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## The Browser

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#### **FEBRUARY 2019**

#### **Back Room/Front Page: Brrr!**

The weather outside truly is frightful, but people are obviously putting their downtime to good use by reading! Admittedly, we've been spoiled by the past two mild Januarys, so it's been a bit of a shock having to deal with snow and sub-zero temperatures. But what did we expect? This is more like a "normal" January, and folks are stocking up on reading material. Stop in for some great suggestions!

Book clubs have re-scheduled and other events had to be postponed, but we'll keep you updated on what's going on – check our website at <u>Beaverdale Books</u>.

The slow cold days have given us time to finalize inventory, prepare for taxes, and even some fun stuff like placing spring/summer book orders. (Although the kitchen and back room are still begging for clean-up!) We're planning for some fun spring events like the <u>DSM Book Festival</u> and the Des Moines Public Library's <u>AVID Series</u>. Both events will be bring some hard-hitting authors to Des Moines, so check it out and we'll plan to see you there!

Our own calendar is full this month as well with author events, poetry readings, and storytelling. It's also time for one of our popular Local Author Fairs, and this month we have a slate of five lowa authors who would love to meet you and tell you about their books. Stop in, meet and support local writers, and enjoy some refreshments. You might find our next best seller!

Meanwhile, stay warm and safe. I would recommend a book and some hot chocolate by the fire.

Thanks for reading, Alice

#### January Best Sellers:

These were the Top Ten sellers in our store last month - see what everyone's reading!

- 1. Becoming, Michelle Obama
- 2. Educated, Tara Westover
- 3. The Library Book, Susan Orlean
- 4. Wapsipinicon Almanac No. 25, Tim Fay, ed.\*
- 5. There There, Tommy Orange
- 6. Iowa History Journal (Jan-Feb), Michael Swanger, ed.\*
- 7. Where the Crawdads Sing, Delia Owens
- 8. Power, Naomi Alderman
- 9. Hope Never Dies, Andrew Shaffer
- 10. Almost Everything, Anne Lamott

\*Iowa Author!

#### **EVENTS THIS MONTH**

Saturday, February 2 2:00 p.m. Poetry Reading

Laura Cesarco Eglin Kyle McCord

Saturday, February 9 1:00 p.m. Local Author Fair

> Ed Fallon Diane Findlay Callista Gould Adam Hammes Christine Hilbert

Saturday, February 16 12:00 noon Meet the Author Stephen Brayton Beta

Thursday, February 28 6:00 p.m. Poetry Reading

Anders Carlson-Wee Kyle McCord

**Thursday, February 28 7:00 p.m.** *Storytelling* 



## Saturday February 2 2:00 p.m.





### **Poetry Reading**

Laura Cesarco Eglin is the author of three collections of poetry and two chapbooks, including Occasions to Call Miracles Appropriate (The Lune, 2015) and Calling Water by Its Name (trans. Scott Spanbauer; Mouthfeel Press, 2016). Her poetry and translations (from the Spanish, Portuguese, Portuñol, and Galician) have appeared in Modern Poetry in Translation, MiPOesias, Eleven Eleven, Puerto del Sol, Copper Nickel, Spoon River Poetry Review, International Poetry Review, Tupelo Quarterly, Columbia Poetry Review, among other literary journals. She's the translator of Hilda Hilstâ's Of Death. Minimal Odes(co.im.press, 2018). Laura is the co-founding editor and publisher of Veliz Books.

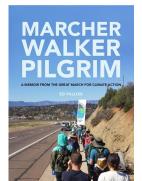
**Kyle McCord** is the author of six books of poetry including National Poetry Series Finalist, Magpies in the Valley of Oleanders (Trio House Press 2016) and X-Rays and Other Landscapes (Trio House Press 2019). He has work featured in AGNI, Blackbird, Boston Review, The Gettysburg Review, The Harvard Review, The Kenyon Review, Ploughshares, TriQuarterly and elsewhere. He has received grants or awards from The Academy of American Poets, The Vermont Studio Center, and the Baltic Writing Residency. He serves as Co-Executive Editor of Gold Wake Press. He teaches at Drake University in Des Moines.

## Saturday February 9 1:00 p.m.



We ♥ Local Authors!

Join us as recently-published local authors showcase their books. Our local author events have become popular with both authors and readers, and we're pleased to present another group of authors and their books – something for everyone! Every author is someone's local author!



#### Featured authors and books...

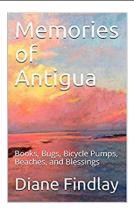
#### Ed Fallon, Marcher Walker Pilgrim

Marcher, Walker, Pilgrim is Ed Fallon's memoir from the 2014 Great March for Climate Action. On the 3,100-mile, 8-month walk from LA to DC, marchers became a mobile village — weathering harsh conditions, sharing joys and sorrows, and intensifying their commitment to the cause as they sounded the alarm about climate change.

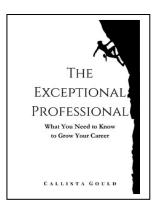
Through humor and candid introspection, Ed shares his experience on the March and how it brought into focus his lifelong search for love and meaning — even as intense, interpersonal dramas threatened to tear the March community apart.



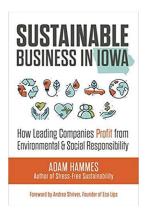
**Ed Fallon** lives in Des Moines. His life of public service includes 14 years in the State Legislature and campaigns for Governor and US Congress. Since 2009, he has hosted a weekly talk show, the *Fallon Forum*. He also directs Bold Iowa, a non-profit organization whose mission is to build rural-urban coalitions to fight climate change. Fallon lives simply in an apartment in Des Moines. With his partner, Kathy Byrnes, he grows much of his own food, raising hens, bees, and thirty varieties of fruits and vegetables. *Marcher, Walker, Pilgrim* is his first book.











## Diane Findlay, Memories of Antigua: Books, Bugs, Bicycle Pumps, Beaches, and Blessings

In the early 1980s, the author's family moved from Utah to Antigua as Bahá'í pioneers, eager to share their faith and serve their new neighbors and fellow believers. Findlay shares their experiences of adjusting, missteps, learning, making friends, and coming to find their place while searching for ways to be of service, in a series of essays told with warmth and humor.

**Diane Findlay** is an avid lifelong reader with many interests. She holds a Master's Degree in Library Science from the University of Iowa and worked in public libraries in Utah, Antigua, and Iowa for ten years. She's lived abroad, traveled extensively, worked in international high school student exchange programs, and hosted several international students in her home. As a freelance writer, Diane has written several resource books for teachers and librarians, had a regular article in <u>LibrarySparks</u> magazine, and wrote various other curriculum and library resource materials.

A country girl at heart, Diane lives in rural Iowa, where she stays active with family, friends, and her Bahá'í community, and from which she and her husband travel the world.

#### Callista Gould, The Exceptional Professional

"I've never been so appalled and embarrassed in my life," said the executive recruiter. Why do employers have interview meals? Because sometimes, it's like cracking open a can of crazy. The Exceptional Professional is an entertaining read, full of true stories of triumphs and disasters in the world of business and non-profits. It's essential reading for new professionals and entrepreneurs and a great refresher for seasoned professionals, with practical and sometimes unconventional advice on how to move your career forward in the areas of Networking, Social Media, Interviewing, Travel, Dining, Entertaining, Meetings, Speaking, Attire, Workplace Relations and more. It's a fresh look that demonstrates that being a professional in any field is not about perfection, it's about connection.

**Callista Gould** is the Founder of the Culture and Manners Institute and a certified etiquette instructor who speaks at universities and corporations across the U.S.

Her prior experience includes: Director of Marketing for InterTech Media, a pioneer in web video based in Stamford, Connecticut; Manager of Public Relations for Amana Appliances in Amana, Iowa; and Marketing and Event Planning for Sony Music in Chicago for artists such as Celine Dion, Mariah Carey, Ozzy Osborne and Korn.

She has an MBA from Loyola University of Chicago and Bachelors in English and Medieval Studies from the University of Iowa. Her expertise has been featured in *The Wall Street Journal* and *Des Moines Register*. Her Etiquette Tip of the Week blog is on LinkedIn and sometimes, she Tweets.

#### Adam Hammes, Sustainable Business in Iowa: How Leading Companies Profit from Environmental and Social Responsibility

Local author and sustainability expert, Adam Hammes, released his second book in January 2018 winning a 2018 Independent Press Award and 2018 National Indie Excellence Award. Sustainable Business in Iowa: How Leading Companies Profit from Environmental and Social Responsibility is a primer on strategically implementing profitable corporate sustainability programs. Candid personal and professional stories fill the pages. It also includes over 30 Iowa business case studies in chapters on waste, energy, water, transport, giving, wellness, diversity, and financial literacy. "If you are new to sustainable business or need to energize your environmental and social efforts, this book is







a priceless resource for companies of all sizes," said Andrea Shriver, co-founder of two certified B Corporations in Iowa – Raining Rose and Eco Lips in Cedar Rapids.

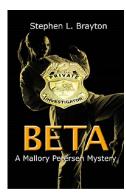
**Adam Hammes** was raised on a farm near Richland, Iowa. With his green MBA, Hammes became the first corporate manager of sustainability for Kum & Go in 2010. There he led the company to become the only c-store in the world certified in the Leadership in Energy & Environmental Design (LEED) Volume Program and launched at-the-pump recycling for customers in three states. He left in 2014 to consult and launch the Iowa Sustainable Business Forum (ISBF), an industry association for sharing best practices business-to-business. Hammes is the ISBF executive director, lives with his wife, Oxana, in Des Moines, and for five years has taught *CSR* & *Sustainability* to evening MBA students at the University of Iowa Tippie College of Business.

#### **Christine Hilbert**, *Echo of the Star*

Christine Hilbert's debut children's book, *Echo of the Star* is the story of a kind star who shares a bit of its sparkle with its friends as morning comes. The illustrations are a part of Hilbert's ongoing Heirloom Anthology series of watercolor paintings combined with vintage gems. The vibrant and unique imagery combined with an attainable message of sharing joy and love when friends go away offer something for children and adults alike. It holds a beautiful message of how to find a way to carry on the memory of all special relationships when things change.

**Christine Hilbert** is a mixed media painter and jewelry designer based in Winterset, Iowa. She combines vintage treasures of all kinds to create artwork and jewelry that echoes the past. Christine earned her BFA from Iowa State University and also studied painting at the Savannah College of Art & Design. She was the Artist in Residence for <u>Ballet Des Moines</u> Winter 2016 season. She works as a designer for her accessory line, Bean & the Sprout. *Echo of the Star* is her first book.

## Saturday February 16 12:00 noon





## **Meet the Author**

#### **Stephen Brayton**

#### Beta

An eight-year-old girl's life is at stake... will P.I. Mallory Petersen find her in time? Mallory Petersen, a Private Investigator in Des Moines, Iowa - and a fourth degree black belt with her own taekwondo school - splits her time between teaching martial arts, and her often inane cases. It's not that she wants bad things to happen to people, but it does make life more interesting when they do. When Mallory accepts a case to find Cheryl McGee's kidnapped eight-year-old daughter, she is pulled into the dark underworld of child pornography. The trail soon leads to the Quad Cities, where Mallory partners with tall, handsome officer from the Special Case Squad. As the investigation deepens, Mallory discovers there's more to the girl's disappearance than her client let on.

#### About the Author...

**Stephen L. Brayton** owns and operates Brayton's Black Belt Academy in Oskaloosa, Iowa. He is a Fifth Degree Black Belt and certified instructor in The American Taekwondo Association.

He began writing as a child; his first short story concerned a true incident about his reactions to discipline. He was a reporter for both his high school and college newspapers. He has been involved broadcasting, trucking, hospitality, newspaper graphic design, and a pre-press camera operator at a publishing company. He has written numerous short stories, both horror and mystery.

## Thursday February 28 6:00 p.m.



## Thursday January 31 7:00 p.m.

## **Poetry Reading**

**Anders Carlson-Wee's** poems have appeared in The Virginia Quarterly Review, The Kenyon Review, Ploughshares, BuzzFeed, and many other publications. The recipient of a fellowship from the National Endowment for the Arts and winner of the 2017 Poetry International Prize, he lives in Minneapolis.

**Kyle McCord** is the author of six books of poetry including National Poetry Series Finalist, Magpies in the Valley of Oleanders (Trio House Press 2016) and X-Rays and Other Landscapes (Trio House Press 2019). He has work featured in AGNI, Blackbird, Boston Review, The Gettysburg Review, The Harvard Review, The Kenyon Review, Ploughshares, TriQuarterly and elsewhere. He has received grants or awards from The Academy of American Poets, The Vermont Studio Center, and the Baltic Writing Residency. He serves as Co-Executive Editor of Gold Wake Press. He teaches at Drake University in Des Moines.

### Storytelling

Please join us for the last story circle this year for Season of Story, when we share stories in the ancient tradition of telling when the snow flies.

There is no admission, come as you are. You can tell a prepared tale or a story off the cuff. There is no competition, just fun. If you don't have a story, just come and listen.

This will be the last session for this winter so make sure you come, bring a friend, or tell a friend about it.

We are eager to see you and to hear you.

#### And more...

Writers Group
Tuesday, February 5 @ 7:00 p.m.

Hunter's Picks Book Club
Tuesday, February 12 @ 7:00 p.m.

The Dog of the South
by Charles Portis

Beaverdale Book Browsers
Thursday, February 14 @ 7:00 p.m.
Major Pettigrew's Last Stand

by Helen Simonson

Environmental Book Club Saturday, February 16 @ 10:00 a.m.

The Water Will Rise by Jeff Goodell

Wednesday, February 20 @ 6:00 p.m.
NOTE DATE CHANGE THIS MONTH
Urbandale United Church of Christ

Growing Up Country: Memories of an Iowa Farm Girl by Carol Bodensteiner SPECIAL VISIT BY THE AUTHOR!

> Monday, February 25 @ 6:00 p.m. Mind-Body-Spirit Book Club Gilead

> > by Marilynne Robinson

Tuesday, February 26 @ 7:00 p.m.
Mystery Book Club

Apothecary Rose by Candace Robb Spider Woman's Daughter by Anne Hillerman

#### **Connect with us!**

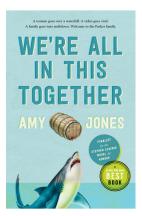


Just hit CTRL + click above to like or follow us!



## TAKE A LOOK AT OUR HANDSELLING FAVORITES WITH A STRONG MIDWEST REGIONAL APPEAL

#### WE'RE ALL IN THIS TOGETHER by Amy Jones



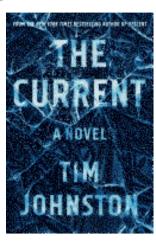
A woman goes over a waterfall, a video goes viral, a family goes into meltdown -- life is about to get a lot more complicated for the Parker family.

Like all families, the Parkers of Thunder Bay have had their share of complications. But when matriarch Kate Parker miraculously survives plummeting over a waterfall in a barrel -- a feat captured on a video that goes viral -- it's Kate's family who tumbles into chaos under the spotlight. Her prodigal daughter returns to town. Her 16-year-old granddaughter gets caught up in an online relationship with a man she has never met. Her husband sifts through their marriage to search for what sent his wife over the falls. Her adopted son fears losing the only family he's ever known. Then there is Kate, who once made a life-changing choice and now fears her advancing dementia will rob her of memories from when she was most herself. Set over the course of four calamitous days, Amy Jones's big-hearted first novel follows the Parkers' misadventures as catastrophe forces them to do something they never thought possible -- act like a family.



**Amy Jones**'s first novel, *We're All in This Together*, was a national bestseller, won the Northern Lit Award, and was a finalist for the Stephen Leacock Medal for Humour. Her debut collection of stories, *What Boys Like*, won the Metcalf-Rooke Award and was a finalist for the ReLit Award. She won the 2006 CBC Literary Prize for Short Fiction, was a finalist for the 2005 Bronwen Wallace Award, and is a graduate of the Optional Residency MFA Program in Creative Writing at the University of British Columbia. Her fiction has appeared in Best Canadian Stories and The Journey Prize Stories. Originally from Halifax, she lived in Thunder Bay for many years before moving to Toronto.

## THE CURRENT by Tim Johnston



Tim Johnston, whose breakout debut Descent was called "astonishing," "dazzling," and "unforgettable" by critics, returns with The Current, a tour de force about the indelible impact of a crime on the lives of innocent people.

In the dead of winter, outside a small Minnesota town, state troopers pull two young women and their car from the icy Black Root River. One is found downriver, drowned, while the other is found at the scene—half frozen but alive.

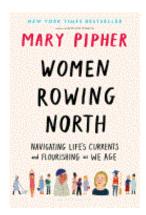
What happened was no accident, and news of the crime awakens the community's memories of another young woman who lost her life in the same river ten years earlier, and whose killer may still live among them. Determined to find answers, the surviving young woman soon realizes that she's connected to the earlier unsolved case by more than just a river, and the deeper she plunges into her own investigation, the closer she comes to dangerous truths, and to the violence that simmers just below the surface of her hometown.

Grief, suspicion, the innocent and the guilty—all stir to life in this cold northern town where a young woman can come home, but still not be safe. Brilliantly plotted and unrelentingly propulsive, The Current is a beautifully realized story about the fragility of life, the power of the past, and the need, always, to fight back.



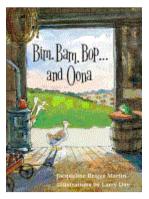
**Tim Johnston**, a native of Iowa City, is the author of The Current and the New York Times bestseller Descent, as well as a young adult novel, Never So Green, and the story collection Irish Girl, winner of the Katherine Anne Porter Prize in Short Fiction.

#### WOMEN ROWING NORTH by Mary Pipher





# BIM, BAM, BOP... AND OOMA by Jacqueline Briggs Martin Illustrated by Larry Day





## The New York Times bestseller from the author of Reviving Ophelia--a guide to wisdom, authenticity, and bliss for women as they age.

Women growing older contend with ageism, misogyny, and loss. Yet as Mary Pipher shows, most older women are deeply happy and filled with gratitude for the gifts of life. Their struggles help them grow into the authentic, empathetic, and wise people they have always wanted to be.

In Women Rowing North, Pipher offers a timely examination of the cultural and developmental issues women face as they age. Drawing on her own experience as daughter, sister, mother, grandmother, caregiver, clinical psychologist, and cultural anthropologist, she explores ways women can cultivate resilient responses to the challenges they face. "If we can keep our wits about us, think clearly, and manage our emotions skillfully," Pipher writes, "we will experience a joyous time of our lives. If we have planned carefully and packed properly, if we have good maps and guides, the journey can be transcendent."

**Mary Pipher** is a psychologist specializing in women, trauma, and the effects of our culture on mental health, which has earned her the title of "cultural therapist" for her generation. She is the author of several New York Times bestsellers, including Reviving Ophelia, The Shelter of Each Other, and Another Country. She lives in Lincoln, Nebraska.

When these ducks go to the pond, it is Bim, Bam, Bop . . . and Oona, always last. They're all ducks, but Bim, Bam, and Bop are runners, and Oona's a waddler. "Last is a blot on my life," she says to her frog friend, Roy. "I don't feel as big as a duck should feel." But she's good with gizmos, Roy reminds her. So Oona tinkers with things, scraps, and strings, and eventually creates just the right gadget to get her to the pond first.

Spunky Oona will inspire and delight all who see her final triumphant creation. With its fun read-aloud words (from Brrrrrring to OOO-hoolie-hoo!), her story is wonderful to hear. Its charming illustrations invite readers to imagine our own new gizmos, and her victory reminds us to look for our own special gifts. A tale about being true to yourself, building confidence, and finding friendship, Bim, Bam, Bop . . . and Oona is sure to bring smiles to readers and listeners of all ages.

**Jacqueline Briggs Martin** has published twenty-one books for children. Her picture book biography of a self-taught scientist, Snowflake Bentley, won the 1999 Caldecott medal. Chef Roy Choi and the Street Food Re-mix (co-written with June Jo Lee) was a Sibert Honor book in 2018. Creekfinding: A True Story, published by the University of Minnesota Press, was one of the New York Public Library's 100 Best Books of 2017; it was the Green Earth Award winner in 2018 and a Riverby Award winner.

**Larry Day** is the award-winning illustrator of many books, both fiction and nonfiction, including Lion, Lion, one of NPR's Best Books, and Not Afraid of Dogs, winner of the Golden Kite Award. George Did It! received the Monarch Award, and Colonial Voices: Hear Them Speak won seven state awards, including the Carol Otis Hurst Prize. The Society of Illustrators has awarded Day three gold medals (so far).