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Selections:

The newsletter of the Sarasota County Library System

November, 2005

Volume 1, Issue 2

Welcome to *Selections*, the monthly electronic newsletter of the Sarasota County Library System.

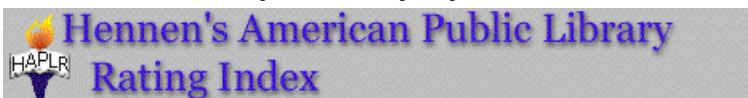
Each month you will find stories related to local library news, national library events, book reviews, database news, and a variety of other topics. Produced by library staff from throughout the County, we will be highlighting different libraries and happenings each month.

Read *Selections* online, or [sign up here](#) to have it delivered to you by email.



This month brought to you by Gulf Gate Library Staff

Sarasota County Library System Makes National Top Ten



Click [here](#) to read more about it.

Population Category	Library Name	State	ZIP	HAPLR Score	HAPLR Rank	Libraries in Category
b) 250 K	HOWARD COUNTY LIBRARY	MD	21045	917	1	97
b) 250 K	SANTA CLARA COUNTY LIBRARY	CA	95112	896	2	97
b) 250 K	JOHNSON COUNTY LIBRARY	KS	66212	828	3	97
b) 250 K	SAINT CHARLES CITY-COUNTY LIBRARY DISTRICT	MO	63376	814	4	97
b) 250 K	MADISON PUBLIC LIBRARY	WI	53703	807	5	97
b) 250 K	LINCOLN CITY LIBRARIES	NE	68508	792	6	97
b) 250 K	PIKES PEAK LIBRARY DISTRICT	CO	80903	750	7	97
b) 250 K	RICHLAND COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY	SC	29201	742	8	97
b) 250 K	ALLEN COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY	IN	46801	740	9	97
b) 250 K	SARASOTA COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARIES	FL	34241	727	10	97

Gulf Gate Library Joins “Operation Paperback”

Operation Paperback Recycled Reading for Our Troops



Jane Webb, Gulf Gate reference librarian, got involved with “Operation Paperback,” a program which sends paperback books to American troops serving all over the world. Since July, with the help of **Deanie Erb** and the **Friends of the Library**, she has been able to send 9 shipments containing a total of 194 books. **Nicole McCarren**, formerly of Selby Library, also assisted with providing books and helping out with postage. **Christine Aston**, Gulf Gate youth librarian, provided bookmarks. Books must be in very good condition and must meet certain other standards if they are going to a Middle East location.

Go to www.operationpaperback.org to learn more about this worthwhile organization. Click on the link “Troop Thank You’s” to find out how grateful the members of the armed services are for this diversion from the task at hand.

An Old Library Gets a New Look



The **Friends of Gulf Gate Library** recently funded new furniture, displays, and signage giving the library interior a new look and feel.

Sarasota County Public Works provided some new paint and carpet.
Pay us a visit and enjoy our new surroundings.

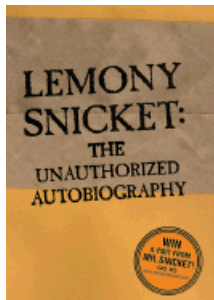
Youth News

Coming Soon

By now most have read *Harry Potter and the Half-Blood Prince* and the new Lemony Snicket should be arriving soon. Several of your favorite picture book characters will be arriving this fall in new and highly entertaining stories.

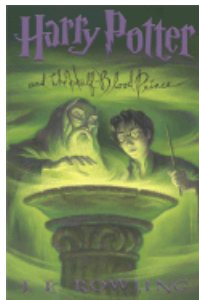
We hope you and your family can visit us and pick up one of our flyers which will give you all the information on our ongoing programs.

Also, check the [Library Calendar](#) for events at all the libraries.



Lemony Snicket: The Unauthorized Autobiography
by Lemony Snicket
Published 2002
HarperCollins Publishers

[Find this book in our catalog.](#)



Harry Potter and the Half-Blood Prince

by J. K. Rowling
Published 2005
Arthur A. Levine Books

[Find this book in our catalog.](#)

Teen News

Planet Teen

Things are always happening on Planet Teen. Check out the Teen Programs page for what's going on:
<http://sclibs.net/Teens/teenprograms.aspx>

Teen Newsletter

Each month we publish a newsletter about new books just for young adults. You can subscribe to this newsletter or any of the other 20 special newsletters and receive them in your email automatically each month. Click here to take a look:

http://www.supportlibrary.com/nl/users/sarasota/web/nl_17.html

Featured Database of the Month



HeritageQuest Online provides users with a collection of research materials for tracing family history and American culture.

Users can search through a variety of sources that include:

- ProQuest's Genealogy & Local History Collection of 25,000+ family and local history books.
- The complete U.S. Federal Census from 1790-1930.
- PERSI - The PERiodical Source Index is a subject index covering more than 6,500 genealogy and local history periodicals written in English and French since 1800.
- Revolutionary War Pension and Bounty Land Warrant Application Files that contain detailed records of 80,000+ individuals who served in the Revolutionary War.

Click on the [Electronic Resources](#) link on the Libraries' home page to access our complete database list, including *Heritage Quest*.

Featured Internet Site of the Month



<http://www.bookbrowse.com>

Somewhere around 100,000 new books are published each year in the USA alone. How on earth do you choose which of these are worth your valuable time?

BookBrowse combines a great selection of hand-picked books that you can browse at your leisure with multiple reviews from newspapers and magazines (with each review edited so that you only see the essential opinion of the reviewer, not multiple repetitions of the plot summary which so often contain irritating plot spoilers).

The site does not accept payments from authors or publishers to list books, so they offer an unbiased listing without pushing the big budget titles. Instead the site looks for an eclectic, informative and interesting selection of books, from established writers to first time authors, from a wide range of genres, both fiction and non-fiction.

Click on the [Recommended Web Sites](#) link on the Libraries' home page to access web sites by subject. The Literature and Books link will take you to the BookBrowse site as well as other online book sources.

What are you Reading?

The Samurai's Garden

by Gail Tsukiyama
Published 1996
St. Martin's Griffin

[Find this book in our catalog.](#)



by the Gulf Gate Library Book Club

The daughter of a Chinese mother and a Japanese father, Tsukiyama uses the Japanese invasion of China during the late 1930s as a somber backdrop for her unusual story about a 20-year-old Chinese painter named Stephen who is sent to his family's summer home in a Japanese coastal village to recover from a bout with tuberculosis. Here he is cared for by Matsu, a reticent housekeeper and a master gardener. Over the course of a remarkable year, Stephen learns Matsu's secret and gains not only physical strength, but also profound spiritual insight. Matsu is a samurai of the soul, a man devoted to doing good and finding beauty in a cruel and arbitrary world, and Stephen is a noble student, learning to appreciate Matsu's generous and nurturing way of life and to love Matsu's soulmate, gentle Sachi, a woman afflicted with leprosy.

About the Author

Born to a Chinese mother and a Japanese father in San Francisco, Gail Tsukiyama now lives in El Cerrito, California. Her novels include *Dreaming Water*, *Women of the Silk*, *The Language of Threads*, and *Night of Many Dreams*.

....[More](#)

Our Volunteers

Volunteers Needed for Youth Department - Gulf Gate

There is never a "slow" or "quiet" time in the Gulf Gate Library Youth Section. Our patrons live here year-round and check out hundreds of books, videos and DVDs both for education and recreation. Obviously what is checked out needs to be reshelved when it returns. So the Youth Team has a critical need for shelvers who can donate 2 – 3 hours a week.

We also need volunteers to pick-up and deliver tubs of picture books to 11 preschools and daycare centers. The

tubs have built-in handles on the sides and are easily moved by two people. Ideally we would like to have two teams of two who can fill in for each other during vacations, etc. The preschools and daycares are all located south of Bee Ridge Road and are in the Gulf Gate Library's service area. If you are interested, please call Marcia McKinney, Senior Librarian, Youth Services at 861-1242.

Community Connection

Mark Your Calendars! Saturday, January 21, 2006

Do you have the desire to be a life-long learner? Well, we've got the event for you. On Saturday, January 21, 2006 the Gulf Gate Library will host its first ever "Love of Learning Fair". Several adult education groups and organizations along with Sarasota County Government Agencies will be on hand to provide information about their services. This is a great opportunity to find out what kind of educational options are available without having to contact the groups individually. For more information about this event, please contact the Gulf Gate Library at 941-861-1240 or pick up an information flyer in December at the Library.

Reserves: Your Cooperation is Needed



Due to the very high number of reserves placed by our patrons on library materials, it's very important to let library staff know if you want to cancel a reserve for an item you no longer want. The library system processes thousands of reserves for patrons every week. Unfortunately, many items are never picked up for various reasons and sit on the reserve shelves unable to be used by anyone else until the hold period elapses. This lengthens the time it takes everyone in the queue to get the item. Please, just give us a call or stop by one of our service desks to let us know you will no longer need the item.

Reference Question of the Month

If a product claims to be "organic", what does that really mean?



A Field Guide to Buying Organic

by Luddene Perry

According to the new *A Field Guide to Buying Organic* products labelled or claiming to be organic "must meet the criteria of the USDA's National Organic Program (NOP), set forth in the OFPA. Although the USDA seal is not required, any organic product must include the name and address of a certifying agency accredited by the USDA." The book also cautions that "all organic foods are not created equal. Depending on the percentage of organic ingredients a product contains, it falls into one of four categories - only two of which are eligible for official recognition on the Principal Display Panel, meaning the front of the jar, can, bag, or box."

This book has lots of detailed information on how to be a good shopper if you're interested in organic products. It includes chapters on the history of organic agriculture, how organic food can effect your health, the environment, our economy and society as a whole, as well as very detailed charts and comparisons covering all the various categories of

Published 2005 by Bantam Books

foods as you go down your organic grocery's aisles.

Paperback, English. ISBN: 0553382934

[Find this book in our catalog.](#)

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