

Between the Lines

The Charlotte County Libraries & History Quarterly Newsletter

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made a big splash in our
photo contest*

*Earth Day spotlight:
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Staff picks you'll love



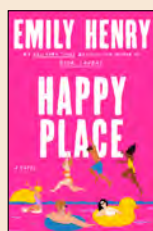
Spring 2023



CHARLOTTE COUNTY
Libraries & History

Coming Soon to Our Collection

Browse through the hundreds of items that are on order right now: bit.ly/OnOrderItems



Happy Place by Emily Henry

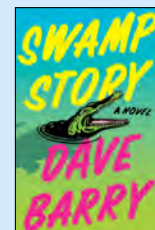
April 25

In this delightful summery rom-com, burned out surgical resident Harriet Kilpatrick is eager for a relaxing getaway with her tight-knit friend group at the Maine beach cottage they've frequented. Then she arrives and discovers that Wyn Connor will also be there for the week. Wyn and Harriet were the perfect couple in college, and then the perfect fiancés, but they broke up six months ago and have yet to tell their friends.

May 5

Swamp Story by Dave Barry

Stuck in a tumbledown Everglades shack with an ex-boyfriend and an infant daughter, Jesse thinks she's found a way out: she's tripped over a long-lost treasure. Unfortunately, bad guys are also looking for the treasure, even as tourists storm the swamp in search of the Everglades Melon Monster, tricked by Ken Bortle's ploy to shore up his failing bait and beer business. Needless to say, it does not go as planned. In fact, nothing in this story goes as planned. This is, after all, Florida.



The Wager: A Tale of Shipwreck, Mutiny and Murder by David Grann

April 18

In 1742, a ship landed on Brazil's coast with 30 starving men fêted as survivors of the wrecked British warship the Wager—until three months later, when three stragglers on another ship landing in Chile claimed the Wager's men were mutineers. From the bestselling author of *Killers of the Flower Moon* comes this page-turning story of shipwreck, survival, and savagery, culminating in a court martial that reveals a shocking truth.

April 4

Confess, Fletch [DVD]

In this delightful comedy romp, the roguishly charming and endlessly troublesome Fletch becomes the prime suspect in a murder case while searching for a stolen art collection. The only way to prove his innocence? Find out which of the long list of suspects is the culprit. With suspects ranging from the eccentric art dealer and a missing playboy to a crazy neighbor and Fletch's Italian girlfriend, crime has never been this disorganized.



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

charlottefl.ent.sirsi.net

Library Bulletin

Classic Car Show

Port Charlotte Library

Saturday, April 22, 10 a.m. - 2 p.m.

Port Charlotte Library and the Florida West Coast Car Club are partnering to host a Classic Car Show and Friends of the Library Book Sale. Come out and enjoy this exhibition of classic automobiles.



School Outreach

At the library, we're dedicated to programs that nurture an interest in reading for the children of our community. We have several standing programs for youth within our



library walls, but we don't stop there. In fact, we visit our local elementary schools several times a year!

To help students and parents learn about the library, we have tables at school open houses and events. We love to offer after-school programs in the media centers, such as the Halloween oral story Ms. Ashley told at Meadow Park. Later, Ms. Melanie and Ms. Christine joined Deep Creek Elementary at their holiday program at Beef O' Brady's. Our traveling



library came to Babcock Neighborhood Schools, making library cards for students and bringing totes of materials for them to check out monthly. Local history is included, too; in our hands-on Cookie House program, kids learned about this Charlotte County icon and attempted to construct their own out of icing and pretzels.



At the end of the school year, we visit each elementary school to promote our summer reading programs and to encourage kids to continue reading while school's out. We brought a fun fish craft to promote our Oceans of Possibilities program last year, and we can't wait to share what's in store this summer!



Teen After Hours Boy Band Night!

Punta Gorda Charlotte Library

**Saturday, April 15,
6:30 - 9 p.m.**

Do you have a favorite boy band or two?

Join us for an evening of fun as we celebrate our favorite musical groups from BTS, One Direction, Jonas Brothers, 5SOS, and more. We'll have crafts, karaoke, snacks, trivia, and Just Dance 2021. This program is for tweens and teens ages 12-18.

Registration is required.

Free Comic Book Day

**Punta Gorda Charlotte Library
Saturday, May 6, 1-3 p.m.**

Explore all things DC and Marvel, Pokémon, Anime, and more!

Save the date!

**2023 Summer Reading Kickoff
Saturday, June 3**



Families learn together at Remake Learning Days

And it's so much fun, you'll hardly know you're learning!

Earth Day Birthday

Port Charlotte Library
Saturday, April 22
11 a.m. - 1 p.m.
Ages 4 - 12

Explore the Library

Punta Gorda Library
Wednesday, April 26
4 - 6 p.m.
All ages

Art for All Ages

Port Charlotte Library
Saturday, April 29
10 a.m. - 1 p.m.
All ages

It's that time of year again—we are partnering with the Patterson Foundation for Suncoast Remake Learning Days! This is a free, 10-day, regional learning festival in which DeSoto, Manatee, Sarasota, and Charlotte counties all come together to promote on-grade level reading and community connections. The festival runs Friday, April 21 through Sunday, April 30.

Currently, there are around 200 events scheduled around the region. They are meant for youth of all ages and their families to explore together on different festival themes: Arts, Maker Spaces, Outdoor Learning, Science, Technology, and Youth Voice.

Why it's great Suncoast Remake Learning Days is a wonderful resource for the parents and guardians of our community's kids to see what's available locally for families.

So many organizations participate, including schools, museums, libraries, after-school organizations, early childcare centers, universities, and more. The event fosters community partnerships between different organizations not just for the festival, but for the future as well. What's even more special is that the programs are largely held after kids are out of school or on Saturday so the whole family can come and participate.



Our events Your Charlotte County libraries are hosting three Suncoast Remake Learning Days programs this year! At [Earth Day Birthday](#), kids will

learn more about what makes nature so cool. We'll discover the wonder of worms, try STEAM activities, and we might even meet some animal ambassadors.

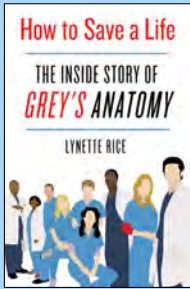
Next, find out more about everything the library has to offer at [Explore the Library](#)! Complete a library-wide scavenger hunt, experience our makerspace in action with live demonstrations, play video games on our Nintendo Switch and X-Box, or get competitive when you try out some of our many card and board games.

Finally, at [Art for All Ages](#), the whole family can get creative together! Celebrate art in all its forms by viewing displays, presentations, and interactive workshops with community partners and organizations. Enjoy live music, do fun crafts, and more.

For more information about our Suncoast Remake Learning Days programs, visit bit.ly/RemakeCharlotte or call the library at 941.764.5562 (Port Charlotte) or 941.833.5460 (Punta Gorda).

TV Behind the Scenes

Ever wonder what goes on behind the scenes of your favorite television program? Get the scoop straight from the cast, crew, and creators of some of the most popular shows in recent memory.



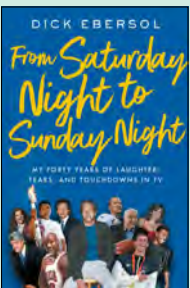
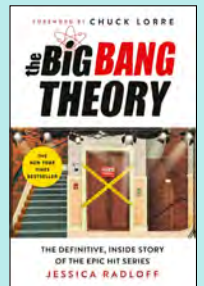
How to Save a Life: The Inside Story of Grey's Anatomy by Lynette Rice

On *Grey's Anatomy*, the behind-the-scenes drama has always been just as juicy as what was happening in front of the camera, from the high-profile firing of Isaiah Washington to Katherine Heigl's fall from grace and Patrick Dempsey's shocking death episode. Lynette Rice takes a totally unauthorized deep dive into the show's humble start, offering exclusive intel on the behind-the-scenes culture, polarizing plotlines, and most heartbreaking departures.

The Big Bang Theory: The Definitive, Inside Story of the Epic Hit Series

by Jessica Radloff

To the casual viewer, *The Big Bang Theory* is a seemingly effortless comedy with relatable characters tackling real-life issues, offering a kind of visual comfort food to its millions of dedicated fans. But the behind-the-scenes journey of the show from a failed pilot to a global sensation is a fascinating story that even the most die-hard fans don't know in its entirety.

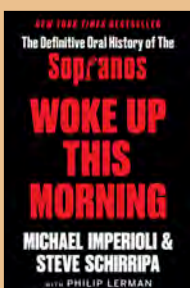
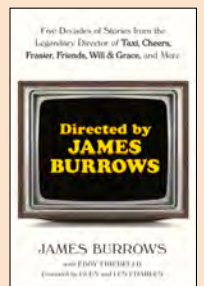


From Saturday Night to Sunday Night: My Forty Years of Laughter, Tears, and Touchdowns in TV by Dick Ebersol

Dick Ebersol's career in television spans more than four decades. He was the co-creator with Lorne Michaels of *Saturday Night Live*. In 1989, he was named president of NBC Sports, where he led award-winning and record-setting coverage of all major sports and the Olympics and created *Sunday Night Football*.

Directed by James Burrows: Five Decades of Stories from the Legendary Director of Taxi, Cheers, Frasier, Friends, Will & Grace, and More by James Burrows

Legendary sitcom director James Burrows has spent five decades making America laugh. Here you will find never-revealed stories behind the casting of the great sitcoms he directed and details as to how these memorable shows were created, how they got on the air, and how the cast and crew developed and grew.



Woke Up This Morning by Michael Imperioli and Steve Schirripa

Ever wished you could hang out with the cast and crew of *The Sopranos* and just listen to them trade stories? Well, now you can. Coauthors Imperioli (he played Christopher Moltisanti) and Schirripa (Bobby Bacalieri) started a podcast in which they share memories with castmates and behind-the-scenes people. This book features many of those conversations.

Snapshots of Charlotte County

Entries in the 2023 Libraries and History Photo Contest captured reflections of our community.



Photos by Alexis Carpenter, Megan Madus, Linda O'Neill, Jane McDaniel, K Escobedo, Jane Gayle, Raegan Brown, Matthew Taylor

We were extremely excited to have over 50 participants submit beautiful photos to this year's contest! We only had room to feature a few of these works of art in this issue. Our cover photo was taken by Travis Cozzie, and the back cover photo was submitted by Matthew Taylor. All the photos will be on display at our three open libraries and Centennial Park Recreation Center through April 15. You won't regret stopping by to take a look at all these amazing shots taken by members of our community.

Englewood Charlotte Public Library

3450 North Access Rd. Englewood, FL 34224

Punta Gorda Charlotte Library

401 Shreve St. Punta Gorda, FL 33950

Port Charlotte Library

2280 Aaron St. Port Charlotte, FL 33952

Centennial Park Recreation Center

1120 Centennial Blvd. Port Charlotte, FL 33953

An award reception will take place on April 19 at 6 p.m. at the Port Charlotte Library. Grand prize, second, and third place winners were chosen by community professionals from each age category: adult, teen, and youth. (The grand prize winners appear on the next page.) A people's choice selection will also be awarded based on the public's vote. Enjoy light refreshments and admire the photo display one last time.

Join the fun! Photo programs at the library



Photo Phactory: Digital Photography Classes

Learn photography and editing tips and techniques to enhance your images. All experience levels are welcome!

April 7 - Port Charlotte Library: Dodging and Burning Techniques

This age-old trick lightens or darkens areas to draw the viewer's eye.

April 21 - Gilchrist Park and Ponce de Leon Park: Hands-on Field Trip

The Punta Gorda Charlotte Library Photography Group

Join this friendly group interested in enhancing their photographic skills! Participants are encouraged to share their photos, editing process, and other techniques used. Our goal is to educate, but most of all to HAVE FUN! **The group meets the second and fourth Wednesday of each month from 1 - 3 p.m.**

Adult Grand Prize Winner **Elizabeth Pearsall**

“My photograph, entitled ‘Lone gull at Stump Pass,’ is a black and white depicting a view of Stump Pass a few years ago, before dredging work removed all you see in this image. This is a unique image because it captured an area that is now gone.”



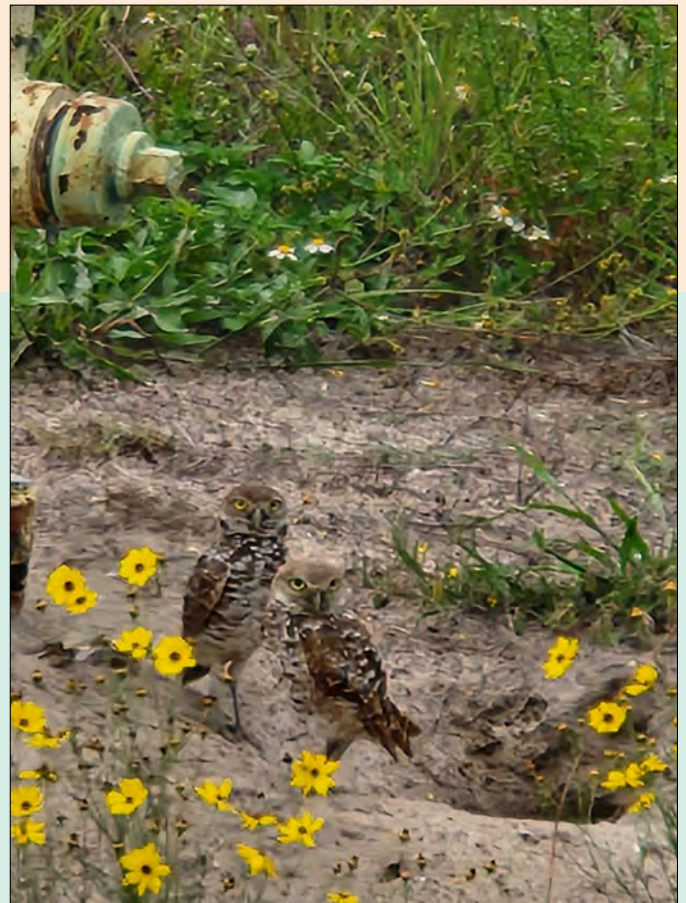
Teen Grand Prize Winner **Maddyson Brannon**

“I took my photo at our fair grounds—captured a pretty moment just to look at and remind myself of the memories made there.”



Youth Grand Prize Winner **Calli Brown**

“I took this picture at my grandma’s house in Placida. I always look for these burrowing owls there because they are so cute and I don’t see them anywhere else.”



Scrub-jays, tortoises, and snakes, oh my!

Every day is Earth Day for Charlotte County's Natural Resources Division.



“Wow, your work is so interesting!” “I get that a lot,” Jason Thompson quips, “But it’s not so interesting when you’re getting stung in the face by bees or you’re out sweating in the hundred-degree heat.” Thompson is Charlotte County’s Land Manager, responsible for maintaining over 6,000 acres of

county-owned parks, preserves, and environmentally sensitive lands, including the idyllic Prairie Creek Preserve pictured above. Maybe it’s not always glamorous, but it sounds like this work might be saving the world.

On a given day, Thompson and his team might be counting fledgling scrub-jays as part of a summer nesting success survey, excavating gopher tortoises whose burrows would soon be destroyed by new construction, or carefully setting a fire to kick off a prescribed burn. The goal? To preserve, protect, and restore our county’s captivating natural environment—including the protected species that live here.

The stakes are high for Florida’s 134 protected species. As our state welcomes droves of new residents—the population of Florida grew by more than 300,000 in 2022—pressures on our natural resources also rise. New development invariably results in habitat loss and increasing contact with native wildlife—encounters that are always more hazardous for the wildlife than for us. Increasing manatee mortality rates, for example, correlate directly to the number of boats registered each year.

Since ecosystems are made of so many interconnected parts, losing a single species can cause unanticipated ripples. Alligators, for instance, were once hunted nearly to extinction. Now that they’ve made a comeback, we’re discovering how these apex predators keep fish and bird numbers in line. They’ll also hunt mammals like squirrels, deer, and those invasive feral hogs that have been causing so much damage lately.

Keystone species are species that have an outsized impact on the other species in their ecosystem. This species may be its environment’s most important food source or a predator that keeps populations of its prey species under control. It may also create ideal habitats for other species. Keystone species are important indicators of the overall health of the environment; the loss of such a species would be catastrophic.

When we focus our efforts on protecting native keystone species, including the Florida scrub-jay, gopher tortoise, and Eastern indigo snake, a multitude of others thrive. The gopher tortoise, pictured above, shares its burrows with 312 different smaller species, each with its own ecological niche. Some of those creatures live nowhere else! This makes it crucial that Land Management identify burrows so construction can avoid the site. If that’s impossible, the tortoise will be moved to suitable habitat nearby.





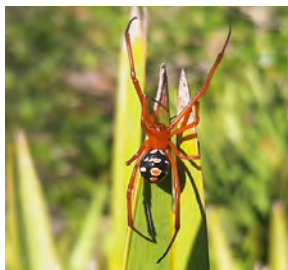
Charlotte County leads the way in conservation efforts for another keystone species, the Florida scrub-jay. Our county was the first to develop a Habitat Conservation Plan for this threatened species.

Prescribed fire is a surprising key component of this plan. “All our habitats have evolved with fire,” Thompson explains. Abundant lightning strikes frequently set



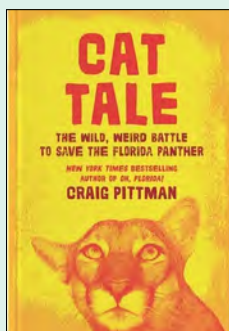
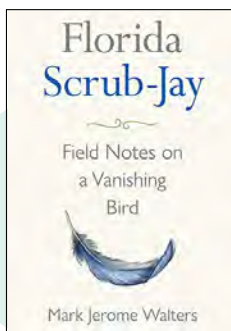
the forest aflame, thinning taller trees and creating grasslands and dry scrub habitat. While we certainly don’t want our towns to burn, fire suppression disrupts this natural purgation. Too many tall trees crowd out the scrubby bushes that are the home of the scrub-jay and give an advantage to the birds of prey that hunt them. The team’s targeted burns are carefully planned and monitored; a longer burn time will thin out pine, while more intense flames can bring down oak. And it’s crucial to keep smoke away from airports, hospitals, and highways. With its habitat restored, the scrub-jay flourishes without further intervention.

Even snakes and spiders? The less cuddly varieties of native Florida fauna also play a vital environmental role. Consider the Eastern indigo snake. It’s harmless to humans but is a hugely beneficial predator of venomous snakes and disease-ridden rodents. While we may be hardwired by evolution to fear snakes, the consequences would be dire if they disappeared. Yes, we must protect them, too.



Charlotte County Environmental specialist David Smith recently documented the presence of another threatened species on Prairie Creek Preserve—the red widow spider. No, he didn’t squash it! This was an exciting sign that efforts to restore the preserve are working. (The invasive brown widow, on the other hand? Squash away!)

We need conservation, too. Despite the challenges, Natural Resources’ work is crucial. We humans also depend on a healthy, balanced environment. Our county’s water supply is naturally pre-cleaned as it filters through Shell Creek and Prairie Creek Preserve. “People’s individual health is better, people are happier, and community health is better when people have natural areas to go to,” Thompson explains. When we live in a healthy ecosystem, we all benefit. So the next time a gopher tortoise crossing results in a slight traffic snafu, don’t get mad—rejoice! Your community is ecologically richer than you realized.



For further reading

Florida Scrub-Jay: Field Notes on a Vanishing Bird by Mark Jerome Walters

Cat Tale: The Wild, Weird Battle to Save the Florida Panther by Craig Pittman

Hoot by Carl Hiaasen

Meet a few of our favorite Florida fauna

The survival of these Charlotte County species depends on our conservation efforts.

Burrowing Owl

This little owl—just 9 inches tall—digs its burrow in open fields, including airports and golf courses. When nesting, it decorates its burrow with feathers and bits of trash. You may know the little ground-dweller from Carl Hiaasen's award-winning novel *Hoot*. The owl is increasingly rare in Charlotte County.



Eastern Indigo Snake

At up to 8 feet, the Eastern indigo snake is the longest non-venomous snake native to North America. These iridescent, blue-black reptiles are harmless to humans and our pets. Instead, they hunt venomous snakes that do pose a threat. Eastern indigo snakes also prey on rats and other rodents, reducing the spread of disease. Neither venomous nor a constrictor, this snake pins its prey against the ground and swallows it whole.



Florida Manatee

A subspecies of the West Indian manatee, this gentle giant can grow to 3,500 pounds in Florida's warm waters. The manatee can hold its breath for up to 20 minutes as it floats along slowly, feeding on vegetation. Seagrass loss has led manatees to starve. As more residents keep boats in Florida waters, manatee mortality also rises.



Florida Scrub-Jay

The brilliantly blue scrub-jay is the only bird found exclusively in Florida. It is a year-round resident of the scrublands found along our state's ancient sandy ridges. The scrub-jay is a family-oriented bird; nestlings are cared for by both parents and older siblings who stick around to help. Prescribed fire thins the taller trees that crowd the scrub-jay's habitat.



Gopher Tortoise

With a top speed of 0.3 mph, the gentle gopher tortoise's best defense is to freeze rather than fight or flee (though you may hear one hiss when startled).

This land-dwelling reptile uses its spade-like claws to burrow as deep as 22 feet in sandy soil, where it welcomes roommates of other species. Predators, including our pets, destroy up to 80% of the tortoise's nests.



The echo of wedding bells

Is there anything more joyful than a wedding? These priceless photos from our archives have us smiling.



This 1921 photo shows the First Baptist Church, built in 1895 in Punta Gorda. The steeple top was lost in a hurricane in the 1920s. The Baptists built a new sanctuary in 1962, and this building was purchased by the Golden Rule Rebekah Lodge for their meeting hall. The building was sold again in 1997 and converted into a bridal wear shop and wedding chapel. It was destroyed by Hurricane Charley in 2004.

The stylish bridesmaids in this photo, dated between 1918 and 1921, are identified as Anna Mae Sikes, Henrietta Farrington and Josephine Ried. The flower girl in front is Dorothy Mobley.

Happy newlyweds Edna Earl Smith Poppell and Clayton B. Poppell were married April 27, 1958 at the First United Methodist Church in Punta Gorda. The bride's embroidered silk organza gown, with scalloped neckline, fitted bodice, and tiered skirt, was sewn by her mother. The groom is wearing a double-breasted suit with a boutonniere matching the bride's bouquet.

Mrs. Mary Fanny Rogers Dewey and her husband, Captain Albert F. Dewey, celebrate their 50th wedding anniversary at their home in 1935. Captain Dewey owned the Charlotte Harbor Stevedore and Lighterage Company. He was also vice president of the Punta Gorda State Bank, a director of the Solana Pinery and the Punta Gorda Ice and Power Company, and Charlotte County's first tax collector. An assassination attempt resulted in the loss of Captain Dewey's leg; the gunman was never caught.



Books written under an author's pseudonym

Authors write under a different name for many reasons. Stephen King started writing as Richard Bachman when his publisher limited him to only one book per year. David John Moore Cornwell had to publish under the pen name John le Carré since he was an agent with MI6 at the time. Others choose to use a pen name when they write in different genres. Below are a few popular authors and their pseudonyms.



Amanda Quick is a pseudonym for Jayne Ann Krentz

When She Dreams: In the aftermath of a marriage wrecked by betrayal, private eye Sam Sage accepts a case from Maggie Lodge, who claims someone is impersonating her reclusive advice-columnist boss. Sparks ricochet uncertainly as a mysterious murder brings this odd couple one step closer to blackmail and a vengeful killer. She also writes as Jayne Castle, which is her real name.

Benjamin Black is a pseudonym for John Banville

The Secret Guests: Ahead of the German Blitz during World War II, English parents from every social class sent their children to the countryside for safety, displacing more than three million young offspring. The British royal family takes this evacuation a step further, secretly moving the princesses to the estate of the Duke of Edenmore in “neutral” Ireland.

Mira Grant is a pseudonym for Seanan McGuire

Parasite: Genetically engineered tapeworms that protect most of the human populace from illness, boost everyone’s immune system, and even secrete designer drugs begin to change. Now they want out of the human bodies they occupy.

J.D. Robb is a pseudonym for Nora Roberts

Encore in Death: In a futuristic New York, celebrity couple Eliza Lane and Brant Fitzhugh are hosting a sumptuous gala event when Brant falls dead after offering a toast, done in by cyanide. Enter Detective Eve Dallas, who’s taking a close look at a laid-off assistant, an angry rival, and an obsessed fan, aware that Brant’s glass of champagne was originally intended for Eliza.

Hint!
Use this list
for #22 on the
Between the
Lines Reading
Challenge.

Ask a librarian: What should I read next?

Not sure what to read next? We'd love to help! Regional librarian Tracy shares how.

As recreational readers, we've all had it happen. We try a new author or series, and we're hooked. We seek out the next book, then the next, until we have binge-read everything that author has ever published. As we savor the final paragraph, we hesitate to close the book because we know that means we must now start anew. For the casual onlooker it would seem an easy enough task, but for the avid reader finding your next great read can be a daunting challenge. No need to worry! Visit the Online Resources page of the Charlotte County Libraries and History website, where help is just a few clicks away.



When you need an expert opinion, try Your Next Five Books: Fill out the “What Should I Read Next?” form to tell us a bit about what you enjoy, and our librarians will choose five great books tailored to your interests. We can even place them on hold for you!

When you want to see what's out there, try Select Reads: Sign up for reading recommendations on topics of your choosing and receive monthly email newsletters. Choose from newsletters with books in a specific genre, age range, or format. You will receive a separate email for all the newsletters you subscribe to.

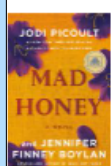
When you're not sure which book comes next, try Fantastic Fiction: Search and browse the complete works of over 50,000 bestselling fiction authors, with all the latest books and series listed in order.

When there's a writer you just can't miss, try Author Check: Sign up to receive an email when your favorite author releases a new book and we add it to the library's collection.

Did you know...

... that if you search our online catalog for one of your favorite books, you're able to find related titles, reviews, and additional information? This is another tool to find your next great read. And, best of all, the recommendations are only books we have in the library collection!

Click the link for **You May Also Like** to see top picks of other books in our collection that you may enjoy!



Mad honey : a novel

Author Picoult, Jodi, 1966- author.

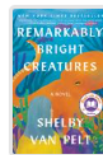
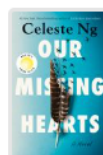
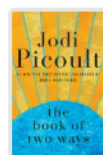
Genre ADULTFIC

Format: Books

Publication Date 2022

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Top Picks





Try it! Watercolors for beginners

Can a book teach you to paint? Tina, our I.T. Coordinator, wants to find out.

Some time ago I decided that I wanted to try painting with watercolors. It seemed like a great way to relax and create something

pretty at the same time. I bought some inexpensive paints and checked out the newly released *Go with the Flow Painting: Step-by-step Techniques for Spontaneous Effects in Watercolor* by Ohn Mar Win.

I've only tried painting once or twice in my adult life, so I'm definitely a beginner. I tried three lessons. Two had decent results—each better than the previous.

First attempt The book included several practice lessons with shapes and curves, but I decided to skip the practice. I wanted to dive right into the more interesting lessons.

The first lesson I tried was a beachy scene with flamingos. My flamingos looked like tall turtles. I got a laugh, but I clearly need more practice with S curves. Maybe I shouldn't have skipped the basics!

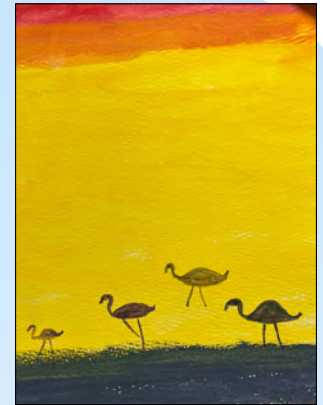
Let's try again My next attempt was a turtle. The result was much better—photo-worthy, even—even though I lacked turquoise paint. My brush was a little too wet, and I had more paint bleed than I needed, but I knew what I did wrong thanks to the instructions.

Maybe plants are easier I moved on to painting flowers. It was hard to let the paint be loose, but once I managed that, the lesson was fun. My flowers turned out cute.

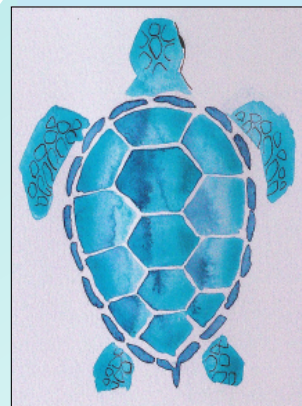
The verdict *Go with the Flow Painting* was easy to understand and has lots of practical advice and instruction. I would recommend it to anyone who wants to learn to paint. I felt like I came a long way in only three lessons! I think I'll try the hot air balloon scene next.



The book's flamingos



Tina's flamingos



The book's turtle



Tina's turtle



The book's asters



Tina's asters



Staff Picks

Finlay Donovan is Killing it

by Elle Cosimano

"Finlay is a typical suburban mom, trying to finish her novel, who accidentally finds herself in the role of a hitman. The story is fast-paced and engaging. You may find yourself laughing out loud at the many outrageous situations Finlay gets herself into and out of, all while managing her children, friendships and divorce. You will be rooting for Finlay before the first book is done, and thank goodness you won't have to say goodbye to her yet! There are two more books in the series: *Finlay Donovan Knocks 'Em Dead* and the recently released *Finlay Donovan Jumps the Gun*."

—Jennifer G., Library technician



The Light Pirate

by Lily Brooks-Dalton

"*The Light Pirate* explores the wilds of nature verses nurture in a very different type of Florida during hurricane season through the eyes of Wanda and her family. I liked that

it had a Sci-Fi vibe, and it touched on generational trauma a bit. It was really a unique read for me. 5 stars!"

—Holly G.,
Youth librarian



The Aftermath: The Last Days of the Baby Boom and the Future of Power in America

by Philip Bump

"*The Aftermath* is an interesting study of the Baby Boomer generation and their influence. Boomers, realizing their power in numbers, reshaped American politics and society. With the Boomer generation coming to an end, how will America look? Will we continue as we are, or will the following generations re-make the world in their own image as the Boomers had done? Whether you agree or not with Bump's assessments, *The Aftermath* is an interesting study. It's worth the time to read the book and think about the questions raised here."

—Neil D., Local history librarian



The Book Eaters by Sunyi Dean

"*The Book Eaters* is a unique fantasy about a mother protecting her son, a rare mind eater, from the control of the sinister "Family"

of book eaters he's born into. I liked that the book had just the right amount of drama and suspense."

—Theresa R., Library technician



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