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Staff Picks of the Month

October 2021
Coming Soon to Our Collection

Browse through the hundreds of items that are on order right now: https://tinyurl.com/8by5ehuz

The Judge’s List, by John Grisham

As an investigator for the Florida Board on Judicial Conduct, Lacy Stoltz sees corruption among the men and women elected to the bench. In The Whistler, she took on a crime syndicate that was paying millions to a crooked judge. Now, the crimes are even worse. The man hiding behind the black robe is not taking bribes--but he may be taking lives.

Fiction

The Lincoln Highway, by Amor Towles

In June, 1954, eighteen-year-old Emmett Watson is driven home to Nebraska by the warden of the juvenile work farm where he has served fifteen months for involuntary manslaughter. Emmett’s intention is to pick up his little brother, Billy, and go to California where they can restart their lives. But when the warden drives away, Emmett finds two friends from the work farm have hidden themselves in the warden’s car. Together, they have hatched a plan that will set them on a fateful journey in the opposite direction--to the City of New York.

Historical Fiction

E.R. Nurses: True Stories from America’s Greatest Unsung Heroes, by James Patterson and Matt Eversmann

Around the clock, across the country, highly skilled and compassionate men and women sacrifice and struggle for us. You’ve never heard their true stories like this. From big-city and small-town hospitals. From behind the scenes. From the heart. This book will make you laugh, cry, and understand. When we’re at our worst, E.R. nurses are at their best.

Nonfiction

In the Earth

As the world searches for a cure to a devastating virus, a scientist and a park scout venture deep in the forest for a routine equipment run.

Horror Film

Join the wait list! Although on-order items are not yet available for check-out, you can still place holds on them.

https://charlottefl.ent.sirsi.net/
Get the latest scoop on your libraries.

Introducing the newest addition to our collection of lend-able devices:

**T-Mobile 4G Mobile Hotspots**

Borrow one of our mobile hotspots and bring Wi-Fi on the go. Connect up to 10 devices to the power of T-Mobile’s 4G network to work, stream, surf, or play from anywhere. Hotspots can be checked out for 2 weeks. They cannot be renewed.

**It's official: optimized printing and laptop kiosks are here**

All four Charlotte County library branches are now fully equipped with brand-new laptop kiosks and print release machines.

Enjoy the streamlined printing experience with the easy-to-use, upgraded software. Releasing and paying* for your print job can now be done on the same station.

Don’t be tied down to the desktop! After using the laptop vending machine and your library card to check out a public laptop, choose your own space** and get plugged in.

**FLIN SHAREit: Florida libraries sharing their resources with you**

Can't find it in our catalog? If it's a physical item that's at least 12 months old, we may be able to borrow a copy from another Florida library system. Search our new interlibrary loan system, FLIN SHAREit, and start requesting books, movies, articles, and more.

[flinshareit.sirsi.net/requests](https://flinshareit.sirsi.net/requests)

**Periodical iPads**

Come in and use one of our brand-new Periodical iPads, equipped with access to the New York Times, Wall Street Journal, the Charlotte Sun, and Libby.

*Print release stations accept debit or credit cards only.
**Laptops are for in-house use only. Find more information on the “Using the Library” page of our website.

[https://tinyurl.com/9k32dp7s](https://tinyurl.com/9k32dp7s)
The Daniel Child Diaries

Charlotte County counts Daniel Child as an early pioneer of Murdock, and Charlotte County Libraries & History archives provide digital access to some of his diaries, allowing a glimpse to life in Charlotte County in the first half of the 20th century.

Born in 1876 to Daniel Wright Child and Nera Child, Daniel moved with his family to Florida in 1894. Although they first resided in Bowling Green, the Childs moved to Arcadia in 1895, where Neva edited a local newspaper, The Champion. Daniel Wright Child frequently worked outside of Florida, serving under the Quartermaster Department in Puerto Rico during the Spanish-American War, and then operating a ranch in Cuba.

Daniel Child moved away from his family in Arcadia prior to the 1910 census. Although an exact date for when he moved to Murdock could not be identified, his diaries show he was already living in Murdock in the early 1910s and making impressions in the community. His 1912 diary began on April 18, 1912 in Cuba and finished on Jan 17, 1913 in Murdock. Additionally, in his 1916 diary, he identifies himself as Daniel Child of “D.W. Child & Son” in Murdock working with Cuban Saddle Ponies. He became Murdock Post Office’s first postmaster in 1917, purchased land in 1925, and served on-and-off the election board throughout the years.

Although the dates of the diaries range from 1912 to 1955, the diaries from the 1910s are primarily written in Spanish, presenting a language barrier for those unfamiliar with the language. Despite this, however, there is still plenty of information to be gained from skimming the 1910s diaries, and the usage of Spanish instead of English is an interesting detail in and of itself.

Diaries written in 1912 and 1916 provide insight into Daniel Child's business dealings and life events such as marrying his wife, while the bulk of Daniel Child’s diaries are from the 1930s, 1940s, and early 1950s.

These diaries contrast Daniel Child's domestic livelihood in Charlotte County with the eventful time he lived through. For example, his August 8, 1945 diary entry highlights the birth of his niece, Willie Royala Child. On the same page, he writes about the atomic bombing of Hiroshima. Additionally, in late 1938, Daniel Child’s entries noted news regarding Nazi Germany, and his entry for November 24, 1938, Thanksgiving Day even noted he's thankful for living in the United States instead of Germany.

For anyone curious about life in Charlotte County a century ago, or interested in seeing how daily life continues in the face of daily dynamic news headlines, we highly recommend reading the Daniel Child diaries. These diaries can be viewed online through the library catalog.

Visit our Online Archives and more!

tinyurl.com/OnlineArchives
Don’t Go Into the Library, by Alberto Ríos

The library is dangerous—
Don’t go in. If you do

You know what will happen.
It’s like a pet store or a bakery—

Every single time you’ll come out of there
Holding something in your arms.

Those novels with their big eyes.
And those no-nonsense, all muscle

Greyhounds and Dobermans,
All non-fiction and business,

Cuddly when they’re young,
But then the first page is turned.

The doughnut scent of it all, knowledge,
The aroma of coffee being made

In all those books, something for everyone,
The deli offerings of civilization itself.

The library is the book of books,
Its concrete and wood and glass covers

Keeping within them the very big,
Very long story of everything.

The library is dangerous, full
Of answers. If you go inside,

You may not come out
The same person who went in.
Fame and Fraud: 5 Ghostwriters Who May Surprise You!

What does it mean to be a successful author? From a reader's perspective, one may believe that to become known as a distinguished author, it's necessary to develop a sort of niche. Creating a unique style of prose, flow, exposition, and imagery are all factors in making a name for yourself in the literary world. However, it requires an entirely separate set of expertise to immerse oneself in another author's way of writing, then construct a piece of work that will maintain that author's identifiable style and voice. Here are some authors you may be surprised to learn have worked as ghostwriters:

1. **Andrew Neiderman**

   In light of her death, the family of bestselling phenomenon V.C. Andrews realized that she had built a legacy that they could not let die with her. In the late 1980's, the writer's estate hired ex-high school English teacher Andrew Neiderman to continue Andrews's saga of supernatural dramas. Neiderman has even gone so far as to start a completely new series, with his most recent publication, “The Umbrella Lady,” still released under the pen name V.C. Andrews.

2. **H.P. Lovecraft**

   H.P. Lovecraft earned his place as a classic supernatural horror and science fiction writer when the magazine “Weird Tales” bought his short stories, including the infamously grim “The Call of Cthulhu.” Founder of the magazine, J.C. Henneberger, decided to give the rising star a new challenge: create a convincing account of the life of renowned magician Harry Houdini, written as Harry Houdini! The project was to be called “Under the Pyramids,” and for $100, Lovecraft finished writing it in under one week. Henneberger was so impressed by Lovecraft's ability to adapt to the mindset and tone of the magician that he commissioned yet another piece. “The Cancer of Superstition,” a 31-page analysis on superstition throughout history, was auctioned and sold for $28,000 in 2016.
3. Daniel Ehrenhaft and Ryan Nerz

It’s no secret that towards the end of the “Sweet Valley High” series, Francine Pascal was not as hands-on as she used to be. After the series was picked up by Daniel Weiss Associates (now called Alloy), the books were being churned out by an entire team of ghostwriters. While the group contained multiple female writers, Daniel Ehrenhaft and Ryan Nerz also found themselves brainstorming ideas for the books. Ehrenhaft admits that when it came to writing scenes detailing the process of makeup application, he did have to borrow some insights from his sister. Nevertheless, the success of the “Sweet Valley High” series can be partially credited to both Ehrenhaft and Nerz’s ability to match the distinct tone and style of Pascal’s classic teen heartthrob novels.

4. Richard Flanagan

Faced with an offer he couldn’t turn down, well-known Australian author Richard Flanagan agreed to ghostwrite an autobiography for high-profile criminal John Friedrich. Flanagan’s deal would land him $10,000 if he could finish the book in six weeks. However, things took an unexpected turn when just six days away from Friedrich’s trial regarding his charges of $296M fraud with the National Safety Council of Australia, he committed suicide. Despite no longer having his subject to study and with only three weeks left until the deadline, Flanagan followed through with the book and finished “Codename Iago: The Autobiography of John Friedrich” just in time to earn the $10,000.

Want to see more from Richard Flanagan? Check out these titles currently in our collection:

- “Gould’s Book of Fish: a Novel in Twelve Fish” (Hoopla)
- “The Narrow Road to the Deep North”
- “Wanting”

5. Aleister Crowley

Followers of astrology may be familiar with the works of Evangeline Adams, a respected astrologer, author, and entrepreneur of the 19th century. One of her most popular works of 1927, “Astrology: Your Place in the Sun,” was actually drawn directly from infamous occultist Aleister Crowley’s essay “The General Principles of Astrology.” However, there’s one thing that Adams didn’t see coming, not even in her horoscope. Crowley managed to covertly pen in a paragraph that completely satirizes Adams and her work by writing all about psychic fraud and staged zodiac readings. Ouch!
Best Books to Cozy up with This Fall

**Red at the Bone**, by Jacqueline Woodson

Moving forward and backward in time, Jacqueline Woodson's taut and powerful novel uncovers the role that history and community have played in the experiences, decisions, and relationships of these families, and in the life of the new child.

**The Year of the Witching**, by Alexis Henderson

A young woman living in a rigid, puritanical society discovers dark powers within herself in this stunning, feminist fantasy debut.

**Autumn**, by Ali Smith

A Man Booker Prize Finalist, the first novel in Ali Smith's Seasonal Quartet is an unforgettable story about aging and time and love—and stories themselves.

Don't forget to visit the division's calendar of events to see all of our fall events. Follow us on Facebook for updates and program information.  
[https://charlottelent.sirsi.net/](https://charlottelent.sirsi.net/)
For this month's Tech Tips column, we will be taking a look at how to set up and manage lists using the library's website. You can access our website at: https://charlottefl.ent.sirsi.net/ and log into your account using your library card number and pin number. If you'd like assistance logging into your account, or cannot remember your pin number, please feel free to call your Charlotte County library branch. Keeping track of which titles you have or have not yet read can be tricky, and we often resort to handwritten notes scribbled on paper. However, our website offers a better option: the "My Lists" feature. Creating and managing your reading lists digitally will not only save you time and hassle, but will also ensure that your lists are safely stored online and cannot be misplaced like a handwritten list.

After logging in, click on the link at the very top of the screen titled "My Lists." If you have not yet created any lists, the only things displayed on this screen will be a "Temporary List," as well as the options to either create a new list or to delete a list. Temporary Lists are only used for short browsing sessions and are not stored in your account. Once you log out or are inactive for 10 minutes, any titles added to the Temporary List are removed. It can be beneficial to create non-temporary lists that you can return to and edit at any time. To start a new lasting list, click on the icon shaped like a notebook with a plus (+) sign. You will then be prompted to give your new list a name. After naming your list, click create. Now, you are ready to add titles!

By returning to the homepage and using the search bar, you can choose which titles you would like to add to your new list. To add an item to a list, open the full display by clicking on the blue title link. Next, on the right-hand side of the pop-up, use the "Select an Action" drop-down menu to choose "Add to My Lists."
Another pop-up will be displayed, and from there you will use that drop-down menu to choose which list to add this title to. Notice that there is also an option to make your selected list your default list. This function is useful if you only plan to keep a single list, as once that box has been checked, any item you choose will be automatically added to that list without having to select it every time.

If you would like to change which of your lists is selected as default, visit your account preferences by clicking “My Account,” then using the drop-down menu titled “Preferences.”

Managing your lists is simple. If you add a title to one list, and decide later that you’d prefer to have it on another, you can select that title and move it to the list of your choice. For example, if you would like to keep a list of titles that you want to read in the future as well as a list of titles that you have already read, you can use this function to move titles from the former to the latter. On the "My Lists" page, select the list that you would like to move titles from the former to the latter. On the "My Lists" page, select the list that you would like to move titles from the former to the latter. On the "My Lists" page, select the list that you would like to move titles from the former to the latter. On the "My Lists" page, select the list that you would like to move titles from the former to the latter.

Next, at the top of the list and under the name of the list, use the "Select an Action" drop-down menu to select "Move." You will then be shown another drop-down menu, with which you can choose the name of the list that you would like to move the item to.

Enjoy your new and improved lists. Happy reading!

Need additional guidance or have a tech question? Call your local branch and a staff member can assist you over the phone.

Englewood Charlotte Library: 941.681.3736  
Mid-County Regional Library: 941.613.3160

Port Charlotte Public Library: 941.764.5562  
Punta Gorda Charlotte Library: 941.833.5460

https://charlottefl.ent.sirsi.net/
Staff Picks

“Seven Deaths of an Empire”

By G.R. Matthews

“Unusual for a fantasy novel, this character driven story will have your heart break for a character, suspect a budding friendship, and experience an unexpected betrayal that will cause you to look back and review the entire story. The ending reminds you that not all of life’s situations ends with a happy wrapped up endings, but sometimes you have to walk away with hope for a better future. A stand alone story or the possibility of a great sequel awaits you!”

- Jonathan Westbrook, Supervisor at Punta Gorda Charlotte Library

“The Eagle’s Claw”

By Jeff Shaara

“I just started Jeff Shaara’s The Eagle’s Claw and would recommend all of his books, most/all of which we have in our collection – he’s a great example of historical fiction done right.”

- Jennifer Zoebelein, Historian

“We Begin at the End”

By Chris Whitaker

“I listened to this after it came highly recommended from several library patrons. The story is set in a small California town and I just loved the 13-year old self-proclaimed outlaw, Duchess Day Radley, who is at the heart of this mystery. Duchess and the town’s police chief both work toward solving the murder of someone they love while coming to terms with long buried secrets from the past. The absorbing plot and excellent narration by George Newbern make this book one of my favorite crime fiction books of the year so far.”

- Hana Brown, Youth Librarian

See more staff picks for all ages: https://tinyurl.com/3c5tfw3v
Thank you for being our cherished patron. We hope you enjoyed the very first issue of Between the Lines, the Charlotte County Libraries & History Official Newsletter.

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