



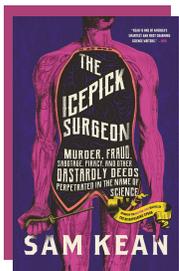
# the ORLA newsletter.

NOVEMBER 2021



# NATIVE AMERICAN

heritage month



## THE ICEPICK SURGEON

SAM KEAN

"Sam Kean's *The Icepick Surgeon* is a fascinating, albeit quite dark, read about bad things done in the name of scientific advancement. The story spans nearly 2,000 years of history, beginning with Cleopatra and bringing us to more recent events of the 20th century, such as the Tuskegee

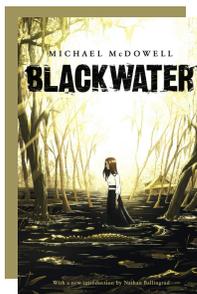
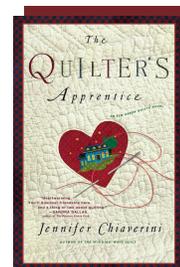
Syphilis Study and the history of the Unabomber. This is my favorite type of nonfiction — manageable vignettes pieced together under one overarching theme. Though unlike Kean's other works, *The Icepick Surgeon* does have quite a broad theme. It was hard to connect the stories to each other besides the whole bad person does an evil science experiment thing. At the same time, that's what the book is advertised as and that's exactly what you get. I was nervous going into this book thinking I'd be lost in the depths of medical and scientific jargon, but it is written in a way that even I could understand. Squeamish readers be warned; some chapters do get pretty graphic (such as the tale of the actual 'icepick surgeon') and others are sprinkled with questionable, outdated terminology."  
 -- Emily Kluck, Oil City Library

# STAFF PICKS

## THE QUILTER'S APPRENTICE

JENNIFER CHIAVERINI

"*The Quilter's Apprentice* is the first book in the Elm Creek series and takes place in Waterford, PA. Sarah McClure and her husband, Matt, move to Waterford, PA hoping to make a fresh start in a small college town. Sarah takes a temporary job at Elm Creek Manor helping the elderly owner, Sylvia Compson, prepare the family estate for sale. Sylvia, who is a master quilter, teaches Sarah the secrets of quilting. During their lessons together, Sylvia begins to tell Sarah about her life living through World War II: the hardships and agonies, a family torn apart by betrayal, jealousy, and tragedy. Sarah helps Sylvia to break free from her sorrows as well as returning her home to its former glory while confronting her own painful truths of her own family while creating new dreams for her future. I really enjoyed this book because of its quilting theme. It simply amazes me that people have such incredible talent to create beautiful masterpieces when designing and making quilts." -- Kathy Lynch, Oil City Library



## BLACKWATER

MICHAEL MCDOWELL

"This book was originally published as a serial in the 80's but I read it because it was re-released digitally recently and has been added to our digital collection. Blackwater is an 800 page southern gothic epic that starts with a devastating flood in Perdido, Alabama and a mysterious woman found in the partially flooded hotel where no one should reasonably be. It only gets more interesting from there. This book is generally considered horror because of some of the supernatural elements in it, but to me it feels more like a soap opera or family epic. This is one of the very few times that I think a book would be better as a TV serial than as a novel. McDowell is a master at writing family dynamics and characters and I was genuinely sad when I had to leave them behind at the book's end. I will say that the pacing is slow so I recommend it to anyone who wants something that they can really sink their teeth into and enjoy." -- Amanda Barker, Cooperstown Public Library

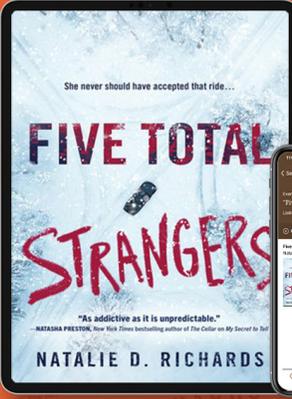


## WANNA SUBMIT YOUR OWN BOOK REVIEW?

Email a review of a book you read recently (good or bad!) to [promotions@oilregionlibraries.org](mailto:promotions@oilregionlibraries.org) to be featured in a future issue of the ORLA Newsletter!

# Big Library Read on Libby, November 1-15

Join the #BigLibraryRead digital book club! Borrow the eBook or audiobook of 'Five Total Strangers' by New York Times Bestselling Author, Natalie D. Richards, from Libby with no waitlists or holds from November 1st through the 15th. Join the discussion & share your thoughts about the title with readers around the world.



November 1-15, 2021

She thought being stranded was the worst thing that could happen. She was wrong.

**Libby.**  
The library reading app



## Drake Well Museum Family Passes Now Available at All ORLA Locations

They're here! You can now visit Drake Well Museum & Park with your family completely free of charge by checking out a Drake Well Family Pass from your local library using your library card! Drake Well Museum & Park, located in Titusville, houses the site where Col. Edwin Drake first struck oil in 1859. Each ORLA location has two passes that check out for two weeks each. Check with your local ORLA branch for availability.

## November Adult Crafting Night: Mini Chalkboards

Join us at the Oil City Library on Tuesday, November 16th at 5:30PM for our next Adult Crafting Night! We're making mini chalkboards this month! Registration is free and all materials will be provided, but spots are limited to 20 participants. Secure your spot by registering at the Oil City Library or online at [oilregionlibraries.org](http://oilregionlibraries.org) in the Events & Programs Calendar.



## Friends of the Franklin Public Library to Hold Cookie Walk, 50/50 Raffle This Month

Stop in to the Franklin Public Library this month to get your 50/50 tickets for \$1.00 each. All proceeds benefit the Franklin Public Library & the winner will be drawn on December 1st. The Friends of the Library will also be hosting their annual Cookie Walk fundraiser during Light Up Night in downtown Franklin on Saturday, November 20th. Stop by the library between 12:00PM - 3:00PM to purchase cookies from local bakers at \$5.00/dozen.

# NATIVE AMERICAN

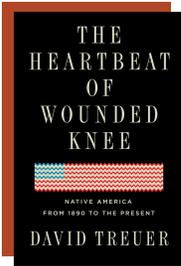
## heritage month

Check out some of these Native American Heritage titles available through any ORLA location!

 Also Available on OverDrive & Libby

### THE HEARTBEAT OF WOUNDED KNEE

DAVID TREUER



Beginning with the tribes' devastating loss of land & the forced assimilation of their children at government-run boarding schools, Treuer shows how the period of greatest adversity also helped to incubate a unifying Native identity. He traces how conscription in the US military & the pull of urban life brought Indians into the mainstream & modern times, even as it steered the emerging shape of their self-rule & spawned a new generation of resistance.

### EVERYTHING YOU WANTED TO KNOW ABOUT INDIANS BUT WERE AFRAID TO ASK

ANTON TREUER 



A book of questions and answers for Native and non-Native readers alike. Ranging from 'Why is there such a fuss about non-Native people wearing Indian costumes for Halloween?' to 'Why is it called a traditional Indian fry bread taco?' to 'What's it like for Natives who don't look Native?' to 'Why are Indians so often imagined rather than understood?' and beyond, this book does exactly what its title says for readers.

### APPLE: SKIN TO THE CORE

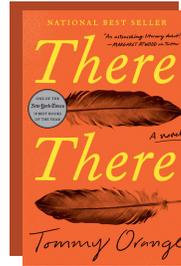
ERIC GANSWORTH



In this memoir, Eric Gansworth tells his story, the story of his family--of Onondaga among Tuscaroras--of Native folks everywhere. From the horrible legacy of the government boarding schools, to a boy watching his siblings leave and return and leave again, to a young man fighting to be an artist who balances multiple worlds.

### THERE THERE

TOMMY ORANGE



Tommy Orange's wondrous and shattering novel follows twelve characters from Native communities: all traveling to the Big Oakland Powwow, all connected to one another in ways they may not yet realize.

### CODE TALKER

JOSEPH BRUCHAC



YOUNG ADULT

After being taught in a boarding school run by whites that Navajo is a useless language, Ned Begay and other Navajo men are recruited by the Marines to become Code Talkers, sending messages during World War II in their native tongue.

### ELATSOE

DARCIE LITTLE BADGER



YOUNG ADULT

Elatsoe lives in an alternate contemporary America shaped by the ancestral magics & knowledge of its Indigenous & immigrant groups. She can raise the spirits of dead animals--most importantly, her ghost dog Kirby. When her cousin dies, all signs point to a car crash, but his ghost tells her otherwise: He was murdered.

### FIREKEEPER'S DAUGHTER

ANGELINE BOULLEY 



YOUNG ADULT

Daunis has never quite fit in, either in her hometown or on the nearby Ojibwe reservation. She dreams of college, but when her family is struck by tragedy she puts her future on hold to care for her fragile mother. The only bright spot is meeting Jamie, a new recruit on her brother Levi's hockey team. When Daunis witnesses a shocking murder, she reluctantly agrees to go undercover, drawing on her knowledge of chemistry & Ojibwe traditional medicine to track down the source of a new drug.

### ANCESTOR APPROVED

EDITED BY CYNTHIA LEITICH SMITH 

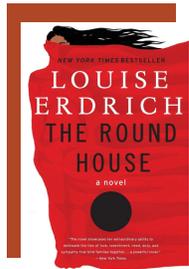


JUVENILE

Edited by award-winning and bestselling author Cynthia Leitich Smith, this collection of intersecting stories by both new and veteran Native writers bursts with hope, joy, resilience, the strength of community, and Native pride.

# THE ROUND HOUSE

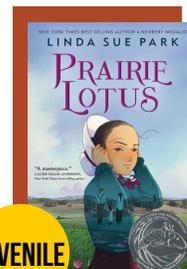
LOUISE ERDRICH



One of the most revered novelists of our time--a brilliant chronicler of Native-American life--Louise Erdrich returns to the territory of her bestselling, Pulitzer Prize finalist *The Plague of Doves* with *The Round House*, transporting readers to the Ojibwe reservation in North Dakota. It is an exquisitely told story of a boy on the cusp of manhood who seeks justice and understanding in the wake of a terrible crime that upends & forever transforms his family.

# PRAIRIE LOTUS

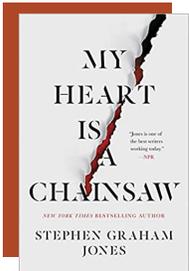
LINDA SUE PARK



*Prairie Lotus* is a powerful, touching, multilayered book about a girl determined to fit in & realize her dreams: getting an education, becoming a dressmaker in her father's shop, & making at least one friend. Acclaimed, award-winning author Linda Sue Park has placed a young half-Asian girl, Hanna, in a small town in America's heartland, in 1880. Hanna's adjustment to her new surroundings, which primarily means negotiating the townspeople's almost unanimous prejudice against Asians, is at the heart of the story.

# MY HEART IS A CHAINSAW

STEPHEN GRAHAM JONES



On the surface is a story of murder in small-town America. But beneath is its beating heart: a biting critique of American colonialism, Indigenous displacement, and gentrification, and a heartbreaking portrait of a broken young girl who uses horror movies to cope with the horror of her own life.

# TREATY WORDS

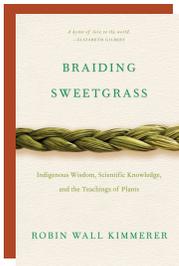
AIMÉE CRAFT



On the banks of the river that have been Mishomis's home his whole life, he teaches his granddaughter to listen--to hear both the sounds and the silences, and so to learn her place in Creation. Most importantly, he teaches her about treaties--the bonds of reciprocity and renewal that endure for as long as the sun shines, the grass grows, and the rivers flow.

# BRAIDING SWEETGRASS

ROBIN WALL KIMMERER



Drawing on her life as an indigenous scientist, and as a woman, Kimmerer shows how other living beings--asters and goldenrod, strawberries and squash, salamanders, algae, and sweetgrass--offer us gifts and lessons, even if we've forgotten how to hear their voices. In reflections that range from the creation of Turtle Island to the forces that threaten its flourishing today, she circles toward a central argument: that the awakening of ecological consciousness requires the acknowledgment and celebration of our reciprocal relationship with the rest of the living world. For only when we can hear the languages of other beings will we be capable of understanding the generosity of the earth, and learn to give our own gifts in return.

# REDBONE: THE TRUE STORY OF A NATIVE AMERICAN ROCK BAND

CHRISTIAN STAEBLER



Brothers Pat and Lolly Vegas were talented Native American rock musicians that took the 1960s Sunset Strip by storm. They influenced The Doors and jammed with Jimmy Hendrix before he was "Jimi," and the idea of a band made up of all Native Americans soon followed. Determined to control their creative vision and maintain their cultural identity, they eventually signed a deal with Epic Records in 1969. But as the American Indian Movement gained momentum the band took a stand, choosing pride in their ancestry over continued commercial reward.



*Native American Heritage Month YA display at the Oil City Library.*

# YOUTH PROGRAM SPOTLIGHT

ORLA in-person youth programs are slowly returning!  
Here's some of the newest ones that we're excited about.



## ANIME CLUB

OIL CITY & FRANKLIN  
LIBRARIES  
AGES 13+  
EVERY OTHER  
THURSDAY AT 4:00

Anime watch party, discussion &  
activity every other week!



## LOFT

LITERACY AND OPPORTUNITY FOR TEENS

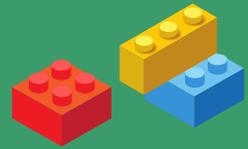
OIL CITY LIBRARY  
AGES 13+  
EVERY OTHER THURSDAY AT 4:00

Board games, video games,  
STEM activities, experiments,  
competitions & more for teens!

## BRICK BUILD

COOPERSTOWN PUBLIC LIBRARY  
AGES 6-12  
MONDAYS AT 5:30

Free play with bricks & blocks!



## CIRCUITS



FRANKLIN PUBLIC LIBRARY  
AGES 8-12  
THURSDAYS AT 4:00

Learn more about engineering,  
construction, and circuitry while  
making bristlebots, paper  
circuits and more!

## CODE CLUB

OIL CITY LIBRARY  
AGES 8+  
THURSDAYS AT 3:45

Learn computer programming  
skills through a series of  
tutorials and projects. Build  
websites, video games, phone  
apps, animations and more!



## Coloring Group Returns to Cooperstown Library

The adult coloring group is back at the Cooperstown Public Library! Come color your stress away from 2:00-3:30PM every Thursday. Coloring books & utensils are provided if you forget yours. Can't wait to see you!



## Christmas Past at the Oil City Library Next Month

The Oil City Library will be hosting multiple events Saturday, December 4th for Oil City's annual Christmas Past celebration. Featured events include an OCHS Student Art Show, a Children's Snowman Craft & Reading to PAWS 4 A Cause Therapy Dogs. Keep an eye out for more information as we get closer to December!



## Local Author Meet & Greet

Join us Tuesday, Nov. 9th, 5:30PM at the Oil City Library for a Meet & Greet with local author **John Pozza**! Now retired after a career in journalism, organizational communications, human services and education, John Pozza has taken the time to write his memoir, "Was Anybody Really Listening?...Trials and Tribulations of a Sports Broadcaster". A longtime reporter and broadcaster, John has a regular column, Down Life's Crazy Road, that appears in the monthly Brookville, Brockway and Clarion, Pennsylvania Mirror. He has also been published in the Watershed Journal, the Jeffersonian Journal, the Jeffersonian-Democrat, the Courier-Express, Tri-County Weekend, the Leader-Vindicator, the Clarion News and the Derrick. He resides in Brookville, Pa. with his wife Lisa, and their three cats Boots, Rusty and Jasmine.



## Upcoming Workshops



**COMPUTER BASICS**  
FRANKLIN PUBLIC LIBRARY  
4PM - 6PM  
FREE

Join us for a Computer Basics Workshop, courtesy of PA CareerLink! Whether it's learning how to create a resume on Microsoft Word, writing an email or just checking Facebook, they'll be here to help you learn the basics! This workshop is free to attend & open to anyone. Register by visiting the Franklin Public Library or calling (814) 432-5062. Walk-ins are okay too!



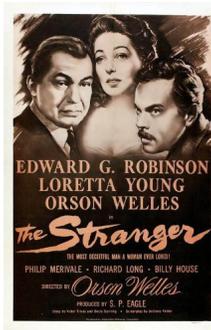
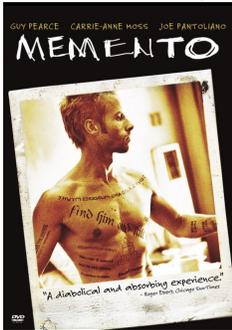
**EMPLOYER EXPECTATIONS**  
OIL CITY LIBRARY  
10AM - 11AM  
FREE

Join us for an Employer Expectations Workshop courtesy of PA CareerLink! Learn about what employers are expecting from an employee in the workplace, including hard skills and soft skills. To register, visit the Oil City Library or call (814) 678-3072. Walk-ins are okay too!

# FEATURED DIGITAL RESOURCES

Available at [www.oilregionlibraries.org](http://www.oilregionlibraries.org)

## 'Noirvember' on [kanopy](https://www.kanopy.com)



Stream these & more for free with your library card.

## FEATURED LIBRARY EQUIPMENT

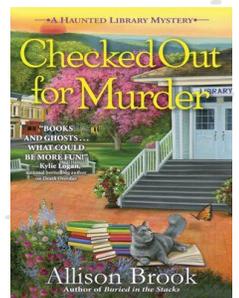
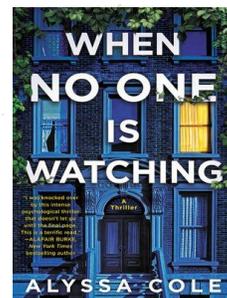
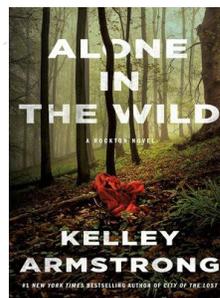
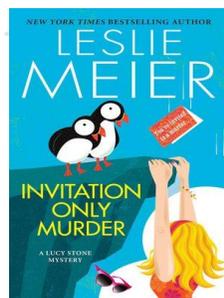


### SEGA HOMESTAR FLUX

Imagine enjoying the sky full of stars while sitting on your sofa. This dream can become reality with the Sega Homestar Flux planetarium, projecting the night sky & constellations onto your ceiling! Flux is the most powerful and most advanced model available to date. Check out the Sega Homestar Flux today with your library card FOR FREE!



**FEMALE SLEUTHS**  
solving crimes & catching  
crooks on OverDrive & Libby



Read & listen for free with your library card.



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(814) 678-3072



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Franklin, PA 16323  
(814) 432-5062



182 N. Main St.  
Cooperstown, PA 16317  
(814) 374-4605

