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Pow! Bang! Whamo!

Free comic book day returns!!

The Sarasota County Library System is once again partnering with Dark Side Comics to celebrate the comic book art form on Saturday, May 1st. All Sarasota County library locations are participating and will have free comic books available while supplies last.

The follow libraries will host Free Comic Book Day:

- Elsie Quirk Public Library, 100 West Dearborn St., Englewood, 10 a.m.-4 p.m.
- Jacaranda Public Library, 4143 Woodmere Park Blvd., Venice, 10 a.m.-1 p.m.
- Fruitville Public Library, 100 Coburn Road, Sarasota, 10 a.m.-2 p.m.
- Gulf Gate Public Library, 7112 Curtiss Ave., Sarasota, 10 a.m.-5 p.m.
- North Port Public Library, 13800 S. Tamiami Trail, North Port, 10 a.m.-2 p.m.
- North Sarasota Public Library, 2801 Newtown Blvd., Sarasota, 10 a.m.-noon
- Selby Public Library, 1331 First St., Sarasota, Noon-3 p.m.
- Venice Public Library, 300 S. Nokomis Ave., Venice, 10 a.m.-2 p.m.

More than two million comic books are distributed every year during Free Comic Book Day at libraries and book stores across the country. "This is the ninth year we have held Free Comic Book Day and it just keeps getting bigger and better," said Philip Bloom, Sarasota County Libraries customer service representative. Information about comic books and a list of participating publishers and their free comics are available online at www.FreeComicBookDay.com.

Comic books are an original American art form, created in the early 1930s. Fun to read, featuring a wide range of diverse story lines that capture the imagination of the readers, comic books have evolved into virtually every genre of publishing including historical, drama and science fiction. The wide array of comic books being published today ensures that readers of all ages — children, teens and adults — can find something to stir their imaginations.

For more information contact the Sarasota County Call Center at 941-861-5000 or visit the Sarasota County Library System Web site at www.sclibs.net.