



BETWEEN THE PAGES

Plattsmouth Public Library, 401 Ave A, Plattsmouth, NE 68048
Phone 402-296-4154 Fax 402-296-4712

Volume 27 Issue 5

May 2026

MARK YOUR CALENDARS!
COME KICK OFF THE LIBRARY'S
2026
SUMMER
READING
PROGRAM WITH US!

THURSDAY
MAY 28TH
5-7 PM

FOAM PARTY!
5:30-6:30 PM

RHYLANDER PARK
PLATTSMOUTH

FOOD & BEVERAGES
WHILE SUPPLIES LAST!

ACTIVITIES
FOR THE WHOLE
FAMILY TO ENJOY!

FUN, MUSIC & GOOD TIMES!

BUBBLES. BOOKS. BIG ADVENTURES.
LET'S MAKE THIS SUMMER UNFORGETTABLE!

Grow Cook Eat gives in-depth gardening tips

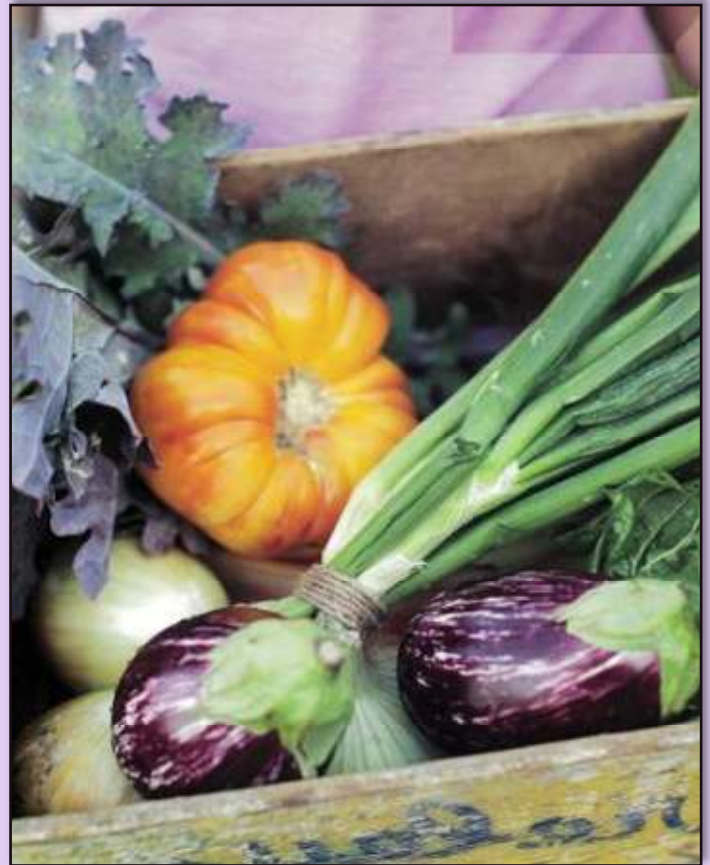
Patti Jo Peterson



Once the weather hits a consistent 60-70 degrees F, many of us start thinking about sprucing up the lawn and replanting the garden.

For the past two years, my garden (a 5-foot by 8-square-foot plot in my back yard), has not done well. The booms from my zucchini plant disappeared seconds after they appeared. My Big Boy tomato plant never bore any fruit.

My rosemary was blocked from the sun by



SEE GROW: PAGE 3

Thérèse Jarjura's Tabbouleh

**SERVES 4 AS AN
APPETIZER OR SIDE DISH**

Ingredients

- 1/2 cup course bulgar
- 1/2 cup fresh freshly-squeezed lemon juice, including pulp from 3 small lemons
- 3 medium slicing tomatoes, cut into small cubes with their juice
- 1 and 1/2 packed cups of finely chopped fresh flat-leaf parsley
- 6-8 spearmint leaves, finely chopped or 1 tsp dried
- 2 scallions, white and green parts finely chopped
- 1 tsp freshly ground black pepper
- 1/3 cup extra-virgin olive oil
- 1/4 cup cold water

This is an authentic Lebanese recipe. It was often scooped in spoonfuls into romaine lettuce leaves and served.

Directions:

Place the bulgur in a large bowl. Pour the lemon juice, including any pulp, over the bulgur. Set aside for about 10 minutes.

Combine the remaining ingredients in a medium bowl, then stir into the bulgur. Set aside for 2 hours or until the bulgur has softened to your preference. Taste and adjust seasonings, adding more salt, pepper, lemon juice or olive oil as desired. Serve at room temperature. The tabbouleh keeps if refrigerated for 2 or 3 days.

From page 2: Recipes included in Grow Cook Eat book



the cherry tomatoes, so all and all, my produce was non-existent, except for the hundreds of cherry tomatoes growing on the vines.

This winter, I told myself I would only plant herbs: rosemary, sage, basil and well, more rosemary. With grocery prices rising yet

again, however, I may have to try a few more vegetables.

Lacking any good experience, I looked at the library's collection of gardening books. One that particularly drew my attention was Willi Galloway's *Grow, Cook, Eat: A Food Lover's Guide to Vegetable Gardening*.

In her introduction, Galloway explains her deeper understanding of gardening started with a radish. Her radishes surprised her with their pink flowers and pods "that looked like fat raindrops perched atop slender stems."

She snapped off one of the pods and ate it. "crunchy, spicy, nutty, and decidedly radishy, that pod changed my perspective on kitchen gardening," she writes.

Vegetables bought from grocery stores are sold when they take the least work to harvest and are most convenient for packing and shipping.

"The delicious tops of beets, turnips and carrots are severed and discarded; strawberries are picked early and then artificially ripened; and tomatoes, though red, are too perfectly round and almost always hard."

Let me add that fresh herbs from the garden are far superior to the dried versions in stores.

Chapter one and two were my favorite chapters. The first chapter is named "Planning the Garden."

She explains how to turn the lawn into a nutrient-rich garden bed using sheet-mulch in the fall, and a layer of grass clippings mixed with straw or dry leaves on top of the cardboard.

She lists necessary garden tools like trowels, shovels, garden fork, bow rake, handheld circle hoe and more. She urges gardeners to spend a little more to get quality tools that will stand up to the wear and tear overtime.

Also in the chapter, Galloway addresses the how to on watering practices, fertilizing, preventing pests and, my favorite, dealing with weeds.

Chapter 2 covers growing herbs including basil, chervil, cilantro, fennel, dill, parsley and rosemary. The remaining seven chapters give in-depth instructions on growing different types of vegetables and fruits.

Galloway also includes 50 recipes to accompany her garden advice, so you may truly grow, cook and eat.



Thérèse Jarjura's Tabbouleh



Tiny Art Show
It is Time to Vote for Your Favorites!
Art will be Displayed Upstairs in the Glass
Display case from May 4-22!

Top selections in each age group win a prize.
Age groups are 2-5, 6-12, 13-18, and 19+.



Donnie0102. (n.d.). [Child reading on floor surrounded by bookshelves] [Photograph]. Pixabay. <https://pixabay.com/photos/child-reading-book-floor-room-7026542/>

MORE THAN BOOKS

The Library as a “Third Space”

By NJ Bashus

When you picture a public library, what is the very first image that drifts into your mind? Perhaps for some, it may be the creaky floors, the quiet corners, the sunlight pouring through the windows onto the rows of books waiting to be checked out.

For others, it may be the storyteller from library Storytime, community programs, or simply memories of walking through the doors as a child and the warm, welcoming feeling you received each time you visited.

For many of us, the vision is indeed stitched together from childhood memories, community experiences, and the places that quietly helped shape who we became as we grew up.

Of course, that depends on whether you were able to grow up with a public library nearby, one that welcomed everyone in the community and invited them to stay awhile, often for more than just books. But have you ever wondered what the true purpose of the library building really is?

Is it simply a storage place for books and preschool Storytime? A quiet building filled with shelves and whispers? Or has it always been something far more alive than that?

Over time, public libraries have evolved into something beautifully layered. Yes, they are still places of stories and information, but they have also become gathering spaces, refuges, classrooms without walls, commu-

nity living rooms, and bridges between people from every walk of life. In many ways, the modern library has become one of the last places where a person can walk through the doors exactly as they are and still be welcomed in. That is, unless they are overseen by individuals who do not fully comprehend what the institution does. Unfortunately, the deeper purpose of a public library can sometimes be difficult to recognize from the outside looking in, especially when the library is seen only in passing as a building to be managed, rather than a living community to be nurtured. Those who do not witness the countless everyday moments unfolding within its walls may never fully realize that the library is so much more than bookshelves and programs; it is, in many ways, a reflection of the community itself. And while learning absolutely lives here, the library is something more; it’s what’s called a *third space*.

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wal_172619. (n.d.). [Photograph]. Pixabay. <https://pixabay.com/photos/7408106/>

What is a Third Space?

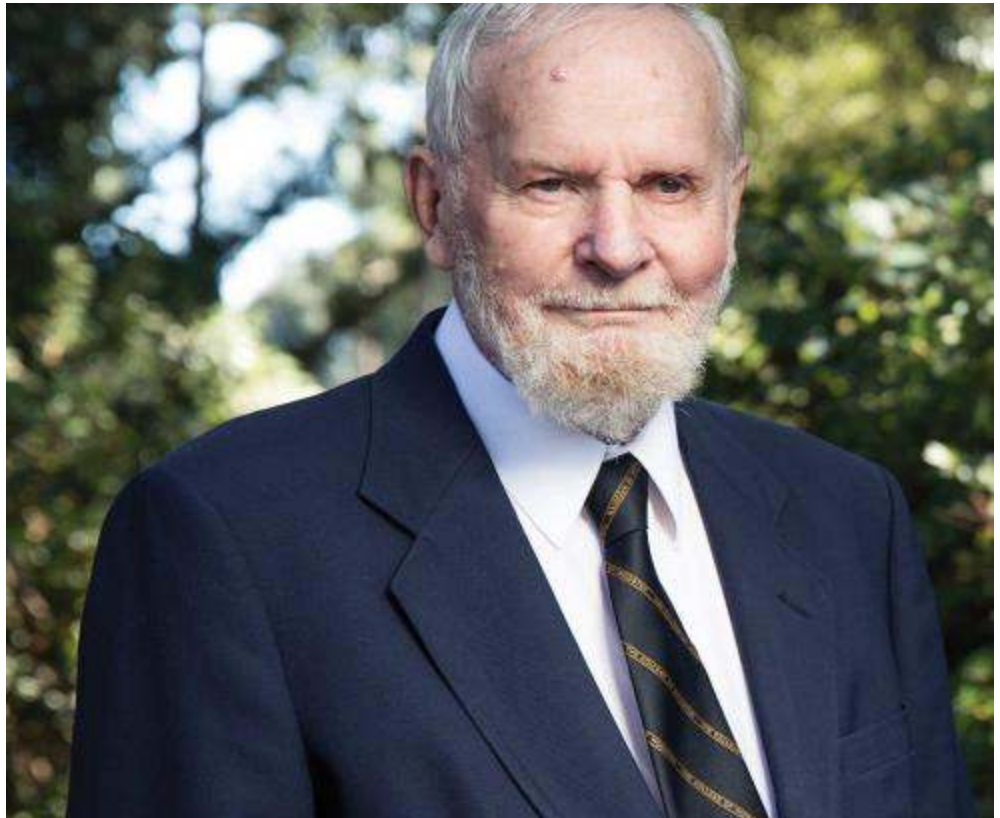
Ray Oldenburg (1932–2022) was a sociologist and professor who spent much of his career studying how communities form, and, more importantly, where they *happen*. He taught at places like the University of West Florida and became widely known for observing that modern American life was losing its informal gathering spaces.

In 1989, he published his most influential book, *The Great Good Place*. In it, he introduced the term “third place” to describe the social environments that sit between home (first place) and work (second place).

Oldenburg noticed that historically, people had natural gathering spots, cafés, barber shops, front porches, pubs, where conversation flowed easily, and people-built relationships without obligation.



Kollinger. (n.d.). [Photograph]. Pixabay. <https://pixabay.com/photos/5211309/>



Ray Oldenburg: Steelcase. (n.d.). [Photograph of Ray Oldenburg]. In *Q + A with Ray Oldenburg*. Steelcase. <https://www.steelcase.com/research/articles/topics/design/q-ray-oldenburg/>

He argued that these places shared a few key traits:

- They are neutral ground (no one “owns” the space socially)
- They are accessible and welcoming.
- Conversation is the main activity.
- They create a sense of belonging and community identity.

And perhaps most importantly, they are places where people can simply exist without needing to justify their presence.

Oldenburg was concerned that suburbanization, car culture, and busy schedules were quietly eroding these spaces. Without them, communities become more isolated, less connected, and less empathetic.

That’s where libraries come in. While Oldenburg didn’t focus exclusively on libraries, his framework has been widely embraced by the library world because public libraries naturally embody many of the qualities he

described:

- Free and open to all
- No expectation to spend money
- Welcoming across ages, backgrounds, and life circumstances
- A place for both quiet reflection *and* shared experience

In many communities today, the public library is one of the last remaining true third places. Every day, we see what this truly looks like in action. It’s the student who walks in after school, looking for a safe place to land until a parent gets off work. It’s the caregiver helping a child pick out books while navigating a busy season of life. It’s families spending time together during supervised visits, finding small moments of normalcy in a shared story or activity. It’s teens laughing over a game, younger children learning through play, and adults finding a quiet corner to catch their breath.

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Because of this, the library is also a *public space*, and that distinction matters. Unlike a school, which operates within structured rules, schedules, and authority, a public library welcomes everyone. With that openness comes both opportunity and responsibility. We work every day to balance access with safety, freedom with respect, and individuality with community standards.

Sometimes, that balance can be misunderstood.

The expectation that the library functions like a school, or that behaviors be managed the same way, doesn't always align with what a public, community-centered space is designed to be. Our role is not to replicate a classroom, but to create an environment where people of all ages can coexist, learn, and grow together. That means we guide, redirect, and support. We build relationships. We collaborate with families and community partners. And yes, at times, we navigate challenges because when you open your doors to everyone, you meet people in all stages of life.

But that's also where the magic happens.

Because libraries are not only places where people come to consume information, they are places where communities begin to create it together.

Sometimes that looks like a parent quietly asking if we know of any resources for helping a child navigate ADHD, anxiety, or mental health struggles. Sometimes it looks like caregivers are realizing they are not alone in those experiences and want to connect with others walking similar paths. And often, one of the very first places those conversations begin is at the library.

A community member may walk through the doors with nothing more than an idea scribbled onto a piece of

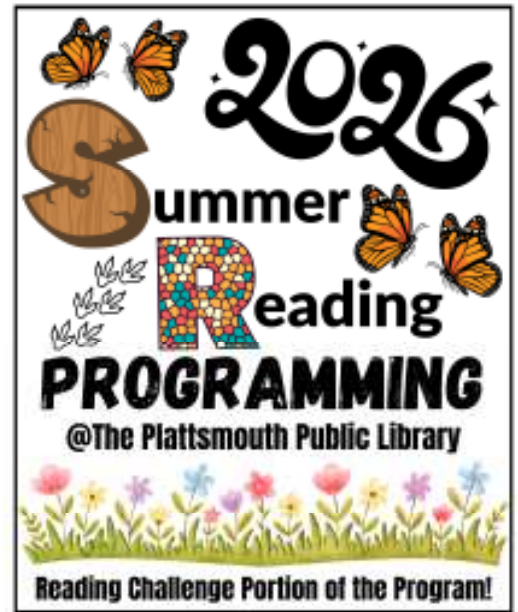
paper: perhaps a support group for parents, a discussion circle, or an awareness initiative designed to help families better understand the systems surrounding mental health and neurodiversity. They may sit at one of our public tables designing flyers, asking questions, gathering feedback, and slowly turning a personal struggle into something that could support an entire community.

That is also part of what libraries do.

Public libraries have quietly evolved into spaces where ideas are nurtured, grassroots efforts take root, and ordinary people are empowered to become community advocates simply because they are given a welcoming place to start.

The library is one of the few places left where you don't have to buy something to stay. Where curiosity is encouraged, connections are built, and people are valued simply for showing up.

So, whether you're here for a program, a book, a moment of quiet, a conversation, or a place to belong, know that you are part of what makes this space meaningful. And that's exactly what a third space is meant to be.



May 28th - Aug. 22nd



June 1st - July 19th



Free recycled crafting workshop!

Who: All (kids 6 & under w/ adult)
What: We will be making recycled mosaics!
Where: Plattsmouth Public library basement
When: June 4th 1:00-3:00pm
Why: To learn a new skill and discover ways to turn trash into treasures.
RSVP by May 29th
 For more info: director@keepcasscountybeautiful.com



***Items may be entered in the Cass county fair!



The Plattsmouth Public Library is excited to once again partner with Keep Cass County Beautiful for the 2nd Annual Trash to Treasure Workshop! The event will take place in the library auditorium on Thursday, June 4th, from 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. and will focus on the creative art of upcycling. Participants will have the opportunity to create their very own recycled mosaic pieces using repurposed materials, proving that sometimes the most beautiful creations can come from items that might otherwise have been thrown away.

Not only is this workshop a fun and hands-on creative experience, but it also encourages youth to think differently about recycling, sustainability, and environmental responsibility. Upcycling activities help build problem-solving skills, creativity, and confidence while teaching participants how everyday “trash” can be transformed into meaningful treasures. Best of all, completed mosaic pieces may also be entered into the 2026 Cass County Fair!

This program is open to all youth, though children ages six and under must be accompanied by an adult. We hope families will join us for an afternoon filled with creativity, learning, and community collaboration!

Laser Cutter Training

The library's laser cutter etches a wide range of materials, including wood, glass, ceramic tiles, cork, and metal, and is available to anyone who completes a one-hour training session.

- No Library Card Needed
- Etches a Variety of Materials
- Quick, One-Hour Training

Contact us Phone Number (402) 296-4154 Ext. 1124
 & schedule your appointment today.



VICTORIAN STEAMPUNK TEA

Saturday, May 30, 2026
 1:00 – 2:30 p.m.

PLATTSMOUTH PUBLIC LIBRARY
 401 Avenue A
 Plattsmouth, NE 68048

Please join us for a Victorian Steampunk Tea where the elegance of a Victorian tea will be blended with the futuristic fun and frivolity of the Steampunk world.

Guests will enjoy a cup of fine rose-scented tea along with savory and sweet treats as they enjoy a program on Victorian Tea Etiquette and accoutrements.

Following the program guests will be invited to participate in a tea dueling contest where nerves of steel will be tested to determine who can take the longest to properly transfer a soggy tea biscuit from their teacup to their mouth. Prizes will be awarded.

Victorian or Steampunk costumes are encouraged. Costumes are available from the Plattsmouth Community Costume Closet free of charge. Please contact Easha @ (402) 297-3528, or Susanne @ (402) 578-6971 for assistance with scheduling an appointment if you are in need of a costume!

A FUNDRAISER
 All proceeds support future Historic Downtown Plattsmouth Association (HDPA) community events and projects.
 Thank you for your support!

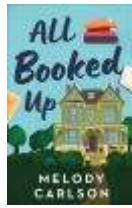
TICKETS: \$35
Tickets are only available at Eventbrite. (Link to Eventbrite) Tickets are limited.

Funded in part by a grant from Cass County Tourism: visitcasscounty.com

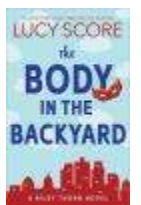
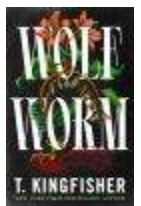
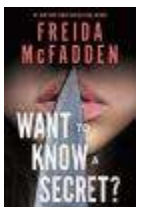
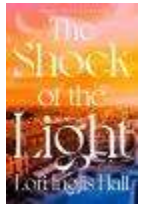
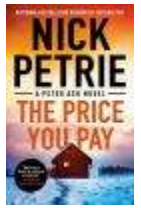
New Items

Fiction

All booked up by Carlson, Melody
 Beneath by Sullivan, Ariel
 Bloodlust by Brown, Sandra
 The bookstore diaries by Mallery, Susan
 Dark hope by Feehan, Christine
 Dark memory by Feehan, Christine
 The dark time by Petrie, Nick
 Daughter of Egypt by Benedict, Marie
 Death at a firefly tea by Childs, Laura
 Death of a groom by Beaton, M. C
 Empire of Ivory by Novik, Naomi
 Everyone in this bank is a thief by Stevenson, Benjamin
 Felicia's favorites by Steel, Danielle
 Finlay Donovan crosses the line by Cosimano, Elle
 Finlay Donovan digs her own grave by Cosimano, Elle
 The girls before by Marshall, Kate Alice
 The heir of Whitestone by Coulter, Catherine
 Honeysuckle by FridmanTell, Bar
 In the time of the butterflies by Alvarez, Julia
 It Girl by Pataki, Allison
 Judge Stone by Davis, Viola
 LIFE: a love story by Berg, Elizabeth
 Mistakes were made by Score, Lucy
 The moonlight runner by Robards, Karen
 Mother of death and dawn by Broadbent, Carissa
 Murder at an Irish session by O'Connor, Carlene
 New beginnings: an Amish romance by Byler, Linda
 No matter what by Bastone, Cara
 Nobody's baby by Waite, Olivia
 Nocticadia by Lake, Keri
 Once and again by Serle, Rebecca



The price you pay by Petrie, Nicholas
 Python's kiss: stories by Erdrich, Louise
 Served him right by Unger, Lisa
 The shock of the light by Inglis Hall, Lori
 Sky shielder: an epic fantasy romance. by Buroker, Lindsay
 The somewhat wicked witch of Brigandale by Waggoner, C. M
 This story might save your life by Crum, Tiffany
 Throne of jade by Novik, Naomi
 Vanished in the crowd by Bowen, Rhys
 Victory of eagles: book five of Temeraire by Novik, Naomi
 Want to know a secret? by McFadden, Freida
 The will of the many by Islington, James
 Wolf worm by Kingfisher, T

**Large Print**

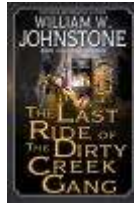
And the crowd went wild by Phillips, Susan Elizabeth
 And then there was you by Cousens, Sophie
 The body in the backyard by Score, Lucy
 The crossroads by Box, C. J
 The devil in Oxford by Armstrong, Jess
 Jigsaw by Kellerman, Jonathan
 Judge Stone by Davis, Viola
 Part of your world by Jimenez, Abby
 Robert B. Parker's Showdown by Lupica, Mike
 Spasm by Cook, Robin
 Track of courage by Warren, Susan May
 Wolf hour by Nesbø, Jo
 Wolfe trap by Cost, Matt

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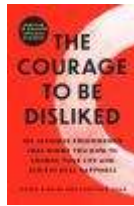
New Items

Western Collection

The last ride of the Dirty Creek Gang
by Johnstone, William W

**Non-Fiction**

The courage to be disliked by
Kishimi, Ichirō



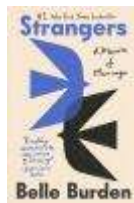
Eat yourself healthy by Oliver, Jamie
Judy Blume by Oppenheimer, Mark
Kids, wait till you hear this! by
Minnelli, Liza

One day, everyone will have always
been against this by El Akkad,
Omar



Second chances by Eleni, Macy

Strangers: a memoir of marriage by
Burden, Belle

**Audiobooks**

Antihero by Hurwitz, Gregg

Clive Cussler Quantum tempest by
Maden, Mike

Cold zero by Thor, Brad

The color of hope by Steel, Danielle

The devil's daughter by Steel,
Danielle



Everybody wants to rule the world
by Atkins, Ace

Executive power by Andrews, Brian

Exit strategy by Child, Lee

A ferry merry Christmas by
Macomber, Debbie

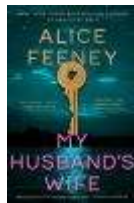


The Hadacol boogie by Burke, James
Lee

The intruder by McFadden, Freida

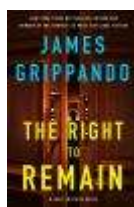
My husband's wife by Feeney, Alice

Return of the spider by Patterson,
James



The right to remain by Grippando,
James

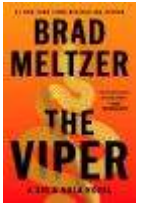
The seven rings by Roberts, Nora
Sharp force by Cornwell, Patricia
Daniels



The shop on Hidden Lane by Krentz,
Jayne Ann

Stolen in death by Robb, J. D

The viper by Meltzer, Brad
The widow by Grisham, John

**Library Kits**

Sketchbook Project Kit #1

Sketchbook Project Kit #2

Teen Fiction

Break wide the sea by Holland, Sara

The Corpse Queen by Herrman,
Heather M



A curious kind of magic by
Rutherford, Mara

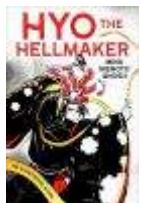
The demon and the light by Oh, Axie

The executioners three by Dennard,
Susan



Half-blood by DeRosa, G. K

Hyo the hellmaker by Ghosh, Mina
Ikemoto



The library of lost girls by Pippis,
Kristen

The lives of Saints by Bardugo,
Leigh

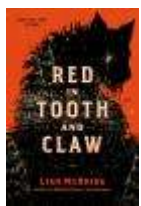
A mastery of monsters by Sambury,
Liselle



Out of air by Reiss, Rachel

A queen's game by McGee,
Katharine

Red in tooth and claw by McBride,
Lish



Supernatural slayer squad by
DeRosa, G. K

The Weaver bride by Gregovic,
Lydia

Teen Non-Fiction

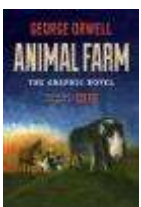
The complete Persepolis by Satrapi,
Marjane

**Graphic Novels**

Animal farm by Odyr

Civil war by Millar, Mark

The climber V.1 by Sakamoto,
Shin'ichi



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New Items**Graphic Novels (Continued...)**

The climber V.2 by Sakamoto,
Shin'ichi

The climber V.3 by Sakamoto,
Shin'ichi

Dandadan V.1 by Tatsu, Yukinobu

Dandadan V.2 by Tatsu, Yukinobu

Dandadan V.3 by Tatsu, Yukinobu

First test by Pierce, Tamora

Frieren : beyond journey's end V.1
by Yamada, Kanehito

Frieren : beyond journey's end V.2
by Yamada, Kanehito

Frieren : beyond journey's end V.3
by Yamada, Kanehito

Goodnight Punpun V.1 by Asano,
Inio

Goodnight Punpun V.2 by Asano,
Inio

Goodnight Punpun V.3 by Asano,
Inio

The handmaid's tale by Atwood,
Margaret

Easy Books

Creaky old house by Ashman, Linda

Every Monday Mabel by Awan,
Jashar

Stalactite & Stalagmite by
Beckmeyer, Drew

Juvenile Fiction

Buffalo dreamer by Duncan, Violet

Out of the fires by Lara, Carrie

The rise of Neptune by Reintgen,
Scott

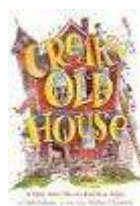
Juvenile Graphic Novels

Keeper of the lost cities by Frenn,
Celina

The secret garden by Marsden,
Mariah

Juvenile Non-Fiction

AC Milan by Whiting, Jim



Always remember by Mackesy,
Charlie

Area 51 by Bahn, Christopher

Atlantis by Bahn, Christopher

Bayern Munich by Whiting, Jim

Bigfoot by Bahn, Christopher

Choosing online sources by Clark,
Katie

The CIA by Eberth, Kristin

Communism by Webb, Alex

Cybersecurity by Doeden, Matt

Democracy by Webb, Alex

Dictatorship by Webb, Alex

Disinformation by Doeden, Matt

E. E. Cummings by Berry, S. L

Edgar Allan Poe by Frisch, Aaron

Emily Dickinson by Berry, S. L

The FSB by Eberth, Krissy

LA galaxy by Whiting, Jim

Langston Hughes by Berry, S. L

Loch ness monster by Bahn,
Christopher

Manchester United by Whiting, Jim

Monarchy by Webb, Alex

The Mossad by Eberth, Kristin

The MSS by Anton, C. C

Parliamentary government by Webb,
Alex

Psychology for kids by Toner,
Jacqueline B

Real Madrid by Whiting, Jim

Sea monsters by Bahn, Christopher

Seattle Sounders FC by Whiting, Jim

The SIS by Eberth, Krissy

Socialism by Webb, Alex

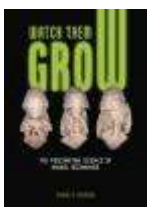
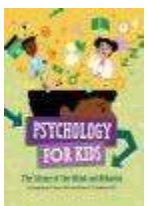
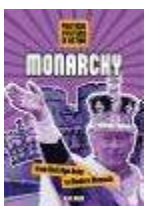
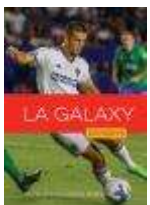
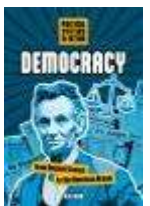
Understanding AI by Clark, Katie

The VAJA by Lorenzo, Tomas

Walt Whitman by Loewen, Nancy

Watch them grow by Pearson, Carrie
A

William Shakespeare by Fandel,
Jennifer





May

Program Color Guide

Black & Red= Adult 19+
 Green= General Public/Family
 Blue= Ages 0-6
 Pink= Grades 1st-4th
 Purple= 4th-8th
 Orange= 7th-12th



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2 Book Club 10am
3	4 Little Beats 9:30-10am Carvers 12-3pm Monday Madness 6-9pm	5 Storytime 10-10:30	6	7 Storytime 10-10:30	8	9
10	11 Little Beats 9:30-10am Carvers 12-3pm Monday Madness 6-9pm	12 Storytime 10-10:30 Teen Volunteer Meeting 3-4pm	13 Young Artist Afterschool Club 4:30-5:30pm	14 Storytime 10-10:30	15	16
17	18 Little Beats 9:30-10am Carvers 12-3pm Monday Madness 6-9pm	19 Storytime 10-10:30	20 Paws for Reading 4:30-5:30pm Reading Portion of The Summer Reading Program Starts	21 Storytime 10-10:30	22	23
24	25 Library Closed	26 Storytime 10-10:30 Teen Volunteer Meeting 3-4pm	27 CraftMe' 4-5pm Library Board Meeting 5:30pm	28 Library Closing@ 5pm Storytime 10-10:30 Summer Reading Kick-Off Party 5-7pm @Rylander	29	30
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