

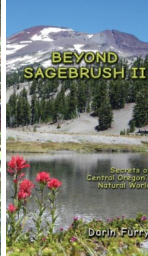


Sunriver Books & Music

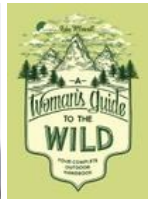
May 2016

Newsletter

Sunriverbooks.com
541-593-2525



Saturday May 7th at 5:00 PM Darin Furry will be here to talk about his informative book, ***Beyond Sagebrush II*** and share a slideshow giving a very interesting visual component to the presentation. Darin is well versed in Central Oregon's magnificent landscape. We are very happy to have him share some of his knowledge about the plants, animals and geology of Central Oregon with us. We live in a truly beautiful land, with mountains, meadows, deserts, canyons and craters all right here. We have an abundance of natural wonders to explore. It helps when spending time outside to know a bit about all that natural wonder surrounding us. This is where Darin Furry and his book will be a great help. His book talks about the geologic events that formed our area, the volcanic peaks around us, as well as the vegetation and wildlife that live here. Want to know the mountain peaks you see driving up Highway 97? Check out the color pictures in ***Beyond Sagebrush II***. Your next hike you might look at the surroundings with new insight! It enriches the outdoor experience to know something about the land you walk upon and the plants and animals that share the landscape with you. Darin is used to entertaining a crowd he has given presentations at the High Desert Museum and with us. I always enjoy hearing him talk about the region we call home. Bring your questions about Central Oregon's landscape and prepare to have a good time.



Saturday May 28th at 5:00 PM Ruby McConnell will give a presentation on ***A Woman's Guide to the Wild***. Women are enjoying the outdoors in ever increasing numbers. Ruby penned a practical guide for enjoying the experience in a safe manner that abides by wilderness protocol. What do you do if you see a bear? (Different things for different species look for a hump on the back, if it is there climb fast! Grizzlies are not good climbers. No hump, don't bother climbing because Black Bear can probably climb better than you. The good news is that Black Bear really don't want to hurt you.) What food should you plan for your trip into the wilderness? How do you start a fire? What should you watch for in weather conditions? What should be in your first aid kit? How do you keep from getting lost? There are lots of helpful lists to get your outdoor adventures organized. Ruby writes in a light, entertaining manner while providing lots of information on keeping you safe and helping you have fun in the forest. She even provides recipes for your outdoor dining pleasure. Being out in the wilderness, hiking trails with glorious vistas, is a real joy. It is grand that women are enjoying all that grandeur! May we all have happy trails!

We will have refreshments and drawings for door prizes at both events. Stop by Sunriver Books & Music, call 541-593-2525 or e-mail sunriver-books@sunriverbooks.com to sign up to attend these free events.

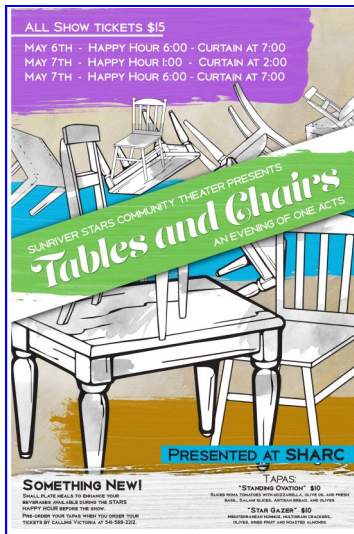
Upcoming Author Appearances

Saturday June 4th 2016 at 5:00 PM ***Silenced In the Surf*** by Kate Dyer-Seeley
Saturday June 18th 2016 at 5:00 PM ***Dog Gone*** by Pauls Toutonghi
Saturday July 9th 2016 at 5:00 PM ***The Passenger*** by Lisa Lutz
Saturday July 16th 2016 At 5:00 PM ***American Copper*** by Shann Ray
Saturday August 6th 2016 at 5:30 PM ***Disappearing Nine Patch*** by Arlene Sachitano
Saturday September 3rd 2016 at 5:00 PM ***The Road We Traveled*** by Jane Kirkpatrick

Join us to enjoy these fabulous authors! Hearing an author speak clarifies and enriches the reading experience. Author readings are free with refreshments served and drawings for prizes.

Call or e-mail Sunriver Books & Music to attend and be entered in the prize drawings. Space may be limited for some events.

Check our web site, Sunriverbooks.com, for changes and additions.



SUNRIVER STARS COMMUNITY THEATER!

Tables and Chairs...an evening of one-acts

Sixteen members of The Sunriver Stars Community Theater, under the direction of the Artistic Director, Victoria Kristy, will present eight one-act plays on May 6th & 7th at SHARC. Each of the scenes takes place standing or seated at tables and chairs, ergo the title.

A 'Happy Hour' will take place before each performance. Guests may show up an hour before curtain and order wine, beer and soft drinks to go with a 'small plate' appetizer. They may purchase The "Star Gazer" which includes Mediterranean Hummus, multigrain crackers, olives, dried fruit and roasted almonds or "The Standing Ovation" with sliced Roma tomatoes, sliced mozzarella, olive oil, artisan bread, salami slices and olives. The tapas may be pre-ordered (\$10 per plate) but will also be available to purchase upon arrival.

"We are trying something new," Kristy said, "This is our first collection of one-act plays and our first time to offer small plates instead of a full dinner before the show. It would be great if guests would pre-order just so we get a feel for how many to have on hand ahead of time but we'll make sure to have plenty for spur-of-the-moment purchases as well."

Tickets for the performance, 7PM Friday and 2PM and 7PM Saturday, are \$15 and can be purchased from SSCT actors, at the SHARC desk, at the door and reserved by calling 541 588 2212..

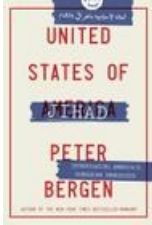
For more information email Dramama@comcast.net

Staff Recommendations

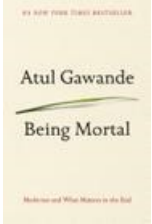
Rich Stonehouse recommends Non-Fiction.



Spain In Our Hearts by Adam Hochschild. The history of the Spanish civil war fought from 1936 to 1939 is known by some as a practice run for the fascism inherent in Germany and Italy. Many American men and women fought in the war to defend Spain's democratically elected government, despite U.S. policy against American involvement. Famous people, such as Hemmingway, George Orwell, Pablo Picasso, Paul Robeson, Langston Hughes and Errol Flynn were connected to the fighting either reporting on, writing about or artistically portraying the horrors of mechanized warfare against peasants armed with antique weapons and swords. Hochschild vividly portrays the Lincoln Brigade, who went to war against Hitler while world leaders sought to appease him. Many of the people who supported the civil war were later persecuted and black balled from their professions because of their involvement. This is a heartbreaking historical memoir of a movement that was crushed, even though it was right.



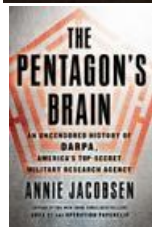
United States of Jihad by Peter Bergen. Europe and most of the world is experiencing the horrible effects of terrorism with everyday life being interrupted by the threat of attacks and bombings at any moment. But what of terrorism in the United States? We have seen the growth of American born terrorists growing larger every day. What motivates them? Who trains and supplies them? Peter Bergen has written an in depth look at what the U.S. and western cultures must face and decide what freedoms to give up in search of a way to confront and defeat this existential threat. This is a very unsettling but important book. I highly recommend this book.



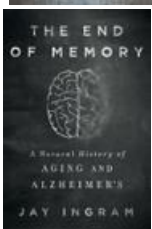
Being Mortal by Atul Gawande explores two different but related ideas about the American medical system. With advances in medical technology, newer and better therapies, medicines and treatments, life expectancies have exceeded all expectations. But the extension of life comes at a cost: the ability of the medical profession to make ageing a test of safety and regimentation of older patients at the expense of a fulfilling and worthwhile life. Our expectations of a happy ageing are subservient to the need for regimentation and efficiency of caring for older people. The second idea is the end of life and how we plan and provide for the elderly and their families. Gawande argues that quality of life should be the defining course of treatment at the end of life as opposed to prolonging it at all costs. He feels that medicine should provide for a good life as well as a good end.



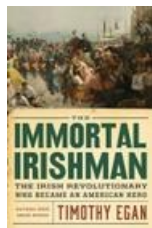
Evicted by Matthew Desmond. In this heartbreaking look at eight poor families in Milwaukee, WI., living on the edge just barely hanging on as life dishes up sucker punches to their every effort to stay in their homes. America's income inequality is laid bare in these stories, and the human cost that comes with it. With extreme poverty comes not only misery and uncertainty, but economic exploitation visited upon the most vulnerable. Desmond offers new ideas for solving one of America's most intractable problems.



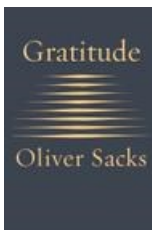
The Pentagon's Brain by Annie Jacobsen. DARPA (Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency) is the Defense Department's classified research and development agency responsible for thinking up, creating and sending off to the armed forces and spy agencies the most advanced and unimaginable spy gadgets and weaponry that any science fiction writer could conjure up. Many things DARPA had engineered have found their way into mainstream public use, such as the Internet and GPS, but its dark side has been less scrutinized. Jacobsen is a journalist with many credentials in reporting on military and science subjects. This history of DARPA is both fascinating and frightening.



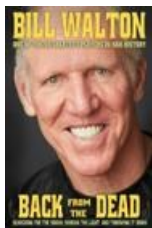
The End of Memory by Jay Ingram. Ingram, an award winning science writer and former co-host of Discovery Channel Canada has written a cogent and illuminating biography of Alzheimer's disease, and affliction that attacks a person's brain with the debilitating effects slowly robbing the victim of their memory, their ability to think clearly, and ultimately their lives. He gives an up to date overview of current research. Having a personal acquaintance with Alzheimer's disease as it has affected several relatives, it is heartbreaking to helplessly watch a father, grandmother, or other close relative slowly losing what makes the essence of who they are fade away. Ingram is optimistic that keeping an active and agile mind is most often possible with lifestyle strategies, and promising effective treatments to slow or stop the disease will be hopefully available in the near future.



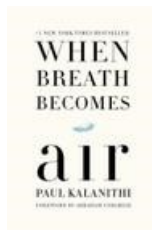
The Immortal Irishman by Timothy Egan. Timothy Egan is adept at picking unusual and mostly unknown parts of American history and writing enlightening stories of everything from the Dust Bowl survivors to photographer Edward Curtis. Egan tells the story of Thomas Meager, an Irishman born in 1823 to a wealthy family, who eschewed a soft life to embrace the independence movement after being radicalized by the potato famine. Rising up against the British occupiers who favored the wealthy gentry over the starving peasants, he narrowly escaped a death sentence and was exiled to Tasmania. With his background as a gifted orator and possessing a keen intellect, he soon escaped and ended up in New York. When the American Civil War erupted, Meager realized a way to gather likeminded Irishmen into a fighting force that later could be used to return to Ireland to oust the British. When the war ended he fell into despair when his brigade failed to follow him into the fight against the British. As with many tales of Ireland, this one also ends in tragedy, but is nonetheless a fascinating story.



Gratitude by Oliver Sacks. After learning that he had terminal cancer, Sacks who the New York Times called the “poet laureate of medicine” decided that he must concentrate on his final days and focus on himself and describe what it has meant to him to live his life and his feelings on dying. What resulted is a small collection of essays articulating what it has meant the most to him in his life. He was a risk taker, with many hobbies and passions: chemistry, long distance swimming, weightlifting and motorcycle riding. His lasting desire was to focus not on his illness or spirituality but on “what is meant by living a good and worthwhile life-achieving a sense of peace within oneself”. His beautiful essays convey that sense, and the reader is fortunate to be able to share those thoughts from his life’s work.



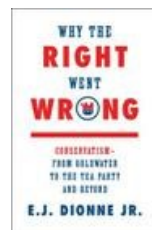
Back From the Dead by Bill Walton who calls himself “the luckiest guy in the world”. Coming from someone who has endured so much pain and adversity, it seems incongruous. But he feels that way because of everything good that happened in spite of all the pain and injuries he sustained. He is an unapologetically upbeat and happy person; he is also extremely bright and well read. His likes are very eclectic and his love for his beloved Grateful Dead is palpable. He recounts his early life in San Diego and his love for basketball. His time at UCLA and his relationship with Coach John Wooden are some of the most heartfelt passages in the book. He recounts in excruciating detail all of the 37 or so orthopedic surgeries but doesn’t ask for pity. He recounts all of the successes he had playing for all of his teams. He is effusive in his praise for his teammates, coaches and fellow broadcasters. This is a very uplifting and hopeful memoir. I enjoyed it immensely.



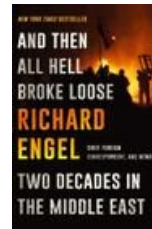
When Breath Becomes Air by Paul Kalanithi is a very moving and erudite memoir of his life as a student and lover of literature, later a medical student specializing in neurosurgery. At the age of 36 he was diagnosed with terminal lung cancer. Kalanithi used this limit on his mortality to write about what it meant to have your life and who you are slowly extinguished before your eyes. His life before was filled with philosophical learning and questioning what he wanted to accomplish as a neurosurgeon. Now faced with inevitable death, he celebrates the birth of his daughter in the same hospital he is dying in. His elegy is this book, which he states: “has a longevity I do not”. The story is sad but ultimately uplifting and inspiring.



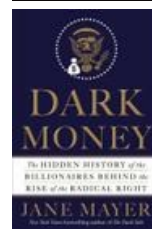
Lights Out by Ted Koppel is a scenario that is even scarier than all the dystopian novels, because it is a real threat to our way of life and would cause catastrophic consequences. Our electric grid and related infrastructure is extremely vulnerable to cyber attack from all sorts of enemies: hacktivists, Russia, China, Iran and others that would do us harm. Starting with a description of our aging infrastructure to the lack of preparedness of private utilities, government and civic agencies, the consequences of being unprepared to handle such a national threat shows how reliant we are on such a vulnerable and completely essential part of our way of life. We ignore the need to be prepared for this doomsday scenario at our peril.



Why the Right Went Wrong by E. J. Dionne. A discussion of conservative ideology by one of America’s premier liberals could give conservatives pause, but Dionne has written an evenhanded and pragmatic history of American conservatism from the Goldwater 1960’s to the present. Dionne reckons that the Republican Party took a wrong turn during the 1964 presidential campaign when it adopted the radical worldview of Goldwater and it has since required all conservative thought and political aspirations to adhere to that purity. As each successive Republican administration failed to live up to the rhetoric of the 1964 movement, the Tea Party of today is the heir to Goldwater’s legacy, and the party reflects a population that is white, older and ultraconservative. Dionne writes that the Republican Party needs to become more inclusive of all people to come back to life and be more relevant in today’s political arena.



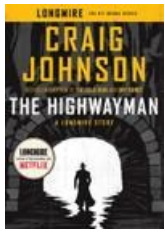
And Then All Hell Broke Loose by Richard Engel. Chief foreign correspondent for NBC News, he has been in every hot spot in the Middle East and beyond, reporting on the front lines of every war, acts of terrorism and momentous political changes as they happened. He has been kidnapped, blown out of his hotel room and accompanied Al Qaida and ISIS into battle to report on both sides of the conflict. He also is good at explaining the political, cultural and religious nuances that accompany all of these historical events. This is a real page turning adventure.



Dark Money by Jane Mayer. Some of the richest people on the planet have decided that their core beliefs, a mixture of libertarian views bankrolled by their vast wealth could alter the American political system to their favor. Aided by the Supreme Court ruling in Citizens United, they have secretly donated to political causes, which have changed the course of American politics. The story of Dark Money, which is unlimited and undisclosed money donated to politicians and PAC’s starts with an examination of the Koch brothers, an ultra-libertarian family determined to repeal every major political reform passed during the 20th century. During the last three decades they have systematically funded efforts to deny the vote to people who don’t support their agenda, support political policies that would benefit their myriad business enterprises, and empower think tanks and organizations that are committed to raising doubts about climate change and other environmental issues antithetical to their beliefs. This book is both depressing and terrifying but a must read.

Staff Recommendations. New Releases.

Deon recommends.



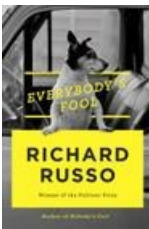
The Highwayman by Craig Johnson releases May 17th. Rosy Wayman was a stand up Wyoming Highway Patrolman, who earned the respect of Sheriff Walt Longmire. A few months back she was transferred to the Wind River area, a place of spectacular landscape with granite canyon walls and white water. Also a land of legends. One of those legends was Officer Bobby Womack an Arapaho Highway Patrolman known as the Highwayman who died over 30 years ago in a fiery inferno. Now Officer Wayman is getting midnight calls asking for assistance, from the dead man. Her commanding officer wants to send her for psychological counselling. Rosy is sure she is hearing those calls. She turns to Sheriff Walt Longmire and Henry Standing Bear for help. Can Walt and Henry figure out what is going on before things get deadly? Lots of suspense, Craig's usual gorgeous descriptions of Wyoming, spiced with humor, and a great mystery! The ending is absolutely perfect!



The Atomic Weight of Love by Elizabeth J. Church. This lovely novel asks the big questions. What do we truly want in life? What do you do if the path you choose is false? In the remains of your days can life be meaningful? Meridian Wallace is uber smart and ambitious. From childhood she has been attracted to birds and science, determined to get a PHD and become an ornithologist. While in college she falls for her physics professor, Alden Whetstone. She sees herself finishing her degree and joining Alden in a marriage of partnership, full of scientific discussions, sharing their passions for their work and each other. Not going to happen. In the 1940's Alden's expertise is needed in Los Alamos, New Mexico where the scientists are cooking up a new kind of bomb and the women are expected to subordinate their desires to supporting the work of the men. What started out as putting off studying for her PHD for a year and being a housewife while Alden works in top secret for the government, stretches out becoming her role in life. Meeting a Vietnam vet jolts Meridian into questioning the choices she has made. Lots of history takes place between the 1940's and 2011, the book reflects the changes in society. While weighty questions are asked, this story also entertains! Meridian's observation of crows is fascinating; bird watchers will find much to love. She also goes riding through beautiful country, hikes, has friendships and partakes in the sorts of things that make up a life. I cannot say enough good things about this brilliant story, only urge everyone to read it!



Everyone Brave is Forgiven. Don't miss Chris Cleave's brilliant new novel! Set during WWII, the story begins brash and full of youthful enthusiasm. Mary skied down Mont-Chuoi, escaped finishing school, and arrived in London going straight to the War Office where she volunteered to lend a hand during the hostilities. Assuming she would be assigned to a General or made a spy; she was disappointed when Whitehall sent her to teach school, an occupation she undertook with much verve and originality to the dismay of the principal. Mary came from a prestigious wealthy family; her father was inches away from becoming a member of the Cabinet. The world was her oyster and she was determined not to miss any excitement the war might provide. Of course, reality tends to intrude on our fantasy, there is real destruction, people suffer unbearable harm, and put in harm's way people die. As the war intensifies, Mary realizes the cost to those without her advantages and she matures. Alistair worked at the Tate, his roommate, Tom, was in charge of the schools. Alistair joins up and is shocked by the brutality of war, first in France then in the siege of Malta. Trying to do the right thing, he faced situations where good intentions led to tragedy. Alistair goes from being a happy young man quick with quips and passionate about art to an officer doing his best for the men under his command. He is compassionate with a strong sense of justice. Another memorable character is Zachary, one of Mary's students, a black child who suffers racism and loss yet moves through life with a kind of cocky, grace. What was amazing about this story is the way the characters start out so young, innocent and hopeful, how they are exposed to terrible situations, yet manage to hold a core of bravery and goodness despite it all. Cleave shows clearly how war is worse than people imagine; how wasteful, capricious and brutal it is. Alistair is inspired by Cleave's grandfather who survived the siege of Malta and squirmed around Randolph Churchill. I do not mean to convey that the story is unrelentingly grim, it is not. It is funny, touching, and endearing as well, so while parts of the story are necessarily somber; it is also a feel good book and very entertaining to read.



Everybody's Fool by Richard Russo. In 1993 Random House published one of the best books I have had the pleasure reading, **Nobody's Fool**, by Richard Russo. The story went on to be a blockbuster movie with Paul Newman playing Sully. Now decades later, Russo continues the story of the small New York town of loveable misfits, heroes, and villains with **Everybody's Fool**. It was worth the wait. Revisiting Sully and the gang is sheer pleasure. Sully is surprised to find himself in funds, having won a lottery and inherited a house he no longer has to hustle for a dollar. He has other worries, his body, so able to go forever in his younger days, is failing. The docs at the VA say his heart won't give him much more time without an operation, news Sully is keeping under wraps from his nearest and dearest. Rub is still Sully's sidekick, but worried that he is being replaced by all the other guys wanting Sully's time. Nor is he pleased that Sully chose to name his dog Rub, causing both man and canine to start when Sully calls. Carl Roebuck is still trying to lose his daddy's fortune, and appears to be making some serious inroads in that direction. Doug Raymer is chief of police now, his mind occupied with trying to figure out who was his wife's paramour before her untimely demise, an activity Charice, the whip-smart cop he keeps deskbound, wishes he would abandon. It feels good to spend time with these characters. Russo makes you laugh out loud at their antics, worry about their problems, and wish them well.

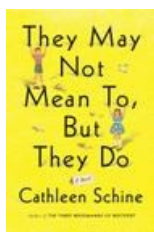


The Honeymoon by Dinitia Smith. Fans of George Eliot will find **The Honeymoon** interesting, revisiting one of the great literary minds of the 19th Century. Eliot, born Marian Evans, was a plain woman and thus saved from making a "good match". Instead she lived outside the societal norms of her time while giving the world such masterpieces as **Middlemarch**, **Silas Marner**, and **Daniel Deronda**. Eliot enjoyed a long and passionate relationship with a loving partner, George Henry Lewis. His death left her bereft and alone. John Walter Cross was handsome and twenty years younger than Eliot when they married. Cross had long been both a friend and accountant to Eliot and Lewis, after Lewis' death the relationship deepened. Much has been speculated about Cross' leap into the Grand Canal on their honeymoon. Dinitia Smith gives us her interpretation and an interesting story of George Eliot. Either way, spending time with George Eliot is always a pleasure.

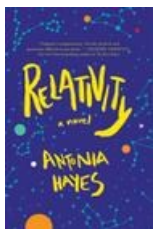
Deon recommends.



The Sport of Kings by C.E. Morgan. Subtle and beguiling, this novel will give the reader an engrossing story that stays with you long after the last page. Henry Forge's Daddy was a stern man, educated in the classics and deeply proud of his ancestry. He would force Henry, when just a child, to recite his lineage, blood was everything. Although the novel is set at a time when the role of blacks was changing, it was still a time when a man like John Henry Forge held violent dominion over the lives of those in his employ. A life changing moment ignites in young Henry a passion for thoroughbreds. The right bloodline could bring him glory. For the first time, he is not willing to be cowed by his father. As soon as he is in charge, he converts the Forge estate to the breeding of thoroughbreds, starting with a mare bearing the ancestry of racing aristocracy. He raises his daughter, Henrietta, to be a partner in his quest. Allmon, a young black man, is hired in their stables setting in motion a confrontation between the past and the present. The story has horses, especially the fiery speed demon Hellsmouth; it also has depths and grace that go far beyond the race track to paint a searing portrait of bigotry, greed, and the violence men are willing to visit upon each other. I cannot say enough about this book! Only that it is a brilliant, important story and I hope you read it.



They May Not Mean To, But They Do by Cathleen Schine. Joy Bergman is facing challenges while trying to stay relevant in a world that worships youth. Her husband, Aaron, has Alzheimer's as well as a variety of other ailments. She has been trying to take care of him by herself in their New York apartment. It is difficult, but there are no easy alternatives. She cannot bear putting him in a facility and does not have the funds for in house care. Joy still works at a museum where the recent staff change resulted in a new boss who has little (or perhaps none) respect for either Joy's PHD or her years of experience. Her son David visits every week, but he is a busy environmental lawyer with a family of his own. Her daughter Molly is a professor in California, where her partner is facing issues with an elderly father. There is no upside to these kinds of problems; inevitably the children will become more involved. By the time Aaron dies, Joy's health has been compromised resulting in time off work and more worries. Joy is a resilient woman, determined to carve a place for herself in this new world she faces. When an old suitor resurfaces to bring her some comfort, her kids are not pleased. Surprisingly, Joy does not cave in to their disapproval but is strong willed in opposition. This is a story about family, about aging and what it means to be an older woman trying to stay relevant, about parents and children and generations. Schine always writes with humor. This time she is tackling rather weighty issues, and doing it with style.



Relativity by Antonia Hayes. Claire was a gifted ballerina on the cusp of a brilliant career when she embraced motherhood and moved from the footlights to the office. Ethan is an unusual child, outstandingly intelligent but socially outcast. School is torment for him, while he enjoys learning (thrives on physics, math, and astronomy), he is bullied by the other kids. Claire and Ethan live in Sydney, Australia. As the story opens they are in Jubilee Park in the middle of the night to watch a meteor shower, the two have a strong, loving relationship. Still Ethan is curious about his father, Claire won't say much, so he knows little about the man other than the few facts gleaned from his birth certificate. Mark lives on the other side of Australia, trying to forget the past. Circumstances will converge, a call for Mark to return to his father's side, an emergency involving Ethan, and they will have to face the tragedy that tore their family wide apart when Ethan was a babe. Life can change in a heartbeat; one action you wish you could take back will alter the rest of your days. Hayes wrote in all three voices, Claire, Ethan and Mark, giving the reader all perspectives. Likeable characters and a plot that makes you reflect, this is a good book club choice.



Britt-Marie Was Here by Fredrick Backman. Britt-Marie, like Backman's earlier character in ***A Man Called Ove***, cannot stand untidiness, believes there is a right way and a wrong way to do things and by God, she is going to do things the right way. This causes one's outlook to be a mite rigid. Britt-Marie has been a home maker for many years, serving her husband's every whim. Now she finds herself alone, needing employment, and worrying about dying with no one to notice. While her husband loved soccer, Britt-Marie had not the slightest interest in sports of any kind. Thus it is strange when she finds herself employed as caretaker of a community recreation building in small hamlet in the back of beyond where she is commandeered to be the coach for a youth soccer team. Britt-Marie's first impressions of her fellow denizens in the rough around the edges environment are not favorable. However she comes to see below the surface, in those around her and in herself, and her world expands. This is a lovely book! It asks the big questions. What if you spend your youth doing what you thought was most important only to find in maturity that you served a false ideal? Can you find happiness and fulfillment in the remains of your days? Can you step out of your comfort zone and make choices that are personally enriching? Lots of fun reading! And it stimulates thought!



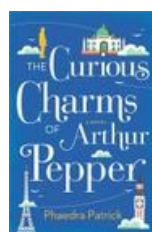
Late One Night by Lee Martin. Della married Ronnie young, just a teen, and had seven kids. A religious woman who loved her children, she did not abide by her husband's assertion that enough is enough; she didn't even open the birth control pills they agreed she would take. Ronnie grew up rough, bounced from foster family to foster family. No easy breaks for Ronnie, an ever growing family to feed on scant work, living in a double wide trailer with his wife and kids, watching her clean houses to help keep food on the table. When he discovers she is not taking the pills, something snaps and he walks out. Truth be told, Ronnie has been seeing another woman in town. He moves in with his girlfriend leaving his wife and kids on their own. The night Ronnie is served with divorce papers a fire burns the trailer to the ground, taking the lives of his wife and three of his children. Suspicion settles on Ronnie, he left his wife for another woman, and is known to have a temper, but would he do something so horrific as the fire? This book is about a lot more than a suspicious fire. It is about the talk in a small town, the rumors and innuendo shading a life. It is about looking at people and making judgements based on what they have rather than who they are. It is about coveting another man's family. Missy used Della to clean her home; Missy's husband owns a construction company and they are well off in their small community. The one thing they do not have, cannot have, is a family. Missy was jealous of Della's easy fertility, seven kids! Now she sees a way to give the surviving four children a better life if she can wrest custody from their father. In the end, the story is about doing what is right and not judging harshly.



The Veins of the Ocean by Patricia Engel. Carlito Castillo has a rough start in life, tossed from Rickenbacker Bridge into the waters of Biscayne Bay, by his enraged father when his mother's infidelity is discovered. How do you ever get over such a trauma? It seems he has managed for a while, but Carlito's eventual destination is a death row cell. Abandoned by most of his family, only his sister Reina, wracked by guilt, travels to the jail for a weekly visit. Carlito's death both devastates and frees Reina. Now she must decide who she will be in the aftermath. Reina retreats to the Florida Keys where she meets Nesto, a man with his own demons. Nesto fled Cuba, without his children. He yearns to be united with them in Florida, a yearning that may not have an easy answer. The two eventually take jobs in a dolphin aquarium, where Reina has an unusual connection to the animals. Reina must find, if not absolution, peace, with her guilt over the crime that put her brother on death row. Nesto also must find redemption as he dreams of bringing his children to a better life in the US. Engel's writing has a beautiful lyric cadence, her sensuous descriptions draw the reader into her story. The story takes place in exotic locations, Miami, the Florida Keys, Havana, and Cartagena. It is a pleasure to read!



LaRose by Louise Erdrich releases May 10th. The power of Erdrich's storytelling is breathtaking. Two families live next door to each other, their 5 year old sons, Dusty and LaRose, are best friends. The wives Emmaline and Nola, are half-sisters. The Iron family follows traditional ways on the Rez, the Ravich's less so, eschewing the ancient for the modern. Landreaux Iron is a skilled hunter; he has been watching a deer in the North Dakota woods bordering his property. When he shoots it is not the deer who falls, but his neighbor's son. Devastated by his actions, Landreaux retreats to the sweat lodge to contemplate what should happen in the wake of this tragedy. Following an old Ojibwe tradition, he gives his son, LaRose to his neighbor. Peter Ravich is troubled by this gesture, but he can see it helps his wife Nola and his daughter Maggie cope. Nola is not really coping with her loss at all; she has dark thoughts of suicide, and clings to the child, LaRose. This is a fascinating examination into what it would be like to choose such a drastic atonement, for it will affect everyone not just Landreaux. How can LaRose, at only 5 years, bear the burden of Nola's intense grief and need? How can Emmaline cope with the separation from her child? Eventually LaRose is allowed to visit back and forth, to maintain contact with his original family. Throw into the mix another tribal member who stirs the pot with false stories about Landreaux, stories that may rekindle violence. There is also a gripping historical element to the story. LaRose is a name that has been in the family for generations and carries with it power. Flashbacks to earlier days and the first LaRose give an intense look at the ancestors of this family. At its heart, this is a story about two families cleft by tragedy, united by redemption.



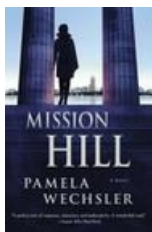
The Curious Charms of Arthur Pepper by Phaedra Patrick. An unusual and beguiling premise makes this a fun book to read. Arthur Pepper is 69 when a discovery on the first anniversary of his wife's death sends him on series of journeys. Going through her closet preparatory to donating her clothes to charity, he discovers a charm bracelet in one of her boots. The bracelet is of a high quality and the charms each unique, suggesting they each held a meaning for his wife. That he had no knowledge of the meanings of these charms spurs him on an investigation taking him back to the days before his wife had met him, finding out there was quite a lot he did not know. India and Paris come into the search, although Arthur was unaware his wife traveled outside Britain. Tigers come into the equation. As he discovers a side of his wife he did not know, he also learns more about himself. As in any life, some of his wife's past is happy and some sad. The discoveries change Arthur's perspective but not his love for the woman who shared his life. As he learns from the past, he also begins to change his own future, to take part more fully in life. There is a cast of oddball characters, the friendly neighbor across the street, a sweet guy who constantly mows his lawn and has an affinity for finding lost turtles, the annoying next door neighbor who is insistently bringing round unwanted food and inserting herself into Arthur's doings if given the slightest opportunity, a down on his luck flutist who saves Arthur, and the flutist's cute dachshund, along with a plethora of others. The story also involved Arthur's relationship with his adult children, as he grows in awareness of himself he is able to reach out to them. If you are looking for something light to read, with a good premise give it a try.



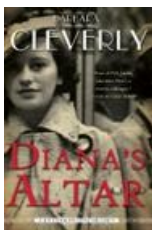
Wilde Lake by Laura Lippman. Lu Brant revered her father Andrew Jackson Brant and her older brother A.J. They lived in an historic home on Wilde Lake surrounded by the split level residences of Columbia, Maryland; a planned development meant to be a safe place to raise children in an atmosphere that welcomed diversity and encouraged independent thought. Of course that was the intention, not necessarily the reality. In 1980 Andrew Jackson Brant was State's Attorney for Howard County, a brilliant, well respected man. A.J., a popular young man, spent graduation night partying with his friends; it was to be a night involving relatively harmless fun. Instead, one young man would die; another would be grievously injured, all within the bounds of Columbia, a safe place for raising children. A. J. was cleared of any wrongdoing in the death of Ben Flood, it was ruled self-defense, A. J. lauded for saving the life of his friend. Choices made in youth can change the whole trajectory of a life, sometimes staying with you forever. By 2015 A. J. has made his fortune and Lu, following in her father's footsteps, is Sate's Attorney for Howard County. Her father is legendary; she intends to live up to his legacy. Her first case as head attorney will be the trial of a homeless man for the brutal murder of a woman alone in her apartment. The questions raised will lead her toward dark secrets. Not pursuing a question if you do not want the answer is good advice, but sometimes comes too late. Times change, the societal norms of twenty or thirty years ago are very different than today. Great characters, interesting questions about how we view life, and what is the role of justice make this a sure winner.

Staff Recommendations, New Releases.

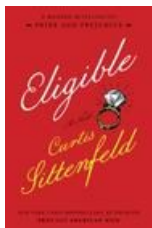
Deon recommends.



Mission Hill by Pamela Wechsler. Abby Endicott is not your run of the mill prosecuting attorney, this chief of the District Attorney's homicide unit dresses in designer clothes, lives in a sumptuous condo, and graduated from Harvard. She comes from money, a trust fund baby with the bucks doled out by her wealthy parents who are none too happy about their daughter's choice of employment. Phone calls in the middle of the night mean one thing, murder. This time the victim hits close, a fellow prosecutor and the man she had a long standing affair with, Tim Mooney. The affair did not reflect well on either of them, Tim was married with a child, but it ended and was in the past when he was killed, execution style. This one is personal for Abby. Tim was involved in the prosecution of a gang leader, a man who killed one of Abby's childhood friends. She steps in to take over Tim's case. The mystery about who killed Tim has plenty of twists, including some dicey scenes with the gang. For a series to succeed, the characters have to hold our interest. This opening has a lot going for it. Abby is fiercely determined and smart, she relies on Police Detective Kevin Farnsworth, a cop who knows the ropes and has her back, she has an attractive boyfriend, Ty, who is supportive and enlightened, and her father is a very likeable character. All of these characters are of a caliber that builds a great group for launching a series.

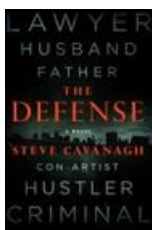


Diana's Alter by Barbara Cleverly. Dr. Adelaide Hartest has endured a difficult evening on All Hallows Eve in 1933, cycling home from her last patient she stops in at All Hallows Church hoping to reach a state of some peace and serenity. It is not to be so, inside a man is dying of a knife wound. He swears it is self-inflicted. The Cambridge Police call in Scotland Yard, Assistant Commissioner Joe Sandilands arrives to investigate, already much involved. Adelaide is the woman he hopes to make his wife and the dead man is well known to him, not the sort of bloke to commit suicide. Spies, scientists, plots, secret societies and all sorts of nefarious goings on make for an interesting puzzle for our favorite Scotland Yard detective. Cleverly uses real characters from history in her story, such as charismatic Russian scientist Peter Kapitza.



Eligible by Curtis Sittenfeld releases April 19th. The Bennet family is brought into the present in Sittenfeld's lively imagining of what life would be like today for the characters of Jane Austen's *Pride and Prejudice*. Cincinnati is now home, where Mrs. Bennet is heavily involved in the country club and Mr. Bennet manages his dwindling inheritance. Jane and Liz have been living in New York, they return home when their father has a heart attack and stay to help in his recuperation. Chip Bingley is a very eligible bachelor, much sought after since his season on a hit reality TV dating show. Chip's pal, Fitzwilliam Darcy, is a surgeon. They meet the Bennet women at a picnic. The story is great fun, filled with humor while touching on many issues of the day. While no book will equal the perfection of Jane Austen's classic, this is a clever homage.

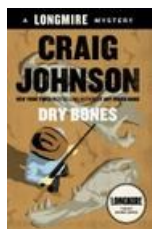
Staff Recommendations, New Releases. Sue Halvorsen recommends.



THE DEFENSE By STEVE CAVANAGH. Most books start out with a little background information. This book begins with a gun in the back of a lawyer. He must defend the nastiest, most, brutal, Russian mob boss in a trial that begins in only two days. The incentive to win is his daughter's life as well as his own. Fortunately he has had only two careers and one of them was as an excellent con man. He uses the con to find out what is going on and how to fix it. One of the most FUN legal thrillers you can read!

Staff Recommendations. Now Available in Paperback.

Deon recommends.



Dry Bones is a book that grabs you from the very beginning and doesn't let go, I stayed up until the wee hours to finish because I just had to know what happened. If there is a lot of money in the equation, the sum total is bound to be trouble. The last place a cop, any cop, wants to be is in the middle of a territorial dispute between the FBI, the Justice Department, the Northern Cheyenne Tribe, a local ranching family, and a museum of sorts. That's exactly where Sheriff Walt Longmire finds himself when the largest most complete T-Rex skeleton is discovered on a ranch owned by the Lone Elk family. Soon thereafter the body of the family patriarch, Danny Lone Elk, is discovered face down in a pond, foul play a definite possibility. Making things even worse, the Acting Deputy Attorney for the Justice Department is one of those all hat and no cattle politicians that manage to stumble through life avoiding opportunities to learn and thriving on publicity. His speech is locked in sound bite mode, self-importance is his main trait, and he doesn't even understand the concept of empathy. He spectacularly fails to bond wit Walt, not that he was giving it any effort. Millions, many of them, are up for grabs but the issues of ownership in the case are murky. Did Danny sell the bones to the local museum? Are they the property of the Northern Cheyenne? Do they belong to the Lone Elk family? Or can the Feds grab them? Lots of players and no easy answer. If that is not enough to stress out anyone, Walt's daughter, Cady, is arriving for a visit with his five month old granddaughter, Lola. Events in Philadelphia will propel her back east and cause Walt serious worry.

Nancy Nelson recommends.

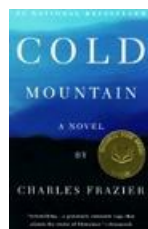


The Children Return, by Martin Walker.. In this latest novel with Bruno, Chief of Police, Bruno is searching for the men involved in the murder torture of a Muslim man. It is discovered that a local autistic Muslim boy Sami, is the real target of these terrorists. Furthermore, Sami is also thought to be the engineer of some deadly homemade bombs. Bruno, who has known the boy since he came to the small French town of St. Denis at the age of six, believes that there is much more to Sami's story than appearances would dictate. His task is therefore to find the truth and to protect Sami, his family and others who are likely targets of brutality of the jihadists. In the meantime, a survivor of the holocaust comes to town with the intention of donating a large sum of money. So, Bruno helps to uncover the history of the French resistance group who helped to protect the lives of Jewish children during World War II. Throw in some of Bruno's cooking, the culture of this lovely hamlet called St. Denis, and the intricacies of love relationships, then the result is a murder mystery that is enticing, appetizing, informative, and thoroughly enjoyable.

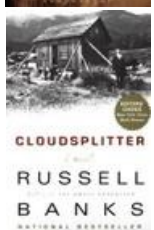
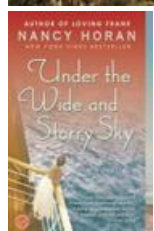
May 2016 Book Clubs.



May 9th the Mystery Book Club discusses **Descent** by Tim Johnston. Life changes in a heartbeat. One second Caitlin and her brother Sean are enjoying the first day of vacation on a tree shaded trail in the majestic Colorado Rockies. A heartbeat later their comfortable lives are shattered, Sean lays injured and alone, while an evil man vanishes with Caitlin. It doesn't take long for the tornado of official response to be unleashed on the mountainside. The Sheriff, search and rescue, volunteers all out looking for the missing fleet footed golden girl set to enter college in the fall on a full track scholarship. As the days pass, the official response slackens, search and rescue ceases, the vastness of the wilderness holds thousands of miles of immense dark trees overshadowed by the tall jagged peaks of snow covered mountains. Caitlin could be anywhere! When does a family give up on one of their own? When do they give in to not knowing? For Grant, the answer is never. He refuses to give up and leave those wild, lonely mountains without his child. He needs to know what happened, a yearning for revenge burns within him. How could he have brought his child to such a place of solitary wilderness? Somewhere out there evil waits for retribution. As time moves forward, they each must come to grips with the past and begin taking steps forward. Angela goes home, sinking into depression, unable to cope with the loss of her child. Sean has to adjust to his broken body, feelings of guilt for not being able to protect his sister, and feeling emotionally abandoned by his parents as they try to heal from their loss. He lost his carefree teenage years the day he lost his sister, his journey to becoming a man takes him on a long, winding road through some of the dark places in the American landscape. Tim Johnston expertly mixes a heart in your throat thriller with the compassionately told story of a family and a conclusion that will leave you breathless.



May 23rd the Fiction Book Club discusses **Cold Mountain** by Charles Frazer, an excellent lead in to June's upcoming Month of North Carolina. The writing in this novel proves Charles Frazer is a wordsmith of amazing talent. It was on the New York Time's best seller list for over a year and won the prestigious National Book Award. **Cold Mountain** chronicles the brutality of the Civil War through the story of a soldier, Inman, who comes to realize that war is not glory, it is horror and destruction. Wounded and fed up with the cruelty of war, he opts out. He decides to walk back to his home in the Blue Ridge Mountains through the battle scarred wasteland of the South. Deserters are not treated kindly; his journey is filled with peril, as he makes his way toward home and his wife Ada. Women left to fend for themselves during the war also struggle. Ada is a city raised, educated woman, not prepared by her upbringing for the hard labor of running a farm once all the workers have gone. Left alone after the death of her father, a minister, she draws on inner strength, changing and growing into the role her circumstances demand. She is aided by Ruby, a homeless woman she befriends. The story is moving, tragic, and an excellent reflection on the violent nature of man.



Upcoming Book Club Dates for Monday Evenings at 6:30 PM

Everyone is welcome, light refreshments are served.

June 6th **Time's Witness** by Michael Malone [Mystery Book Club](#) [Month Of North Carolina](#)
 June 13th **Lookaway, Lookaway** by Wilton Barnhardt [Fiction Book Club](#) [Month Of North Carolina](#)
 June 27th **Look Homeward Angel** by Thomas Wolfe [Classics Book Club](#) [Month Of North Carolina](#)

July **The Last Bookaneer** by Matthew Pearl [Mystery Book Club](#)
 July **Under The Wide and Starry Sky** by Nancy Horan [Fiction Book Club](#)
 July **Treasure Island** by Robert Louis Stevenson [Classics Book Club](#)

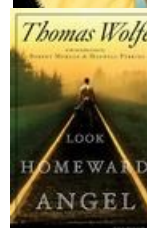
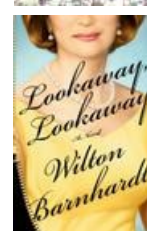
August **Strangler Vine** by M. J. Carter [Mystery Book Club](#)
 August **Cloudsplitter** by Russell Banks [Fiction Book Club](#)
 August **The Wright Brothers** by David McCullough [Non-Fiction Book Club](#)

September **The Gift of Darkness** by Valentina Giambanco [Mystery Book Club](#)
 September **The Satanic Verses** by Salman Rushdie [Fiction and Classics Book Club](#)
 October 10th **Independent People** by Haldor Laxness [for A Month of Iceland](#) [Classics Book Club](#)
 October 17th **Jar City** by Arnaldur Indridason [for A Month of Iceland](#) [Mystery Book Club](#)
 October 24th **Burial Rights** by Hannah Kent [for A Month of Iceland](#) [Fiction Book Club](#)

November **The Bone Tree** by Greg Iles [Mystery Book Club](#)
 November **Our Souls At Night** by Kent Haruf [Fiction Book Club](#)
 November **Dead Wake** by Erik Larson [Non-Fiction Book Club](#)

December **Sidney Chambers and the Shadow of Death** by James Runcie [Mystery Book Club](#)
 December **All The Light We Cannot See** by Anthony Doerr [Fiction Book Club](#)

Comment on book clubs, look up future book clubs, or find more information at Sunriverbooks.com



If you are involved in a club or gathering that would enjoy using space in Sunriver Village, please remember the Village owners have kindly provided space in the loft area above Sunriver Books & Music. The space is available for uses compatible with the bookstore during Sunriver Books & Music's hours of operation. Using the space is free. To reserve the space for your group contact Deon at Sunriver Books & Music. Sunriver Village is an ideal place to meet. After concluding the day's agenda enjoy a meal at one of the Village restaurants and browse in the many shops.

E-readers are changing the landscape for books, not always in gentle ways. Many Independent Bookstores offer e-books for sale, including Sunriver Books & Music. On the right hand side of our website, sunriverbooks.com, you will find information on buying e-books We hope that you consider an Independent Bookstore when purchasing e-books. If you are contemplating purchasing an e-reader, please know that Amazon's kindle dictates your e-books be purchased from Amazon while the I-pad, the Sony e-reader, and others allow you the freedom to chose.