

The Bandera PROPHEET

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The Latest at the Bandera Library

By Mauri Guillén Fagan
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The colder temperatures make for perfect reading weather. We'll provide the books, all you need is a blanket and a cup of coffee. Come by the library to check out all our new titles.

New out this week is a new thriller by Lisa Gardner called *Before She Disappeared*. Frankie Elkin is a mostly a normal middle-aged woman. She is a recovering alcoholic with more than her fair share of regrets. Frankie does have an odd past time. She searches for missing persons – but not the ones whose faces are on the evening news or whose stories and names are still notorious. Frankie wants to find the people who the police have given up on. She wants to find the people who the media never paid attention to at all. A new case sends her to a rough neighborhood of Boston called Mattapan looking for a Haitian American teenager who seems to have vanished from her high school months before. The Boston PD dismisses her out of hand and the victim's family is reluctant to involve and unknown white woman. Frankie is on her own, but is determined to find the young girl. Even if it means Frankie is the culprit's next victim.

Alexander McCall Smith has a new collection of short stories out this week called *Pianos and Flowers: Brief Encounters of the Romantic Kind*. In 14 stories, McCall Smith finds photographs of everyday people going about their lives. Rather than being just a snapshot of their lives, each story unfolds as the subjects learn along with the reader. It's never too late to forge a new path, you never know when you will find love, and that life has a way of teaching you to find your inner strength.

A new non-fiction title this week is *The Doctors Blackwell: How Two Pioneering Sisters Brought Medicine to Women and Women to Medicine* by Janice Nimura. Against all the odds, in 1849 Elizabeth Blackwell became the first woman in America to receive an MD. While this achievement made her an icon, it was her sister Emily who was considered the more brilliant doctor. The two sisters founded the first hospital in New York City with an entirely female staff.

The Bandera Library is open Monday to Friday, 9 a.m. to 6 p.m., and Saturdays 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Curbside service is still available for checkouts and business services. Free Wi-Fi is available 24/7. Check out our website www.banderacountylibrary.org for all up-to-date information.

Happy tales, y'all.