



Friends of the Pickens Library

Live Free or Die

The Kilton Public Library in the small town of Lebanon, New Hampshire, is the nation's first library to install Tor, a software app that conceals the location and internet protocol addresses of persons who routinely contact the library via the internet.

Use of the software is not limited to connections between libraries and their members. It can be used to protect shoppers from identity theft, whistleblowers from retaliation, wives from abusive husbands and dissidents from opposers. On the other hand, Tor can mask the identity of swindlers, thieves, deviants and terrorists.

The Kilton Library's response to criticism of the Tor project was to say that the library was committed to the values of "intellectual privacy." Some have observed that Kilton is right in line with New Hampshire's motto: "Live Free or Die."

The American Library Association has a long history of fighting to protect library patrons' privacy. In 1953 it fought federal government efforts to track and regulate patrons' reading habits, and in the 1970s opposed federal efforts to identify patrons seeking information on how to construct homemade bombs. And recently, in the aftermath of Edward Snowden's revelations, libraries are speaking out against government acquisition of information.

Interesting but useless facts

- * Scotland's national animal is the unicorn.
- * One in ten people live on an island.
- * In just one second, Apple earns \$1,997.
- * It is impossible to lick your elbow.
- * An ostrich's eye is bigger than its brain.

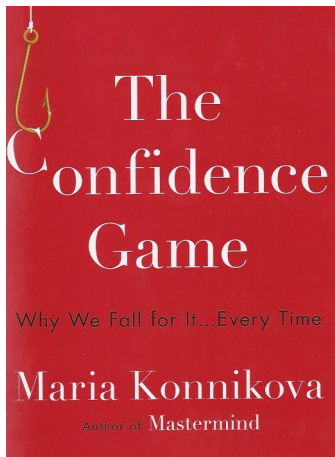
A Message from Susan White President, Friends of the Pickens Library



Summer has arrived – at least it has at the Pickens County Public Library. The calendar may say that there are still several weeks to go until summer, but the library summer reading program is already in full swing. There are three different programs available at the library. For the children, their program is titled "On Your Mark, Get Set – Read!" For the teens their reading program is called "Get in the Game – Read!" And for the adults, their theme is "Exercise Your Mind - Read!" Yes, adults can participate. All three programs have awards and recognition for reading during the summer. So, if you have children, grandchildren, or if you want to be recognized yourself for reading during the summer, be sure to visit the library soon and sign up for one, two or all three of these programs. You will be glad that you have joined the many people reading their favorite books this summer.

Normally the Friends of Pickens Library has their annual book sale during the month of September. However, this year it has changed to the month of October. The sale will be held on Thursday, October 25 through Saturday, October 27 at the same place – Chattahoochee Technical College in Jasper. So when September rolls around and you do not see any information about the annual book sale, don't worry. Wait one more month and it will be here once again! We look forward to having many of you volunteer at this event.

I hope that everyone has a safe and happy summer!



Who Do You Trust?

By Ken Reynolds
A review of *The Confidence Game*, By Maria Konnikova, Viking 2016

There may be controversy about who first said, “There is a sucker born every minute,” but in her new book Maria Konnikova advances the premise that we fall for confidence games every time. If you just scoffed, then you are just the audience Konnikova addresses in her book.

The Confidence Game, Why We Fall for It Every Time is among the new books at our library. Readers who think they are capable of detecting a con before they fall victim would do well to take a good look into this book. Those who are simply curious will be gratified.

A successful con is based upon belief. People who absolutely never trust, never believe, are rare. The rest are vulnerable to being taken by a Bernie Madoff or a beggar on the street.

Cheats and swindlers are a dime a dozen, the author says, but true confidence men true conmen—the Bernie Madoffs, the Jim Bakkers, the Lance Armstrongs—are elegant, outsized personalities, artists of persuasion and exploiters of trust. How do they do it? Why are they successful? And what keeps us falling for it, over and over again?

Konnikova explains the mechanics of the confidence game and the psychology of the victims—the act of believing. Not as a bonus, but as an integral part of her work, she also describes the research into the psychology of why deceptions continue to work..

Looking for Paradise—Go to the Library!

The etymology of the word paradise is from two Greek parts: *peri*, meaning around or about and *dheigh* meaning to construct. In early usage, it referenced an orchard or hunting park or the Garden of Eden. The word paradise came to indicate a beautiful, serene place that was walled in, unavailable to outside pressures, burdens, or distresses. It represented euphonious harmony where things were devoid of physical difficulties brought about by unnatural civilization, worldly pursuits, and selfish concerns.

Desiderius Erasmus (1466-1536) is considered the most influential member of the humanist movement. Erasmus, whose name means “beloved,” was born to parents who died from the plague. He was placed into guardianship of people who sent him to school.

Clearly, his world-view was weighted by books and libraries. He became a Dutch priest and teacher who garnered high praise as a Renaissance scholar and lecturer. Not only was he a professor of Cambridge, he also authored one of the most significant societal satires, *The Praise of Folly*.

And it is Erasmus of Rotterdam who remarks: “Your library is your paradise.”



Oh what a tangled web we weave...when first we practice to deceive.

Sir Walter Scott

Subtle Calls of Nature

The natural environment is my inspiration, my refuge.
It is my port, my safe haven that keeps life's storms from washing me away.
It is my balm, the salve that calms my mind in troubled times,
The emollient that soothes when I am weary.

Sojourns to places where vestiges of Wilderness still remain
Can be a sublime experience.
Yellowstone, Grand Canyon, Yosemite, Okefenokee -
All places where body and soul can be refreshed, re-created.

But in their absence even the simplest connection with nature
Can be savored, appreciated.
Engulfed in a world drastically altered by man,
I find these things keep me tethered.

The melancholy call of a dove,
A murder of fussing crows,
A branch trickling down a mountainside,
A forest ablaze in fall color,

Or a pileated woodpecker hammering away
On a dying chestnut oak.
The sound of wind in the pines,
A barred owl calling its haunting eight hoots,

A motionless lizard sunning on a rock,
A chipmunk scampering about for acorns,
Dew drops on a spider's web, sunrise over a salt marsh,
Waves lapping an isolated beach, or seeing Orion on a clear night.

We are not all rolled from the same makings.
We each follow our own North Star,
Listen to our own private radio.

But I am drawn to the natural world like iron filings to a magnet.
I need that connection like dry crops need rain,
Like a newborn needs to suckle.

Surely I would perish without it.



About the Author

Travis McDaniel is a resident of Big Canoe and a member of the Big Canoe Writers Group. He is a skilled genealogist, an expert on the history of the Civil War, and author of numerous articles that appear with regularity in monthly magazines and professional journals. His most recent full-length book is titled *In a time that used to be*.

2016 Book Sale Dates

The Friends 2016 book sale will be held on October 28 and 29 at Chattahoochee Tech in Jasper.

A preview sale for members only will be held on October 27. So if you want to take advantage of a really, really good deal, make sure your membership is current, and for the best picks plan on arriving early.



The world's largest monastery library is in the canton of Aargau in Switzerland .



The world's largest digital-photo library is in Prague.



The world's largest library is reported to be the British Library.

Friends of the Pickens Library
100 Library Lane
Jasper, GA 30143

Membership Application
Friends of the Pickens Library

I am a new member ____ I am a renewing member ____

Name _____ Street or PO Box Number _____

City _____ State ____ Zip _____ Phone _____ Email _____

If a family membership, please provide one additional name. _____

Please send newsletter by email ____ Please send newsletter to above address OR to:

Street _____ City _____ State ____ Zip _____

Membership categories: Student: \$5 Individual: \$15 Family: \$30

Contributor: \$50 to \$99 Sponsor: \$100 to \$199 Benefactor: \$200 or higher

Please make your check payable to Friends of the Pickens Library and mail or deliver it to 100 Library Lane, Jasper, GA 30143. We are a 501(c)(3) organization.

You are invited to visit the Friends of the Pickens Library website at: friendsofpickenslibrary.org

I would like to volunteer for: Annual Book Sale Hospitality Membership Newsletter