



Englewood History with Zest!

Lemon Bay Fest 2025

Guide to Programs and Events

What is Lemon Bay Fest?



Lemon Bay Fest was founded in 2002 to celebrate the arts, culture and history of the Lemon Bay area. Every year, the Elsie Quirk Library and the Englewood Charlotte Public Library partner to create a week of programs and activities. We hope you enjoy them all!



Buchan's Landing
illustration by Carol
Middleton. Photo
courtesy of The
Englewood Museum.



Locations

Lemon Bay Fest takes place at six locations throughout Englewood. Events in this booklet are color coded and labeled to distinguish between locations.

Lemon Bay Woman's Club

51 N Maple St., Englewood

Elsie Quirk Library

100 W Dearborn St., Englewood

Cookie House at Cedar Point Environmental Park

2300 Placida Road, Englewood

Englewood-Charlotte Library

3450 N Access Road, Englewood

Englewood Museum Historic Lampp House

604 Perry St., Englewood

Pioneer Plaza

325 W Dearborn St., Englewood

Special Thanks to our Partners

Englewood Museum

LEMON BAY WOMAN'S CLUB
ORGANIZED 1918



Lemon Bay
Historical Society



FRIENDS
of the
ELSIE
QUIRK
LIBRARY



Activities All Week



Lemon Bay Fest Bingo

Pick up a bingo card from **Elsie Quirk** or **Englewood Charlotte** libraries. Bring your cards back to the library for a stamp on each of your completed activities. Complete a whole row and bring your card to **The Dearborn Coffeehouse and Bakery** for a free coffee or pastry, from Feb. 1-22.

Englewood Photography Contest

Take a photo for a chance to see it hanging in Elsie Quirk Library's art gallery! Stop by the Elsie Quirk Library for applications and more information.

Children's Scavenger Hunt at Elsie Quirk Library

Stop by the youth desk for your clues. The Sour Lemons are back and more eager to be found than ever!


Sarasota County




CHARLOTTE COUNTY
FLORIDA



Saturday, Feb. 1



Seashells 101

Englewood Shell Club | 11 a.m. to 12 p.m.

The Englewood Shell club will share their enthusiasm for shells and the local environment. Shells from the Club's collection will be on display as members share an overview of local shells and best conservation practices on the beach.

Elsie Quirk Library



Englewood Museum Open House

1-4 p.m.

Learn about Englewood's history through the many local artifacts preserved here.

Historic Lampp House



Good Day Sunshine State: The Beatles in 1964 Florida

Bob Kealing | 2-3 p.m.

Through dozens of primary interviews, letters, photographs and court transcripts, Bob Kealing chronicles the Beatles' travels in this presentation through the potboiler that was 1964 Florida.

Englewood Charlotte Public Library

Monday, Feb. 3



Lemon Bay Woman's Club Open House

9:30 a.m. to 12 p.m.

Learn about this recognized Sarasota Historical Building and its role in Englewood's early history.

Lemon Bay Woman's Club



Sewing Zesty Microwavable Heating Pads

Registration Required | 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m

Join Elsie Quirk Library staff to learn how to make your own microwavable heating pad with a relaxing lemon lavender scent and a hand-sewn lemon design.

Elsie Quirk Library



American Roots Music Roadshow

Vermont's Easy Street | 2-3 p.m.

Lisa Brande and Mark Trichka of Vermont's Easy Street will present an upbeat jaunt through American history in story and song featuring Bluegrass, Swing, Country, Cajun and Zydeco and some early Rock & Roll music.

Elsie Quirk Library



Tuesday, Feb. 4



Telling Florida Food Stories

Dalia Colón | 10:30-11:30 a.m.

Journalist and author Dalia Colón of WUSF's "The Zest" podcast explores Florida's history through the lens of food -- from indigenous food, to the rise and fall of the citrus industry, to modern sustainability efforts.

Elsie Quirk Library



Breaking Down the Myth of the 'Pirate' Jose Gaspar

Neil Durrant | 2-3 p.m.

Join Charlotte County History Librarian Neil Durrant for a discussion about the myth of Jose Gaspar, the fictional Spanish pirate who terrorized the Gulf of Mexico from his base in southwest Florida during the late 18th and early 19th centuries.

Englewood Charlotte Public Library

Wednesday, Feb. 5



Artistic Shell Design - **Registration required**

Carolyn Robinette | 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

We will decorate shells collected from our local beaches using vibrant napkins and Mod Podge, transforming them into stunning keepsakes.

Elsie Quirk Library



Englewood Museum Open House

11 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Learn about Englewood's history through the many local artifacts preserved here.

Historic Lampp House



Englewood: Charlotte's Redheaded Step Kid

James Abraham | 2-3 p.m.

Join Author James Abraham for a presentation about how ill-fated Englewood never really recovered from the Great Depression and the diverting of U.S. 41.

Englewood Charlotte Public Library



Lemon Lab

3:45-4:30 p.m.

Join the children's librarian to conduct some experiments and learn all about acidity! **Recommended for ages 5 to 8.**

Elsie Quirk Library



Thursday, Feb. 6



A History of Indian Mound Park

Clay Bush | 10:30-11:30 a.m.

Join Sarasota County Archaeologist Clay Bush for an exploration of the history of the site at Indian Mound Park, plus how archaeologists identify, interpret and protect significant coastal sites like it.

Elsie Quirk Library



Little Adventures - Lemon Bay Fest Edition

10:30-11:30 a.m.

Join us for story time filled with a variety of early literacy activities that include music, stories, movement, crafts and school readiness—all about lemons! **Recommended for ages 2 to 5.**

Elsie Quirk Library



The Industrial Development of Charlotte County

Dr. Jennifer Zoebelein | 2-3 p.m.

Join Charlotte County Historian, Dr. Jennifer Zoebelein, for a discussion of how the railroads and phosphate contributed to the industrial development of Charlotte County.

Englewood Charlotte Public Library



Friday, Feb. 7



Guiding Lights: An Illustrated History of Florida's Most Famous Lighthouses

Liz Coursen | 10:30-11:30 a.m.

Join author Liz Coursen as she discusses the little-known but vital role that lighthouses played in Florida's history, using colorful vintage postcards and contemporaneous ephemera, in this lively and fast-paced lecture.

Elsie Quirk Library



Cookie House Tours

10:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.

Join Charlotte County library and history staff for a tour of the historic "Cookie House" at the Cedar Point Environmental Park.

Cedar Point Environmental Park



Marjory Stoneman Douglas and Rachel Carson: Their Books Changed the World

Betty Jean Steinshouer | 3-4 p.m.

Join author Betty Jean Steinshouer for a presentation celebrating the women who started the environmental movement, with "The Everglades: River of Grass" in 1947 and "Silent Spring" in 1964. Without them, much of Florida's beautiful flora and fauna would have been lost.

Englewood Charlotte Public Library

Saturday, Feb. 8



Cracker Fair

10 a.m. to 4 p.m.



Come on down to the newly renovated Pioneer Plaza on Dearborn Street for the Cracker Fair sponsored by the **Lemon Bay Historical Society**. Music and fun for the whole family with kid's games, crafts, historical presentations, food vendors, artists, a lemon dessert contest and more.

Pioneer Plaza

Cracker Chidlings

Betty Jean Steinshouer | 10:30-11:30 a.m.



Join author Betty Jean Steinshouer for a discussion about Marjorie Kinnan Rawlings and Zora Neale Hurston, from “Seraph on the Suwanee” to “The Secret River”, examining the Jim Crow-era friendship between two of Florida's most celebrated authors.

Englewood Charlotte Public Library

Movies: “Patrick Smith’s Florida” and “Cracker”

1:30-3:45 p.m. | Intermission 2:30-2:45 p.m.



Join us in wrapping up Lemon Bay Fest with a double movie feature and light refreshments. These films highlight the importance of preserving Florida's unique past, showcasing the lives of those who embody its "Florida Cracker" heritage.

Elsie Quirk Library



**See you
next year,
Englewood!**

**Sarasota County Libraries and Historical Resources
Elsie Quirk Library**

100 W. Dearborn St., Englewood, FL 34223

SarasotaCountyLibraries.org | call 311 or 941-861-1110



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