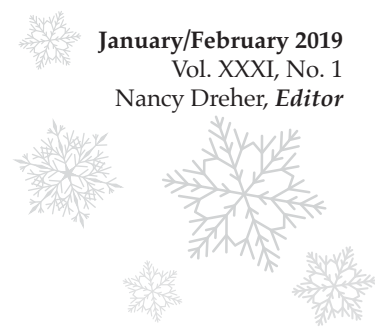




THE BOOK STALL

January/February 2019
Vol. XXXI, No. 1
Nancy Dreher, *Editor*



THE FRONT LINE



As another year comes to a close, it's fun to think back over the past 12 months and the books that we've read and loved. All through the busy holiday season, booksellers chatted about which book they would pick for our annual "Favorite Books of the Year" list. Some years, there is jockeying for who gets to choose which book; in 2016, we all loved *A Gentleman in Moscow* so much, we created a Book Stall favorite category. This year, you'll find a diverse

selection of titles inside these pages—from a novel about a serial killer sister to contemporary poetry.

Our January and February calendars are already packed with events, including book groups, our regular Saturday story times for kids, and the ever-popular Comedy Night. Our poetry section is doing particularly well thanks in large part to our Book Stall staffers and resident poets, Robert McDonald and Jacob Zawa. To reflect renewed interest in the category, The Book Stall is hosting "In with the New," an in-store poetry festival on Saturday, January 12 at 2 pm where our guest poets are encouraged to read new work not yet published or presented to the public.

Another January highlight is an appearance on Thursday, January 17, by Rocky Wirtz to talk about the book, *Breakaway: The Inside Story of the Wirtz Family Business and the Blackhawks* by Bryan Smith. Mr. Wirtz will be joined by Blackhawk legend and Hall of Famer Tony Esposito. As with most of our programming, this event is free and open to the public, but we anticipate a large crowd, so do come early for the best seats.

The Family Action Network (FAN) is starting 2019 with a great line-up of authors. Leslie Jamison will discuss her book, *The Recovering: Intoxication and its Aftermath* on Tuesday, January 22 at Cornog Auditorium at New Trier High School at 7 pm. David Blight presents his bestselling biography, *Frederick Douglass*, at ETHS on Friday, January 25.

Finally, now that my many holiday guests have departed and the store is a bit quieter, I am catching up on my reading in front of the fire with a stack of good books. I will read anything that Tessa Hadley writes, so I started with *Late in the Day*, which did not disappoint. Hadley describes character and relationships in a profound and observant way. Next up is the dystopian novel *The Water Cure* by Sophie Mackintosh, a bestseller in the UK in 2018 and long-listed for the Man Booker Prize. Finally, I'm very excited to read Jane Harper's latest, *The Lost Man* (out February 5).

My son, Nicky (20) has developed an interest in marketing, so he was very excited when I left a copy of *This Is Marketing* by Seth Godin on his bed when he came home for winter break. My daughter, Lexy (17) recommends *The Kingdom of Copper* by S.A. Chakraborty and just started the third installment Cassandra Clare's fantasy series, *Queen of Air and Darkness* (for older fans of YA). My husband Roger stayed up late reading the thriller *The Smiling Man* by Joseph Knox and also enjoyed *The Black Ascot* by Charles Todd (out February 19). Katie, (21) loved Katherine Arden's *The Winter of the Witch*, the third installment of her series based on Russian folklore and fairy tale.

January is a month for resolutions, so inside you'll also find a list we've compiled of "New Year, New You" books to help you along. Sure, you'll find a health book or two, but hopefully you'll find some other titles to inspire. My favorite on the list is *Joyful: The Surprising Power of Ordinary Things to Create Extraordinary Happiness* by Ingrid Fetell Lee (a 2018 FAN speaker).

We wish everyone a happy and healthy New Year and hope to see you in the store!

Steph

TUESDAY, JANUARY 8

7 pm at the store

BOOK STALL AFTER HOURS COMEDY NIGHT
Come enjoy **After Hours Comedy Night**. Produced with Laible Productions, Inc., it's a laughter-filled evening in your own backyard. \$25 gets you a reserved seat at the show and a \$5 gift certificate to Good Grapes. Comics include **Sonya White, Kenny Metroff, and Richard Laible**. For reservations and ticket info, go to brownpapertickets.com.

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 9

6:30 pm at the store



TIM CALKINS
How to Wash a Chicken: Mastering the Business Presentation
Please join us for *The Book Stall Talks Business*, an on-going series that brings the



Book Stall audience into

conversations from the business world that they can apply to their own work and career. **Tim Calkins**, a business writer, marketing consultant, and an award-winning clinical professor at Northwestern University's Kellogg School, discusses his new book, a comprehensive playbook on how you can give the best presentations. Mr. Calkins appears in conversation with **Roger Hochschild**, President and CEO of Discover.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 12

9 am – 2 pm, Highland Park Public Library
KID LIT FEST

The Highland Park Public Library invites all kids to join its **District 112 iRead Kid Lit Fest**, allowing them to meet authors and listen to District 112 teachers read selections from their favorite books. Catch a storytelling performance by nationally known family entertainer **Chris Fascione** at 10:30 am or 12:45 pm. The following authors will appear from 9-11:30 am: **Carolyn Armstrong, Carolyn Crimi, Jacob Grant, and Jenny Meyerhoff**; from 11:30 am – 2 pm: **Keir Graff, Suzanne Slade, Ruth Spiro, and Allan Woodrow**.

2 pm at the store

"In with the New" Poetry Festival

We're delighted to co-host this celebration of new work by Chicago-area poets. This event is co-sponsored with Underline Poetry, a local not-for-profit literary arts organization catering to poetry lovers through broadcast, online, and in-person programming. Participants include: **Darren Angle, Virginia Bell, Richard Fox, Gail Goepfer, Mariam Goma, Beth McDermott, Faisal Mohyuddin, Elizabeth O'Connell-Thompson, Jacob Saenz, Nicole Tryling and Valerie Wallace**. Refreshments will be served.

Calendar continues on page 6

Book Stall Staffers Pick Their 2018 Favorites

STEPHANIE HOCHSCHILD

Meg Wolitzer could not have timed the release of her novel *The Female Persuasion* any better. In this feminist coming-of-age story, we meet and come to love the flawed but dedicated Greer, as she struggles to build her life and her career working at a well-funded foundation organizing programs about women's issues. Wolitzer uses humor and detail to animate her characters and their struggles. On her first night at college, a lonely Greer "watches boys aerosolizing themselves with a body spray called Stadium, which seemed to be half pine sap, half A.I. sauce." *The Female Persuasion* harks back to a 70s-style feminism (think *The Women's Room*), and this prompted an interesting conversation with my 21-year-old daughter who, of course, has her own views on feminist issues.



AIMEE ANDERSON

I chose *The Girl Who Never Read Noam Chomsky*, the debut novel by Jana Casale, as my favorite book of 2018 because immediately after finishing it, I wanted to discuss it with someone else who had read it. Actually, not "wanted" to, but "needed" to. Many of you may remember a spirited member of the Book Stall staff named Aurora. After reading a book she loved she would often come to work and exclaim, "That book changed my life!" This is how I feel about *The Girl Who Never Read Noam Chomsky*. And by the way, you don't need to have read Noam Chomsky, or even know who he is, to enjoy this book. This is a story that captures a razor-sharp look at womanhood and all the roles we play (girlfriend, wife, daughter, mother). We are introduced to Leda as a young woman, who one day at a coffee shop ponders life and buys a work by Noam Chomsky, thinking that after she reads it, she will be able to more clearly carve out a life of meaning. As the book sits on her shelf, we embark on Leda's journey through the twists and turns of life and follow her down unexpected paths. As we laugh and cry with her, we are reminded that life does not always work out the way we hoped or planned, but maybe that's OK.



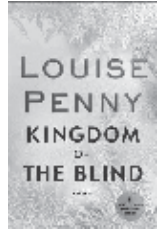
LAURA BERENGER

Convenience Store Woman by Sayaka Murata. When I read that Murata had won one of Japan's most prestigious literary awards for this book, I had to see for myself what lay on the pages. This story is affecting in a very contemporary way. Keiko has worked in a convenience store for many more years than is typical; she is gratified with her career of modifying snack displays and reading cues from her customers. She is aware that her family wants more for her, and that society at large considers her work as nothing more than a job one does without other opportunities. But the order and rules of the store appeal to her. When the briefly employed male co-worker Shiraha joins the Smile Mart crew, Keiko wrestles with life choices outside of her comfort zone. Keiko sees her world as divided between the Smile Mart and the outside world. She admits to not knowing how to behave with "normal" women her own age. Keiko thinks, "My present self is formed almost completely of the people around me.... I think the same goes for most people." Murata has written a slim novel that is quirky and funny, but is also a book that asks how we construct an identity and a life that has meaning.



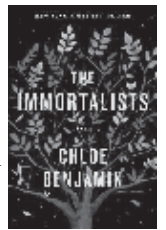
KATHLEEN CRAWFORD

Kingdom of the Blind by Louise Penny. Fans of Louise Penny will not be disappointed with her 14th installment in the Three Pines series. In this riveting Gamache adventure, Armand and bookseller Myrna are mysteriously called to a decrepit farmhouse on a dark and snowy morning. This is just one of a few plots that Penny deftly weaves that entangle Gamache and place him in grave danger, both personally and professionally. Loose ends from Penny's last book will be tied up, but the reader will notice new tensions in the story. The ever-moral Gamache shows a different side as he makes choices and decisions that seem aggressively out of character for him, but necessary in an ever-changing world. Penny does not disappoint with the endearing, warm, and cozy atmosphere in Three Pines that every reader adores. The warm bistro, open fire, and gathering of quirky but lovable friends are as comforting as ever. Yet *Kingdom of the Blind* carries a new tension that the reader will quickly be caught up in. A timely, adrenaline-filled story that will leave you both well-satisfied and a bit unnerved, but at the same time greatly looking forward to learning more as Armand Gamache adjusts to uncharted territories. Don't miss this one.



KARA GAGLIARDI

The Immortalists by Chloe Benjamin. My favorite book of the year was published the first month of the year. The premise: a group of young siblings in 1969 New York gather their courage and allowances to seek the advice of a fortune teller. In the process, they learn more than they bargained for—they learn when they will die. The following chapters explore how each character deals with that information at different points in their life. What makes a short life well lived? Would we make different choices if we knew when we would pass? This is a thought-provoking, fascinating character exploration and a telling study of adult sibling relationships. This one will suck you in. The author had me at Simon, a 16-year-old who decides not to be a tailor like his father and runs away to California, becomes a dancer, finds the love of his life and, yes, dies way too young.

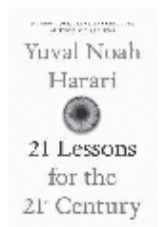


JON GRAND

Two books stand out in my mind as the best reads of this past year: *These Truths: A History of the United States* by Jill Lepore and *21 Lessons for the 21st Century* by Yuval Noah Harari. They may seem unlikely companions. The first tells us where we have been—the conflicts, debates, and values that have shaped our country and our culture. Understanding our history is critical to understanding where we are today.



But, as always, the future beckons us. Harari's book paints a challenging picture of what a future driven by advances in biotech and artificial intelligence may look like. It is a future that will challenge many of the democratic norms and values that have served us well. How well we succeed in preserving our democratic ideals requires that we understand their evolution. Thus armed, we can address the seismic shifts that await us.

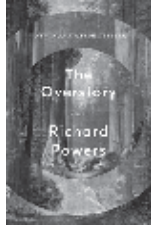


Happy New Year from the Book Stall staff!



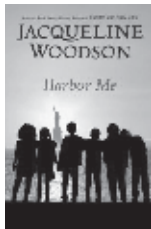
MELANIE HAUCK

Each year, my favorite book depends on how well it's written, how creative and unique it is, what I learned, and whether I am a better person for reading it. This year, my choice is *The Overstory* by Richard Powers, shortlisted for the 2018 Man Booker Prize. In his expansive tale, we learn "no more than two or three percent" of Earth's original wilderness is left. Powers argues trees are essential for humans and the world to endure. It is a timely environmental message, based on easily digestible scientific information, presented in a unique narrative form. The book is divided into four sections reflecting a tree's structure: roots, trunk, crown, and seeds. Powers creatively and masterfully weaves the story's many threads to help us understand what trees mean to us: as necessary fellow occupants of the Earth, as historical markers, as lyrical inspirations for our souls, and more. From Powers, I learned the necessity of the "overstory" or the highest layers of trees in a forest. These are usually the old growth trees upon which the other trees rely. This book reinforced my commitment to conservation and reminded me all living things are connected. *The Overstory's* message is very topical; the UN's October 2018 landmark report presented a more alarming picture of the immediate consequences of climate change than previously thought. Our planet, its trees, and we humans are at risk. And yes, I see the irony and feel conflicted for reading this story on paper.



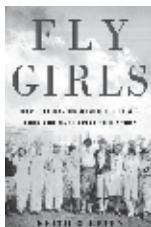
ELIZABETH HUBBARD

Jacqueline Woodson's middle grade novel *Harbor Me* is not just for middle grade readers. It's for anyone who loves a kid who learns differently, anyone who has felt alone or scared, and especially anyone who is paying attention to our country's current immigration situation. In her usual gentle and poetic way, Woodson introduces us to characters we fall in love with almost immediately. This group of six kids, who are sent to "learn" in a room by themselves, slowly get to know each other, including each others' strengths and struggles. The story centers around Esteban and his missing "papi" and takes place every day in a regular school. But it is also the story of racial profiling, separated families, the desire to belong and to fit in, and, most of all, friendship. It is a small and quiet novel, but it touches on many universal stories and shows how today's social issues affect our young people deeply.



ANN KEIL

Fly Girls: How Five Daring Women Defied All Odds and Made Aviation History by Keith O'Brien. In the mid-1920s, piloting linen-covered wooden planes with open cockpits and no navigational aids except for paper maps was a job just too dangerous for women. In opinions voiced by everyone from Charles Lindbergh to Eleanor Roosevelt, women should not be allowed to fly.



And yet, fly they did. Air races, where solo flyers competed in cross-country sprints, and air shows where planes sped around pylons, were generating impressive income and attracting huge crowds to watch the male pilots compete. In 1929, a small group of women competed in the first National Women's Air Derby, flying from Santa Monica to Cleveland in eight days. The women were met by large crowds at each stop, with 40,000 people on hand to witness the landing in Cleveland. Thus began the tremendously popular Powder Puff Derbies, bringing a share of recognition to some of the best women pilots, among them Amelia Earhart. *Fly Girls* is the story of these pioneering women aviators, who fought the elements and sexism to follow their dreams of flying and competing. It ends with a triumphant win by Louise Thaden, beating a talented field of men to win the most coveted aviation prize of all—the Bendix Trophy. I cheered all the way through this marvelous and inspirational book!

ROBERT McDONALD

I am not the only reader to place Ada Limon's collection *The Carrying: Poems* on my list of top books of the year; the poet's latest work continues to win accolades and awards. Her poems are populated with the trees and plants and animals and dirt of her new home in Kentucky—as a former urbanite, she looks at these new surroundings with a careful and wondering eye. It would be wrong, however, to characterize her as a "nature poet," because the bees, eagles, and horses, the gardens and trees, are in the poems not to explain the world to us, or not only to explain the world to us, but also to help the poet explain us to ourselves. *The Carrying* seeks to answer the question that opens Limon's poem "Sway"—"What is it about words that make the world/fit easier?" Reading this brilliant collection about love, and desire, and grief and loss, makes the world fit easier, makes us fit better into the world.



SHARMAN MCGURN

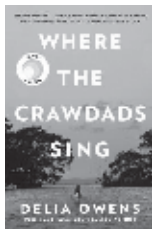
The Italian Teacher by Tom Rachman. Engaging and clever plot! Interesting characters! Wonderful locales! Beautiful prose! Beginning in Rome in 1955, the story follows the life of artist "Bear" Bavinsky's son "Pinch," who tries to win Dad's attention, love, and respect. Bear is a morally flawed, bigger-than-life character who disparages other artists, particularly his "overpraised rival" Picasso (on whom his character must be based). Bear can't fully give of himself to any woman or child, as doing so would inhibit his self-absorption and artistic genius. As Pinch remarks in awe, "every one of Dad's brush strokes is the intersection of him and that moment." Pinch works hard to please Dad, being rebuffed at each turn. He wants to follow in his footsteps, but is told by the great man, "You're not an artist, and never will be." Pinch then decides to become an art critic in support of Dad, whose style is deemed outdated by the mid-1960s. When that career flounders, Pinch takes a job as a language teacher, still trying to



win Bear's affection and approval. The characters are wonderfully drawn, and the descriptions of the art scenes in Rome and New York are laser-sharp. The plot has surprising twists and turns. Bear's long-time dealer reportedly remarked, "Success in art is 50 percent timing, 50 percent geography. The rest is talent." *The Italian Teacher* ruminates on the meaning of art and genius, concluding that we often see what we want to see.

KATHY RILEY

Where the Crawdads Sing by Delia Owens. Combing a murder mystery, a coming of age tale, a love story, and gorgeous descriptions of the marshes of North Carolina, Delia Owens has written a spellbinding novel. The book opens with a dead body, discovered by two local boys out riding their bikes. Alternating with the murder investigation, is the life story of Kya Clark who is abandoned, one by one, by her parents and siblings, to raise herself among the flora and fauna of the swamp. With the help of Jumpin', his wife, Mabel, and the friendship of Tate, the "marsh girl", as she is known in Barkley Cove, manages a life in the backwaters. Through her extensive exploration of the swamps, her keen observation of nature, and her artistic talent, Kya becomes a renowned naturalist. Owens' background as a nature writer enhances the beautiful prose describing coastal North Carolina. *Where The Crawdads Sing* is a Book Stall favorite and my choice for one of the most engaging reads of the year.



NATALIE ROBBINS

Like many psychological thrillers, Oyinkan Braithwaite's *My Sister, the Serial Killer* starts with a murder. The ensuing 226 pages are a wicked, polished, and evocative gem that hardly resembles recent debut thrillers. Korede is a young nurse overshadowed by her more attractive, charismatic, and almost certainly sociopathic younger sister, Ayoola. While Korede lusts over a doctor she works with, Ayoola has managed to kill three eligible bachelors. Behind each murder is Korede, bleach in hand and ready to help dispose of the body. Korede issues tepid warnings against further violence, but the issue remains relatively unsolved until Ayoola chooses Korede's handsome doctor as her next lover and possible victim. To what length will Ayoola go to protect her sister? *My Sister, the Serial Killer* earned my praise due to its rare intersection of a page-turning thriller, superlative writing, and dark wit.



CHARLOTTE ROBERTSON

Into the Raging Sea: Thirty-Three Mariners, One Megastorm, and the Sinking of El Faro by Rachel Slade. In late September 2015 the container ship *El Faro* left Jacksonville, Florida for a routine run to Puerto Rico. As *El Faro* made her way southeast, a tropical storm was brewing in the North Atlantic, soon to become Hurricane Joaquin. In spite of advice from crew members and increasingly dire weather reports, the ship's master decided to try and outrun the storm in order to reach the destination on schedule. On October 1, in the worst U.S. maritime disaster in 40 years, *El Faro* hit the wall of the hurricane and sank with her entire crew. This book is packed with fascinating details, many of them quite disturbing, about the U.S. shipping industry, the corporate and governmental entities that oversee it, and the thermodynamics of tropical storms. It is almost painful to read the dialogue (taken from the "black box" voice recorder on the ship's bridge), knowing the outcome of the voyage, but the author's meticulous research and her engaging portraits of the 33 crew members make the book riveting and readable. I found this book so engrossing that I went on to read *Run the Storm* by



George Foy and *Ninety Percent of Everything* by Rose George. There is a lot here for us 21st century consumers to learn about how our "stuff" moves around the globe, and the risks to the people who move it.

LIZ ROGATZ

Few books that have come out this year have received the accolades of *The Great Believers* by local author and Book Stall friend Rebecca Makkai. This novel is set in 1980s Chicago at the dawn of the AIDS crisis, and also in contemporary Paris. The heartbreaking loss of scores of lovers, brothers, and sons, along with the cruel randomness and swiftness of the disease, reverberates throughout the city and across the world. Makkai creates flawed characters that you truly root for. Yale, a handsome young man who is about to pull off the coup of his career as a gallery director; Charlie, his insecure and often sullen boyfriend; Nico, who has just died from the disease and leaves them all with bottomless grief; Fiona, Nico's sister, who is more dedicated to her brother's friends than she is to her own family; and Richard, the photographer who unknowingly documents it all. Every character is rendered so vividly, the dialog crackles, and I just knew I would have been friends with this assorted bunch, had I met them. Former Book Stall employee Owen Keehnen, an author and activist, provided the author with extensive information on 1980s Chicago, which really made the book come alive.



MIKE WYSOCK

King Zeno by Nathaniel Rich. I find it extremely difficult to select from all the great books I read this year one I can call my favorite of 2018. Instead, I want to reach far back to the beginning of this year and revisit a title I think deserves greater readership, Nathaniel Rich's *King Zeno*. To call this book historical crime fiction is helpful but also reductive. Set against the backdrop of a sweltering New Orleans, 1918, Rich interweaves the lives of three disparate characters, each hoping to outrun the demons of their pasts: Bill Bastrop, a veteran of WWI turned policeman haunted by his wartime cowardice; Isadore Zeno, a talented cornetist playing improvisational jazz ahead of its time; and Beatrice Vizzini, a reluctant mafia matriarch struggling to maintain her empire despite the actions of her violent, impulsive son. With detailed rich prose propelling the action forward, this book is very much a page-turner, but I find it also remains a powerful, literary novel. Through his dynamic storytelling, Rich holds up a mirror to contemporary concerns: police brutality, endemic racism, PTSD and mental health, environmental degradation, corporate graft, and the illusion of social mobility. It is a well-researched novel that prompts the simultaneous contemplation of this country's past and present.



"Why do you want to read anyway—for the sake of amusement or mere erudition? Those are poor, fatuous pretexts. Reading should serve the goal of attaining peace; if it doesn't make you peaceful, what good is it?"

—Epictetus, *Of Human Freedom*



Children's Staff Share Their Favorites of 2018



BETSY BALLYEAT

My favorite picture book of the year is *Lost in the Library: A Story of Patience & Fortitude* by Josh Funk, illustrated by Stevie Lewis. Patience and Fortitude spend their days guarding the main entrance to the New York Public Library. That is, until one early morning, when Fortitude finds Patience missing. It's almost dawn, and the lions must be in their places before the sun rises. So Fortitude jumps off his plinth and starts searching for Patience inside the library. With a natural read-aloud rhythm and lovely earth-toned illustrations, this story is an ode to friendship and to sharing wonderful children's books.



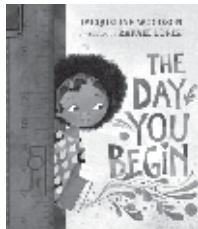
Nowhere Boy by Katherine Marsh (\$16.99).

Fourteen-year-old Ahmed flees war-torn Syria with his father after a bomb kills the rest of his family. While crossing the Mediterranean on a raft, a rogue wave sweeps his father overboard, and now Ahmed is alone. A fellow refugee takes him in, and they eventually wind up in a tent camp in Brussels. When the tent city is shut down, Ahmed, terrified of being returned to Syria, runs away and takes shelter in the basement of a home. After months of hiding, he is discovered by Max, whose family has just moved in. Max is experiencing his own set of troubles, trying to learn a new language and make new friends at school. In an unexpected turn of events, Max, who has befriended a Muslim Belgian girl, and Oscar, a white Belgian boy, manage to sneak Ahmed into their school for a part of each day. Marsh skillfully weaves historical parallels of gentiles who hid Jews fleeing Nazi terror and present-day political news. This well-crafted and suspenseful novel presents a discourse around the refugee crisis we read about almost daily. *Ages 10 - 14*



AMY TROGDON

The Day You Begin by Jacqueline Woodson, illustrated by Rafael López. A heartening book about finding the courage to connect even when you feel scared. "There will be times when you walk into a room and no one there is quite like you." There are so many reasons to feel different in this world. This book, along with the inspiring, colorful art of Rafael López, shows us that although we can feel like an outsider, it is brave and rewarding to keep going, and often others will welcome us. Share this book with the whole family!



Louisiana's Way Home by Kate DiCamillo. Louisiana Elephante, one of the three friends from Newbery Medalist DiCamillo's book *Raymie Nightingale*, is an orphan who lives with her wacky, unstable grandmother. One night, she is awakened by Granny and told they must leave Florida. They get as far as Richford, Georgia, before Granny abandons her at a motel. Louisiana also finds a letter from her granny explaining that all the stories she has been told about her family are untrue. Truly alone, she is unsure of what to do next, when she meets Burke and his pet crow. He befriends Louisiana and slowly the little town starts to become aware of Louisiana's situation and come to her aid. Themes of friendship, forgiveness, abandonment, love, and family prevail and enhance the book. "Perhaps what matters, when all is said and done, is not who puts us down but who picks us up." A warmly humorous and heartfelt story. *Ages 10 and up*



KARI PATCH

Sheets by Brenna Thummler. Thirteen-year-old Marjorie takes care of her family and their laundry business after the death of her mother. Life is complicated by both a man, who wants to take over the laundry building, and a ghost named Wendell, who has come back from the world beyond and is visiting the laundry. This quiet, contemplative book is both literally and figuratively haunting. I've been thinking of Marjorie and Wendell for months since first reading it. *Ages 10 and up*



Check Please! Book 1: #Hockey by Ngozi Ukazu. Bitty, a former junior figure skating champion and pie baker extraordinaire, has just started his freshman year at Samwell University on a hockey scholarship. Problem is, he's really paranoid about checking. And he maybe has a crush on his teammate. Told in the form of a video blog, this book is sure to delight. I couldn't say it better than YA author Mackenzi Lee: "*Check, Please!* is a shot of warm pie-smelling happiness straight to the heart. *Please note: this book is set on a college campus; there is swearing and drinking and talk of sex in it. *Ages 14 and up*



New Year, New You

Almost Everything: Notes on Hope by Anne Lamott (\$20)

The Art of Gathering: How We Meet and Why It Matters by Priya Parker (\$28)

The Art of the Wasted Day by Patricia Hampl (\$26)

The Power of When: Discover Your Chronotype—and the Best Time to Eat Lunch, Ask for a Raise, Have Sex, Write a Novel, Take Your Meds, and More by Michael Breus (\$28)

What if This Were Enough: Essays by Heather Havrilesky (\$25.95)

Enlightenment Now: The Case for Reason, Science, Humanism, and Progress by Steven Pinker (\$35)

How to Be a Happier Parent: Raising a Family, Having a Life, and Loving (Almost) Every Minute by KJ Dell'Antonia (\$27)

100 Days Happier: Daily Inspiration for Life-Long Happiness by Domonique Bertolucci (\$14.99)

Joyful: The Surprising Power of Ordinary Things to Create Extraordinary Happiness by Ingrid Fetell Lee (\$28)

How to Be Free: An Ancient Guide to the Stoic Life by Epictetus (\$16.95)

Cook90: The 30-Day Plan for Faster, Healthier, Happier Meals by David Tamarkin (\$30)

Skinnytaste: One and Done by Gina Homolka (\$30)

What to Eat When: A Strategic Plan to Improve Your Health and Life Through Food by Michael Roizen and Michael Crupain (\$28)

The Clean Plate: Eat, Reset, Heal by Gwyneth Paltrow (\$35)

CALENDAR *continued from page 1*

SUNDAY, JANUARY 13

2 pm at the store

Emily Krone Phillips

The Make-or-Break Year: Solving the Dropout Crisis One Ninth Grader at a Time

Mrs. Krone Phillips followed the freshmen at Hancock and Tilden high schools on Chicago's South Side through the University of Chicago Consortium on School Research. She found that students who passed their freshman year courses almost always went on to graduate, while those who failed more than one semester of a course in ninth grade almost always dropped out.

TUESDAY, JANUARY 15

6:30 pm at the store

ROOTS & ROCK

We are delighted to welcome friends from the Music Institute of Chicago (MIC) Roots & Rock program for an informal evening of Americana tunes. Students and MIC faculty members will lead the live music-making. The Roots & Rock program offers beginning and intermediate level classes for guitarists and songwriters, emphasizing American roots music. All are welcome to attend this free, family-friendly program.

THURSDAY, JANUARY 17

6:30 pm at the store

ROCKY WIRTZ

The Breakaway: The Inside Story of the Wirtz Family Business and the Chicago Blackhawks

Blackhawks owner **Rocky Wirtz** will be joined by Hockey Hall of Famer **Tony Esposito** to discuss and sign copies of the new book, written by Bryan Smith with Mr. Wirtz's input and cooperation. It recounts a story spanning three generations, an insider's view of a brilliant but

difficult Chicago business and sports dynasty. It's the story of perseverance and courage in the face of intense family pressures.

7 pm, a Family Action Network (FAN) event

Cornog Auditorium, NTHS Northfield, 7 Happ Road
HANA SCHANK and ELIZABETH WALLACE

The Ambition Decisions: What Women Know About Work, Family, and the Path to Building a Life

Journalists Schank and Wallace have written a guide to the changes that may seem arbitrary to women but are life defining, by women who've been there.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 19

2 pm at the store

GEOFFREY WILSON

Never a Dull Moment: My Life and Times

Join us for a celebration of Winnetka-based nonagenarian **Geoffrey Wilson** and his new book, *Never a Dull Moment: My Life and Times*. As a civil engineer and painter, Mr. Wilson has had a fascinating life both in England as a young man living through the Blitz, all the way to his calling as an artist here in his second home in the USA. A former instructor with the North Shore Art League, Mr. Wilson is an Associate of the British Watercolour Society and a Fellow of the International Guild of Artists.

TUESDAY, JANUARY 22

7 pm, a FAN event

Cornog Auditorium, NTHS Northfield, 7 Happ Road
LESLIE JAMISON

The Recovering: Intoxication and Its Aftermath

Ms. Jamison's book turns our understanding of the traditional addiction narrative on its head, demonstrating that the story of recovery can be every bit as electrifying as the train wreck itself.

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 23

6:30 pm at the store

TIM RAPPLEYE

Hobey Baker: Upon Further Review: Exploring the Life and Death of a Hockey Immortal

Sports producer, writer, and hockey expert **Tim Rappleye** tells the story of an Ivy League sports hero who became a glamorous World War I fighter pilot. From the outside, U.S. Army Captain Baker had it all: good looks, a glamorous fiancé, war medals for bravery, and a sports resume second to none. And then it all came crashing down, barely a month following the Armistice. Mr. Rappleye solves the mystery of a confounding death.

FRIDAY, JANUARY 25

7 pm, a Family Action Network (FAN) Event
Evanston Township High School, 1600 Dodge Ave.

DAVID W. BLIGHT

Frederick Douglass: Prophet of Freedom

Yale University professor Blight tells the story of the famous orator, one of the major literary figures of his time. Drawing on new information held in a private collection that few other historians have consulted, Blight illuminates Douglass's personal struggles and achievements to emphasize what an extraordinary person he was.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 26

2 pm at the store

WILLIAM HAZELGROVE

Wright Brothers, Wrong Story:

How Wilbur Wright Solved the Problem of Manned Flight

We welcome back bestselling author **William Hazelgrove** for a discussion of his new book that makes a convincing case that it was Wilbur Wright who designed the first successful airplane, not Orville. He shows that, while Orville's role was important, he generally followed his brother's lead and assisted with the mechanical details to make Wilbur's vision a reality.

SUNDAY, JANUARY 27

2 pm at the store

So You Want to Write a Memoir: A Panel Discussion

Three Chicago-area writers, **Nancy Chadwick**, **Annette Gendler**, and **Tammy Letherer** discuss the challenges, rewards, and varied experiences of writing and publishing a memoir. **Ms. Chadwick** is the author of *Under the Birch Tree: A Memoir of Discovering Connections and Finding Home*. **Annette Gendler** is the author of *Jumping Over Shadows: A Memoir*, and **Tammy Letherer** is the author of *The Buddha at My Table: How I Found Peace in Betrayal and Divorce*.

TUESDAY, JANUARY 29

6:30 pm at the store

TIM JOHNSTON

The Current: A Novel

In the dead of winter, outside a small Minnesota town, state troopers pull two young women and their automobile from the icy Black Root River. One is pronounced dead at the scene, while the other, the daughter of the town's retired sheriff, survives. News of the crime awakens memories of another young woman who lost her life in the same river 10 years prior, and whose killer may still be at large. Mr. Johnston's previous novel, *The Descent*, was a Book Stall favorite.

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 30

7 pm, a FAN Event

Evanston Township High School, 1600 Dodge
EBOO PATEL

Out of Many Faiths: Religious Diversity and the American Promise

In his book, **Eboo Patel**, the former faith adviser to Barack Obama and named one of America's best leaders by *U.S. News & World Report*, grapples with fundamental questions facing the country today.

THURSDAY, JANUARY 31

6:30 pm at the store

BOB LEDERER*Beyond Broadway Joe: The Super Bowl Team That Changed Football*

Attention football fans! Just days before the Super Bowl, **Bob Lederer** discusses this year's upcoming game and his new book. It details the legendary 1969 Super Bowl contest between the heavily favored Baltimore Colts and underdog New York Jets, lead by quarterback Joe Namath, whose talent, cockiness, and charm made him an instant celebrity.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 2

10 am at the store

YA EDUCATOR DAY

Teachers and librarians working with grades 5 through 12 should plan on joining us for our annual Young Adult Educator Day! We'll have a run-down of new and necessary books presented by our Children's staff, as well as recommendations and information from publishers and guest authors, including Chicago's own **Stephanie Strom**. We offer door prizes, lots of swag (free books!), special discounts, and excellent information about books that your students are going to love. This event is free, but please reserve your spot by calling us at **847 446-8880** or emailing events@thebookstall.com.

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 5

7 pm at the store

BOOK STALL AFTER HOURS COMEDY NIGHT

Come out for our highly popular **After Hours Comedy Night**. Produced with Laible Productions, Inc., it's an evening filled with laughter in your own backyard. \$25 gets you a reserved seat at the show and a \$5 gift certificate to Good Grapes. Comics include **Dobie Maxwell**, **Katie Meiners**, and **Mark McPartland**, with **Vik Pandya** as emcee. For reservations and ticket info, go to brownpapertickets.com.

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 10

2 pm at the store

DAVID REARICK*Spirit of a Dream:**A Sailor's Ultimate Journey Around the World Alone*

Famed solo ocean racer **Dave Rearick** discusses his new book, the story of his full circumnavigation of the world. He started from Newport on October 2, 2013, and took 256 days to complete the journey.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 16

2 pm, Total Takeover at the store

A celebration of the *Timmy Failure* series

We'll celebrate the *Timmy Failure* series by Stephan Pastis. Stephan can't make it, but he is sending us a *life-size* replica of Timmy's faithful companion, Total the Polar Bear, the perfect backdrop for kids to get their picture taken. We'll have book-related crafts and activities, and lots of cool Timmy Failure swag. Enter a raffle for a chance to win great prizes, including a gift basket containing all seven Timmy Failure titles! This event is aimed for readers ages 7 to 11, and is free and open to the public. Call us at **847 446-8880** to reserve your child's place.

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 17

2 pm at the store

Chicago Quarterly Review Reading

We are delighted to host this reading, sponsored by the **Chicago Quarterly Review**, with **Paul Skenazy**, **Jay Shearer**, and **Dipika Mukerje**. Join us for the finest in contemporary fiction. Coffee and cookies will be served. This event is free and open to the public.

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 19

The Book Stall is closed all day for inventory.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 23

10:30 am, Special Storytime

MIKE WOHNOUTKA*Croc & Turtle*

Author and illustrator **Mike Wahnoutka** joins us as special guest star. He'll draw for us and sign copies of his new book, *Croc & Turtle*. This event is aimed at kids 3 and up, and is free and open to the public.

2 pm at the store

LOWEY BUNDY SICHOL*From an Idea to Nike:**How Marketing Made Nike a Global Success**From an Idea to Disney:**How Imagination Built a World of Magic*

We welcome author and longtime Book Stall supporter **Loweey Bundy Sichol** to celebrate the release of her new nonfiction series for middle grade readers, *From an Idea to...*, the world's first business biographies for kids. *From an Idea to Nike* is a fully-illustrated look into how Nike stepped up its sneaker game to become the most popular athletic brand in the world. *From an Idea to Disney* is a behind-the-movie-screen story of the history, business, and brand of the world's largest entertainment empire. With humorous black and white illustrations throughout, it tells the story of the company behind the world's favorite mouse, Mickey! Said Walt Disney: "I only hope that we never lose sight of one thing—that it was all started by a mouse."

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 24

2 pm at the store

ROB DANIELS and ADAM HIEBELER*Adventures in Parenting: The Playdate*

In their book, child psychologist **Rob Daniels** and advertising copywriter **Adam Hiebeler** give parents options to explore different playdate choices and experience different outcomes. It helps parents navigate the playdate pitfalls of new faces, new places, an vastly different parenting styles.

Book Discussion Groups at The Book Stall

Wednesday, January 16 at 9:30 am

Mothering Sunday: A Romance by Graham Swift

Led by Roberta Rubin

Wednesday, January 30 at 9:30 am

There There by Tommy Orange

Led by Judy Levin

Monday, February 4 at 6:30 pm

The Great Believers by Rebecca Makkai

Led by Alice Moody

Wednesday, February 13 at 9:30 am

The Friend by Sigrid Nunez

Led by Elise Barack

Wednesday, March 13 at 9:30 am

Warlight by Michael Ondaatje

Led by Nancy Buehler

A \$5 book discussion group participation charge is fully redeemable for merchandise in the store.

Go Green Reads Book Discussion Group

Monday, January 14 at 6:30 pm

*The Nature Fix:**Why Nature Makes Us Happier, Healthier, and More Creative*

by Florence Williams

The *Go Green Reads* discussions are free and open to the public.



811 Elm Street • Winnetka, Illinois 60093
Monday - Thursday 9:30 am to 7 pm
Friday 9:30 am to 6 pm
Saturday 9:30 am to 5 pm • **Sunday** 11 am to 5 pm
Telephone: (847) 446-8880
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☞ **JANUARY** ☜

Tues. 8 7 pm at the store
Book Stall After Hours Comedy Night

Wed. 9 6:30 pm, at the store
The Book Stall Talks Business
TIM CALKINS
How to Wash a Chicken
 In conversation with **Roger Hochschild**

Sat. 12 9 am – 2 pm, Highland Park Public Library
IRead Kid Lit Fest
 10:30 am, Storytime at the store
 2 pm at the store
"In with the New" Poetry Festival

Sun. 13 2 pm at the store
EMILY KRONE PHILLIPS
The Make-or-Break Year

Tues. 15 6:30 pm at the store
Roots & Rock music program

Thurs. 17 6:30 pm at the store
ROCKY WIRTZ
 with **TONY ESPOSITO**
The Breakaway
 7 pm, NTHS Northfield
HANA SCHANK and ELIZABETH WALLACE
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Out of Many Faiths

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BOB LEDERER
Beyond Broadway Joe

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