

Osprey Library Newsletter –June, 2019

If you did not receive the May newsletter, it is likely because I sent it telepathically and you may not have been tuned into my wavelength. (Admittedly, it is pretty far out on the edge of the dial and can be tricky to pick up.) To make it up to you, June's newsletter is packed with excitement!

"The most all-penetrating spirit before which will open the possibility of tilting not tables, but planets, is the spirit of free human inquiry. Believe only in that." -Dmitri Mendeleev

Introducing Betsi Oliver

I am very pleased to announce that the Osprey Library now has an assistant librarian! Betsi is skilled, friendly, and excited to get to know the wonderful patrons who make the Osprey Library special. Betsi's library background is in rural Vermont, but she is very pleased to be basking in the Florida sunshine. She will be here when I am not, and I know you will enjoy getting to know her, just as I have.

"Scientists normally like to do experiments. You know, they like to mix this with that and see what happens. They like to take this thing and poke it and see how it reacts. In astronomy, we can't do that. The stars, the planets, the galaxies, are so far away that we just look at them, and we have to learn things by looking at them." -Heidi Hammel

Space Out At The Library

This year's summer reading theme is Space: A Universe of Stories. Pick up a summer library event guide and explore the wide range of programs for all ages at library branches across the county.

Stop in for a handy Reading Endeavor flyer—lists of books (with movies to supplement) that explore the summer reading theme from a variety of angles. Interpret the theme literally and read about space exploration and planetary science, enhanced by movies like Hidden Figures, Space Cowboys, or Apollo 13. Explore the universe from a geographic viewpoint and read the 10 best global novels; or make your way through a collection of intriguing memoir and nonfiction from around the world. Go esoteric with a reading list of books and movies that explore a universe of realities. Or turn your mind towards a universe of understanding and cheer/cry your way through inspiring stories of people who have made our world a better place.

"If you see a whole thing - it seems that it's always beautiful. Planets, lives... But up close a world's all dirt and rocks. And day to day, life's a hard job, you get tired, you lose the pattern." -Ursula K. Le Guin

Summer Reading Challenge

Help make Osprey the little library that could! Each library branch in the Sarasota County will be launching a Summer Reading Challenge in pursuit of a community reward. Osprey's challenge is for patrons to log 3000 minutes of reading between June 1 and August 4. Should we succeed in this mission, as I know we will, the library will win a beautiful Mahjong set, as well as other engaging games, a much needed wooden folding table for programs, and an end of summer Game Palace Party. This will allow Osprey to host Mahjong lessons and games, as well as provide ongoing opportunities for patrons to socialize over scrabble, backgammon, and more.

All ages are invited to participate in the reading challenge, and the first 100 patrons to register will receive a Universe of Stories tote bag. Come in and sign up!

"I have seen the movement of the sinews of the sky, And the blood coursing in the veins of the moon." -Muhammad Iqbal

Book & Tea

Contribute to the Summer Reading Challenge by reading the Book & Tea selection and joining us for lively discussion and delicious tea, iced or hot, as you like. June's book is—just to confuse things—*March* by Geraldine Brooks. The discussion is on June 12.

July's selection is one of my favorites, *An American Marriage* by Tayari Jones. The discussion is on July 10.

Book & Tea meets the second Wednesday of each month from 2-3:30 p.m. inside the Osprey Library, and is open to one and all. No registration required.

"What is the good of your stars and trees, your sunrise and the wind, if they do not enter into our daily lives?" -E. M. Forster

Librarians vs The Universe

To liven up the summer reading challenge, Betsi and I will take on all comers in a series of ongoing friendly scrabble matches at the library. Come in and take a turn, we will play our side in between assisting patrons, and our many other mysterious librarian tasks. We promise not to cheat!

“Perhaps when distant people on other planets pick up some wavelength of ours all they hear is a continuous scream.” -Iris Murdoch

Help With Your Technology Needs, Frustrations, and Questions

While many of you have enjoyed technology assistance through the Saturday morning Ask A Teenager program, we will also be offering a Technology in the Afternoon program on several Wednesdays this summer. These programs are offered while the library is closed to the general public so that undivided attention can be given to technology learning. No registration required.

Wednesday, June 5, 2-3:30 p.m. – How to Access E-Books and E-Audios.

It's free using your library card—bring your phone, tablet, or laptop to get personalized help!

Wednesday, June 19, 2-3:30 p.m. – How to Build a Basic Website.

Anyone can do it, no experience required!

Wednesday, July 3, 2-3:30 p.m. – Internet and E-Mail Basics.

Bring your questions, confusions, and curiosity! This is a walk-in program, for one-on-one assistance; bring your own device or use the library computers.

Wednesday, July 17, 2-3:30 p.m. – Online Job Search/Job Application Clinic. All levels welcome.

Wednesday, August 7, 2-3:30 p.m. – Library Apps.

Read books, hear music, watch movies, browse magazines, all digitally and free with your library card!

Wednesday, August 21, 2-3:30 p.m. – How to Access E-Books and E-Audios. Internet and E-Mail Basics.

Bring your questions, confusions, and curiosity! This is a walk-in program, for one-on-one assistance; bring your own device or use the library computers.

“I will love the light for it shows me the way, yet I will endure the darkness because it shows me the stars.” -Og Mandino

A Universe of Questions

Navigate your way to the library for civil summer conversation about big, open questions. As much as porch conversations sound lovely, these will take place inside the library where we can cool off and think straight. The library will be closed to the general public during this program. No registration required.

Saturday, June 8, 2-3:30 p.m. – What are the practical possibilities and ethical concerns for human immigration to space?

Saturday, June 22, 2-3:30 p.m. – What is truth and how/where can it be found? How do we know what “facts” to trust and what media to rely upon; is truth found in science, art, religion, nature...?

Saturday, July 13, 2-3:30 p.m. – What is feminism? What does the term imply? How does it work? Who is it for?

Saturday, July 27, 2-3:30 p.m. – What is the most uplifting thing happening in the world right now?

“When we contemplate the whole globe as one great dewdrop, striped and dotted with continents and islands, flying through space with other stars all singing and shining together as one, the whole universe appears as an infinite storm of beauty.” -John Muir

Kids Making History

The imaginative and fabulous students from Historic Spanish Point’s summer camp are livening up the library this summer, participating in library-sponsored activities and enjoying some afternoon reading time. Have a look at their notes about how they are part of history and how they want to make history, posted on the library door.

“All adventures, especially into new territory, are scary.” -Sally Ride

Thank You

On my one-year anniversary of being your librarian, I want to say thank you for making my job one that I look forward to every day. You all make the Osprey Library a vibrant, interesting, meaningful, quirky, unique, and lovely place!

“We are all of us stars, and we deserve to twinkle.” -Marilyn Monroe

(Quotes are included as food for thought, and do not necessarily reflect the opinion of your librarian, the library system, or Sarasota County.)