections, work-

shops for parents and teachers, and library materials for children, parents, and teachers. For more information, contact the New Hanover County Public Library at 798-6308. Information is also available at www.newhanoverkids.org.

Pender County Public Libraries

Burgaw Central Library (259-1234)

Storytime for young children takes place on Thursdays from 10 - 10:30 am. Includes stories, songs, and fingerplays.

Hampstead Branch Library (270-4603)

Preschool storytime on Tuesdays from 10 - 10:30 am includes a story and age-appropriate activity.

Brunswick County Public Libraries

Southport (457-6237)

Storytime takes place every Monday. Preschool storytime is at 10 am; Toddler storytime is at 11 am. Programs include stories, songs, and activities.

Oak Island (278-4283)

Preschool storytime is scheduled every Wednesday at 10 am. Toddler storytime begins at 11 am. Programs include stories, songs, and activities.

Leland (371-9442)

The Leland Library hosts a preschool storytime every Tuesday morning at 10 am. The program includes a story, music and movement, fingerplays, and a craft activity. On Thursday afternoons from 4 - 5 pm, school age children can participate in an arts & crafts session.

Shalotte (754-6578)

The Rourk Branch Library offers preschool storytime each Thursday morning at 10 am. The hour-long session includes a story, music & movement, fingerplays, and a craft activity. On Thursday afternoons from 4 - 5 pm, school age children can participate in an arts & crafts session.

A music & movement program, designed for preschoolers, is scheduled each Friday morning at 10 am at the Shalotte branch. Activities include songs, dance, playing instruments, and parachute play.