



Books & Beyond

SDL Book Talk

Sanilac District Library Newsletter

Volume 31 Issue 2

Serving Our Community For 90 Years!
Managing CPS Elementary & High School Libraries
and the Bark Shanty Library Branch

February 2026

Love

♥ Books ♥ Reading
 ♥ Libraries

SDL Book Club

SDL's book discussion group meets the first Wednesday of the month.

February 4 at 5:30
Book Lover's Month
Bring a favorite to share
with the group

March 4 at 5:30
Project Hail Mary
Andy Weir

April 1 at 5:30
The Measure
Nikki Erlick

Sanilac District Library

7130 Main Street
PO Box 525
Port Sanilac, MI 48469
810.622.8623

Library Hours

Monday: 11-5
Tuesday: 11-5
Wednesday: 11-7
Thursday: 11-5
Friday: 11-5
Saturday: 11-2

Thank You Morath Foundation!

Sanilac District Library received a grant of \$6,500 from the Carl and Irene Morath Charitable Trust of Warren, Michigan. This donation is designated for the purchase price of the digital information sign installed in front of the library building. SDL's former sign was donated to the Sanilac County Historical Museum.

Since 2015, the Carl and Irene Morath Charitable Trust has awarded over \$66,500 to fire departments, VFW Post #8872 of Port Sanilac and the Sanilac County Historical Museum. Recent grants provided funding to purchase equipment and repair facilities in the Port Sanilac Harbor Park.

Pictured: Sarah Morath (left) presents the award to Rachel Klaty, SDL Board President.



Library of Things

Check out SDL Things!

Beverage dispenser, binoculars & bird identification guide, blood pressure monitor, butterfly cake pan, digital to film converter, games, food dehydrator, Instant Pot, hand held mixer, laser level & stud finder, metal detector, puzzles, portable CD player for use in car, scanner, Yooper UV flashlight and waffle iron.

New Fiction

• **59 Minutes**—Holly Sheldon. Phones blare with: ALERT. NUCLEAR THREAT. 59 MINUTES UNTIL IMPACT. SEEK SHELTER. THIS IS NOT A TEST. Chaos erupts. Three women, three families, one last chance to be together before the end.

• **Buckeye**—Patrick Ryan. A moment of passion after the victory in Europe binds Cal to Margaret. Cal's wife, Becky is a seer helping families connect with those they've lost. Margaret's husband, serving in the Navy, may be lost. As the country reconstructs in the postwar boom, consequences of that encounter ripple through the next generation of both families and shows the major events of American history through the inhabitants of Bonhomie, Ohio.

• **Charmed Library**—Jennifer Moorman

• **Cleopatra**—Natasha Solomons. At his death, Pharoah wills that his favored daughter rule Egypt alongside her selfish brother Ptolemy. As Cleopatra sails the Nile to greet her people, he plots to destroy her and take the throne for himself. While Ptolemy has power, Cleopatra has her wits. When the Caesar arrives from Rome, she realizes that courting this powerful man could cost her everything.

• **Definitely Maybe NOT a Detective**

—Sarah Fox. Emersyn is unemployed and raising her beloved niece in the only place she can afford after her ex-boyfriend ran off with her life savings: a run-down, seniors-only apartment complex desperate for tenants. Her best friend has the perfect plan to get Emersyn back on her feet scare her thieving ex into returning her money. Hire a private investigator to prove he stole it. Only, there won't be an actual detective, just a fabricated business card from Wyatt Investigations and a stranger to play the part whose name is, coincidentally, Wyatt. When the superintendent of her apartment building winds up dead, her neighbors turn to her fake detective agency for help after finding one of the phony business cards.

• **Devil's Daughter**—Danielle Steel

• **First Do No Harm: a Lydia Chin/Bill Smith mystery**—S. J. Rozan. In the midst of negotiations to avert a nurses' strike, a member of the committee is found murdered. A morgue assistant is arrested and although he denies even knowing the victim, he is urged to take a plea. Hired by the arrested man's lawyer, Lydia and Bill must unlock the hospital's secrets to save an innocent man.

• **First Time I Saw Him**—Laura Dave. 5 years after her husband Owen disappeared, Hannah and her stepdaughter are putting the past behind them. But when Owen shows up, they are forced to go on the run in a relentless race to keep their past from catching up with them.

• **Friend of the Family**—Dean Koontz. Traveling depression-era America, Alida is resigned to an exploited life on the road as the Museum of the Strange's golden ticket—until she's rescued by compassionate strangers. Franklin & Loretta Fairchild see in Alida a gifted and well-read girl needing a loving family. With this couple and their imaginative children, Alida finds it. Despite everyone's overwhelming generosity and acceptance, Alida knows she is still very different. Her dreams are threatening and warn that the Fairchilds may need rescue from a bad, bad world.

• **Invisible Woman**—James Patterson. Elinor Gilbert once had a thriving career at the FBI. Now decades past solving crimes, she is forgettable. Which is exactly what her former FBI boss needs. He disguises Elinor as a middle-aged nanny and casts her as an agent on the inside an investigation into a New York art dealer suspected of ties to organized crime.

• **Lost Lambs**—Madeline Cash. The Flynn family is coming undone. Catherine and Bud's open marriage has reached its breaking point as their daughters spiral in their own chaotic orbits: Abigail is dating a man named War Crime Wes; Louise corresponds with an online terrorist; Harper, is sent to wilderness reform camp due to her insistence that someone—or something—is monitoring the town's citizens.

• **The Mad Wife**—Meagan Church. In the 1950s, Lulu spent 5 years molding herself into the ideal housewife and mother. Exhausted by expectations and haunted by tragic memories, she watches her new neighbor sy with her superficially perfect life until Lulu confronts the possibility that she might be headed down a dark path.

• **My Friends**—Fredrik Backman

• **My Husband's Wife**—Alice Feeney. Eden Fox, an artist on the brink of her big break, goes for a run. When she returns to Spyglass, an enchanting old house, nothing is as it should be. Her key doesn't fit. A woman, eerily similar to her, answers the door. Her husband insists that the stranger is his wife. One house. One husband. Two women. Someone is lying.

• **No One Would Do What The Lamberts Have Done**—Sophie Hannah. The doorbell. The policeman, "I'm afraid there's been an incident." For Sally those words mean one thing—danger. Not just for her family but for Champ their loyal and beloved dog. An accusation, a neighbor's grudge and suddenly the Lamberts are trapped in a nightmare with no escape. Unless they make one. Most people would never run or leave behind everything they know to protect an animal. But for Sally, Champ is one of her children. And most people aren't the Lamberts. The Lamberts have never been like any other family...

• **Otherwise Engaged**—Susan Mallery

• **Private Rome**—James Patterson

• **Right to Remain**—James Grippando. Miami criminal defense lawyer Jack Swytek's client, Elliott Stafford, indicted for murder, refuses to speak. There is no medical or psychological reason. He has chosen to be his own worst enemy. Jack tries to save Elliott from himself and as he investigates, he comes to believe that Elliott isn't trying to hide his own guilt. He may be protecting someone else.

• **Run On Red**—Noelle Ihli. A country road. No cell signal for miles. When Laura and Olivia notice the headlights tailing them, it's too late. What seems like road rage unfolds into a heart-pounding chase and a battle for survival.

• **Scavengers**—Kathleen Boland. A cautious daughter and her eccentric, estranged mother set off into the Wild West in search of buried treasure before they run out of money and options.

• **Shop on Hidden Lane**—Jayne Krentz

• **Skylark**—Paula McLain. 1664: Alouette dreams of creating a masterpiece. When her father is imprisoned, her efforts to save him lead to her confinement in an asylum. Within its grim walls, she finds a small group of brave allies and possibilities she never imagined. 1939 Paris: a medical student's neighbors are a Jewish family who have fled Poland. When Nazi forces descend on the city, Kristof becomes their only hope for survival.

• **The Snow Lies Deep: a Mercy Carr mystery**—Paula Munier. At the annual Solstice Soirée, Santa, aka the town mayor, staggers away and disappears into the woods. By the time Elvis and Mercy find him, he is dead. A yule log made of oak sits on his chest, burning bright, a beacon of light on the darkest day of the year.

• **The Storm**—Rachel Hawkins. When a writer comes to town to research a murder, Geneva's more interested in her struggling inn's bottom line than in solving a whodunit. The writer brings the accused murderer who says she's returned to clear her name. Geneva learns that some people can be just as deadly as any hurricane.

• **The Things We Leave Unfinished**—Rebecca Yarros

• **The Viper**—Brad Meltzer

• **Woman Down**—Colleen Hoover. Her next novel outlined and savings nearly gone, Petra retreats to a secluded cabin, hoping to find inspiration. It's her last-ditch attempt to save her career. When Detective Nathaniel Saint arrives with disturbing news, his presence ignites burned out creativity and her fictional cop character begins to mirror the real cop who's becoming her muse.

Thursday At The Bark Programs For Grown-Ups at 1

Rotating activities every week:
crafts, games, movies, puzzlepaloozas, speakers & more!

See schedule on SDL's website

New Movies

- *Afterburn*: After a massive solar flare destroys the Eastern Hemisphere, a treasure hunter goes to Europe to find the coveted Mona Lisa, only to learn the world needs a hero more than it needs a painting.
- *A Big Bold Beautiful Journey*: Some doors bring lead to your past. Some doors lead to your future. Some doors change everything. Sarah and David are single strangers who meet at a wedding and find themselves on a funny, fantastical adventure where they get to re-live important moments from their pasts and possibly alter their futures.
- *Hunting Season*: A girl and her father living deep in the woods, rescue a wounded young woman that washes up on the bank of the river. Their lives are forever changed by the mysterious stranger and the ruthless drug lord who will stop at nothing to kill her.
- *Icefall*: An Indigenous game warden arrests a poacher who knows where a crashed plane full of cash is hidden. Hunted by criminals and corrupt cops, the two team up to escape across a thawing lake.
- *The Long Walk*: In the near future, where America has become a police state, 100 boys are selected to enter an annual contest where the winner is awarded whatever he wants for the rest of his life. The game is simple, maintain a steady walking pace of four miles per hour without stopping. 3 warnings and you're out—permanently.
- *One Battle After Another*: Washed-up revolutionary Bob exists in a state of stoned paranoia, surviving off-grid with his spirited, self-reliant daughter, Willa. When his evil nemesis resurfaces after 16 years and she goes missing, the former radical scrambles to find her, father and daughter both battling the consequences of his past.
- *Roofman*: Based on an unbelievable true story. Jeffrey Manchester, an Army veteran and struggling father turns to robbing McDonald's restaurants by cutting holes in their roofs, earning him the nickname: Roofman. After escaping prison, he secretly lives inside a Toys "R" Us for six months, surviving undetected while planning his next move. But when he falls for Leigh, a divorced mom drawn to his undeniable charm, his double life begins to unravel, setting off a compelling and suspenseful game of cat and mouse as his past catches up with him.
- *The Senior*: At 59, Mike Flynt may be too old to be on a college football field, but not too old to feel the weight of unfinished business. After nearly four decades, he returns to his alma mater to take the hit that changed everything. Bruised, doubted, and nearly broken, he pushes for one more game, not for glory, but for the teammates he lost, the family he fractured and the ending he still believes is possible. This powerful true story shows that redemption is never out of reach and it's never too late to finish what you started.
- *Sketch*: When a young girl's sketchbook falls into a strange pond, her drawings come to life: unpredictable, chaotic and dangerously real. As the town unravels, she and her brother must track down the creatures before they leave permanent damage while their father races to find them through the fallout.
- *Smashing Machine*: The true story of legendary mixed martial arts and UFC fighter Mark Kerr, whose obsession with greatness made him a legend — and nearly cost him everything.
- *Soul On Fire*: Based on the true story of John O'Leary's miraculous recovery from a near-death accident when he was nine years old. Given no chance for survival, John endures an unbelievable road to recovery with the support of his family, faith, community and the kindness of his all-time hero, Baseball Hall of Fame announcer Jack Buck. Grateful for his miracle and shaped by life's struggles, John's mission to better the world inspires millions to do the extraordinary.
- *Stolen Girl*: An American woman spends more than ten years tracking down her daughter who was abducted and taken to the Middle East by the child's father.
- *Tron: Ares*: When a highly sophisticated Program named Ares is sent from the digital world into the real world on a dangerous mission, it marks humankind's first encounter with A.I. beings.
- *Truth & Treason*: A German teenager in WWII discovers his nation's ideals are built on lies. After his Jewish friend is seized and a bishop demands obedience to the Nazis, he secretly listens to banned broadcasts and joins the resistance, risking everything to decide what being a good German truly means.
- *Weapons*: When all but one child from the same class mysteriously vanish on the same night at exactly the same time, a community is left questioning who or what is behind their disappearance.
- *Wicked For Good*: Elphaba, hides in the forest and fights for Oz's oppressed Animals and seeking to reveal the Wizard's lies. Glinda, now a beloved public figure, enjoys fame in Emerald City. In the face of rising conflict, Elphaba and Glinda must reunite, confronting truth and empathy to change Oz forever.

Early Literacy Programs At SDL's Bark Shanty Branch

Baby Time

Newborn to 24 months

Thursday at 10

Age appropriate activities,
books, crafts, songs and FUN!

Toddler Time

2-4 year olds

Thursday at 10:30

Children must be accompanied
by an adult caregiver

Baby Time & Toddler Time
are cancelled if CPS is closed
due to the weather.

New Books For Kids Picture Books

- *Rainbow Fish and the Great Escape*—Marcus Pfister
- *Crayons* series—Drew Daywalt
 - *The Crayons So Back To School*
 - *The Day The Crayons Came Home*
 - *The Day The Crayons Made Friends*
 - *The Day The Crayons Quit*
- *Tic, Tac and Toe*—Sheri Dillard

New Graphic Novels

- *Bluey: The Sign*
- *Dog Man: Big Jim Believes*—Dav Pilkey

New Nonfiction

- *Adventures in Math: how to level up your math game*—Carleigh Wu
- *The Cherokee: people, culture and history*—Twila Barnes
- *Dinosaurs Are WOW!: a Roaring Thunder of Prehistoric Wonder*—Mindy Thomas
- *The Gift of Freedom: how Harriet Tubman rescued her brothers*—Glennette Turner

Middle school

• *Don't Stand So Close To Me*—Eric Walters

• *The Road From Nowhere*—Avi. In a mining town in the high Colorado desert. Ollie is desperate to find a lode of silver, so he can get rich and get his family out of town. A geologist arrives. Not only can he read books, he can read rocks. He knows how to stake a silver claim. So when Ollie, Gus and Alys find a cave rich with silver, the future suddenly looks good. The problem: Elijah Gatchett runs the Gulch and claims all its silver.

• *The Trouble With Heroes*—Kate Messner. After knocking down the grave-stone of a legendary mountain climber, Finn is offered a deal by the climber's daughter: if he climbs all 46 Adirondack High Peaks in one summer with the man's dog he won't face charges.

Books For Teens

• *Fly Boy*—Eric Walters. Robbie lies to enlist in the Air Force. He wanted to be a pilot, like his father who is a POW. Sent to England, he completes bombing missions in enemy territory. When the pilot and many of the crew are shot. It's up to Robbie and his piloting experience to save the crew ... and himself.

• *Made 4 You*—Eric Walters. After new student, Gene and Becky become friends, he confides a secret that turns Becky's life upside down.

• *The Same Backward As Forward*—Jennifer Lynn Barnes. A tragic love story between a charismatic heir with no memories and the woman nursing him back to health who has every reason to hate him.

• *Torchfire: The Torch Trilogy #2*—Moira Buffini. Lark has fled Northaven with her mother and is urgently seeking a safe haven. Nightingale is being held captive and forced to use her songlight against her own people. Piper has been promoted up the ranks, where nothing but bloodshed is demanded of him. Rye has stumbled across an incredible airship, the likes of which has never been seen before. . . . All four are united by their desire for peace.

• *Under A Fire-Red Sky*—Geraldine McCaughrean. With their school taken over by the fire service in World War II four friends try to be useful. Lawrence is building a secret machine. Gemmy searches bombed-out homes for things and finds an adorable mutt she can't give away. Franklin wants to join the fire service, even if it means lying about his age. Olive looks after her father, haunted by the deaths of his fellow firemen. But as the Blitz unleashes bombs, can they keep each other safe?

After School Club

Thursdays: 3:30 to 4:45

At SDL's Bark Shanty Library Branch
for 1st - 8th graders

Miss Cyndi is planning something FUN and different every week
Activities, Crafts, Games, LEGOs, Movies, STEM and more!

February 5: Game Day!

February 12: Olympic STEM Challenge & Crafts

February 19: Lego[©] Challenges

February 27: Movie Time

Note To Parents

1. Snacks will be served. Parents, please send a letter if your child has a food allergy.
2. Parents are not required to remain during the program, unless your child is younger than 6 years old.
3. Children MUST be picked up at the end time.

Programs are canceled if CPS is closed due to the weather.