

PRINT

SUMMER READING

Programs for all ages through August 1

Oceans OF POSSIBILITIES

"Seas" the day and join us for this year's Summer Reading Program! Track your books and activities now through Mon., August 1 to win prizes and earn chances to enter the grand prize drawings.

If you registered for Summer Reading last year, simply log in and update your contact information. If this is your first time, create an account on the Beanstack Tracker app or at smfpl.beanstack.org. Need help signing up or logging books and your activities? Stop in or give us a call—we're happy to assist you!

Children from Birth - Age 11

This year's summer reading program is more than just reading. We have a host of activities you can do as a family to earn prizes, and reading is just one of them. Track your activities through Mon., August 1 to win prizes and earn tickets to enter a grand-prize drawing.

This program is open to children from birth through age 11. If you already have a Beanstack account, log in to check your password, and update your phone number and email address. For every five activities you log on Beanstack, (reading is an activity, too) you will earn a virtual badge, a small prize, and a virtual ticket to enter a grand-prize drawing. Click on the ticket reward button to choose which grand-prize drawing you would like to enter. If you need any assistance registering for the program or tracking your reading and activities, please let a librarian know.

Teens Ages 12 - 17

Teens can read and log books to enter weekly

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Oceans OF POSSIBILITIES

—continued from page 1

drawings for Amazon gift cards and free book prizes. Log at least five books to be eligible for the grand prize drawing of a \$50 Amazon gift card. Get extra chances to win by logging books every week, submitting reviews, and completing activities. Earn at least 10 badges by August 1 and receive a Stow-Munroe Falls Public Library water bottle.

Adults Ages 18 and Over

Explore the Oceans of Possibilities this year with our Adult Summer Reading Program. Log your books, activities and reviews for a chance to win one of our weekly drawings. Earn at least 20 badges by August 1 and receive a Stow-Munroe Falls Public Library water bottle. Log at least 5 books to be entered into the grand prize drawing to win a 4-pack of vouchers to the Greater Cleveland Aquarium.

Summer Reading is co-sponsored by the Friends of the Library. ●

Spot Spike Scavenger Hunt

now through August 1

Spot our cutout sign of Spike, our library's turtle, in area parks and businesses, and count it as a Summer Reading activity in Beanstack. Check the library's social media pages for clues. Here's what to look for! ●



Summer Book Discussions

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New Study Pods

Donated by Carl Farinacci



Carl Farinacci cutting the ribbon on the individual study pods that his donation to the library purchased.



(L-R) Stow Mayor John Pribonic, SMFPL Director Gale Koritansky, Carl Farinacci, Board of Trustees Secretary David Renninger, and Board of Trustees President Thomas Shubert

—by Lyndsey Brennan, Marketing & PR Coordinator

Seventy five years ago, Carl Farinacci’s Aunt Margaret moved into a home on Darrow Road—“when it was still chips and tar, two lanes with no cars”—across the street from the library.

Some of his earliest memories are of Margaret, ever the avid reader, striding across the street in the 1940s “with armloads of books,” a practice she continued until her death in 2006.

Even though Carl didn’t grow up in Stow, he has been “in and out of the library” with his four cousins since childhood and has a strong connection to it.

In 2014, Carl donated money to renovate a quiet study room in Margaret’s memory—which he said she would have loved seeing in use. Now, he’s donated again to buy two individual study pods. We thanked Carl for his donation by hosting a ribbon cutting ceremony.

The pods are about the size of a phone booth, are available on a first-come, first-serve basis, and are perfect for independent study or Zoom calls.

“Aunt Margaret never gave up on this library ‘til the day she died—so I’m glad to be able to help the library get what it needs.” ●



Friends



Summer Puzzle & Game Sales

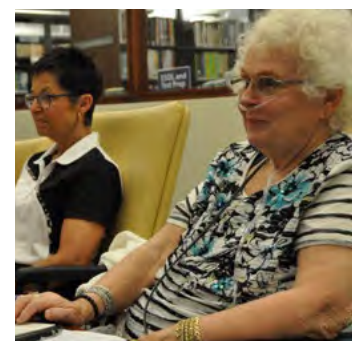
at the Stow Farmers Market

Don't miss the fantastic bargains on pre-owned puzzles and games at the Friends of the Library summer sales. These puzzles are in beautiful condition ready to present as gifts complete with ribbons and bows. These sales are free and open to the public and will be held on **Sat., June 25 and Aug. 20, 9 AM - 12:30 PM at the Stow Farmers Market** (Community Church of Stow, 1567 Pilgrim Drive in Stow). ●

Volunteer Opportunities

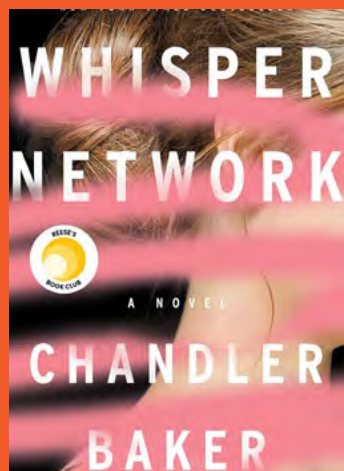
with the Friends of the Library

Want to contribute to the library in a meaningful way? There are many volunteer opportunities with the Friends of the Library. Proceeds from Friends' Book Sales and Puzzle Sales help pay for library programs and events for all ages. Over the past twenty-one years, these sales have generated over **\$516,000** and the Friends currently have **\$190,000** in their Endowment Fund for future programming at the library. These proceeds represent the work of many Friends and volunteers meeting daily at the library preparing for sales and conducting business. We, the library and our patrons, are the fortunate beneficiaries and we are so grateful for their passion and dedication. Visit our [website](#) to support their effort or learn more about the Friends of the Library. ●

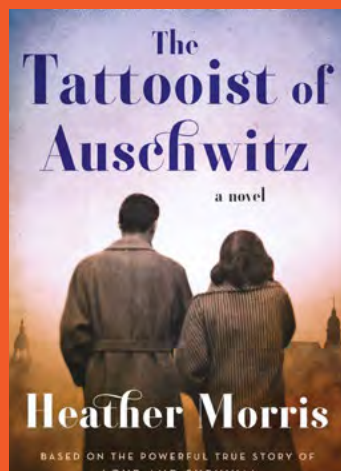


Book Discussions

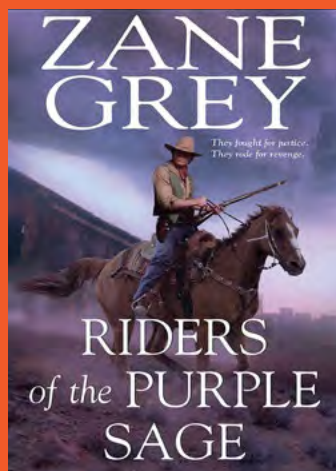
Want a great opportunity to meet other book lovers and develop friendships within your community? Our Book Discussion Groups are led by librarians who have a passion for reading and love talking about good books! This year's collection features a wide variety of titles for all readers. Discussion dates are listed under each title and books are available at the Information Desk prior to each meeting. Visit events.smfpl.org for more information. ●



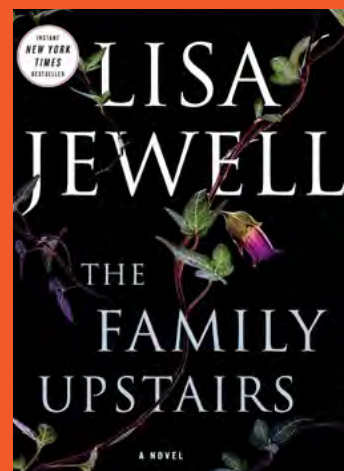
July 11 & 12



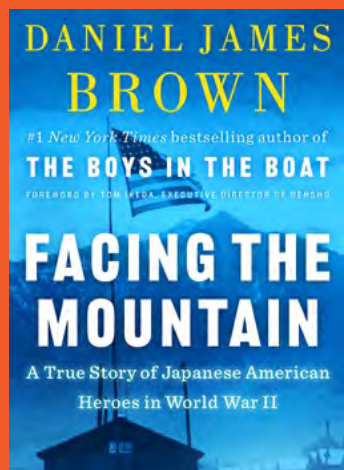
July 20 & 26



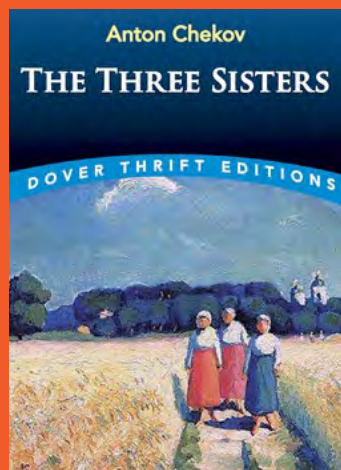
July 27 & 28



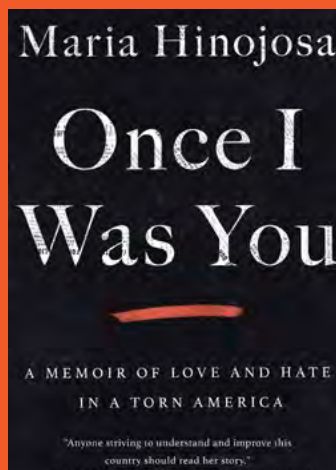
August 1 & 2



August 17 & 23



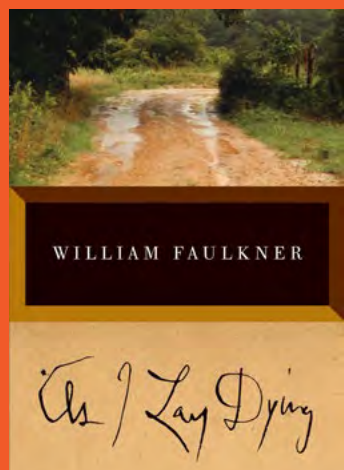
August 25 & 31



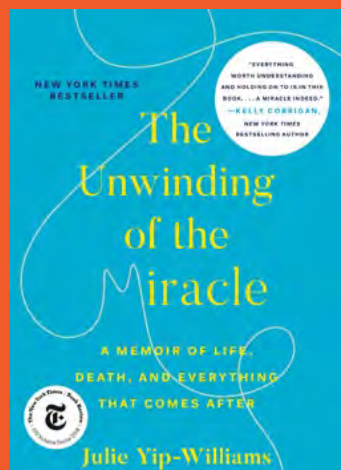
September 12 & 13



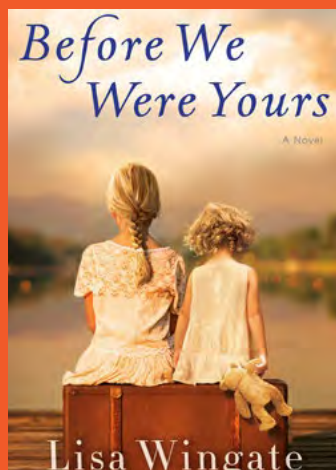
September 21 & 27



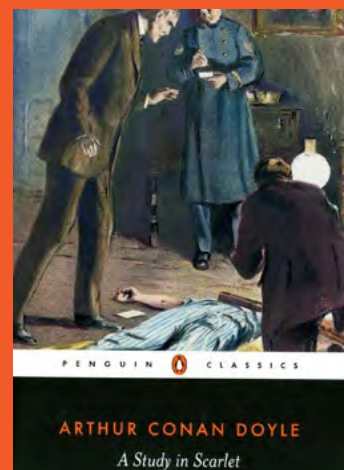
September 28 & 29



October 3 & 4



October 19 & 25



October 26 & 27

Outdoor Events



The Great Outdoors

Many patrons enjoyed the opportunity to get extra fresh air and sunshine during our summer programs last year, so in partnership with the City Stow Parks and Recreation Department, we're bringing back outdoor summer activities for all ages. Brochures are available at the library or Stow City Hall.

Celebrate Nature: Mind and Body Hike

Tues., June 21 at 1 PM at Sancturetum at Stow City Center, 3760 Darrow Road

A guided Summer Solstice hike with intermittent yoga, breathing, and nature's inspiration along the way. Be mindful of yourself and everyBODY! To register for this free program, visit StowOhio.RecDesk.com. Questions? Please call the City of Stow Parks and Recreation Department at (330) 689-5100. ●

Story Time Nature Hike

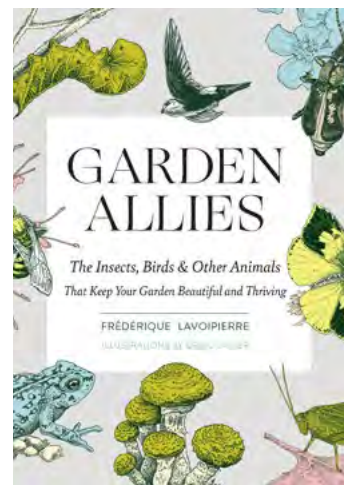
Mon., June 27 at 10 and 11 AM at Adell Durbin Park, 3300 Darrow Road

For children ages 2 - 8: Hear stories while you hike. A healthy snack will be provided. Bring your own water to drink. To register for this free program, visit StowOhio.RecDesk.com, click **Programs**, and search for **Story Time Hike**. ●

Bird Watching Week

Starting July 18, while supplies last

Pick up a bird watching kit at the library, then see what birds you can spot during the week at the Sancturetum or in your own backyard. The kit contains a bird checklist, kids' binoculars, and birdseed. Return your completed bird checklist to the library Children's Desk for the chance to win a window bird feeder. One kit per family. Registration is not required for this free program. ●



Amateur Photography Contest

Showcase your photography skills during our annual Amateur Photography Contest for Children, Teens, and Adults.

How to enter:

- Submit your photos to the Adult/Teen or Children's Information Desks during library hours on **Wed., July 6 - Sat., July 9, 2022**. No late entries accepted. Click [here](https://www.smfpl.org/events) or visit [events.smfpl.org](https://www.smfpl.org/events) for entry forms.
- Maximum number of entries is two per person. They can be in the same or different photo categories.
- **Age categories** are: Adult (18+), Teen (12 - 17), Children (7 - 11), and Lil' Snapper (1 - 6). The Lil' Snapper age group is a non-judged open division, an opportunity for budding young photographers to showcase their first photos.
- **Photo categories** are: People, Animals, and Nature/Landscapes (includes buildings). Judges may recategorize photos if necessary.
- **Photos must be 5x7" prints and matted in an 8x10" matte board** only (matte boards available at hobby stores). Use a separate entry form for each photo and tape completed form to the back of the matte board. A sample matted photo is available at either Information Desk. Entry forms will also be available at the Information Desks, and on the library's website to download and print.

There will be three **prizes** per category and age group, compliments of the Friends of the Library:

First Place	\$20
Second Place.....	\$15
Third Place	\$10
Adult Best in Show.....	\$50
Teen Best in Show.....	\$40
Childrens' Best in Show.....	\$30

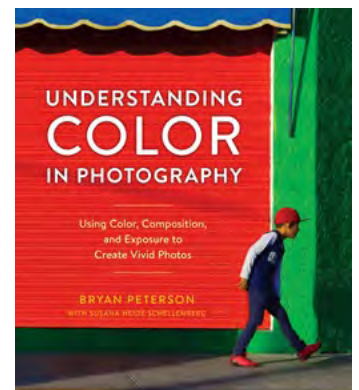
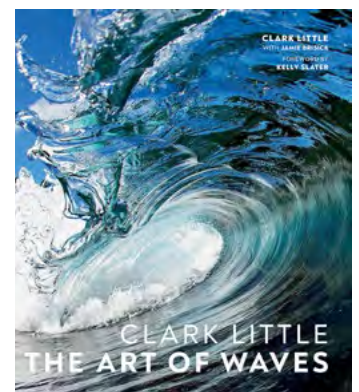
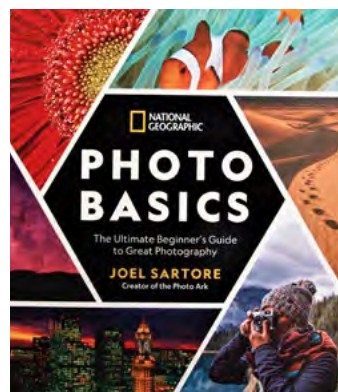
Each photo will be judged for impact, composition, and quality of lighting. The judges are local professional photographers and instructors: Alan Doe, Gary Harwood, and Jim Roetzel.

Judges' awards will be announced on Mon., July 18 at 9 AM. Photos will be on display in the library July 18 - 31. Visitors to the display will be able to vote for their favorite photos; the adult or teen photo with the most votes will win the Stephen Pierce Memorial People's Choice Award, and the children's photo with the most votes will win the Spike the Turtle Kids' Choice Award.

Winning photographers will be contacted about submitting a digital copy of their photo for display in the library's online Flickr albums. Photographs remain property of the entrant and

must be picked up at the Adult Information Desk, along with any prizes won, beginning August 2. Any photos not picked up by August 20 will be discarded. This program is sponsored by the Friends of the Library. ●

Need some creative inspiration? Check out books from our collection.





Our library in the 1920s



1950s

In the Beginning

—by Cheryl Nelson, Graphic Design Coordinator

Do you remember your very first visit to the Stow-Munroe Falls Public Library? I once had a friend named Charles who lived within walking distance of our library. Although I never saw it, he loved to tell me that he owned one of the very first library cards issued here at Stow Library. Charles was a kindred spirit, and I was amazed by his keepsake, thinking that perhaps I was the only one sentimental enough to save my childhood card from the Stow Library. Having grown up in different generations, Charles had a unique perspective and a rich history with Stow. His memories and stories about our library and the community painted vivid pictures, and I'm grateful not only for his friendship, but also for his connection to our distant past. As the library quickly approaches its one hundredth anniversary, let's take a walk down memory lane to visit the library that Charles knew and loved.

Turn back the hands of time to the 1920s and 1930s, and imagine two small towns buzzing with cultural, social, and civic activities. That was the early beginnings of the Stow Civic Association, the 4-H Club, Daughters of the American Revolution, the Parent-Teacher Association, the Stow Republican Club, the Stow Businessmen's Association, and the Munroe Falls Civic Association.

At the time, Stow was a sleepy rural community complete with small grocery stores, a variety store, two drug stores, two dairies, two plumbing shops, a greenhouse, two barber shops, a shoe shop, a general feed store, several restaurants, an automotive body repair shop, two garages, a few specialty shops, and a small public library.

This small public library was a school district library with a board of trustees appointed by the school board. Founded in 1924, Stow Public Library organized and held its opening

night on January 21, 1925. The opening of the library was quite an accomplishment for these two small communities with a combined population of only about 3,000 during the mid-1920s.

Stow Public Library was originally located within the town hall at 3493 Darrow Road. It was staffed by its first librarian, Mrs. Jessie Williamson. Responsible for the grade school library, high school library, and the Stow Public Library, Mrs. Williamson worked hard for her annual salary of just \$1,200.

After a year of operation, the library held a modest collection of 2,200 volumes. The Bible, History of the United States, Webster's New Standard Dictionary, World Book, Field Book of American Trees and Shrubs, and the International Who's Who in Music were part of the early collection. Popular series found their way into the library including Dr. Doolittle, Tom Swift, the Bobbsey Twins, Pollyanna, Curlytops, and Zane Gray. One sex education book was tucked quietly within the book stacks.

The library grew and the word spread about this exciting new small-town library. By the end of 1930, one out of every three Stow and Munroe Falls residents had a library card. Circulation was 10,849 in 1926, jumping to 23,071 in 1929. During the first year of the Great Depression, Stow Public Library was moved from town hall to 122 Hudson Road (now Darrow Road) near its present location across from the First Christian Church. The lot and house were purchased from Clara M. Bradley for a sum of \$8,150. The library re-opened to the public in December 1930.

The new library was composed of three rooms downstairs. Imagine the traffic of 1,273 library cardholders through a residential-size building. The largest room, originally a living and dining room, housed bookshelves around the walls and tables and chairs for patrons. The second room was the Children's Department, and the third room was a small library

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1960s

—continued from page 8

office. The upstairs was converted into an apartment for the librarian, who was charged \$20 per month for rent.

Salaries and wages grew from \$1,440 in 1926 to \$1,849 in 1930. Librarians Louise Thomson and Nellie Glass followed Mrs. Williamson. Fringe benefits for the librarian included a two-week vacation after one year of employment, but there was only one catch: the librarian had to find her own replacement and pay her wage.

In the fall of 1930, the Stow Public Library staff was increased to two members: one full-time librarian and one part-time assistant librarian. Mrs. Pace was hired as part time assistant at a wage of \$30/month. The library continued to function without the use of a telephone which wasn't installed until 1950.

The Garden Club planted flowers around the library entrance and was granted use of the library on Friday evenings for its meetings. A groundskeeper was later hired to maintain the lawn and grounds. A garage standing on the property was rented, providing additional revenue to the library. The library continued to grow, occupying this property for approximately 33 years.

So there you have it, a glimpse into our past. It's fun to recall our early beginnings and appreciate all of the changes. Fast forward to the present and we find that statistics show one out of three households in Stow and Munroe Falls used the library in 2021. The library had 90,483 visitors in 2021 with an average of 303 visitors walking through the doors every day the library was open. Items borrowed reached a total of 520,541 last year. And these are all statistics gathered during the pandemic, which proved to be one of the most interesting times in library history. ●

Library Foundation

Seeking Passionate New Members

We have one of the best libraries in the state, and the Library Foundation has been key in improving our facility. The stairway mural leading up to the Children's Department, conference room furniture, outdoor signs, book display furniture, and event monitors are all projects the Foundation funded. We are a 15 member group with a passion for the library, and we meet for one hour once a month. Interested? We'd love to meet you. Email a letter of inquiry and your resume to Laura Frazier, president of the Library Foundation: foundation@smfpl.org. Or send it by mail to the attention of Laura Frazier: Stow-Munroe Falls Public Library Foundation, 3512 Darrow Rd. Stow, OH 44224. Read the Foundation member job description at www.smfpl.org/foundation. ●



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6-6-2022

Director

Gale Koritansky

Friends of the Library

The Friends of the Library is a citizen support group for Library services and activities. The Friends are a non-profit, tax-exempt 501(c)(3) organization with an endowment fund dedicated to supporting programs for adults, teens, and children. The Friends sponsor book sales as well as other programming. For more information, visit www.friendsofsmfpl.org

Foundation

The Stow-Munroe Falls Public Library Foundation was incorporated in 1994 as a non-profit, tax-exempt 501(c)(3) organization. The Foundation's mission is to provide funds for significant projects that enhance the mission of the library and to build an endowment that will carry on the legacy of the library. For more information, visit www.smfpl.org/foundation

Hours

Mon - Thurs: 9 AM - 9 PM

Fri: 9 AM - 6 PM

Sat: 9 AM - 5 PM

Sun: 1 - 5 PM

Drive-Up Window and Curbside Pickup service ends 15 minutes prior to closing.

FinePRINT is produced by the Stow-Munroe Falls Public Library Marketing and Public Relations Department. For more information, email Ann Malthaner at amalthaner@smfpl.org

