

Library Hours

Mon-Thu: 10:00 a.m. - 9:00 p.m.
 Fri: 10:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.
 Sat: 10:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
 Sun: 1:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Holiday Closings

All library buildings will be closed on 5/27 and 5/28 in observance of Memorial Day.



You can always access ebooks, audiobooks, and more at www.wrl.org/digital.

Non-Profit Organization
 U.S. Postage
 PAID
 Williamsburg, VA
 Permit No. 249

Have You Checked Out Our Book Groups Yet?



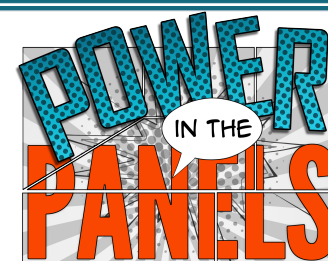
WhoDunnits: A Mystery Book Group

Next Meeting: May 1, 7 p.m., Williamsburg Library
 What We're Reading: *The Sherlockian* by Graham Moore
 WhoDunnits is a discussion group devoted to mysteries. This year we'll be reading about the Great Detective, Sherlock Holmes. If you miss our May meeting, catch up with us on June 5, when we'll be reading *From Holmes to Sherlock* by Mattias Bostrom.



Fellowship in a Ring: A Science Fiction and Fantasy Book Group

Next Meeting: May 9, 7 p.m., James City County Library
 Fellowship in a Ring meets to discuss science fiction and fantasy books, films, television, and pop culture. We distribute a short list of recommended books at the prior month's meeting, but readers are also welcome to share other science fiction or fantasy titles or simply join in the group conversation.



Power in the Panels: A Graphic Novel Group

Next Meeting: May 9, 7 p.m., Stryker Center
 What We're Reading: *Threadbare* by Anne Elizabeth Moore
 Power in the Panels is a group for graphic novel enthusiasts (18+, please) who want to read and talk about independent graphic novels. This month's selection delves into the rise of fast fashion and the social issues surrounding this trend.



Turning Pages: A Contemporary Fiction and Nonfiction Book Group

Next Meeting: May 15, 7 p.m., Williamsburg Library
 What We're Reading: *The Private Life of Mrs. Sharma* by Ratika Kapur
 Turning Pages offers the opportunity to talk about the art and ideas of critically acclaimed and prize-winning titles. In this month's selection, a traditional Indian woman strikes up a life-changing conversation with a stranger.



Real People/Real Stories: A Nonfiction Book Group

Next Meeting: May 17, 2 p.m., Stryker Center
 What We're Reading: *The Radium Girls* by Kate Moore
 Real People/Real Stories focuses on nonfiction books in the areas of history, biography, science, and nature. *The Radium Girls* is the true story of female factory workers who found themselves sickening from radiation poisoning. Their legal case set a precedent in labor law that still holds true today.



Novel Ideas: A Contemporary Fiction and Nonfiction Book Group

Next Meeting: May 21, 2 p.m., James City County Library
 What We're Reading: *Gardens of Consolation* by Parisa Reza.
 Novel Ideas is an exploration of classic and contemporary fiction and nonfiction. In this month's selection, a peasant couple tries to raise their son in the turbulent world of Tehran's revolutionary 20th century.

Sam Phillips: Music Man from Memphis



He founded Sun Records and discovered Elvis Presley, but who was Sam Phillips? Find out the details of the life of one of the most influential musical entrepreneurs of the 20th century -- 5/23, 2 p.m. at the Stryker Center.



Book Sale Results

Last month the Friends of WRL Foundation hosted their annual book sale, and we're pleased to report that it was once again a resounding success! WRL facilities staff brought over 200 boxes to the sales area on Thursday and brought back only 30 boxes of books after the sale wrapped up on Sunday -- that's a lot of books, DVDs, CDs, and audiobooks being sold!

Overall the event raised \$12,994.40 in sales, plus \$1,205.00 in new memberships.

None of this would have been possible without the dedication of our book sale volunteers, who donated over 180 hours of time to setting up and running the event.

"It is gratifying to see so many people show support for Williamsburg Regional Library by attending and purchasing books at the Annual Book Sale," said Jean Johnston, a Friends of WRL Foundation board member. "Not only are they able to purchase books at affordable prices, but it is an opportunity to gather together at this much-anticipated community event."

For more information about the Friends of WRL Foundation, head to www.wrl.org/give.

Thursday Film Series

This Month: Americans Travelling Abroad

5/3 - *I Met Him in Paris*
 5/10 - *Bon Voyage!*
 5/17 - *Roman Holiday*
 5/24 - *French Kiss*
 5/31 - *If It's Tuesday, This Must Be Belgium*



All feature films begin at 2 p.m. in the Williamsburg Library Theatre. Find complete film descriptions on our calendar at www.wrl.org/events/films.

Featured Events for Kids



Celebrate Children's Book Week
5/3, 6:30 p.m.
Williamsburg Library

Come help us celebrate the wonderful world of children's literature with a storytime and craft.



STEAM Saturdays: Animal Adventures

5/19, 1-4 p.m., *James City County Library*

Our May STEAM Saturday is all about animal adventures -- we'll have experts from both the Virginia Living Museum and the Virginia Aquarium visit, as well as interactive STEAM activities and science-related art projects.

Welcome Summer

5/26, 11 a.m. - 3 p.m., *James City County Library*

Welcome summer in the James City County Library's backyard! Come play in the sand, try your hand at cornhole, kick a beachball around, or draw at the picnic table.

Check out all this month's great kids events and more at www.wrl.org/kids.

Featured Events for Teens



May the Fourth Trivia
5/4, 5-6 p.m.
Williamsburg Library

Join us for Star Wars trivia and prizes -- and may the force be with you this May the Fourth!

Teen Advisory Group

5/3, 6 p.m., *Williamsburg Library*

Share your ideas for teen services and programs.

Anime Movie & Craft

5/15, 5:30-8:30 p.m., *Williamsburg Library*

Join us for the award-winning *Tale of Princess Kaguya* (PG) and to create paper lanterns. Ages 12-18.

Teen Writing Lounge

5/20, 2-3:30 p.m., *James City County Library*

Enjoy writing exercises and fun prompts for inspiration and practice. Beginners and experienced writers welcome.

Check out all this month's great teen events and more at www.wrl.org/teens.

Featured Events for Adults



Solar Power in Williamsburg
5/17, 7 p.m.
James City County Library

Interested in going solar? Join Aaron Sutch from Solar United Neighbors of Virginia to learn the facts about solar power. He will explain the benefits of solar, how it works, and how to get started, then answer your questions.

Dewey Decibel Concert Series

Various Dates, 7:30 p.m., *Williamsburg Library*

Mark your calendars for the amazing performances we have coming up this month. Join us on 5/4 for Muriel Anderson, with special guest harp-guitarist Matt Thomas. Next up, mandolinist/vocalist Steve Smith and Nashville guitarist/vocalist Tim May take the stage on 5/18. Finally, Virginia Symphony's "Celebrations" Brass Ensemble will perform on 5/23. Check www.wrl.org/dewey for ticket info. This series is sponsored by the Friends of WRL Foundation.

Protect Yourself Online

5/10, 12 p.m., *Stryker Center*

James Scott from the Office of the Attorney General of Virginia will discuss how his office protects consumers on the internet.

Day of Dance

5/13, 2 p.m., *Williamsburg Library*

Dance studios from around Williamsburg will perform for you on Mother's Day. Come enjoy different styles of dance from ballet to Irish step.

Getaway Cafe: Impressionist Artists and Their Gardens

5/18, 2 p.m., *James City County Library*

Celebrate gardens and how Impressionist artists portray them in this program for adults with early memory loss and their care partners.

Bike Maintenance

5/20, 2 p.m., *Williamsburg Library*

For National Bike Month, certified bike mechanic Doug Backman will offer tips to keep your bike in tip-top shape.

Penniman: Virginia's Own Ghost City

5/26, 2 p.m., *James City County Library*

Author Rosemary Thornton will talk about her popular book and the lost city of Penniman, Virginia. Penniman was the site of a DuPont munitions plant that produced artillery shells during World War I. At its peak, it had 15,000 inhabitants, but when the war ended, so did the town.

Find all of this month's library programs & classes at www.wrl.org/events.

Author Profile: Sharyn McCrumb



Although she started her career writing mysteries (*Sick of Shadows*), and recently updated *The Canterbury Tales* with NASCAR pilgrims (*St. Dale*), Sharyn McCrumb is best known for her Ballad novels. She is a storyteller, often drawing on her own family's history for her timeless tales of good and evil, while her ability to create a firm sense of her Appalachian setting adds a special dimension to her writing.

The hills and valleys of Virginia, North Carolina, and Tennessee play as important a role in her fiction as the human characters do. McCrumb's people have a deep-seated love of their land, which at times brings them into conflict with the interests and desires of contemporary culture. There are crimes committed in the Ballad novels, but McCrumb is less interested in solving a mystery than in exploring how culture and long-past events influence her characters. Music is an essential piece of McCrumb's novels, which she constructs along the lines of traditional Appalachian ballads. Just as they often do in those ballads, ghosts make appearances, sometimes for

good and sometimes for ill. The ability of some of McCrumb's characters to see, at least dimly, into both the future and the past brings an air of magical realism to the stories.

Through her affection for her characters, an abiding interest in the music and stories of the mountains, and an unsentimental perspective on human nature, McCrumb continues the heritage of the balladeers who recorded oral histories in their art. For a good introduction to the Ballad novels, try *The Hangman's Beautiful Daughter* or *The Ballad of Frankie Silver*. While the Ballad stories include recurring characters, the books do not connect in a series.

Sharyn McCrumb will be speaking at the Williamsburg Library Theatre on June 2 at 7 pm.

This article is adapted from a piece written by Barry Trott for the readers' resource *NovelList*, which is available at www.wrl.org/find.

Harry Potter Escape Room

Recover your ticket for the Hogwarts Express, or you'll miss the ride of a lifetime! Escape Rooms are a popular new activity in which participants are faced with a series of puzzles they must complete in a set amount of time, and WRL is getting in on the fun this May 12 with a special Harry Potter-themed Escape Room experience. Teens ages 13-18 can use fan knowledge and teamwork to find their ticket for the Hogwarts Express before the clock runs out. Some of the puzzles will require them to unlock padlocks, use a decoder, and search around the room for items that contain clues -- all while the clock is ticking!

We'll be sending teams of six through the Escape Room at 30 minute intervals from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Williamsburg Library, and we'll have Harry Potter movies running in the Theatre to keep you entertained as you wait. Participants can register as a group or be paired up with other groups as needed. All registration takes place the day of the event -- call 757.259.4050 with questions.

