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# MARION COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY

Headquarters-Ocala Branch 2720 E. Silver Springs Blvd. Ocala, FL 34470 352-671-8551



Find the Library on **FACEBOOK** and TWITTER!

# ON THE COVER

This stunning image of underwater statues by Mark Emery serves to remind us that there are vast oceans of opportunities everywhere you look.

READ. LEARN. CONNECT. At Your Public Library.





Marion County Board of County Commissioners and is funded by them through general funds. WORDS newsmagazine is funded by the Friends of the Ocala Public Library, Inc.





# OCEANS OF **POSSIBILITIES**

# **@ YOUR LIBRARY**

"I love you more than all the salt in the ocean!"

y parents and grandparents used to say this to my sisters and me on a regular basis. I never got tired of hearing it because, as a kid growing up in Ft. Lauderdale, FL and regularly going to the beach, this declaration had great meaning to me. When my family said this, the vastness of the ocean, the endless horizon, the relentless waves and the strong saltiness of the water all rolled together to convey a sense of never-ending, all-enduring love. I pondered these feelings and memories as I thought about the theme for the 2022 Summer Reading Program, "OCEANS OF POSSIBILITIES."

At your public library, the possibilities are endless! Whatever your reading interests, (intent to learn something new or connect with others), your library opens up "Oceans of Possibilities" for all ages. Your public library offers

> literally thousands of books, magazines, e-books, newspapers, databases and audiobooks. Add into the mix a variety of programs and classes, volunteer opportunities, access to professional librarians and various other services such as public computers, WiFi, voter registration and public printing. An endless opportunity for exploration awaits everyone!

Are you thinking of a career refresh? Use our career development collection in e-book and hard-copy formats. Want to learn a new language? Check out our Pronunciator database from the comfort of your own home. Pronunciator offers 163 languages that can be learned in one of 143 native or "home" languages. Are you seeking age-appropriate learning

opportunities over the summer to battle "Summer Slide"? Attend children's story time and special events at all library locations.

This summer there really are "Oceans of Possibilities" at your public library. You may just love it "more than all the salt in the ocean!"









# MARY **EMERY**

# THE VOICE OF ALASKA'S **SALMON FISHING INDUSTRY**

BY ERIN ARNOLD

almon are a big deal in Alaska. This summer, biologists estimate 66 million salmon will swim upstream from Bristol Bay. The state will issue 1,600 licenses for commercial fishing and 30 companies will set up to process the salmon that are caught.

Tune into Alaskan radio for news and weather on summer days and you will hear very important announcements

about the very important fish. These daily announcements, which are recorded by Fish and Wildlife Technician III Mary Emery, tell the salmon fishermen when they can fish. Folks in the region who tune their radios to the broadcasts know her as "the voice."

After graduating from college in Missouri with a degree in marketing, Emery took time off to travel. "I wanted to travel for a while and then I figured I'd be involved in business somehow," she says. She found seasonal work here and there, until a friend who was working as a park ranger in Alaska reached out to her. That spring, the Exxon Valdez oil tanker had struck a reef in Prince William Sound. Spilling more than ten million gallons of crude oil into the sound, it is still regarded as one of the worst environmental disasters in history. Cleanup efforts lured a lot of hospitality





Mark and Mary Emery



workers to accept high-paying jobs. Many tourist destinations, like Brooks Lodge in Katmai National Park, were looking to hire new staff right away. And, Mary joined their team. "If you have seen photographs of grizzly bears catching fish over a waterfall, you have seen Brooks Lodge," says Emery. She met her husband Mark, now a worldrenowned wildlife photographer, when he was guiding fishing trips for lodge guests. "One summer turned into 30 years," laughs Emery.

Though Ocala is her home base, Emery returns each summer to Alaska. While Mark guides fishing excursions and films wildlife documentaries, Mary works full time at the Alaska Department of Fish and Game, commonly called the "fishery." The salmon season runs from June through August, but June and July are the busiest months. For five full weeks, she works seven days a week.

Scientists, biologists and technicians work together to gather data from the field to share information about the

salmon. From a field office in King Salmon, Emery works hard managing three of the state's five fishing districts, which include small family operators and large commercial outfits, fishermen out on drift boats and those that set nets onshore. More than 60,000 people count on the Alaska Department of Fish and Game for vital information and announcements about the salmon. As the team tracks and counts the salmon, they manage an escapement goal for the fish. This goal represents the number of fish that make it upriver past the fishing nets to survive and spawn next season. This goal is key to sustaining



the fish population and securing the livelihood of so many in Alaska.

"We have to take care of our environment," Emery says. "So far the sockeye salmon have not been affected by rising sea temperatures, but it is part of the web of life in Alaska. If you take out one element, it effects everything down the line."

As "the voice," Emery records an announcement each day, one message per district. You can call her office to hear the recording or tune in to radio stations that play the announcement, which signals when the fishery is open and also shares biological information about the fish.

"The job is dynamic," Emery says. "Every day the work changes and you have to be on top of things. There are surprises." For example, at one time an unpredicted tide let 250,000 fish upriver. When the escapement goal for the season is 1.2 million fish, you don't want that in one tide. It hurts biodiversity," she says.

When Emery isn't working at the fishery, she enjoys exploring the rich environment she helps to protect. After the peak of the fishing season, you'll find her sport fishing, hiking, visiting with friends and flying airplanes. Before heading home to Ocala, Mary and Mark sometimes like to stop by Brooks Lodge where they first met and admire Alaska's champion fishers, the bears. W

# MONSTERS OF THE DEEP

BY STACEY MOYE AND KIMBERLY DREXEL

ccording to Dr. James Gardner, we know more about the surface of the moon than we do about the bottom of the sea. The mysteries that lurk beneath the waves have captured our imagination for centuries. The most frightening of monsters live in the gaps in our knowledge, the spaces of the unknown. It is only through exploring these uncharted realms that we can discover the monsters of the deep.

# THE KRAKEN BECOMES THE GIANT SQUID

Sailors told tales of a colossal beast, capable of dragging an entire ship beneath the waves with a passion for going after lone ships at sea. Kraken legends from Norway likely came from sightings of giant squids, which can grow over 50 feet long. While they are probably not large enough to pull a fishing vessel under, these squids are still mighty impressive. Until rather recently, giant squids were only able to be studied from specimens that washed ashore or were caught in fishermen's nets. In 2012, a living, breathing giant squid was actually caught on film by a research group from Japan's National Science Museum.

## **DIVING INTO DARING KRAKEN NARRATIVES?**

Try to save the world yourself by checking out "Night of the Kraken" by Jonathan Green. This Dr. Who adventure is written in a gamebook style, where you choose what happens next.

Let someone else take the helm with "Sea Change" by S.M. Wheeler. In this fantasy novel, Lilly and Octavius the Kraken form the most unlikely friendship. When traders capture the beast for the circus, Lilly must navigate a dangerous world and pay a terrible price to save him.

# MEGALODON: THE FISH, THE MYTH, THE LEGEND

What was 50 feet long, had 276 teeth and prowled prehistoric oceans? A megalodon of course! Weighing up to 50 tons, these giant sharks chowed down on large fish, whales and even other sharks. You don't have to worry about meeting one face-to-face because megalodons likely went extinct at least 3.6 million years ago. Or did they?

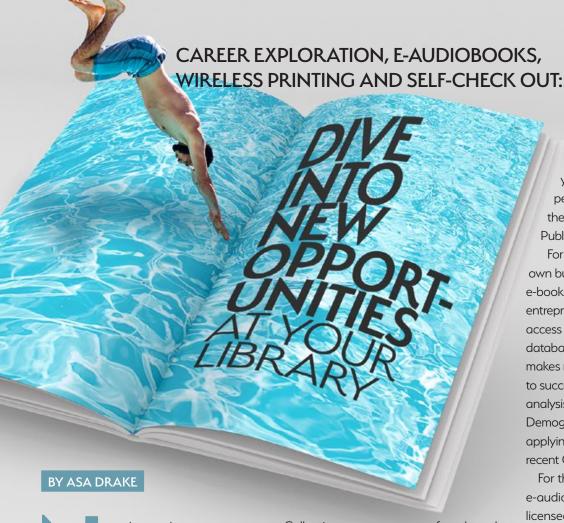
Author **Steve Alten** explores the idea of the behemoth predator roaming modern day oceans in his thrilling series, "**Meg."** When a submersible dive to the Mariana Trench accidentally goes wrong, a vicious megalodon shark is freed from the depths. Can the shark be captured before it wreaks havoc? **T** 



of the deep? Check out these online resources:

• theconversation.com • ocean.si.edu

• nhm.ac.uk



ow that we have your attention, what do all of these items have in common? All are included in the (Florida) American Rescue Act Plan (ARPA) grant funding that the Marion County Public Library System received this year. A wonderful line-up of library materials and added technology are available or soon to be available at your public library.

Considering a new career, additional educational opportunities or even a new business venture? Marion County Public Library System has the tools you need to confidently navigate the job market and beyond.

Check out a wide selection of digital career resources from the comfort of home with the new Overdrive Career Development Collection.\* Whether you're perfecting your interview skills, mastering Microsoft Office Suite or practicing for the licensing exam to become a registered nurse, the Career

Collection can prepare you for a broad range of possibilities.

Seeking career changes but not sure what kind of change might be right for you? For recent graduates, Kirk Snyder's "Finding Work You Love: 3 Steps to Getting the Perfect Job After College" offers practical steps toward identifying entry level positions that complement personal strengths. When considering the benefits of a new position and the new skills you might gain, remember to "appreciate the value you possess right now" to understand the intrinsic value you have in the workplace.

Jennifer Turliuk advises mid-career job seekers to shadow and volunteer with potential employers. In her vocational guide, "How to Figure Out What to Do with Your Life (Next)," Turliuk says, "all that really matters in your career decisions is you and what you want, and ideally, what positive impact you want to have on the world." With so many companies seeking new talent, make sure to seek out

opportunities to get to know local businesses. You might find that your personality makes you the perfect match with an employer at the Community Job Fair at Belleview Public Library on July 20!

For patrons considering starting their own businesses, startup guides and e-books are only the beginning. Every entrepreneur in Marion County has access to high quality data through library databases. Gale Small Business Collection makes market research easy with access to successful business plans and SWOT analysis of well-known businesses, and Demographics Now is the ideal tool for applying Simmons Product Profiles and recent Census data to local markets.

For those who love listening to e-audiobooks, your public library has licensed over 1,600 new book titles for your listening enjoyment. Special emphasis was placed on filling gaps with series and adding works by popular authors.

New technology provided by grant funding is coming very soon and will include wireless printing system-wide, as well as self-checkout kiosks at six library locations. Library patrons will soon be able to send items to be printed to a library from their laptop or digital device. And for those who wish to bypass checkout lines for library materials, new self-checkout kiosks will offer solutions and options for library patrons.

No matter what opportunities rise to the surface, the Marion County Public Library System is ready to help you chart the best course to meet your personal interests and career goals.

\*This project was funded under the provisions of the DLIS Florida American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) from the Institute of Museum and Library Sciences. DLIS Florida ARPA program is administered by the Department of State's Division of Library and Information Services.

# **OCEANS OF POSSIBILITIES:**

# The Discoveries of JACQUES COUSTEAU

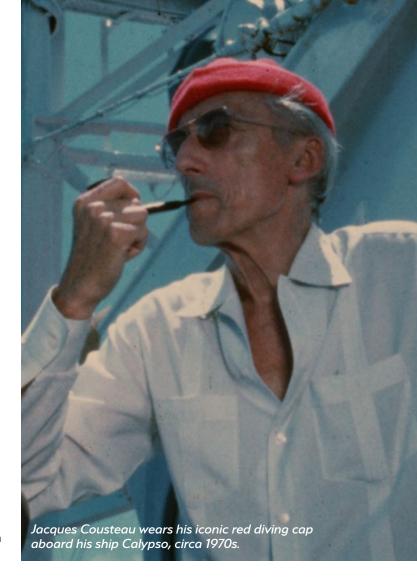
BY CATE O'BRIEN

ooking at the world around us, we often reflect upon the purely awe-inspiring natural wonders our planet contains. Globally, we've made significant strides in learning more about the delicate, and often fragile, ecosystems of both land and sea. This knowledge comes from the work of those who have committed their time, resources and heart, to enhancing our understanding of our planet.

Jacques Cousteau was one of those amazing individuals who eagerly shared his love and knowledge of the sea and its inhabitants. He helped pioneer the exploration of the oceans and sea depths, inventing many diving and scuba devices. In 1953, he began publishing a series of books describing all the wonders he'd experienced while conducting his extensive underwater research.

Cousteau's work as an undersea explorer, photographer and researcher, as well as his documentary films, made him a household name. His book "The Ocean World," is a comprehensive encyclopedia of the undersea world that provides the reader with a visual record of an ecosystem, teeming with life. In addition to vivid photographs of life within the oceans, it also provides us with maps and descriptions of the fascinating world below the surface.

As an avid reader of his works, I still recall the wonder I experienced from his book "Octopus and Squid: The Soft Intelligence." Seeing these soft-bodied creatures through his eyes, my perception was altered forever. Descriptive words like squishy and slimy that I might have used were forever changed to graceful, mysterious and intelligent.



**66** All life is part of a complex relationship in which each is dependent upon the others, taking from, giving to and living with all the rest."

- JACQUES COUSTEAU

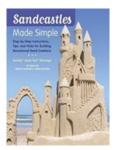
Throughout his life of study and research, Jacques Cousteau knew that humans must learn to conserve and protect the fragile ecosystems of the Earth because its destruction causes a negative ripple effect to all lifeforms. In "The Human, the Orchid, and the Octopus: Exploring and Conserving Our Natural World," he gives us an impassioned insight into the natural world in which we live, calling upon us all to preserve its wonders for future generations.

Jacques Cousteau's legacy is the shared knowledge and wisdom he gathered that remains available for us all to discover and explore.  $\P$ 

# Sand Sculptures

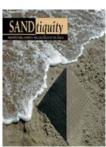
BY FREEDOM PUBLIC LIBRARY STAFF

hen you live in a state surrounded by water, the beach is the perfect vacation spot. Now that summer is upon us, think about a trip to relax with your family and friends. Once you arrive at the beach, why not try to make a sand sculpture? While a sand castle is the quintessential sculpting experience, there are many more options out there. Sand sculptures can vary from amateur dribble creations to larger-than-life works of art! Whether you want to create a sand sculpture of your own, be transported to a beach by a picture book, or marvel at other people's large-scale creations in person, we have resources for you!



# "Sandcastles Made Simple" by Lucinda

**Wierenga** is available in print and as an ebook through Freading. With the <u>Freading</u> app there is never a wait, so you can start planning your next sandcastle now! The book really provides insight into how much thought and effort is involved with these creations. The book includes color photos to illustrate the directions and tips the author provides.

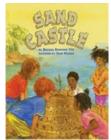


If you are looking for more inspiration than instruction, "SANDtiquity: Architectural Marvels You can Build at the Beach" by Malcolm Wells, Kappy Wells and Connie Simo may be the read for you. Taking ideas

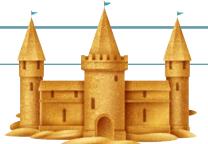
from many be the read for you. Taking ideas from monuments and landscapes around the world, the many photographs will have you thinking beyond the traditional castle.



If you'd rather be moved by picture books about sand castles, our Children's collections have you covered! "Super Sand Castle Saturday" by Stuart J. Murphy, features classic sand castles with moats and walls. The setting is used to teach about units of measurement.



"Sand Castle" by Brenda Shannon Yee begins with one child building a sand castle, attracting more and more children to help on additional elements of the sand castle as time passes. The story ends with their happy, exuberant destruction of their creation.



If reading about sand castles makes you want to see the real thing, there are several sand sculpting contests around the state to visit:

# **APRIL**

Pier 60 Sugar Sand Festival, Clearwater Beach

# MAY

Siesta Key Amateur Sand Sculpture Contest, Siesta Key

# **OCTOBER**

The Annual Schooners Sand
Sculpting Contest at Schooners
Lobster Festival & Tournament,
Panama City Beach

# **NOVEMBER**

Siesta Key Crystal Classic,

Siesta Key

Ovations Sand Sculpting Competition and Music Festival,

Treasure Island

American Sandsculpting
Championship, Fort Myers Beach



# spotlight spotlight

You may attend many of our programs virtually. Contact the listed Marion County Public Library for more information.

# FREEDOM PUBLIC LIBRARY

Thursdays 3:30 p.m. Young Reader's Dinner Theatre 4:30 p.m. meal FOREST PUBLIC LIBRARY

-:----

Fridays 10:30 a.m. Family Flicks and More 12:30 p.m. meal

# **Marion County Reads**

Visit any library location, check out library materials and get a chance to win great prizes! Prize drawings will be held on Friday, July 29 at the Headquarters-Ocala Public Library. Winners will be notified by phone. One entry slip per library card per visit is allowed.

All ages, all library locations June 6-July 22

# **Finders Keepers**

There's treasure hidden at each library location. Find one of our geocaches and take some treasures with you! View the Marion County Public Library System's geocache holdings at <a href="https://www.geocaching.com">www.geocaching.com</a> or ask a librarian about getting started. The hunt is on!

Ongoing at all library locations

# **Virtual Summer Reading Event**

Thursdays, 4 p.m. Belleview, Forest and Headquarters-Ocala public libraries

Headquarters-Ocala public libraries

Spend time with your favorite

authors at this live, virtual event!

Made possible by Baker & Taylor, Children's and Teen
Services, Scholastic and Random House Children's Books.

June 16 R. L. Stine https://bit.ly/SRPStine22 July 14 Mary Pope Osborne

https://bit.ly/SRPOsborne22

# **FAMILIES**

# **Corrugation Station**

We all live in a cardboard submarine! Let's build it! Come early for lunch!

Headquarters-Ocala Public Library Wednesday, June 1, 12:30-2 p.m.

# Young Reader's Dinner Theatre

A star is born...and it's you! Bring scripts to life with other budding actors. After the program, dinner is served!

Freedom Public Library Thursdays, June 2-July 28, 3:30 p.m.

## **Heroes Wanted!**

Interested in exploring worlds and defeating evil monsters in turn-based, tabletop gameplay? Discover the basics of gameplay with the highly skilled Ocalian Knights. All levels of experience welcome. Co-sponsored by the Ocalian Knights and Zeneration Media. Registration recommended.

Belleview Public Library Saturday, July 23, 1-3 p.m.

# **Under-the-Sea Scavenger Hunt**

Walk through an underwater wonderland of fun and discovery. Find the hidden treasures and make them your own!

Dunnellon Public Library Saturday, July 30, noon



# **Swashbuckling Pirate Party!**

Avast, me hearties! A pirate adventure awaits, ye lads and lasses. Shiver me timbers!

Reddick Public Library Saturday, July 30, 1 p.m.

# **TEENS**

# **Under-the-Sea Party!**

Get in the "end-of-vacation" mood and groove like a hot crustacean band. We got no troubles! Life is the bubbles!

Belleview Public Library Tuesday, July 26, 1:30 p.m.

**FOOD & FAMILY FUN** 

BREAK SPOT

# **Summer BreakSpot**

June 1-July 29

Make memories every weekday and all summer long. Bring your family to one or all library locations, do something fun and let your kids, ages 1-18, enjoy delicious BreakSpot meals. Check out this menu of offerings!

BreakSpot meals are USDA sponsored in partnership with the Shores Assembly of God. This institution is an

#### **REDDICK PUBLIC LIBRARY**

equal opportunity provider.

Mondays

3:30 p.m. Oceans of Possibilities 4:30 p.m. meal

**BELLEVIEW PUBLIC LIBRARY** 

Tuesdavs

10 a.m. Family Flicks

noon meal

FORT MCCOY PUBLIC LIBRARY

Wednesdays

10:30 a.m. Oceans of Possibilities noon meal

HEADQUARTERS-OCALA
PUBLIC LIBRARY

Wednesdays

11 a.m.-4 p.m. Oceans of Possibilities\* noon meal

\*Special program June 1, 12:30 p.m.

# **DUNNELLON PUBLIC LIBRARY**

Thursdays

3 p.m. Oceans of Possibilities 4 p.m. meal

# **ADULTS**

# Talking Local History with the Leitner Sisters

Discover the fascinating backstory of northwest Marion County through the reflections and findings of our local expert historians. See library listing for topics.

Reddick Public Library Mondays, June 6 & July 18, 10:30 a.m.



# **Mer-mazing Memories**

Travel back in time and have conversations with models who appeared in Bruce Mozert's iconic photographs of Silver Springs and Paradise Park.

Moderated by Dave Schlenker, local newspaper and

magazine columnist.

Headquarters-Ocala Public Library
Thursday, July 28, 3 p.m.

# **MEET THE AUTHOR**

# Brown Bag Luncheon with Lee Gramling

Bring your bag lunch and visit with the author of the "Cracker Western" series set in frontier Florida. Beverage and dessert provided. Contact the library at 352-438-2566 to reserve a piece of the pie!

Reddick Public Library Thursday, July 14, noon

# **BOOK CLUBS**

Make new friends and talk about books! Join most groups in-person or, if you like, request access via Zoom. For virtual programs, call the listed library to receive access. Attend one or all!

# **Books and Coffee**

Mondays, 10:30 a.m. Fort McCoy Public Library

June 6 "Angela's Ashes" by Frank McCourt

July 11 'All the Light We Cannot See"

by Anthony Doerr

Aug. 1 "Before She Disappeared" by Lisa Gardner

As the Page Turns

Tuesdays, 2:30 p.m. Freedom Public Library

June 7 "The Light Between Oceans" by M.L. Stedman

July 5 "Camino Island" by John Grisham

Aug. 2 "The All-Girl Filling Station's Last Reunion" by Fannie Flagg

# **Forest Readers**

Wednesdays, 10:30 a.m. Forest Public Library

June 8 "Ocean Prey" by John Sandford

June 22 "20,000 Leagues Under the Sea" by Jules Verne

July 13 "Pachinko" by Min Jin Lee

July 27 "The Ocean Between Us" by Susan Wiggs

Aug. 10 "The Guest List" by Lucy Foley

Aug. 24 "Truly, Madly, Deeply" by Karen Kingsbury

## Let's Talk Books

Mondays, 10:30 a.m. Reddick Public Library

June 13 Reader's Choice.

July 11 "20,000 Leagues Under the Sea" by Jules Verne

Aug. 8 "Sahara" by Clive Cussler

# Novels at Night

Tuesdays, 4 p.m.
Dunnellon Public Library

June 14 "The Golden Ocean"

by Patrick O'Brian

July 12 "The Devil and the Dark Water"

by Stuart Turton

Aug. 9 "To Sleep in a Sea of Stars" by Christopher Paolini

# Novels at Night (VIRTUAL ONLY)

Tuesdays, 4:30 p.m.

Headquarters-Ocala Public Library

June 14 "The Perfect Storm" by Sebastian Junger

July 12 "The Island of Sea Women"

by Lisa See Aug. 9 "Golden Girl"

by Elin Hilderbrand

### **Novels at Noon**

Wednesdays, noon

Marion Oaks Public Library

June 15 "The Island of Sea Women" by Lisa See

July 20 "Summer of '69"

by Elin Hilderbrand

Aug. 17 "The Light Between Oceans" by M.L. Stedman

# **Power Hour**

Tuesdays, 10:30 a.m. Belleview Public Library

June 28 "The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks" by Rebecca Skloot

July 26 "The Sun is Also a Star"

by Nicola Yoon

Aug. 23 "Something in the Water"
by Catherine Steadman

# HEADQUARTERS-OCALA

2720 E. Silver Springs Blvd., Ocala, FL 34470 352-671-8551

Programs are made possible by contributions from the Friends of the Ocala Public Library



# Summer BreakSpot

Wednesdays, noon, June 1-July 27

Free meals and fun times for children ages 1-18. Lunch and program fun! Wednesdays are wonderful!

See Program Spotlight for other locations and times. Sponsored by the USDA and provided by Shores Assembly of God.

# **SPECIAL PROGRAMS**

# **Virtual Summer Reading Event**

Thursdays, 4 p.m.

Spend time with your favorite authors at this live, virtual event!

See Program Spotlight for more locations. Made possible by Baker & Taylor, Children's and Teen Services, Scholastic and Random House Children's Books.

June 16 R. L. Stine

https://bit.ly/SRPStine22

July 14 Mary Pope Osborne

https://bit.ly/SRPOsborne22

# Racing Potential: Equine Sport Medical Care

Tuesday, June 21, 2 p.m.

University of Florida College of Veterinary Medicine's Dr. Sally DeNotta discusses common sports injuries for horses and state-of-the-art equine medical care, including cold water spa treatment, now available through the UF Veterinary Hospital at World Equestrian Center.

This live, virtual event is held in-person at the library or call to receive an invitation.

words summer2022

# **Mer-mazing Memories**

Thursday, July 28, 3 p.m.

Conversations with the mermaids of Silver Springs and Paradise Park.

Moderated by Dave Schlenker, local newspaper and magazine columnist. See Program Spotlight for more information.

# **ADULTS**

# **Tech Help**

Wednesdays, 2-3:30 p.m. June 1-Aug. 31

Have a technology question? We'll try to find the answer!

## **Crafternoons**

Wednesdays, 4:30 p.m.

Get in touch with the right side of your brain!

June 1 Seashell Wire Jewelry July 6 Iris Paper Folding Aug. 3 Paper Roll Art



# The Monday Matinée

Mondays, 2 p.m.

Movies for adults. Anyone younger than age 13 must be accompanied by an adult.

June 6

June 13

June 20

June 27

July 11

July 18

July 25

# Florida Water 101

Thursday, June 30, 3 p.m.

Interested in saving money and water? A Florida-friendly landscape is the key. Presented by UF/IFAS Extension Marion County.

# **Walrus from Space**

Thursday, July 14, 2 p.m.

The World Wildlife Fund and British Antarctic Survey have put out a call for walrus detectives. Join this crowdsourcing effort to locate walruses using satellite technology.

# Green Up Your Clean Up

Thursday, July 21, 3:30 p.m.

Clean house with these environmentally friendly and sustainable products, as demonstrated by the experts!

# **Taylor Time: Almost Marion**

Friday, July 29, 3 p.m.

Disney, University of Florida, the state capital and more! Explore the alternate history of Marion County with librarian Taylor Benson.

# **BOOK CLUB**

Make new friends and talk about books! Our system-wide book club offerings are listed under Program Spotlight. Attend one or all! If participating virtually, call for access.

# Novels at Night (VIRTUAL ONLY)

Tuesdays, 4:30 p.m.

June 14 "The Perfect Storm"

by Sebastian Junger

July 12 "The Island of Sea Women"

by Lisa See

Aug. 9 "Golden Girl"

by Elin Hilderbrand

# **TEENS**

# **MANGAlicious Teen Club!**

Thursdays, 4:30 p.m., June 2, July 7, Aug. 4 Anime and manga fans, unite!

## Fab Lab

Fridays, 4 p.m.

Chart a new course with a new medium. All skill levels welcome.

June 24 Cartography at the End of

the World

July 22 Fandom Passport

# YALLA!

Tuesdays, 4:30 p.m.

June 28, July 26, Aug. 23

Be a part of the library experience! Earn volunteer hours for service.

# **CHILDREN**

# **Corrugation Station**

Wednesday, June 1, 12:30-2 p.m.

We all live in a cardboard submarine! Let's build it! Come early for lunch!

#### Oceans of Possibilities

Wednesdays, 11 a.m.-4 p.m., June 8-July 27

Ahoy, mateys! Sail into summer with a variety of stories, crafts and games. Plus, children can enjoy lunch! Wednesdays are wonderful!

# Oceans Recycled

Saturdays, 10 a.m.-noon, June 25 & July 23

Old crafts revisited. New crafts explored. Who knows what will wash ashore?

# **SEASIDE STORY TIMES**

June 7-July 28

A variety of stories, songs and activities for children and caregivers.

# **Guppy Tales**

Tuesdays, 10:30 a.m. Ages Birth-2 years

# **Sea Star Stories**

Thursdays, 10:30 a.m. Ages 3-5.



13145 SE Highway 484, Belleview, FL 34420 352-438-2500

Programs are made possible by contributions from the Friends of the Belleview Public Library



# Summer BreakSpot

Tuesdays, noon, June 7-July 26

Free meals and fun times for children ages 1-18. Come early for the movie and stay for lunch!

See Program Spotlight for other locations and times. Sponsored by the USDA and provided by Shores Assembly of God.

# SPECIAL EVENT

# **Community Job Fair**

Wednesday, July 20, 11 a.m.-2 p.m.

Looking for a career opportunity? Start here! Co-sponsored by the City of Belleview.

# SPECIAL PROGRAMS

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## **Heroes Wanted!**

Saturday, July 23, 1-3 p.m. All ages. Registration recommended.

All levels of table-gaming experience welcome.

See Program Spotlight for more information. Co-sponsored by the Ocalian Knights and Zeneration Media.

# **ADULTS**

# Tech Help

Thursdays, 2-4 p.m., June 2-July 28 Have a technology question? We'll try to find the answer!

#### Master Gardener Plant Clinic

Fridays, 10 a.m.-1 p.m. June 3 & 17, July 1 & 15, Aug. 5 & 19

The plant doctors are in! Presented by UF/IFAS Extension Marion County.



# Just Another Mah-Jongg Monday!

Mondays, 1 p.m., June 6-July 25 Learn and play with other enthusiasts.

# Tuesday Movie Matinée

Tuesdays, 1 p.m.

Movies for adults. Anyone younger than age 13 must be accompanied by an adult. And the winner in the Best Picture category is...

June 7

June 14

June 21

June 28

July 5

July 12

July 19

July 26

### Writer's Studio

Wednesdays, 2:30 p.m. June 8, July 13, Aug. 10

Writers of all levels share information and encouragement. If participating virtually, call for access.

# Mindful Eating

Wednesday, June 29, 10:30 a.m. Registration recommended.

Discover ways to beat cravings and

manage weight by savoring the experience. Co-sponsored by the Florida Department of Health in Marion County.

## The ABC's of Dementia

Wednesday, July 6, 11 a.m. Call 352-422-3663 to register.

Debbie Selsavage, president of Coping with Dementia LLC, presents the basics of Alzheimer's disease and other forms of dementia and techniques for becoming a better care partner.

# **BOOK CLUB**

Make new friends and talk about books! Our system-wide book club offerings are listed under Program Spotlight. Attend one or all! If participating virtually, call for access.

# **Power Hour Book Club**

Tuesdays, 10:30 a.m.

June 28 "The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks" by Rebecca Skloot

July 26 "The Sun is Also a Star"

by Nicola Yoon

"Something in the Water" Aug. 23 by Catherine Steadman

# **TEENS**

# YALLA South!

Tuesdays, June 7 & July 5, 1:30 p.m. Thursday, Aug. 4, 4:30 p.m.

Be a part of the library experience. Earn volunteer hours for service.

# **MANGAlicious Teen Club**

Tuesdays, June 21 & July 19, 1:30 p.m. Thursday, Aug. 18, 4:30 p.m.

Anime and manga fans, unite!

# **Under-the-Sea Party!**

Tuesday, July 26, 1:30 p.m.

We got no troubles! Life is the bubbles! See Program Spotlight for more great adventures!

# **FAMILIES**

# **Family Flicks**

Tuesdays, 10 a.m.

Movies for the whole family. Anyone younger than age 13 must be accompanied by an adult. Come for the movie, stay for lunch!

June 7

June 14

June 21

June 28 July 5

July 12

July 19

July 26



# Oceans of Possibilities

Thursdays, 10:30 a.m.

Ahoy, mateys! Sail into summer with a variety of stories, crafts and games.

Patriot Service Dogs June 2

June 9 Dive into Fire Safety

Splish-Splash! Water Safety June 16

June 23 Silver River Museum June 30 **Brilliant Bats** 

July 7 Buovancy Boovah!

July 14 Ocala Cannibals Roller Derby

July 21 Arthropod Petting Zoo

# Games on a Table

Tuesdays, 4 p.m., June 7-July 26 Play classic and contemporary tabletop games!

# Knights of the Chess Club

Tuesdays, 4 p.m., June 7-July 26 Learn and play chess!

# **STORY TIME**

# Stories by the Lake

Wednesdays, 10:30 a.m., June 29 & July 13 Belleview Community Center 5615 SE 110 Place, Belleview

A variety of stories, songs and activities for young children.

20351 Robinson Road, Dunnellon, FL 34431 352-438-2520

Programs are made possible by contributions from the Friends of the Dunnellon Public Library.



# Summer BreakSpot

Thursdays, 4 p.m., June 2-July 28

Free meals and fun times for children ages 1-18. Come early for the program, stay for dinner!

See Program Spotlight for other locations and times. Sponsored by the USDA and provided by Shores Assembly of God.

# SPECIAL PROGRAM

# **Under-the-Sea Scavenger Hunt**

Saturday, July 30, noon

Walk through an underwater wonderland of fun and discovery. Find the hidden treasures and make them your own! See Program Spotlight for more great adventures!

# **ADULTS**

# **Yarn Lovers**

Wednesdays, 10 a.m. June 1-Aug. 3

Make new friends while learning some new stitches!

# **Friday Flicks**

Fridays, 3 p.m.

Movies for adults. Anyone younger than age 13 must be accompanied by an adult.

June 3 June 10 June 17

June 24

# Fly-Tyers Club

Mondays, 1 p.m. June 6-July 25

Learn the art of luring fish!

# Tech Help

Tuesdays, 11 a.m.-noon June 7-Aug. 30

Have a technology question? We'll try to find the answer!

# **BOOK CLUB**

Make new friends and talk about books! Our system-wide book club offerings are listed under Program Spotlight. Attend one or all! If participating online, call for access.



# Novels at Night

Tuesdays, 4 p.m.

July 12

June 14 "The Golden Ocean"

by Patrick O'Brian "The Devil and the Dark

Water" by Stuart Turton
Aug. 9 "To Sleep in a Sea of Stars"

by Christopher Paolini

# **TEENS**

# **YALLA West!**

Tuesdays, 4:30 p.m. June 7, July 5, Aug. 2

Be a part of the library experience. Teens, earn volunteer service hours.

# **FAMILIES**

# Oceans of Possibilities

Thursdays, 3 p.m.

Ahoy, mateys! Sail into summer with a variety of stories, crafts and games. After the program, dinner is served!

June 2 Sand Art June 9 Beachcomber Bingo June 16 3-D Underwater Art June 23 Whose Fin Is It Anyway? June 30 Sea Shell Painting July 7 Where's Whaley? July 14 Ocean in a Bottle July 21 Squid Racing

July 28 Underwater Sun-Catchers

# FOREST PUBLIC LIBRARY

905 S. Highway 314A, Ocklawaha, FL 32179 352-438-2540

Programs are made possible by contributions from the Friends of the Forest Public Library.



# **Summer BreakSpot**

Fridays, 12:30 p.m., June 3-July 29

Free meals and fun times for children ages 1-18. Come early for the program, stay for lunch!

See Program Spotlight for other locations and times. Sponsored by the USDA and provided by Shores Assembly of God.

# SPECIAL PROGRAM

# Virtual Summer Reading Event

Thursdays, 4 p.m.

Spend time with your favorite authors at this live, virtual event!

See Program Spotlight for more locations. Made possible by Baker & Taylor, Children's and Teen Services, Scholastic and Random House Children's Books.

June 16 R. L. Stine

July 14

https://bit.ly/SRPStine22 Mary Pope Osborne https://bit.ly/SRPOsborne22

# **ADULTS**

# **DIY Art**

Wednesdays, 10:30 a.m.
Express yourself through art!

June 1 Bottle Cap Art
July 6 Sand Art in a Bottle

# **Tech Help**

Thursdays, 2-3 p.m., June 2-Aug. 25 Have a technology question? We'll try to find the answer!

# **Yearning for Yarn**

Tuesdays, 2 p.m., June 7-Aug. 2 Make new friends while learning

some new stitches!

# **Writers Studio**

Thursdays, 4 p.m., June 9, July 14, Aug. 11

Writers of all levels share work and encouragement.

# **BOOK CLUB**

Make new friends and talk about books! Our system-wide book club offerings are listed under Program Spotlight. Attend one or all! If participating virtually, call for access.

# **Forest Readers**

Wednesdays, 10:30 a.m.

June 8 "Ocean Prey" by John Sandford
June 22 "20,000 Leagues Under the
Sea" by Jules Verne
July 13 "Pachinko" by Min Jin Lee
July 27 "The Ocean Between Us"
by Susan Wiggs
Aug. 10 "The Guest List" by Lucy Foley
Aug. 24 "Truly, Madly, Deeply"

# **TEENS**

# YALLA East!

Thursdays, 5 p.m., June 16, July 21, Aug. 18
Be part of the library experience.
Earn volunteer service hours.

by Karen Kingsbury

# **FAMILIES**

# **Family Flicks**

Fridays, 10:30 a.m.

Movies for the whole family! Anyone younger than age 13 must be accompanied by an adult. Come for the movie, stay for lunch!

June 3 June 17 July 1 July 15 July 29

# **Oceans of Possibilities**

Wednesdays, 2:30 p.m.

Ahoy, mateys! Sail into summer with a variety of stories, crafts and games.

June 8 Kick-Off Cook Out! June 15 Pirates, Ahoy!

Dolphins, Whales and Sharks! June 22

July 29 Float Your Boat! Amazina Mermaids July 6 July 13 Jumpina Jellyfish! July 20 Sea Monsters Mayhem July 27 Seaside Celebration!

# **Summer Family Fun**

Fridays, 10:30 a.m.

Create and play! Come for the action, stay for lunch!

**Board Games** June 10 Art on the Porch June 24 July 8 Video Games July 22 Art on the Porch

# Rock Art!

Saturday, 2 p.m. June 18 & July 16

Make waves with ocean-themed rock art!

14660 NE Hwy 315, Fort McCoy, FL 32134 352-438-2560

Programs are made possible by contributions from the Friends of the Ocala Public Library



# Summer BreakSpot

Wednesdays, noon, June 1-July 27

Free meals and fun times for children ages 1-18. Come early for the program, stay for lunch!

See Program Spotlight for other locations and times. Sponsored by the USDA and provided by Shores Assembly of God.





# **ADULTS**

# Monday Matinée

Mondays, 3 p.m.

Movies for adults. Anyone younger than age 13 must be accompanied by an adult.

July 11

# Tech Help

Tuesdays, 3 p.m. June 7-Aug. 30

Have a technology question? We'll try to find the answer!

# **BOOK CLUB**

Make new friends and talk about books! Our system-wide book club offerings are listed under Program Spotlight. Attend one or all! If participating virtually, call for access.

# **Monday Books and Coffee**

Mondays, 10:30 a.m.

June 6 'Angela's Ashes"

by Frank McCourt

"All the Light We Cannot See" July 11

by Anthony Doerr

Aug. 1 "Before She Disappeared"

by Lisa Gardner



# YALLA Northeast!

Saturdays, 1 p.m. June 11, July 9, Aug. 13

Be part of the library experience. Earn volunteer service hours.

# **FAMILIES**

# Oceans of Possibilities

Wednesdays, 10:30 a.m. June 1-July 27

What's in that treasure chest? Octavia the octopus will find out! After the program, lunch is served!

# STREAM Dreams

Saturdays, 11 a.m.

Science + art=fun for the whole family!

June 4 Secrets of the Sea! July 2 Buoyancy Booyah!

# FREEDOM PUBLIC LIBRARY

5870 SW 95th St., Ocala, FL 34476 352-438-2580

Programs are made possible by contributions from the Friends of Freedom Public Library.



# Summer BreakSpot

Thursdays, 4:30 p.m. June 2-July 28

Free meals and fun times for children ages 1-18. Come early for the program, stay for dinner!

See Program Spotlight for other locations and times. Sponsored by the USDA and provided by Shores Assembly of God.

# SPECIAL PROGRAM

# Young Reader's Dinner Theatre

Thursdays, 3:30 p.m. June 2-July 28

A star is born... and it's you! Bring scripts to life with other budding actors. After the program, dinner is served!

See Program Spotlight for more BreakSpot times and programs.

# **ADULTS**

# **Tech Help**

Fridays, 3-4 p.m. June 3-July 29

Have a technology question? We'll try to find the answer!

# The ABC's of Dementia

Thursday, June 16, 11 a.m. Call 352-422-3663 to register.

Debbie Selsavage, president of Coping with Dementia LLC, presents the basics of Alzheimer's disease and other forms of dementia and techniques for becoming a better care partner.



# Friday Matinée

Fridays, 2:30 p.m.

Movies for adults. Anyone younger than age 13 must be accompanied by an adult.

June 10 July 8

# **BOOK CLUB**

Make new friends and talk about books! Our system-wide book club offerings are listed under Program Spotlight. Attend one or all! If participating virtually, call for access.

# As the Page Turns

Tuesdays, 2:30 p.m.

June 7 "The Light Between Oceans"

by M.L. Stedman

July 5 "Camino Island"

by John Grisham

Aug. 2 "The All-Girl Filling Station's

Last Reunion" by Fannie Flagg

# **TEENS**

# YALLA Free!

Thursdays, 5 p.m. June 9, July 14, Aug.11

Share pizza and ideas and earn volunteer hours for service. Good times!

# MANGAlicious

Teen Club!

Tuesdays, 4:30 p.m. June 14, July 12, Aug.9 Anime and manaa

fans, unite!

#### SharkFest

Tuesday, July 19, 4 p.m.

Watch the water because it's going to be JAW-some!

# **ALL AGES**

# Games on a Table

Wednesdays, 3:30 p.m. June 1-July 27

Play classic and contemporary tabletop games!

# FAMILIES

# Oceans of Possibilities

Wednesdays, 11 a.m.

Ahoy, mateys! Sail into summer with a variety of stories, crafts and games.

June 1 Seashells by the Seashore

June 8 Super Sea Senses
June 15 Sink or Float?

June 22 Shiver me Timbers!
June 29 Light Up the Deep Sea

July 6 Totally Turtle Fun!

July 13 Sea Slime July 20 Treasure Hunt

# MARION OAKS PUBLIC LIBRARY

294 Marion Oaks Lane, Ocala, FL 34473 352-438-2570

Programs are made possible by contributions from the Friends of the Marion Oaks Public Library

# SPECIAL PROGRAM



# Water and Your Garden

Saturday, June 18, 2 p.m.

From rain barrels to hydroponics, Master Gardener Sheldon discusses optimal water use for gardeners.

# **ADULTS**

# Tech Help

Fridays, 10:30 a.m.-noon, June 3-Aug. 26

Have a technology question? We'll try to find the answer!

# **BOOK CLUB**

Make new friends and talk about books! Our system-wide book club offerings are listed under Program Spotlight. Attend one or all! If participating virtually, call for access.

### **Novels at Noon**

Wednesdays, noon

June 15 "The Island of Sea Women"

by Lisa See

July 20 "Summer of '69"

by Elin Hilderbrand

Aug. 17 "The Light Between Oceans"

by M.L. Stedman

# **TEENS**

#### YALLA OAKS!

Saturdays, noon June 11, July 9, Aug. 13

Be a part of the library experience! Earn volunteer hours for service.

# **MANGAlicious Teen Club!**

Tuesdays, 4:30 p.m. June 21, July 19, Aug. 16

Anime and manga fans, unite!



# **Oceans of Possibilities**

Wednesdays, 4 p.m.

Ahoy, mateys! Sail into summer with a variety of stories, crafts and games.

June 1 Seashells by the Seashore
June 8 Happy Ocean Day!
June 15 Under the Sea
June 22 Shiver me Timbers!

June 29 Islands in the Sea
July 6 Sink or Float?

July 13 Mermaids, Myths and Monsters
July 20 Welcome to Camp Half-blood

# REDDICK <u>PUBLIC LIB</u>RARY

15150 NW Gainesville Road, Reddick, FL 32686 352-438-2566

Programs are made possible by contributions from the Friends of the Ocala Public Library.

# BREAK SPOT

# **Summer BreakSpot**

Mondays, 4:30 p.m.

June 6-July 25 \*No BreakSpot July 4

Free meals and fun times for children ages 1-18. Come early for the program, stay for dinner!

See Program Spotlight for other locations and times. Sponsored by the USDA and provided by Shores Assembly of God.

# SPECIAL PROGRAM

# Swashbuckling Pirate Party!

Saturday, July 30, 1 p.m.

Avast, me hearties! A pirate adventure awaits, ye lads and lasses. Shiver me timbers!

See Program Spotlight for more great adventures!

# **MEET THE AUTHOR**

# **Brown Bag Luncheon with Lee Gramling**

Thursday, July 14, noon

Bring your sandwich and visit with the author of the "Cracker Western" series set in frontier Florida. Beverage and dessert provided. Reservation required.

# **ADULTS**

# **Talking Local History with the Leitner Sisters**

Mondays, 10:30 a.m.

Discover the fascinating history of the area.

June 6 Florida Frontier Forts

July 18 Lochbie, Orange Lake, Proctor

# **Tech Help**

Tuesdays, 1-2 p.m. June 7-Aug. 30

Have a technology question? We'll try to find the answer!

# **Marion County Veterans Services**

Saturday, June 11, 10 a.m.-noon Reservations recommended.

Free benefits briefing for veterans. Reserve a spot and get your questions answered.

# **BOOK CLUB**

Make new friends and talk about books! Our system-wide book club offerings are listed under Program Spotlight. Attend one or all! If participating virtually, call for access.

# Let's Talk Books

Mondays, 10:30 a.m.

Talk about books with the aficionado of phrase, Jim Stroup! Donuts and coffee provided.

June 13 Reader's Choice

July 11 "20,000 Leagues Under the Sea" by Jules Verne

Aug. 8 "Sahara" by Clive Cussler

# TEENS

# YALLA North!

Saturdays, 1 p.m. June 4, July 2, Aug. 6

Share pizza and ideas and earn volunteer hours for service. Good times!

# **FAMILIES**

# Oceans of Possibilities

Mondays, 3:30 p.m.

June 6-July 25 \*No program July 4

Ahoy, mateys! Sail into summer with a variety of stories, crafts and games. After the program, dinner is served!

# OCEANS OF POSSIBILITIES

# **EXHIBITS & DISPLAYS**

# Headquarters-Ocala Public Library

June Photography by David MacKenzie

July Ice Cream Memorabilia by Jim Phillips

August Country Road Quilters

# **Belleview Public Library**

June PEZ Dispensers from Kendall Hirst July Antique and Vintage Toy Collection

Paintings by Judith Kaiser

August Wood Carvings by the Spruce Creek

Wood Carving Club

# **Forest Public Library**

June Photography by JaiJai

July American Independence by
Jacqueline Provancher

August Charcoal Drawings by

Rebecca Koontz

# Freedom Public Library

June Tons of Turtles by Stephanie Fraysier
July History of Ice Cream by Jim Phillips
August Handmade Crafts by Luke Mullen





# LIBRARY CLOSED DAYS & HOLIDAYS

# Independence Day

Monday, July 4

All library locations closed.

# Training/Maintenance Day

Friday, Aug. 12

Headquarters-Ocala, Forest and Marion Oaks Library System locations closed.



# FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY

Friends of the Belleview Public Library
No meetings June, July, or Aug.

Friends of the Dunnellon Public Library
No meetings June, July or Aug.

Friends of the Forest Public Library
No meetings June, July, or Aug.

Friends of Freedom Public Library

Mondays, 10:15 a.m. June 6, July 5, Aug. 1

BOOK SALE July 9 & 11, Aug. 27 & 29

Friends of the Marion Oaks Public Library

Friday, June 17, 10 a.m. No meetings July & Aug.

Friends of the Ocala Public Library

Thursdays, 4 p.m., June 16, Aug. 18

# **AT YOUR SERVICE**

# **Access Florida Assistance**

Help provided with filing for various government assistance programs.

Forest Public Library Tuesdays, 10:30 a.m.-noon

# **CareerSource Citrus Levy Marion**

Job seeker services available! Call your nearest library for schedule and locations.

# Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS)

Visit <u>www.uscis.gov</u> or call 1-800-375-5283 to schedule an appointment at your local library with an official for the USCIS Orlando Field Office.

# Florida Diagnostic & Learning Resources System

Free screenings for children birth through age 5 who may have difficulty with learning, speaking, playing, seeing, walking and hearing. Screening appointments may be held at your local library. Contact ChildFind at 352-671-6051 to schedule.

# **Mobile Health Unit**

Get healthy close to home with the Florida Department of Health in Marion County! Immunizations, health screenings and more provided for all ages. Contact the Belleview, Dunnellon, Forest, Fort McCoy and Freedom public libraries for information about scheduled library stops.



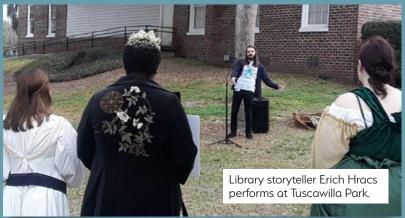




















# BOOKMARKS

NEWS & NOTES FROM THE FRIENDS OF THE OCALA PUBLIC L

# The READ-A-THON is Here!

Join us for our third annual Read-A-Thon, scheduled for August 6 in the lobby of the Ocala Headquarters branch. Volunteers will be reading selections from the classic Florida saga A Land Remembered by Patrick Smith, the best-selling novel ranked #1 as Best Florida Book eight times! Amazon describes the book as "...a rich, rugged Florida history featuring a memorable cast of crusty, indomitable Crackers battling wild animals, rustlers, Confederate deserters, mosquitoes, starvation, hurricanes and freezes to carve a kingdom out of the swamp. But their most formidable adversary turns out to be greed, including finally their own. Love and tenderness are here too; the hopes and passions of each new generation, friendships with the persecuted blacks and Indians and respect for the land and its wildlife."

We need individuals to read and we need organizations to act as sponsors for our Read-a-Thon. To volunteer to read a selection or to sponsor readers, contact Joe Kays at kays.joe@gmail.com This entertaining event provides fun for the readers and listeners, while helping to provide funds for library programming and other services to serve the public. Be one of the readers or just join the fun by watching and listening to others read. It promises to be a wonderful event!



# **BOOK MARKET TREASURES**

Have you visited the Book Market lately? Did you know that there are children's books, technical books, novels, books about religion, historical books and so many more in our Book Market? And did you know that when you make purchases at the Book Market, every cent goes back to the Library for programming and other Library needs? The Book Market volunteers will be more than happy to help you make your selections.

Here are our new hours of operation:

Monday: 10 a.m. – 4 p.m. • Tuesday: 10 a.m. – 4 p.m. Wednesday: 1 – 5 p.m. • Thursday: 10 a.m. – 4 p.m. Friday: 10 a.m. – 4 p.m. • Saturday: 11:30 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.

# **August Book Sale**

Welcome back to our quarterly Book Sale! Due to the pandemic, we have been unable to go full swing with our book sales. Now it's time to share with you all of the magnificent books that we have amassed!

Our Quarterly Book Sale will have paperbacks for 25¢ and hard covers for 50¢. Lots of bargains will be available! All funds earned will be used for library programs at the Headquarters-Ocala, Reddick and Fort McCoy library locations.

FRIDAY, AUG. 5

11 a.m. – 2 p.m. ● Friends members only 2 – 4 p.m. ● General public

SATURDAY, AUG. 6 10 a.m. – 2 p.m. • General public

(Note that Friends are allowed to visit early. To become a Friend of the Library, complete a membership application online at <u>friendsoftheocalalibrary.org</u> or visit the Book Market.)



# **Marion County Public Library System**

2720 E. Silver Springs Blvd., Ocala, FL 34470

library.marionfl.org

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profile

# **Mark Emery**

BY ERIN ARNOLD

ark Emery has spent most of his life on or *under* the water. An award-winning wildlife filmmaker and fishing guide, his profession takes him all around the world.

Emery inherited a love of nature from his father. As a young man, he got a job at Silver Springs, milking rattlesnakes and wrestling alligators with Ross Allen and captaining glass bottom boats. He learned about photography and filmmaking from local legends Jordan Klein, Sr. and Bruce Mozert, who pioneered underwater photography. With Klein, Emery cut his teeth filming alligators and manatees which led to making shark shows for the Discovery Channel in the 1980s.

Fast-forward through Emery's career, and he has achieved legendary status. He has filmed wildlife in more than 35 countries, composed 320 soundtracks for films and television shows, published photographs in *National Geographic*, the *London Times* and *Newsweek*, and received two Emmy awards. In 2021, Emery was honored with a star on the Ocala Film Foundation's Walk of Fame in front of Ocala's historic Marion Theatre.

Emery's stunning camerawork can be seen in the upcoming National Geographic's series "America the Beautiful" streaming on Disney+ on August 22. Keen observers will notice a lot of "Ocala stuff" in the trailer. In one scene, Emery patiently camped in a filming blind for 56 days for the perfect footage of an alligator lunging at a deer on the bank of the Silver River. To accomplish the shot, Emery worked with engineers at speaker manufacturer Bose to create a device that "talks" to alligators, mimicking how they bellow and create waves underwater.

Emery is proud to have such a beautiful location basically in his backyard. He says with a smile that at Silver River, "You can spot wild turkeys, manatees, white-tailed deer, alligators and in reality you're only fifteen minutes from Walmart."



In Alaska, where Emery and his wife Mary spend their summers, life is much more remote. While Mary manages the world's largest salmon fishery, "telling 60,000 fisherman what to do," Emery follows the salmon. When he is not filming or scouting locations for other filmmakers, Emery guides avid fishermen like Olivia Newton-John and the governor of Alaska 300 miles from the nearest town and "near the grizzly bears where the fishing is good."

Though his finished films give audiences a "romantic impression of what went well," Emery confides that his work is hard. "I'm holding 1,800 pounds of gear, including a half-million-dollar camera with a lens that takes four hours to change, standing on the foot of a helicopter, attached to a monkey strap. Drones don't work with critters," he says with a grin.  $\Omega$