

Between the Lines

The Charlotte County Libraries & History Quarterly Newsletter

In This Issue...

Fresh new titles hitting the shelves this season

Start your birding adventure in Charlotte County

It's basically a movie: Outstanding audiobooks read by a full cast

Try it! Spring cleaning edition

What's new at a library near you

Staff picks you'll love

Spring 2024



CHARLOTTE COUNTY
Libraries & History



Coming Soon to Our Collection

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

April 23



Funny Story by Emily Henry

Daphne is jilted almost at the altar in a town she moved to just for her now ex-fiancé; he abandoned her for Petra, who left Miles brokenhearted in her wake. Knowing no one else, Daphne moves in with Miles, just to have a roof over her head. Misery loves company but also, it seems, friendship—and something more.

April 02

She's Not Sorry by Mary Kubica

ICU nurse Meghan Michaels works full-time and is a single mom to a teenage daughter, but her life gets even more complex when she gets too involved with a new coma patient named Caitlin. Caitlin is a woman who attempted suicide by jumping from a bridge onto train tracks. But a witness to the incident has come forward with details suggesting Caitlin was pushed. The more invested Meghan gets, the more she puts herself and her daughter in danger.



April 30



The Demon of Unrest by Erik Larson

Erik Larson offers a gripping account of the pivotal five months between the election of Abraham Lincoln and the start of the Civil War. It was a period marked by tragic errors and miscommunications, enflamed egos and craven ambitions, personal tragedies and betrayals. Lincoln himself wrote that the trials of these five months were “so great that, could I have anticipated them, I would not have believed it possible to survive them.”

April 30

Mean Girls [DVD]

In a new twist on the modern classic, new student Cady is welcomed into the top of the social food chain by the elite popular girls, ruled by the conniving Regina George. However, when Cady makes the mistake of falling for Regina's ex, she finds herself in Regina's crosshairs. As Cady sets out to take down Regina with the help of her outcast friends, she must learn how to stay true to herself while navigating the most cutthroat jungle of all: high school.



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

Library Bulletin



Families Learn Together at Suncoast Remake Learning Days

Suncoast Remake Learning Days is a 15-day festival full of hands-on events held at dozens of different venues in our community. It's meant to allow kids and adults to explore creative ways of learning—together!

Art for All Ages 11 a.m. Sat., April 20 - Port Charlotte Library

Dress for a mess and celebrate art in all its forms with local artists and hobbyists. Express yourself as you create something unique!

Earth Day Every Day! 2 p.m. Sat., April 20 - Tringali Community Center

Enjoy earth-themed arts and crafts stations and stroll through the library's new learning garden.

STEMtastic Penguins 4:30 pm. Thurs., April 25 - Port Charlotte Library

It's World Penguin Day! Kids ages 5-12 will explore how penguins survive in one of the world's most extreme environments with hands-on STEM activities.

Free Comic Book Day 3 p.m. Sat., May 4 - Family Services Center

Pick up a free comic book from Reflection Comics, meet local artists, and nerd out in the best ways possible with games, trivia, prizes, and more for ages 5 and up. You can also come dressed in cosplay or wear a t-shirt featuring your favorite character.



SAVE THE DATE! Summer Reading Kickoff Saturday, June 1

Adventure begins at the library! Don't miss our kickoff celebrations full of free goodies, live entertainment, and everything kids and teens need to embark on a summer full of reading adventures.



Intro to Cricut

Learn the basics of crafting with Cricut!

This computer-controlled cutting machine is perfect for designing iron-on patches, vinyl stickers, cards, labels, and more.

We'll provide each participant with a Cricut Joy, a laptop, and tools to use in class.

Register to join one of these hands-on classes at the **Punta Gorda Charlotte Library**. Each class meets twice.

Tuesday class
6 - 7:30 p.m.
April 16 and April 23

Thursday class
11 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.
April 18 and April 25

Space is limited.
Register today!

Ask a Librarian: The print is too small!

The library offers many other formats aside from conventional books. We asked librarian Michele to outline those options below.

The print in books can go from small to very tiny, and it can be a struggle to read for anyone—and even more so for people with a vision impairment. The library has lots of options to keep you reading!

Large Print Most conventional books are published with a font size between 11-13 point type. Large print books tend to use a font size of approximately 16 point, making the words on the page easier to read. Our library has over 6,000 large print books in our collection for adults, teens, and kids, including the newest, most popular titles. This is an increasingly in-demand format for many of our avid readers; we see the holds list on large print new releases rival the holds on the regular print versions.

Another option for larger text is reading eBooks on your tablet, phone, or computer. eBooks have several settings that can help make your reading

experience more enjoyable. You can increase the font size to be quite large, adjust the spacing, or change the font style. You can even change the stark white background to a neutral sepia tone that's easier on the eyes.

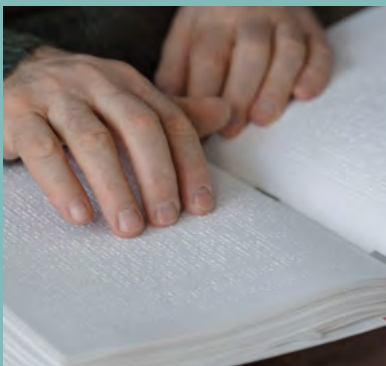


Braille and Talking Book Library

Florida residents who have trouble reading conventional print books may apply for services through Florida's **Bureau of Braille and Talking Book Library**.

You may qualify if you have an eye problem, a reading disability, or difficulty holding a book due to arthritis, stroke, or an accident.

Call 800.226.6075 for more information.



Audiobooks Some people are skeptical of listening to a book, but we have seen this format gain huge popularity in our library recently. While we still have the traditional books on CD, the rise has mainly been seen in our digital audio collections. Most new cars and computers don't come with a CD drive anymore, so digital audiobooks have become the best option. With our **cloudLibrary** and **hoopla** collections, you can download and listen on any device without having to change a disc.

MonoMouse We have **MonoMouse devices** for checkout. This video magnifier, shaped and handled like an oversized computer mouse, enlarges printed text and images when plugged into a television's video jack. Read magazines, books, prescription bottles, newspapers, cooking instructions, food labels, bills, and more.

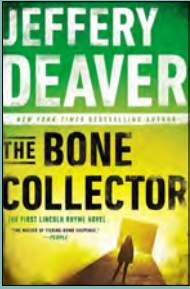
Patrons who have tried them tell us that they like the MonoMouse so much, they've purchased one of their own!

Finally, if we don't have a specific title in the format you require, please request it! We'll do our best to obtain a copy for you.



Windows into Disability

Read from a new point of view! These noteworthy titles tell stories of people living with disabilities.

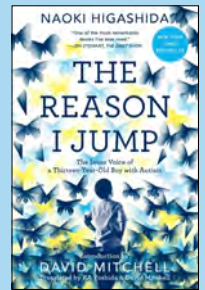


***The Bone Collector* by Jeffery Deaver**

Lincoln Rhyme was the nation's top criminalist, a man who could work a crime scene and construct a perfect profile of the killer, frozen in time. Now, Lincoln is frozen in place—permanently. After an accident left him a quadriplegic who can move just one finger, he's hiding from a life he no longer wants to live. But after seeing a certain intriguing crime report, Lincoln abandons retirement to decipher the ingenious evidence left behind.

***The Reason I Jump* by Naoki Higashida**

You've never read a book like *The Reason I Jump*. It's written by Naoki Higashida, a very smart, very self-aware, and very charming thirteen-year-old boy with autism. His memoir demonstrates how an autistic mind thinks and feels in ways few of us can imagine. Parents and family members who never thought they could understand the mind of their autistic loved one at last have a way to break through to the curious and complex life within.

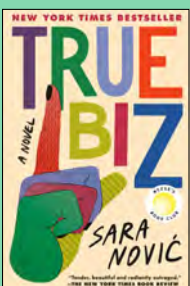
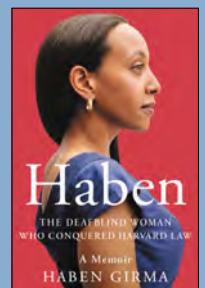


***Wonder* by R.J. Palacio**

August Pullman was born with a facial difference that, up until now, has kept him out of mainstream school. Starting 5th grade at Beecher Prep, he wants to be treated as an ordinary kid—but his new classmates can't get past Auggie's extraordinary face. Told first from Auggie's point of view and expanding to include others, the perspectives converge to form a portrait of one community's struggle with empathy, compassion, and acceptance.

***Haben* by Haben Girma**

Haben is the incredible life story of Haben Girma, the first Deafblind graduate of Harvard Law School. For Haben, disability is an opportunity for innovation. She learned non-visual techniques for everything from dancing salsa to handling an electric saw. Now she uses her talents to advocate for people with disabilities. Warm, funny, and uplifting, this captivating memoir is a testament to one woman's determination to find the keys to connection.



***True Biz* by Sara Nović**

At the River Valley School for the Deaf, new transfer Charlie struggles to adjust, popular Austin faces the birth of a hearing sister, and the students generally just want parents, doctors, and politicians to stop telling them how to live their lives. Then there's headmistress February, who's worried that both the school and her marriage will get closed down. Author Nović is herself Deaf and writes frequently on the Deaf community.

Crazy for Anime: What's the Appeal?

Youth Librarian Ashley G. explains why this genre produces such fervent fans.

What's anime? You'd probably know it when you saw it. Cartoon characters drawn in this distinctive Japanese style have big eyes, pointy chins, and spiky hair. In print, the genre is called manga. On television, it's anime. But don't be deceived by the simplicity of the art. These series have cult-like followings of fans who can't get enough of anime's epic stories, collectible merchandise, and elaborate cosplay.



Captivating stories, relatable characters Weaving together multiple plot lines and character arcs, anime is full of heroic journeys and complex meanings to explore. An anime series creates a whole world for watchers to dive into. There may be hundreds of episodes to binge. It can be hard to resurface!

Teens really connect with anime's protagonists, who are often normal teenagers in extraordinary situations who must use their wits, combined efforts, and special powers to reach a goal. In the popular series *My Hero Academia*, 80% of the population is born with superpowers called "quirks." The main character dreams of being a hero despite having no quirks of his own. His journey is full of fierce battles and loyal friends who help him learn the true meaning of being a hero. Stories like this resonate with teens learning to navigate complex friendships, moral quandaries, and the desire to fit in.



Librarian-approved As a librarian, I see anime as more than just entertainment. Like an epic fantasy novel, anime series provide worlds of escape and self-reflection. There is always some form of growth as you follow the characters through a journey. They inspire fans to write fan fiction, create their own characters, and bravely start their own journeys. The stories anime tells often stay with you. I began watching anime as a teen, and I still remember my favorite characters, arcs, and endings. They have the same value as books, because they tell stories—and their stories often reflect our own!

It also doesn't hurt that anime fans are prone to become ravenous readers of manga, Japanese comic books. Teens love manga because they are action-packed and often beautifully rendered. With busy schedules and not enough time for reading, today's teens enjoy these expansive stories in easy-to-digest portions.



Anime Club With so much to talk about, anime is best shared with friends! The Port Charlotte Library's **Teen Anime Club** and the Punta Gorda Charlotte Library's **Otaku Bunko** both meet the final Wednesday of each month. We enjoy watch parties, gush over our latest anime obsession, and make crafts. Our discussions explore themes like female heroes, school, and comedy. We've tried Japanese soda and candies. When we watched an anime that had ramen in it, we made our own!

Why to try it Like any art form, anime has the power to inspire its viewers. It's a wonderful medium for self-discovery and exploration. The characters are relatable and funny, and they overcome their challenges through hard work and friendship. Why watch anime? In short, it's awesome!

Archives Spotlight

April Fools! These antics from the archives had us laughing out loud.

Who's that dapper little gentleman? This photo from the Mabel Lewis Keys Collection shows a man posing with a small terrier. The dog is costumed, wearing a pair of white eyeglasses and a tiny top hat. We're not sure what occasion this guy is dressed for, but his outfit is sure to impress.



What a frightening fish! This unusual photo shows a “sea monster” created by Bill Sparks in 1937. Sparks was the owner of Sparks' Tackle Store and was given this 500-pound goliath grouper caught by a satisfied customer. After photographing the mammoth fish as a testimonial to the efficiency of his wares, Mr. Sparks affixed cow horns as fangs, added a top-knot, and painted it with polka dots. He then took another picture of the “monstrous fish.” The second shot, at right, was made into a popular post card that sold for five cents.



This c. 1960 photo of Mrs. Lee Harrell in a hobo costume was taken during a sales promotion at the Belk-Lindsey store in Punta Gorda. Family lore tells that Robert Davis, store manager, trailed Mrs. Harrell through the store, suspecting her of shoplifting. It was only as he gently escorted the “bum” to the exit that Mr. Davis realized the shabbily dressed character was actually his own office-mate, the store's assistant manager.



Fantastic Birds and Where to Find Them

Start your birding adventure right here in Charlotte County.

Observing birds can be a satisfying activity for anyone, anywhere, and anytime. Charlotte County's natural areas are full of feathered fauna to be admired by casual birdwatchers and serious birders alike.

What is birding?

The term "birdwatching" refers to the leisurely pastime of observing birds spontaneously with minimal effort, resources, or travel. The similar but distinct term "birding" signifies a more intentional approach involving bird checklists, deliberate study, specialized equipment, and calculated trips.



Red-bellied Woodpecker

Whether you've been wondering about those elegant white egrets or are on a quest to spot the rarest flycatcher, the following are important elements to consider.

Geography Birds may have a very extensive or limited range. It is helpful to know what birds might occur in your area or where you travel. Mallard ducks are common throughout most of the United States. Here in Florida, you're much more likely to see a black-bellied whistling duck.

Habitat Within their geographic range, birds reside in specific habitats such as forests, grasslands, scrub, ponds, rivers, and shorelines, as well as in suburban and urban areas. Your own property entails at least one type of habitat, attracting certain kinds of birds. So if you're looking for a willet, don't head into the woods! You'll find these shorebirds at the beach.

Season Some birds do not migrate and stay in locations year-round, but others migrate and may only appear seasonally in certain regions. Some

birds have distinctive seasonal breeding and non-breeding colors. While the osprey is a year-round resident of Florida, lucky birders might observe the acrobatic dives of the similarly colored swallow-tailed kite for a few weeks in spring.

Time of day A species of bird is usually more active and likely to be seen at specific times of day. Birds can be classified as "diurnal" (during the day), "nocturnal" (during the night), or "crepuscular" (twilight). The roseate spoonbill, for instance, is rather elusive for a bright pink bird, but it's most commonly seen feeding at dawn and dusk.

Appearance There are many varied visual attributes to consider when identifying birds, such as size, plumage, beaks, legs, flight characteristics, age, gender differences, and seasonal changes. The great



Black-Bellied Whistling Duck



Osprey

egret, snowy egret, and juvenile little blue heron are all graceful white birds—but you'll know the snowy egret by its vibrant yellow feet.

Sounds and Behavior Bird vocalizations can be valuable clues to locate and identify birds, particularly if the bird itself is hidden from view. You'll probably hear the whistled "bob-white!" call of the northern bobwhite quail long before you see one. It's also helpful to observe how birds are behaving, such as feeding, flying, perching, swimming, or walking.

With so much to consider, an essential birding tool is a good bird field guide. A physical field guide should be small enough to carry while out in the field but robust enough to survive rough handling. A comfortable set of binoculars is also recommended in order to observe birds at a non-threatening distance.



Northern Bobwhite Quail



Willet

Where should I look?

Florida has a diverse population of wild birds, and Charlotte County has a wealth of public wild areas to explore.

The wide variety of birds calling **Charlotte Flatwoods Environmental Park** home include great horned owls, bald eagles, sparrows, the American kestrel, yellow-bellied sapsuckers, warblers, sandhill cranes, and northern bobwhite.

The boardwalk crossing at **Oyster Creek Environmental Park** offers a view of the birds that utilize Oyster Creek and the surrounding tidal mangroves. The wetlands and mangroves provide habitat for wading birds such as the wood stork, white ibis, roseate spoonbill, little blue heron, reddish egret, snowy egret, limpkin, and tricolored heron.

Looking for the Florida scrub-jay? Try birding at **Tippecanoe Environmental Park**. It's a 380-acre preserve with a diverse

assembly of habitats including coastal hammocks, floodplain forests, salt marshes, and mangrove swamps, as well as the oak scrub and scrubby flatwoods that are home to this rare blue jay. You may be lucky enough to also see an American kestrel, a bald eagle, or even a red-headed woodpecker.

While excitedly searching for and observing birds, always remain respectful of wild birds, animals, and their natural habitat. Do not approach birds or nests too closely. Stay on trails to preserve fragile ecosystems. Always be respectful of other users of parks and nature preserves. And if you're just starting out, don't be intimidated by the giant camera lenses of some experienced birders you'll meet—birds are for everyone!

Birding Backpacks

Start your birding adventure at the library when you borrow one of our new **birding backpacks**, generously donated by the Peace River Audubon Society.

With adult and child-sized binoculars, guidebooks, and more, you'll have everything you need to find some feathered friends.



Audiobooks Read by a Full Cast

Listening to a full cast recording of an audiobook is like watching a movie in your head.

Daisy Jones and the Six by Taylor Jenkins Reid

This remarkable audiobook recounts a seventies rock band's meteoric rise to fame and mysterious fall from grace. Written as a transcribed oral history, it lends itself naturally to the audio format. It's narrated by a star-studded cast; actors Jennifer Beals, Benjamin Bratt, and Judy Greer take the lead roles, and a host of accomplished audiobook narrators portray the supporting cast. The result is a tapestry of memorable characters with electric chemistry and authentic-sounding relationships. It's an unforgettable listening experience.

None of this is True by Lisa Jewell

This mystery opens with the chance meeting of two women. Alix is a podcaster, a married mother who is living a carefree life. Josie appears at first to be a sheltered woman with a disturbing past. As Josie makes her way into Alix's life, her disturbing past takes on an entirely different angle. Narrators Nicola Walker and Louise Brealey embody Alix and Josie in a way that makes the novel frighteningly believable. The other performances add even more drama as the plot twists and turns, making this audiobook a riveting and cinematic listen.

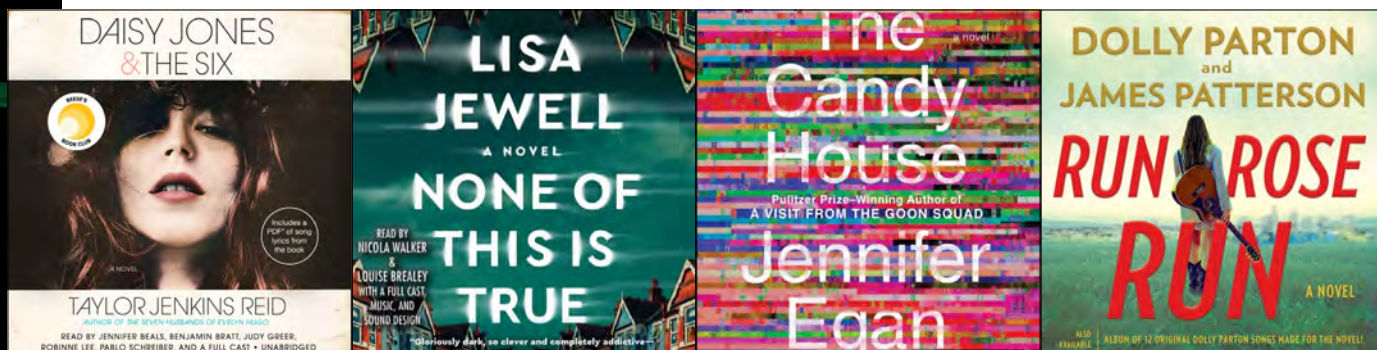
The Candy House by Jennifer Egan

The ensemble performance of this novel is exceptional. Michael Boatman narrates the opening chapter at the right pace with the right intonation. He captures the interior life of the enigmatic Bix, a social media genius who invents the world-altering technology "Own Your Unconscious." Alex Allwine delivers a haunting automaton-like second-person narration, Tyra Lynne Barr embodies the chirpy sound of 13-year-old Molly, and Dan Bittner supplies sharply insightful tone as Ames, whose life story ends this imaginative tour de force.

Run Rose Run by James Patterson and Dolly Parton

This is not your typical James Patterson thriller—it's an entertaining look at the country music industry through the adventures of newcomer AnnieLee. Co-author Dolly Parton herself portrays retired country music superstar Ruthanna with humor, warmth, and attitude. Country music singer-songwriter Kelsea Ballerini voices AnnieLee, who is determined to run from her past all the way to stardom.

Reviews courtesy of AudioFile





Try it! Spring Cleaning

We're freshening up our spaces with a few hacks from Real Simple.

The Real Simple Method to Organizing Every Room offers smart solutions and detailed guidance to help you rein in the chaos, no matter how little time you have. This book helps you take control room by room with handy checklists, hundreds of practical tips, and inspiring photographs.

We asked our staff to try a couple of these tips in the most disorganized areas of their homes. Check out the results below. You may be inspired to tackle a mess of your own!

Kitchen Drawer I decided to take on my dreaded kitchen drawer that had become a catch-all for every item I didn't know what to do with. I liked how this book separated tasks out by the time it would take. They estimated this would take an hour, but I was done much faster. Going through, I was shocked to see how many duplicates of tools I had. I donated some and then found spots for the items that did not belong in that drawer. Now I can see what I have and easily get to what I need, which is refreshing. -Michele, Tech Services



Closet Quick Fix I've been having a busy spring, and there's no time for a total closet overhaul. That's what's great about this book. I found a couple of small tips that made a big difference in my closet—fast!



The “one-in, one-out” rule says that for every new item you bring home, you must discard or donate an old item. So when I bought two new dresses and a skirt, I dug through the deepest part of my closet and found three old things that were taking up space. Honestly, it was hard to say goodbye! But I reminded myself sternly that these items (1) no longer fit and (2) had not in fact been worn a single time since I'd moved into this house. *Adios!* As a nice bonus, I used their hangers for my new clothes. Speaking of hangers, I'm done rifling through a sea of cardigans to find available hangers on laundry day. Now, each time I wear an article of clothing, I move its hanger neatly to the end of the rod rather than leaving it poking out askew. It's so much easier to hang up my clean clothes. -Claire, Tech Services

Cleaning out your bookshelf?

Send books to a good home! The Friends of the Library accept donations of gently used books that can be sold in the library bookstores. The proceeds help keep our programs free for everyone.

What's new at a library near you

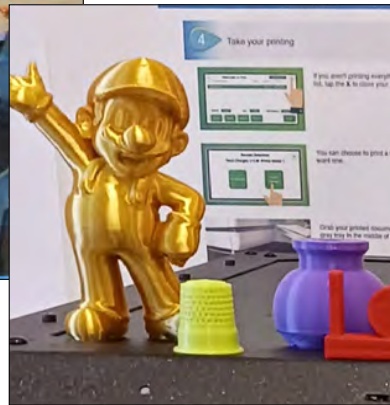
If you haven't visited us lately, stop by! You might be surprised to see what's here.



This new makerspace is overflowing with inspiration

The Englewood Charlotte Library has expanded its makerspace! The popularity of our 3-D printer, sewing machines, and Cricut has grown so much that the creativity simply couldn't be contained in the small room we were using.

The new makerspace is a more inviting and spacious area for kids, kids-at-heart, and the curious to learn how to design and produce amazing creations. We'll show you how to start and where to find design examples of all sorts of things made from plastic PLA, paper, vinyl, felt, and lightweight leather. You can then modify these designs to your liking or make creations from scratch.



Along with the Lulzbot Taz 6 3-D printer and Cricut Explore Air which have been busy producing a wide variety of prints for patrons, visitors, and staff, we've added a state-of-the-art Prusa MK4 3-D printer which is faster, quieter, and offers multi-colored printing.

The new space is also perfect for meetings of crafty communities, like our social sewing and quilting groups.



Something's sprouting...

There's a new learning garden coming to the Englewood Charlotte Library! Staff have been hard at work preparing the raised beds, spreading mulch, and planting seedlings in this new outdoor space. It should make its big debut just in time for Earth Day! Kids and families are invited to visit the garden to learn about seeds, plants, and all kinds of growing things.



A pavilion—and a dream

Thanks to the fabulous generosity of Dr. Barbara Rees and the Gulf Coast Community Foundation, the expansive lawn at the Punta Gorda Charlotte Library is now the site of a brand-new pavilion, equipped with sturdy picnic tables and—importantly—shade.

When Dr. Rees asked Librarian Supervisor Jonathan Westbrook what his branch would need for the future, he shared a vision of making the library's lawn a place where people would come to spend time. The pavilion has already been host to picnicking

families and outdoor library programs. Thanks to the library's free WiFi, it's also a great place to work *en pleine air*. The pavilion is the first step towards creating a truly vibrant outdoor space. (The next step? A reading garden!)

Let's play outside!

The Punta Gorda Charlotte Library's outdoor offerings also include new outdoor games, available for use on the library's 6-acre lawn. These games can be checked out for 4 hours at a time. Thanks to the Friends of the Library for supporting this offering!

Frisbees

Tic-Tac-Toe

Croquet

Giant Jenga

Checkers



What's Cooking? Annual Cookbook

If you've attended any of our popular **What's Cooking?** events, you've experienced firsthand the mouthwatering recipes and kitchen expertise packed into each themed session. This monthly program is a favorite in the Port Charlotte community.

Now, all the recipes, tips, and techniques from the past year can visit your own kitchen. Check out the **What's Cooking? 2023 Annual Cookbook**, now available for checkout. With recipes for appetizers, barbecue, breads, brunch, desserts, pizza, and much more, it's been a delicious year!

Parks that Teach

Take a walk on the wild side ... with a Master Gardener!

Well, maybe not too wild, but you can take a leisurely walk along the “Parks That Teach” corridor of the City of Punta Gorda Pathways. Guided tours will be led by the University of Florida’s Master Gardener volunteers.

What you can learn As you walk through the pathway, you will view unique ecosystems of mangroves, identify trees and shrubs, and learn how these plants can fit into your home landscape. In addition, you will experience habitats that support many different Florida creatures including alligators, wading birds, turtles, fish, raccoons, and crabs.



Your Master Gardener volunteer guide will point out native and non-native Florida Friendly and invasive plants and explain the difference between each. You’ll learn which are good to plant and why. You’ll also hear about the importance of the mangroves as a habitat and the support they provide as nursery grounds for fish, birds, crabs, and other creatures. These remarkable trees are able to survive in low oxygen and saline environments.



How it works Tours begin at the Punta Gorda Charlotte Library at 9:30 a.m. on the first Saturday and the third Wednesday of each month from October through May. The tour will last approximately 90 minutes. Be sure to wear comfortable clothing and shoes.

Make a plan If you’re joining one of our regularly scheduled tours, no registration is needed—just show up! Master Gardener volunteers are also happy to schedule

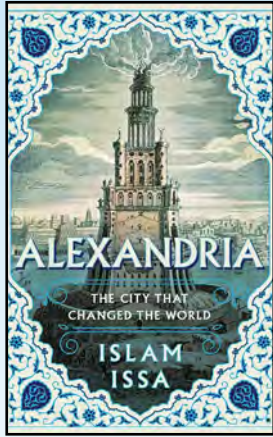
additional tours to accommodate individuals, bicycle groups, doggie groups, or other special groups. Please call 941.764.4340 or email master.gardener@charlottecountyfl.gov for more information.

Who are the Master Gardeners?

The Master Gardener volunteers have completed an extensive training course in gardening sponsored by the University of Florida. They have specialized training regarding the flora along the pathways on this tour. These dedicated volunteers have an interest in gardening and in giving back to their communities, and they are excited to share this special walking adventure with you!



Staff Picks

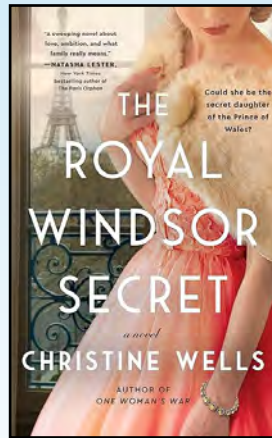


Alexandria: The City That Changed the World

by Islam Issa

"*Alexandria* is a history of the town and library of Alexandria so well written it reads like a story. Delving from the pre-historical past and making its conclusion with today, you will revel in the detail and scope of this fascinating history of the city that was once the center of the world."

—Jonathan W.,
Librarian Supervisor

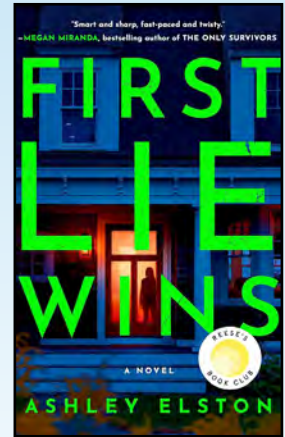


The Royal Windsor Secret

by Christine Wells

"*The Royal Windsor Secret* by Christine Wells is a compelling mystery framed by the influence of the British Empire in the early to mid-1900s. I loved the romance, the exotic locations, and the rare glimpse into the luxury world of jewelry design."

—Tracy H.,
Regional Librarian

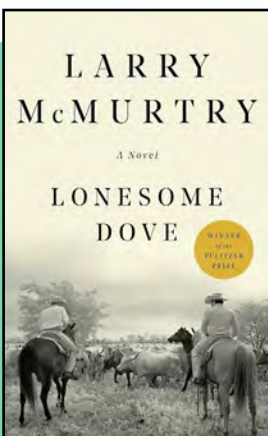


First Lie Wins

by Ashley Elston

"This book kept me guessing until the end! Evie Porter is a professional con artist who works for the mysterious Mr. Smith. After a failed assignment, Evie is unsure if she can trust her boss anymore. She is also starting to like her latest mark, and then a new person appears in town who could reveal Evie's true identity. That's when things really start to get interesting."

—Michele D.,
Technical Services Supervisor



A long read that's worth your while

Lonesome Dove by Larry McMurtry

"A book with nearly 900 pages may be a little intimidating, but McMurtry uses every page of *Lonesome Dove* to tell the story of an epic journey across the American wild west. You'll be immersed in a vast landscape filled with brave men and women who endure incredible hardships. The compelling story will keep you moving forward even when the destination feels unreachable." —Willard B., Library Technician



Facebook



YouTube



Division Homepage

facebook.com/CCLibraries

youtube.com/charlottecountycommunityservices

charlottecountyfl.gov/libraries

Published quarterly by:

Charlotte County Libraries & History

Port Charlotte, FL

941.613.3200



Photo: "Grow through Love" by Jesslyn Howell