

Bookbites

Bookends on Main



November Events

Nov. 8, 6:30–8:00 P.M.

Dave Cook will be at the bookstore with his memoir about living with his wife Anne Frantz's Alzheimer's.



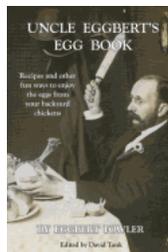
Dave's book is a collection of letters to his family, journal entries and prose poems both of his own and Anne's. Both are heartfelt renderings of the anguish and trauma in dealing with this terrible disease. Dave's writing as the caregiver are in a way predictable—the reader can empathize with the physical and emotional ordeal. His bald honesty is humbling. Anne's writings and comments answer ques-

tions many have about people dealing with the disease, how she feels about herself, her diminishing sense of self. Dave will no doubt address these and other topics at his presentation.

November 16, 4:00–7:00

Black Friday preview at the Off Broadway Banquet & Conference Center. Numerous local businesses will be on hand to showcase their holiday offerings and more. This event is organized by the Menomonie Chamber of Commerce. Food vendors, Santa, and other Christmasy things are part of this. It's a family event.

November 25 is Small Business Saturday. This has become a huge event for the



bookstore and downtown businesses. We are so grateful for all the local support and

good will this event generates. David Tank will be at the bookstore from 1:00–3:00 with his latest offering, Uncle Eggbert's Egg Book a unique cookbook-chicken-and-egg collection or recipes, trivia and vintage photos. You might have heard his recent interview on Spectrum West on WPR. This is a fun book to collect as well as to give as a gift.

November 2017

Happy Thanksgiving!

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Forthcoming

Midwest Connections Picks for November



La La La by beloved children's author Kate DiCamillo is a nearly

wordless graphic story about a little girl in search of a friend.

Mice Skating by Teagan White is an imaginative story that challenges common knowledge about those little critters who like to winter in our



houses—a field mouse who refuses to stay indoors. Lucy the field mouse loves

the winter, wonderland and skating above all.

Both of these children's picture books are wonderfully illustrated making them especially nice Christmas gifts.



Catapult, a book of stories by Emily Fridlund: Evocative and thrillingly strange, *Catapult's* stories

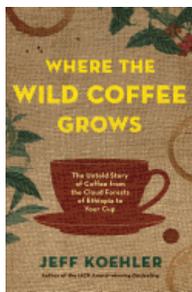
excavate the psyches of characters caught in the murky borderland between desire and action. Fridlund is the author of the very successful *The History of Wolves*, now in paperback.



The Sioux Chef's Indigenous Kitchen Sean Sherman, the Oglala Lakota

chef, shares recipes with locally sourced, indigenous fruits and vegetables, foraged ingredients, game and fish — boldly seasoned foods that are vibrant, healthful, and at once elegant and easy. This seems like a dream of a cookbook.

Where the Wild Coffee Grows by Jeff Koehler



Though an enthusiastic daily coffee drinker, the subject of this amazing book, *Where the Wild Coffee Grows*, has never occurred to me. In the first few pages I learned that Arabica coffee, which is what most people in the world drink, comes from a region in Ethiopia named Kafa. From thereon, I was hooked and eager not only to learn about wild coffee, but everything else related to coffee: its cultivation and development as a world-

wide commodity and about the local customs and historical background of the original coffee country.

The author has done a remarkable job researching every imaginable part of the story of coffee, including numerous legends about the discovery that the coffee bean could be turned into a beverage. Some of my favorite passages are about local Ethiopian customs making coffee from scratch, starting with roasting the beans over an open fire, pounding them with a mortar and pestle, and brewing a cup, the whole process taking about an hour.

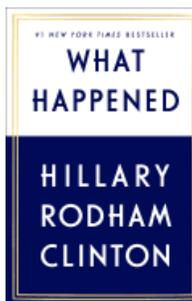
Coffee arrived in Europe somewhere around 1600 and was at first treated suspiciously as a Muslim drink. How it got to the new world and became a plantation crop is another part of the story. Today the science and genetics of coffee have researchers turning back to Ethiopia and its wild coffee to deal with the diseases plaguing cultivated varieties.

This book is highly recommended, a chapter a day with your morning cup.



Smell the coffee.

What Happened



No matter what one's political leanings are, there must be widespread agreement on the great title Hillary chose for her book about the 2016 election. It's really a heartfelt account of Clinton's experience and feelings about running and losing and far more personal and less political than I imagined it would be. Sure, she lets loose on what went wrong and about her political enemies,

but what is more compelling is the self blame for the loss, that she couldn't "close the deal," and sadness that she let her supporters down.

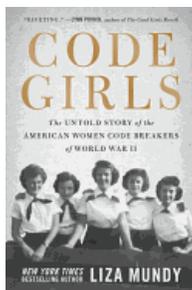
The character issue which was so much a part of the 2016 campaign rhetoric is very evident in *What Happened*, that is, Clinton's character. She sounds so much warmer and more personable

than she did as a candidate, someone you would want to have in your book club and meet for coffee on a regular basis. She mentions some favorite authors—Louise Penny and others highly popular with Bookends on Main's patrons, too. She also sounds like a lot of people at the beginning of retirement after a long and active career, finding happiness in being a mother and grandmother and picking favorite causes to champion.

Highly recommended for self-reading and a book-club selection.

She sounds like "someone you would want to have in your book club and meet for coffee..."

Code Girls



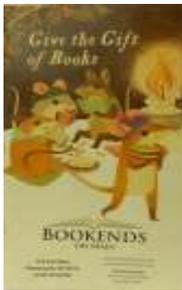
In recent years there have been a lot of books recovering the "lost" history of the role of women in WW II. These range from the popular novel *Wives of Los Alamos* to *Hidden Figures* and numerous books about women victims in Europe. The most recent addition is *Code Girls: The Untold Story of the American Women Code Break-*

ers of World War II. "Liza Mundy's *Code Girls* reveals one of World War II's last remaining secrets: the true tale of the young American women who helped shorten the war and saved thousands of lives by breaking the codes of the German and Japanese armed forces. But it's also a superbly researched and stirring written social history of a pivotal chapter in the struggle for women's rights, told through the powerful and poignant stories of the individuals involved. In exploring the vast, obscure, and makeshift offices of

wartime Washington where these women performed seemingly impossible deeds, Mundy has discovered a birthplace of modern America." - *Glenn Frankel, Pulitzer Prize-winning author of High Noon*

Here's an intriguing local connection: A faithful bookstore patron/retiree bought the book with some excitement because he had just learned that his mother had been a Code Girl. She virtually took her "Top Secret" clearance to her grave. Maybe she is mentioned in the book.

Holiday Catalogue



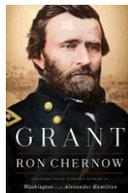
Some hundreds of people are on the mailing list for our annual Winter Catalogue, but it is also available at the bookstore. Please stop by to pick up a copy and get ideas for holiday

book gifts. Many of the books listed in the catalogue are in the bookstore, and all can be ordered for either bookstore pickup or home delivery. Home delivery usually costs under \$3.00.

The content categories include Midwest Favorites, Fiction, Adult Nonfiction,

Food Writing and Cookbooks, Fascinating Lives, Middle Reader and Young Adult selections, Children's Nonfiction, and Children's Picture Books.

A personal favorite is *Quakery: A Brief History of the Worst Ways to Cure Everything*. There is nothing like other people's idiocy to lighten the strain of one's own, and the vintage illustrations and advertisements add to the entertainment value of this book. There is another Hygge-inspired book this year and "The Tiny Books of Tiny Pleasures". Michael Perry's and Al



Franken's latest make the catalogue, as does Ron Chernow's monumental biography of Ulysses S. Grant.

There is a newly-found story, *Good Night, Good Day, Good Day*, by author of the classic *Good night Moon*.

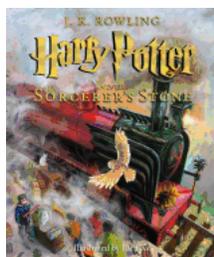
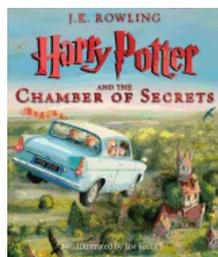
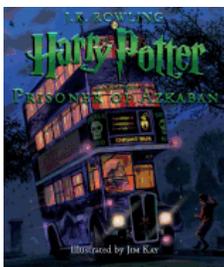


This year, our catalog features the delightful art of Teagan White from the forthcoming book *Mice Skating* (Sterling Children's Books).

Pick up the catalogue and Shop Local.

Thank you!

Harry Potter Illustrated Editions



ple who grew up with Harry Potter continue their affection for the series. Rowling tapped into

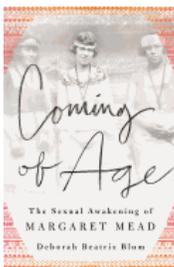
The J.K. Rowling franchise goes on. There are now three beautifully illustrated editions of the Harry Potter books as well as smaller spin-offs of the Potter phenomenon. Many young peo-

the deep vein of "Us and Them" that children experience in one way or another. Few writers have so successfully combined the world of imagination with real, universal feelings.



"I hope my husband gets me the *Prisoner of Azkaban*."

Coming of Age, Biography of Margaret Mead



As biographies go, *Coming of Age: The Sexual Awakening of Margaret Mead* seems to have a fairly narrow focus, but it covers her family background, that of her husband, and her closest colleagues in the burgeoning academic field of anthropology in the early part of the twentieth century. So

there is a lot in it. The biography ends with Mead's return from her year of research in Samoa at age 25 and therefore before her success and influence on American culture developed.

Mead's career as an anthropologist and the controversy surrounding her in later years have been well-documented, the formative years of her character and career less so. There is surprisingly little about her actual research in Sa-

moa, much about the peripheral details of her living situation, clothes, personal relationships, even transportation. The focus indicated in the title of Deborah Blum's book has some startling information which in turn helps fill out our understanding of the genesis of Mead's ideas that challenged sexual and cultural norms. One example, when she married in the early 1920s, she kept her own family name.

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An Indie Bookstore

New & Used Books, Toys, Gifts,
Greeting Cards, Guitars &
Guitar Strings, Journals, Etc.

Here's a downer of a poem by **Thomas Hood**. It's probably bad form to copy it but, well, November can feel like this, plus he's got a bookseller connection.

Thomas Hood (1799-1845), British humorist and poet, the son of Thomas Hood, bookseller, was born in London on the 23rd of May 1799. (Bio on PoetrySoup.com)



No sun - no moon!

No morn - no noon -

No dawn - no dusk - no proper time of day.

No warmth, no cheerfulness, no healthful ease,

No comfortable feel in any member -

No shade, no shine, no butterflies, no bees,

No fruits, no flowers, no leaves, no birds! -

November!

Winners, WNO



Pat Erickson (a prolific reader!) won the gift certificate in the [How to Find Love in a Bookstore](#) drawing.

The winner of the bookstore gift certificate marking Banned Book Week is Kim Lawler.

Witches Night Out Winners



Five lucky women are the recipients of the items donated by participating businesses for Witches Night Out. One box went to the photo contest run by 24/7. The

other four winners are Rebecca Evans, Michelle James, Karen Douglas.

Bestseller List

Michelle declined to be photographed. We are waiting for the fourth winner to pick up her box of prizes.



Each box of prizes is valued at close to \$200. There were 20 business participants for this year's WNO.

Anne Lewis' book signing on WNO.



Link to Latest Midwest Bestseller List

<http://www.midwestbooksellers.org/bestsellers.html>

Forthcoming



Harriett Christy recently stopped by to visit. She sold the bookstore in July 2009 and now lives in Northfield, MN.

Forthcoming: Tasha Schuh whose book about her unfortunate fall chronicled in **My Last Step Backward** has written a new book that will be out soon. She will be featured at the bookstore sometime in December. We look forward to meeting her and reading her new book about her ongoing life.