

May 19
12:15 p.m.

**Arc of Justice:
A Saga of Race, Civil
Rights, and Murder in the
Jazz Age**

by Kevin Boyle (2004)
National Book Award, 2003

Six years ago Kevin Boyle received the National Book Award for nonfiction for his story of Dr. Ossian Sweet, grandson of a slave, who, following his move into an all-white Detroit neighborhood in 1925, was accused of murdering a white man in a mob outside his home.

The case was picked up by the NAACP and the ACLU. Clarence Darrow, fresh from the Dayton, Tenn., Scopes trial, was lead defense attorney.

Resource:
Allen Gilbert, executive director,
ACLU-VT



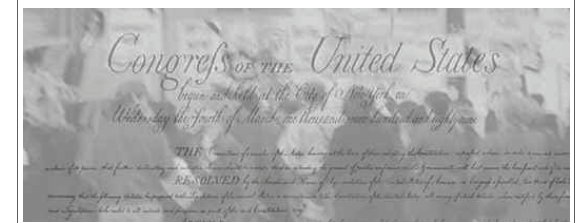
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Our Bill of Rights in Action

A four-book reading
and discussion series

The constitutional protections spelled out in the Bill of Rights are not self-enforcing, and protecting them is not easy.

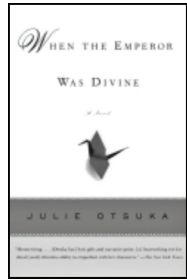
Join us for a fascinating exploration, through these books, of what happens when challenges to liberties arise.

A joint series of
Ilsley Public Library
and the
American Civil Liberties Union
Foundation of Vermont



This reading series is free and open to the public.

Books available through the library.



February 17
12:15 p.m.

When the Emperor Was Divine

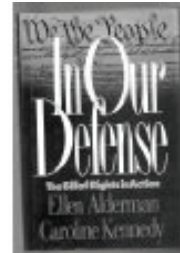
By Julie Otsuka (2002)
Vermont Reads selection, 2009
Vermont Humanities Council

This heartbreaking, bracingly un sentimental debut describes in poetic detail the travails of a Japanese family living in an internment camp during World War II, raising the specter of wartime injustice in bone-chilling fashion.

-Publishers Weekly

Resource:
Louis Megyesi

March 17
12:15 p.m.



**In Our Defense:
The Bill of Rights in Action**
by Ellen Ackerman &
Carolyn Kennedy (1991)

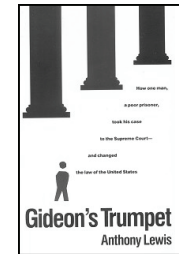
The authors use fascinating accounts of real-life controversies to introduce the general reader to the Bill of Rights. . . . [T]hey emphasize the human side of the Bill of Rights rather than its judicial interpretation.

- Library Journal

Our discussion will focus on four of the amendments.

Resource:
Wanda Otero-Ziegler, attorney

April 21
12:15 p.m.



Gideon's Trumpet
by Anthony Lewis (1964)

James Earl Gideon was a poor drifter accused in a Florida state court of felony theft. His case resulted in the landmark U.S. Supreme Court decision holding that a criminal defendant who cannot afford to hire a lawyer must be provided with a lawyer at no cost.

At Gideon's first trial, he represented himself, and he was convicted. After the Supreme Court ruled that the state had to provide defense counsel for the indigent, Florida retried Gideon. At his second trial, with a lawyer representing him and bringing out for the jury the weaknesses in the prosecution's case, Gideon was acquitted.

- Wikipedia

Resource:
Mitch Pearl, attorney