There are so many things to look forward to in the month of March! Daylight Savings time begins March 8 and the days will continue getting longer. Spring officially begins on March 20, and families on the North Shore will enjoy a much-needed Spring Break. For those in need of Spring Break reading, whether you’re heading for warmer climes or planning a staycation, we’ve assembled a list of titles to entertain across a range of categories. And March is also Women’s History Month, so of course, we have many books about the important contributions of women around the world.

Our events calendar for the month is packed! We kick off the month with Diana Kapp whose book, Girls Who Run the World, is about the women who lead some of the hottest companies today. The women CEOs in the book talk frankly about their early years and the many challenges they faced. This is a great event for the budding entrepreneur in your life. Chicago mystery writers Mary Kubica and Lori Rader-Day will be at the store on March 3 at 6:30 pm to discuss their new books, The Other Mrs. and The Lucky One, respectively. We’re also delighted to welcome Laura Munson on March 10 at 1:30 pm to discuss her new book, Willa’s Grove, and the craft of writing. On Wednesday, March 11 at 6:30 pm, our own Jon Grand will be in conversation with Tom Schachtman for his book, The Founding Fortunes, about the role of wealth in the Revolutionary War.

And there are so many great books to pick up this month! As a recent empty nester, Laura Zigman’s book, Separation Anxiety, caught my eye. A mom discovers her son’s old baby sling while cleaning out the basement and proceeds to use it for her dog in this thought-provoking and compassionate exploration of relationships and anxiety. Another great spring read is Karma Brown’s Recipe for a Perfect Wife, about a woman conflicted about the life she’s living with her husband in the suburbs when finds an old cookbook from the 1950s with advice on how to be a perfect wife. Finally, the inimitable Colum McCann has written a brilliant new novel, Apeirogon, based on the real-life story of two fathers who lost daughters during the conflict in Israel. It is the must read of the spring! As for family reading, my husband Roger loved Firewatching by Russ Thomas, a gripping British detective mystery. My daughter, Katie, really enjoyed The Last Taxi Driver by Lee Durkee, a darkly poetic tale about a day in the life of a jaded writer turned cab driver and the tragic denizens of middle America he encounters.

At The Book Stall, we feel lucky to be part of this wonderful community, and one of the ways we give back is by hosting book fairs where we donate a portion of the proceeds from sales to a charity or school. This spring we’re happy to welcome back Henry’s Heroes, who are raising money for research on epilepsy. The HH folks will be in the store on Saturday, March 14 and Sunday, March 15, and frequently have a small bake sale going—so another reason to stop in for a home-baked treat! Spring cleaning is also on our calendar and to clear out older titles to make room for new, we’re discounting our beautiful selection of gift and art books. Stop in any time during the month and receive 20% off—your coffee table will thank you! And all of our audio books will be 30% off.

March will also bring another round of construction, this time on Elm Street. We anticipate another several weeks of difficulty navigating sidewalks and parking, but we hope that most of the work will be completed this spring. Please don’t be deterred by the inevitable inconvenience!
AIMEE ANDERSON

**Four Friends: Promising Lives Cut Short** by William D. Cohan ($28.99). I admit I was initially intrigued by this book when I saw John F. Kennedy Jr.’s photo on the spine. When I pulled it off the shelf and read the book jacket, I was instantly hooked. **Four Friends** is the true story of four Andover prep school graduates whose lives were all cut short by unthinkable tragedies. The author, William D. Cohan, is a bestselling author who contributes to the *New York Times*, *Vanity Fair*, and *The Financial Times*, among others. Cohan was an Andover classmate of Jack Berman, Will Daniel, Harry Bull, and John Kennedy Jr., all of whom had very diverse backgrounds. Berman was the son of Holocaust survivors. Attending Andover, Brown University, and Boston University School of Law was a prospect almost unimaginable by his immigrant family. Berman was working as an attorney in San Francisco in 1993 when a deranged gunman opened fire in the building at 101 California Street and randomly killed nine people, including Berman.

Daniel, who worked extremely hard to strike out on his own and not fall back on the fact that his grandfather was a U.S. President (Harry S. Truman), was fatally struck by a cab while crossing Park Avenue in the fall of 2000. At the time of his death, Daniel was the coordinator and chief researcher for a study aimed at reducing risky sexual behavior among mentally ill men at risk of HIV at New York State Psychiatric Institute at Columbia University.

Bull and Kennedy were from very privileged families indeed. Bull was from a wealthy family in the western suburbs of Chicago. After Andover, he attended Northwestern and University of Chicago. He was an attorney at a well-known law firm in Chicago when he took his two daughters for a routine sail on Lake Michigan one beautiful day in 1999. After being reported missing, a search party was dispatched. He was an experienced sailor, and questions still remain to this day why he and one of his daughters were found lifeless in the lake, while the other daughter’s body was never recovered. The boat was found fully intact with no signs of foul play.

And finally, JFK Jr., even though we all think we know his story that ended in a plane crash in 1999, Cohan brings fresh insight and new revelations to the man only one who knew him and his world so intimately can relate.

Mickey and her sister Kacey grew-up Irish Catholic on the wrong side of the tracks. They lost their mother early to addiction and all but raised themselves. Fast-forward to their adult lives, and Mickey assumes the mantle of the responsible one; a police officer raising a young son by herself. Kacey, meanwhile, follows her mother’s path and veers off-course. At the book’s opening, Mickey hasn’t seen her for weeks.

And while Kacey goes missing, bodies continue to pile-up. What first appears to be an overdose reveals the work of a serial killer who preys on young women in the skin trade. Mickey’s cousins know more than they let on. Childhood friend Paula thinks a dirty cop is to blame. Whom can she trust? The cop she confided in as a teenager? The ex-partner she didn’t do enough to save from harm? The boss who has never liked her? Buoyed by the love of her son, Mickey will not give up. With the help of her landlord, a former nun, who provides child-care in a pinch, and despite the warnings of Gee, her thick-skinned grandmother hardened by life, Mickey is determined to find Kacey and get a serial killer off the street.

This book is about trust, the ravages of addiction, and the love of family even when it’s not spoken out loud. Good for fans of Tana French.

JON GRAND

**No Visible Bruises: What We Don’t Know About Domestic Violence Can Kill Us** by Rachel Louise Snyder ($28). According to a report from the United Nations (2018): “The most dangerous place for a woman is in her own home.” Between 2000 and 2006, 3,200 American soldiers died; during the same period, three times that many women died at the hands of their husbands and boyfriends. In America, domestic violence accounts for 15% of the violent crime. The statistics go on and on, but you get the picture. Yet for all its societal impact, domestic violence is only recently emerging from the shadows. The traditions of male domestic violence have deep social, political, and religious roots that viewed women as property or worse. Snyder follows the story of one young couple that ends tragically with the murder of the wife and two children, followed by the husband’s suicide. Their story provides the frame to ask what was missed? Who should/could have intervened? Why did she stay with him? Snyder takes us on a compelling journey to the dark side and then, having shown us hell, leads us back to the possibility of light. This is an important book for both men and women to read and discuss.

**Wilmington’s Lie: The Murderous Coup of 1898 and The Rise of White Supremacy** by David Zucchino ($28). The Civil War was over... or was it? Wilmington, North Carolina was a peaceful prosperous town in the late 1800s. Reconstruction had placed many Afro-Americans in positions of local power, a source of tension in the town. The black population, though relatively prosperous, still lived in a separate area of the town. Behind the peaceful façade, old hatreds and fears simmered. With elections coming up, whites vowed to take back the statehouse...
and then take all the Afro-Americans out of Wilmington’s government. To accomplish their goal, they warned the white community of plans they ascribed to black men in particular, plans that threatened the “honor” of white women. As tensions grew and rumors flew, Wilmington moved toward its horrible destiny. This is a book that will pull you in, not let you go, and spit you out the other side.

The Falcon Thief: A True Tale of Adventure, Treachery and the Hunt for the Perfect Bird by Joshua Hammer ($26). I read a lot of nonfiction: history, biographies, political stuff...you name it, I read it. But sometimes I yearn to read a good mystery or thriller. Joshua Hammer has written a book to satisfy that guilty pleasure. The Falcon Thief combines adventure and danger in the high-stakes world of falconry. But then, perhaps like me, you didn’t know there was a high stakes world of falconry. Falconry as a sport has an ancient and noble lineage. Today it is a glamorous sport among some of the earth’s richest men and women. Yes, falcons can be bred in captivity, but the myth persists that wild birds are tougher and faster. But it’s difficult to steal a live bird and smuggle it to a buyer. But an egg—now that’s a different story. True, it is dangerous to actually get to a nest, often requiring the skills of a mountaineer. Then there’s the matter of transporting a viable egg, keeping it safe and warm. Timing is also key: who wants a bird hatching in the customs line? The incentives must be pretty good, and they are: thousands of dollars for a single egg. Jeffrey Lendrum was one of the best at finding and stealing raptor eggs. As he travels around the world, he manages to stay one-step ahead of the law. As Hammer traces his movements and his ultimate capture, I was caught up in the story, fascinated by Jeffrey Lendrum, and amazed by the competitive need of the buyers. Certainly, this is as good as any thriller...and it’s all true.

Eisenhower vs. Warren: The Battle for Civil Rights and Liberties by James F. Simon ($35). The Warren Court came to an end 50 years ago. From 1953 to 1969, the Warren Court strove to ensure the rights of all citizens were protected. The landmark Brown v. Board of Education of Topeka in 1954 opened the door to long-needed civil rights legislation. Earl Warren was a respected conservative Republican from California. As Chief Justice of the Supreme Court, Warren became a powerful advocate for civil rights and a staunch defender of American liberties. Eisenhower claimed Warren’s appointment was the worst act of his presidency, calling Warren that “dumb son of a b…..” Warren, in turn, chastised Eisenhower for failing to more openly advocate for civil liberties (Note: Eisenhower’s record on civil rights is actually quite good.) The Warren-Eisenhower feud was well known at the time, and this book raises little that is new. But it is a fascinating look at the two men as they battled for their place in history.

KATHY RILEY

A Long Petal of The Sea by Isabel Allende ($28). The tragic events of the Spanish Civil War provide the impetus for Roser, Victor, and their son Marcelo to flee from Spain to Chile aboard the rescue ship Winnipeg. The ship, commissioned by the poet Pablo Neruda, carried over 2,000 refugees. Victor finishes his training as a doctor, and they become embroiled in their new country. The coup by General Pinochet forces them into exile, this time to Venezuela where once again they establish themselves. Isabel Allende has immigrated herself and this sensibility, combined with vast research, heightens the believability and drama of the characters. In A Long Petal Of The Sea, Allende has written an epic historical novel around civil wars, falling in love, and finding home.

MIKE WYSOCK

Andrew Krivak’s latest novel, The Bear ($16.99, published originally in paperback), is a refreshing addition to the crowded genre of post-apocalyptic fiction; think of it as an upside down version of Cormac McCarthy’s similar tale, The Road. Both feature an unnamed father and child navigating a world after an unspecified cataclysm. But where McCarthy trades in the all-too-believable horrors humans will exact upon each other at the tail end of extinction, Krivak explores the serenity and beauty of nature sloughing off the last of mankind. In The Bear, Krivak narrates the final days of a father and his daughter living in an end-of-the-world Eden. He spends his days teaching her the rudimentary survival skills she will need to eke out some meager existence after his inevitable passing. Of course, death hangs in the background of this book, which may be why I found it so beautiful. The father does die; we see it coming. The daughter, without a partner, represents the last of all humans. It is at this point that the book becomes especially transcendent. The daughter communes with nature. Animals begin speaking to her; a bear becomes her guardian. We are, through a strange and beautiful feat of metaphysical writing, led to believe that a beautiful, separate current of story and consciousness has run parallel to the entire history of humankind. This consciousness is that of the natural world, and, unfortunately, only the last human to live ever gains access to it. Simply amazing.

ANN KEIL

Half Broke: A Memoir by Ginger Gaffney ($25.95). On 17 acres in northern New Mexico, there is an unusual ranch. It is run entirely by convicts who have appealed and been granted permission to serve out their sentences while living and working on the premises. Prisoners who have been on the farm the longest teach newer members, but there was a breakdown in knowledge about caring for the small herd of horses, who became increasingly wild. After several of the convicts were injured trying to corral the horses, the ranch contacted Ginger Gaffney, a quiet, shy trainer who has a remarkable rapport with equines. She would become the first “outsider” to be invited to the ranch, and under her patient guidance, the prisoners were taught how to care for and handle the horses. It is fascinating and touching to read about some of the most hardened cons overcoming their own obstacles and learning to read the horses’ signals. And, the half-wild horses, in turn, begin to trust and respond to their unusual caretakers, with many of them forming deep bonds. This is a beautifully written, moving story of animals and humans rescuing each other.

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THURSDAY, MARCH 5
7 pm, a Family Action Network (FAN) Event
Northwestern University psychology professor Dr. Alexandra Solomon appears in a conversation with Northwestern’s Dr. Eli Finkel about her book, Taking Sexy Back: How to Own Your Sexuality and Create the Relationship You Want. Dr. Solomon will appear in a Grand Rounds presentation the day before, on Wednesday, March 4 from 9 – 10:30 am at Cornog Auditorium, New Trier High School Northfield, 7 Happ Rd. For more information, see familyactionnetwork.net.

SATURDAY, MARCH 7
10:30 am, Special Storytime at the store
MICHHELLE SCHAUB
Dream Big, Little Scientists

TUESDAY, MARCH 10
1:30 pm at the store
Cookies and Coffee with the Author
LAURA MUNSON
Willa’s Grove
Laura Munson speaks about her new novel with writer, radio and TV contributor Val Haller. This event is co-sponsored by The Women’s Exchange. When shopping anytime during the day, mention you are here for the Women’s Exchange and 20% of your purchase (including copies of Willa’s Grove) will benefit their programming. Ms. Munson’s book speaks to the question many ask at least once in their lives: “so now what?” Ms. Munson will be giving a special gift to all who come see her on the road, inspired by the characters in her book.

7 pm, a FAN event
North Shore Community Day School
310 Green Bay Rd., Winnetka

MADELINE LEVINE
Ready or Not: Preparing Our Kids to Thrive in an Uncertain and Rapidly Changing World
In her new book, Dr. Madeline Levine, author of the bestselling The Price of Privilege, identifies the skills that children need to succeed in a tumultuous future: adaptability, mental agility, curiosity, collaboration, tolerance for failure, resilience, and optimism.

Two events:

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 11
6:30 pm at the store

THURSDAY, MARCH 12
11:30 am, Luncheon, The Union League Club

TOM SCHACHTMAN
The Founding Fortunes
Author, filmmaker, and educator Tom Schachtman appears in conversation with our bookseller Jon Grand about his new book, an in-depth look at a time when money became as vital as guns in securing victory on the Revolutionary War’s battlefields. Some of America’s wealthiest men risked their fortunes to aid the new country even as they reaped benefits from its independence. The Book Stall event is free and open to the public. The Union League Club luncheon requires a reservation by calling 847-446-8880.

SATURDAY, MARCH 14
10:30 am, Special Storytime
THYRA HEDER
How Do You Dance?

2 pm, Highland Park Library
494 Laurel Ave.

REBECCA SERLE
In Five Years
Rebecca Serle’s new novel is the story of a Manhattan lawyer who nails a job interview, accepts her boyfriend’s marriage proposal, and goes to sleep believing she is on track to achieve her five-year plan.

SATURDAY, MARCH 14
9:30 am – 5 pm

SUNDAY MARCH 15
9 am – 5 pm
Henry’s Heroes Book Fair
On these two days, purchase books or toys for yourself or for Lurie Children’s Hospital, and 20% of proceeds go to finding a cure for epilepsy through the Henry’s Heroes Foundation. Baked goods will also be sold. Every purchase receives a raffle ticket for some amazing prizes!

3 pm, Kenilworth Union Church
211 Kenilworth Avenue

RUTH EVERHART
The #MeToo Reckoning: Facing the Church’s Complicity in Sexual Abuse and Misconduct
Pastor and survivor Ruth Everhart shines a light on the prevalence of sexual abuse and misconduct within faith communities. She candidly discloses stories of how she and others have experienced assault in church settings, highlighting the damage done to individuals, families, and communities.

MONDAY, MARCH 16
12 noon, Luncheon, University Club of Chicago
CARLO ROTELLA
The World Is Always Coming to an End: Pulling Together and Apart in a Chicago Neighborhood
Carlo Rotella, director of the American studies program at Boston College, looks at Chicago’s South Shore, where he grew up, and reveals a study in contrasts—shaped and reshaped over the past half-century by individual stories and larger waves of change that make it an exemplar of many American urban neighborhoods.

7 pm, a Family Action Network (FAN) event
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WEDNESDAY, MARCH 18
11:30 am, Luncheon,
The Union League Club, 65 West Jackson Blvd., Chicago
DEAN REUTER
The Untold Story of America's Deal with the Devil
Dean Reuter's tells the story of General Hans Kammler, a sidekick to SS Chief Heinrich Himmler and supervisor of Nazi rocket scientist Wernher von Braun. Mr. Reuter and his co-authors spent decades on the trail of the elusive Kammler and discovered US government documents that prove that Kammler was in American custody for months after the war—well after his officially declared suicide.

SATURDAY, MARCH 21
10 am, 1 pm
North Shore Center for the Performing Arts, 9501 Skokie Blvd., Skokie
Dog Man: The Musical
We'll be on hand with Dog Man books and Dog Man plush toys at two performances of Dog Man: The Musical at the North Shore Center for the Performing Arts. For information and tickets go to northshorecenter.org.

10:30 am, Special Storytime at the store
SARA SHACTER
Just So Willow
Hear the author read this story of a polar bear who likes things just so! See page 6.

TUESDAY, MARCH 31
6:30-7 pm, Supported Concert
7:30-6:15, Concert
Arlington Heights Memorial Library, 500 N. Dunton Ave.
ERIC LITWIN
Eric Litwin is a song-singing, guitar-strumming, #1 New York Times best-selling author who brings early literacy and music together. He is the original author of the Pete the Cat series as well as the author of The Nuts and Groovy Joe. His 6:30 pm performance is designed for children with varying abilities and their families. Mr. Litwin’s 7:30 concert is open to the general public. Books will be available for purchase. Book signing to follow second concert. Note: Attendees must register for both concerts: online at ahml.info or by calling 847 392-0100. See page 6.

7 pm, a FAN event
Cornog Auditorium, New Trier HS Northfield, 7 Happ Rd.
JERRY SALTZ
How to Be an Artist
Jerry Saltz, the Pulitzer Prize-winning senior art critic at New York magazine, presents his new illustrated handbook for creative people of all kinds. In it he offers invaluable insight into what really matters to emerging artists: originality, persistence, a balance between knowledge and intuition, and—that that most precious of qualities—self-belief.

SATURDAY, APRIL 4
10 am at the store
YA EDUCATOR DAY
Educators and librarians working with students in grades 6 – 12 are invited to register for our free YA Educator Day. We’ll be hosting guest authors and publisher representatives talking about new fiction, non-fiction, and graphic novels, and our bookselling team will present favorites too. Complete with refreshments, door prizes, giveaways, and lots of useful information. Call us at 847 446-8880 or email events@thebookstall.com to sign up.

Great Reads for Spring Break

Fiction—Hardcover
Nothing to See Here by Kevin Wilson ($26.99)
Such a Fun Age by Kiley Reid ($26)
Long Bright River by Liz Reid ($26)
The Giver of Stars by Jojo Moyes ($28)
Nickel Boys by Colson Whitehead ($24.95)

Fiction—Paperback
The Winter Soldier by Daniel Mason ($16.99)
Bowlaway by Elizabeth McCracken ($16.99)
Daisy Jones & the Six by Taylor Jenkins Reid ($17)
The Border by Don Winslow ($19.99)
The Bear by Andrew Krivak ($16.99)
A Dangerous Man by Robert Crais ($17)
Washington Black by Esi Edugyan ($16.95)

Nonfiction—Hardcover
Wilmington's Lie: The Murderous Coup of 1898 and the Rise of White Supremacy by David Zucchino ($28)
The Great Pretender: The Undercover Mission That Changed Our Understanding of Madness by Susannah Cahalan ($28)
Great Society: A New History by Amity Shlaes ($32.50)
Half Broke: A Memoir by Ginger Gaffney ($25.95)
Tightrope: Americans Reaching for Hope by Nicholas D. Kristof and Sheryl WuDunn ($27.95)

Non-Fiction—Paperback
Maid: Hard Work, Low Pay, and a Mother’s Will to Survive by Stephanie Land ($15.99)
Inheritance: A Memoir of Genealogy, Paternity, and Love by Dani Shapiro ($16.95)
Bad Blood: Secrets and Lies in a Silicon Valley Startup by John Carreyrou ($16.95)
Midnight in Chernobyl: The Untold Story of the World’s Greatest Nuclear Disaster by Adam Higginbotham ($19)
The League: How Five Rivals Created the NFL and Launched a Sports Empire by John Eisenberg ($17.99)

Young Adult—Paperback
If I’m Being Honest by Emily Wibberley and Austin Siegemund-Broka ($10.99)
Comics Will Break Your Heart by Faith Erin Hicks ($9.99)
Miles Morales: Spider Man by Jason Reynolds ($9.99)

All events at clubs outside the store require reservations; call us at 847 446-8880. Business casual dress code; no jeans, denim or athletic wear.
Hello Children’s Book fans,

We have some great events in store for you this month! March begins with a visit from Newbery Medalist and We Need Diverse Books founding member Linda Sue Park. Ms. Park is the author of the 2002 Newbery Medal winner A Single Shard and bestseller A Long Walk to Water. She has also written several other acclaimed picture books, fiction and nonfiction. On Tuesday, March 3 at 4 pm, she’ll be here in the store celebrating the release of her acclaimed new book for young people, Prairie Lotus. We recommend this free event for readers ages 10 and up.

The next day, Wednesday, March 4 at 4:30 pm, we’re delighted to welcome the young authors and cartoonists in your life to meet author/illustrator Justin Dean! Justin is the author/illustrator of Awesome Dog 5000 and its newly released sequel, Awesome Dog 5000 vs. Mayor Bossypants. He’ll lead a session we call "Write and Illustrate Funny Stories: A Workshop with Justin Dean." The cost of the workshop is a $5 gift card to the store, or the purchase of a copy of one of Justin’s awesome Awesome Dog books! Space is limited; reserve your spot by calling 847 446-8880 or emailing events@thebookstall.com. We recommend this workshop for ages 7 and up.

Saturday Storytimes continue every week at 10:30 am. We have delightful guests for storytime the first three weekends of March. On Saturday, March 7, we’ll be joined by local language arts teacher and author Michelle Schaub, who will read from her new book, Dream Big, Little Scientists. "A bedtime lullaby for budding scientists everywhere introduces eleven branches of science and encourages curiosity and exploration."

The next week, Saturday, March 14, be prepared to bust out your best moves as we’re visited by author/illustrator Thyla Heder, whose newest book, How Do You Dance?, is sure to have everyone cutting a rug. "A gleeful, tender celebration of self-expression through movement, destined to become a favorite read-aloud," said Kirkus Reviews in a starred review.

Saturday, March 21 is going to be a busy day! Local author Sara Shacter will be reading at storytime at 10:30 am, celebrating her new book, Just So Willow. Willow is a polar bear who likes things just so. When a storm covers her backyard in a clean, smooth blanket of snow, she’s determined to keep it that way—in spite of all her neighbors sliding, stomping, and creating a lumpy, bumpy mess. Will Willow stick to her precise ways, or will she join in the messy fun?

Also that day, we’ll be on hand with Dog Man books and plush toys at two performances of Dog Man: The Musical at the North Shore Center for the Performing Arts! This presentation by TheaterWorksUSA is a hilarious new production based on the worldwide bestselling series from Dav Pilkey, the creator of Captain Underpants. (Note that Mr. Pilkey will not be in attendance!) For more information, or to buy tickets, check out www.northshorecenter.org/event/fs-dog-man-the-musical/! (Get 15% off tickets for remaining seats of the 10 am performance with promo code DOG1M15.)

Closing out the month, on Tuesday, March 31, we are thrilled to be partnering with the Arlington Heights Memorial Library for their concerts with author and singer/songwriter Eric Litwin! The original author of the Pete the Cat series, as well as The Nuts and Groovy Joe series, visits our friends at the library for two special concerts for kids and families. These concerts are free, but attendees do need to register online at ahml.info or by calling (847) 392-0100. No library card is required.

Concert #1 is from 6:30 to 7 pm: This performance is designed for children with varying abilities and their families, and any child who would benefit from a more controlled environment. Special supports like lap weights and fidget toys are available. Space is limited; caregiver required. Contact the library if your party requires any special accommodations. Concert #2 is from 7:30 pm to 8:15 pm.

The Book Stall will be on hand to sell Eric’s books, and he will be happy to autograph copies for fans at the close of the second concert.

That’s it for March. Until next month, Happy Reading! Kari P.

AMY TROGDON

Picture Books

The Girl and the Dinosaur by Hollie Hughes, illustrated by Sarah Massini ($17.99). Marianne is digging for dinosaur bones on the beach. She finally pieces together a perfect dinosaur, which she names Boney. When she goes to sleep that night, she wishes Boney would come to life,
which he does! "The wishing stars burn bright that night, the air is thick with dreams, and a deeply sleeping dinosaur is waking up, it seems."

Together they travel to a magical dreamland full of children, fairies, and creatures having a wonderful party. This whimsical, rhyming picture book, with its magical illustrations, is a delight. A bedtime book to be cherished and read again and again. Ages 4-7

No More Naps! by Chris Grabenstein, illustrated by Leo Espinosa ($17.99). Annalise Devin McFleece, a very stubborn toddler, will have nothing to do with nap time. Dad is at his wit's end and decides to stroll her around the park. They pass many people and animals in the park, all of whom would gladly take a nap! One by one, everyone falls asleep...everyone but Annalise Devin McFleece! Gradually she does begin to get sleepy and ready for a nap. But...uh oh! No naps are left! Can anyone spare a nap? A very funny, entertaining book for all those who like—or dislike—naps. Ages 3-7

Nonfiction Biography
Making Their Voices Heard: The Inspiring Friendship of Ella Fitzgerald and Marilyn Monroe by Vivian Kirkfield, illustrated by Alleanna Harris ($17.99). Ella Fitzgerald dazzled jazz greats like Duke Ellington and Louis Armstrong with her voice, but because of her color, she was not allowed to perform in the biggest clubs in town. To do so would give her career a huge boost. Marilyn Monroe was a gorgeous and talented actor, but when she asked about better scripts or a higher salary, she was always refused. These were two women whose voices were not being heard. Two women who achieve their destiny. With each other's help, they became the stars they were meant to become. An awesome, inspiring true story. Ages 4-8

Leave It to Abigail: The Revolutionary Life of Abigail Adams by Barb Rosenstock, illustrated by Elizabeth Baddeley ($18.99). This biographical picture book of Abigail Adams describes her as a strong woman who rose to every challenge—be it running the family farm or taking care of the children and home during her husband John's absence and always asking questions. When John Adams became president, Abigail was one of his close advisors. She was always reminding him to "Remember the ladies!" The cross-stitch artwork and well-told story are both entertaining and informative. Ages 4-8

BETSY BALYEAT

Words on Fire by Jennifer Nielsen ($17.99). It is June 1893 in what used to be the country of Lithuania but has been part of Russia for years. Twelve-year-old Audra has spent most of her life on her parents' farm. Her father, a stage magician, travels, and Audra knows he and her mother are involved in something illegal but doesn't know what. One day Russian officers surround the house, arrest her parents, and set the house on fire. When the soldiers arrive, Audra's parents give her an important package with instructions for where to deliver it. As Audra embarks on her journey to deliver the package, she faces unimaginable risks and soon is caught up in a growing resistance movement. Can joining the underground network of book smugglers give Audra a chance to rescue her parents? Ages 8-12

The End and Other Beginnings by Veronica Roth ($18.99). Within this masterful collection, each setting is more strange and wonderful than the last, brimming with new technologies and beings. And yet, for all the advances in these futuristic lands, the people still must confront deeply human problems. There are six stories, tales that are all compelling and satisfying. In one, a young woman uses technology to share her former best friend's last memories. In another, one must choose between hearing soft music or music that defines someone's life or death. With tales of friendship, revenge, and two new stories from the Carve the Mark universe, this collection has something for new and old fans alike. Once again Roth gives us stories that are unique and wonderful. Age 13 up

Homerooms & Hall Passes by Tom O'Donnell ($16.99). Five heroes face their most trying quest yet: surviving middle school. In the real world of Briandalar, Albiorix and his band of fellow adventurers thwart evil forces, but once a week, on Thursday nights, they meet for a game of Homerooms & Hall Passes, their fantasy role-playing escape. With dice and their imaginations, they transform into students who worry about math tests, essay writing, and outside reading—instead of maps, traps and treasure. Who would ever have predicted that Albiorix and his friends would be transported to the world of J.A. Dewar middle school. The only way to break the curse and return home is to do the nearly impossible: survive and thrive in middle school. There is lots of middle grade humor and knowing that at one time or another, all kids feel like imposters or outsiders. An entertaining read that 8- to 12-year-olds will find lots of fun.

The Beautiful by Renée Ahdieh ($18.99). In 1872, New Orleans is a city ruled by the dead. But to 17-year-old Celine Rousseau, New Orleans is a refuge after she is forced to flee her life as a dressmaker in Paris. Taken in by the Sisters of the Ursuline Convent along with six other girls, Celine quickly becomes enamored with the vibrant city, from its music to its danger. The city is home to an underworld known as La Cour des Lions, and Celine becomes embroiled in this glitzy underworld after catching the eye of the group's enigmatic leader, Sebastian Saint Germain. The body of one of the convent girls is soon found near the lair of the La Cour des Lions. When more bodies are found and the murders continue to go unsolved, Celine takes the matter into her own hands and soon uncovers an old feud between dark creatures of the underworld and the old families of the city of New Orleans. This tale is both a romance and a thrilling murder mystery and is the start of a new fantasy series. Age 12 up
Book Discussion Groups at The Book Stall

Wednesday, March 4, Morning Discussion at 9:30 am
*Gateway to the Moon* by Mary Morris
Led by Elise Barack

Monday, March 9 at 6:30 pm
Go Green Reads Book Discussion Group
*Ecopiety: Green Media and the Dilemma of Environmental Virtue* by Sarah McFarland Taylor, who leads the discussion
(Not: There is no charge for this discussion group.)

Wednesday, March 18, Morning Discussion at 9:30 am
*The Water Dancer* by Ta-Nehisi Coates
Led by Nancy Buehler

Monday, March 23 at 6:30 pm
The North Shore Page Turners Book Club
*Lilac Girls* by Martha Hall Kelly
A $5 book discussion group participation charge is fully redeemable for merchandise in the store.

### Calendar

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**Spring Break in area schools.**

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**April**

1. **April**
   - 6:30 pm at the store *Cynthia Reback* *Basts in Ashes*

2. **April**
   - 6:30 pm at the store *Cynthia Reback* *Basts in Ashes*

3. **April**
   - 6:30 pm at the store *Cynthia Reback* *Basts in Ashes*

4. **April**
   - 10:30 am, Saturday Storytime at the store *YA Educator Day*