

OHIOana LIBRARY

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Connecting Readers and Ohio Writers

February 2019

THE OHIOANA BOOK FESTIVAL ... ON THE MOVE!

An exciting change is coming this spring with the Ohioana Book Festival! The 13th annual Ohioana Book Festival is set for Saturday, April 27, 2019, from 10:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. It will mark our first time in a new venue: Columbus Metropolitan Library's Main Library on South Grant Avenue.

Join us for a fun-filled day featuring panel discussions, special activities for children and young adults, a book fair, food trucks, costumed characters, and more! There's something for every reader of every age—and it's FREE! There will be a record 153 participating Ohio authors and illustrators (check out the roster below)! One of them is artist Tim Bowers, who has created this year's official poster.



Our next newsletter will include the complete schedule for April 27 and a list of events where you can see some of your favorite authors out in the community. We'll also be adding news and information on our website, blog, and social media—be sure to check them often!

The Director's Chair

Dear Friends,

I hope you had a wonderful holiday season and that your 2019 is off to a great start. It's hard to believe it's already February!

For Ohioana, 2019 is going to be especially exciting as we celebrate our 90th anniversary. One of the highlights of the year will be the presentation of the thirteenth annual Ohioana Book Festival in a fantastic new setting: Columbus Metropolitan Library's Main Library.

The move to the Main Library will make the festival, already the state's largest event dedicated to Ohio authors and literature, bigger and better than ever. It's literally a new chapter for Ohioana!

We'll have more than 150 participating authors. It's the most authors we've ever had, due in part to the larger space at the Main Library, which a few years ago underwent a \$30-million renovation and expansion of the original historic Carnegie Library that first opened in 1907.

FICTION

Frederick Luis Aldama
Bree Baker
Karina Bartow
Tom Batiuk
Ted Bernard
Matt Betts
Laura Bickle
Mark M. Dean
Mary Ellis
Alex Erickson
Terry W. Ervin II
Brad Felver
Amanda Flower
Donna B. Gawell
Robin Gianna
Steve Goble
Karen Harper
John Hegenberger
Michael Henson
Nancy Herriman
Annie Hogsett
Anna Lee Huber
Jeffrey A. John
John Kachuba
Jennifer Lane
Ruth Emmie Lang

Kristen Lepionka
Laurie Loewenstein
Kylie Logan
Stephen Markley
M.L. Mastran
Olivia Matthews
Tim McWhorter
Jess Montgomery
Eliot Parker
David Pepper
Moriel Rothman-Zecher
Gregg Sapp
Lucy A. Snyder
Dan Stout
Jessica Strawser
Don Tassone
Cindy Thomson
John Thorndike
Andrew Welsh-Huggins
Nick White

NONFICTION

Brian Alexander
Sara Bir & Melanie Tienter
Jane Congdon
Christina Dorr & Liz Deskins
Scott Edwards

Of course, more authors overall means more in every literary genre, from picture books to poetry, from novels to nonfiction. Whatever your age or interest, if you love reading and books, meeting authors, and mingling with other readers, the Ohioana Book Festival is for you!

And as it has been since the very first festival—it's free and open to the public, with no ticket and no advance registration required. So mark your calendars now for Saturday, April 27!

In the next newsletter we'll share more details about the festival, including a complete schedule of the day's programming. We'll also have a list of places where you can meet some of our authors at free community events prior to the festival. And of course you can check out our website, social media, and blog for regular updates from now until the day of the event.

We'll see you this spring!

David E. Weaver
Executive Director



The Columbus Metropolitan Library's Main Library first opened in 1907, funded by a \$200,000 gift from steel magnate Andrew Carnegie. On April 27, 2019, the Main Library will host the Ohioana Book Festival for the first time.

Tom Ewing
Donna Farland-Smith
Chris Garber & Chad Dotson
David M. Gold
Anietra Hamper
John M. Harris
Sharon Hatfield
David Kimmel
Dave Lange
Scott H. Longert
Susannah Maynard
David Meyers & Elise Meyers
Walker
Ruth Hanford Morhard
Garin Pirnia
Jason Prufer
Matt Rapposelli
David E. Rohr
Stephanie Romine
Aimee Ross
Jillian Scudder
Deanne Stillman
Mary Stockwell
Amy Stross
Walt Sturgeon
Paul M. Sutter
William L. Tabac
Dylan Taylor-Lehman
Jane Ann Turzillo
David Wanczyk

POETRY

Ruth Awad
David Baker
Kathleen S. Burgess
Darren C. Demaree
Norman Finkelstein
Charlene Fix
Dave Lucas
John Matthias
Sarah Rose Nordgren
Doug Ramspeck
E.F. Schraeder
Anna O. Soter
Kezia V. Sproat
Ann Townsend

CHILDREN'S AND MIDDLE GRADE

Jeff Alt
Lisa Amstutz
Lindsay Bonilla
Louise Borden
Tim Bowers
Gary Buettner
Tamara Bundy
Marcy Campbell
Mary Kay Carson
Cynthia A. Crane
Sally Derby
Connie Bergstein Dow
Sharon M. Draper
Martha Dunsky
Jeffrey Ebbeler
Jessica Fries-Gaither
Barry Gott
Jacob Grant
Margaret Peterson Haddix
Will Hillenbrand
Kerrie Hollihan
Michelle Houts
Aiko Ikegami
Anne Vittur Kennedy
Artie Knapp
Trudy Krisher
Paul Many
Karen Meyer
Judy Carey Nevin
Nancy Roe Pimm
Rafael Rosado
Julie K. Rubini
Betsy Snyder
Linda Stanek
Diane Stortz
Joe Sutphin
Tara Tyler
Carmella Van Vleet
Christina Wald
Donna Wyland

YOUNG ADULT

Mindee Arnett
e.E. Charlton-Trujillo
Ellen Fritz
Dee Garretson
Krysten Lindsay Hager
Josephine Rascoe Keenan
K.B. Laugheed
Mindy McGinnis
Kristen Orlando
Edith Pattou
L. Philips
Natalie D. Richards
D.W. Vogel
Kerry Winfrey

*Author lineup may change without notice

NEW BOOKS

The following books arrived at the Ohioana Library in December. Look for them at your local library or bookstore!

About Ohio/An Ohioan

Beach, Patricia Ringos, et. al. *Caps, Capes, and Caring: The Legacy of Diploma Nursing Schools in Toledo.*

The University of Toledo Press (Toledo, OH) 2018. PB \$24.95.

Between 1893 and 1999 there were eight hospital-based diploma schools of nursing in Toledo: Flower Hospital School of Nursing, Maumee Valley Hospital School of Nursing, Mercy Hospital School of Nursing, Riverside Hospital School of Nursing, Robinwood/St. Luke's Hospital School of Nursing, St. Vincent Hospital School of Nursing, Toledo Hospital School of Nursing, and Toledo State Hospital School of Nursing. These schools, operating for over 100 years, sent registered nurses into the community to care for the sick and teach us how to stay healthy. Graduates are still among us and continue to provide care and comfort. The authors of this book have spoken to dozens of these graduates, who recounted their experiences and shared precious photos. Readers will gain an appreciation of Toledo's diploma nursing schools and will experience the thrill of helping and healing, of living this life, and of learning.

Clark, Jennifer. *Johnny Appleseed: The Slice and Times of John Chapman.* Shabda Press (Pasadena, CA) 2018. PB \$18.00.

The life and history of John Chapman, aka Johnny Appleseed, told through a series of interconnecting lyric poems.

Dotson, Chad, and Chris Garber. *The Big 50: The Men and Moments That Made the Cincinnati Reds.* Triumph Books (Chicago, IL) 2018. HC \$16.95.

The Big 50 is an amazing, full-color look at the fifty men and moments that made the Reds the Reds. Sportswriters Chad Dotson and Chris Garber recount the living history of the Reds, counting down from No. 50 to No. 1. *The Big 50* brilliantly brings to life the Reds' remarkable story, from Johnny Bench and Barry Larkin to the roller coaster that was Pete Rose to the team's 1990 World Series championship and Todd Frazier's 2015 Home Run Derby win.

Harris, John M. *Redemption in '64: The Champion Cleveland Browns.* Black Squirrel Books (Kent, OH) 2018. PB \$20.95.

The Cleveland Browns set the standard by which all professional football teams were measured in the 1940s and '50s, but when they won the National Football League championship in 1964 it came as a surprise. *Sports Illustrated* called it "one of the biggest of all football upsets." *Redemption in '64* tells the story of these 1964 NFL champion Browns, focusing on four individuals who were redeemed by the team's 27-0 win over the Baltimore Colts: owner Art Modell, head coach Blanton Collier, superstar running back Jim Brown, and quarterback Frank Ryan. The book entertains readers with the growing excitement of the Browns' turnaround seasons. It concludes with play-by-play action of Cleveland's thrilling victory over Johnny Unitas's Baltimore Colts in the 1964 NFL championship, still one of the greatest professional football upsets of all time.

Kimmel, David. *Outrage in Ohio: A Rural Murder, Lynching, and Mystery.* Indiana University Press (Bloomington, IN) 2018. PB \$24.00. On a hot and dusty Sunday in June 1872, thirteen-year-old Mary Secaur set off on her two-mile walk home from church. She never arrived. The horrific death of this young girl inspired an illegal interstate pursuit-and-arrest, courtroom dramatics, conflicting confessions, and the daylight lynching of a traveling tin peddler and an intellectually disabled teenager. Who killed Mary Secaur? Were the accused actually guilty? What drove the citizens of Mercer County to lynch the suspects? David Kimmel seeks answers to these provoking questions and deftly recounts what actually happened in the fateful summer of 1872, imagining the inner workings of the small rural community, reconstructing the personal relationships of those involved, and restoring humanity to this gripping story. Using a unique blend of historical research and contemporary accounts, *Outrage in Ohio* explores how a terrible crime ripped an Ohio farming community apart and asks us to question what really happened to Mary Secaur.

Kornblith, Gary J., and Carol Lasser. *Elusive Utopia: The Struggle for Racial Equality in Oberlin, Ohio.* Louisiana State University Press (Baton Rouge, LA) 2018. HC \$48.00.

Before the Civil War, Oberlin, Ohio, stood in the vanguard of the abolition and black freedom movements. The community, including Oberlin College, strove to end slavery and establish full equality for all. Yet, in the half-

century after the Union victory, Oberlin's resolute stand for racial justice eroded as race-based discrimination pressed down on its African American citizens. In *Elusive Utopia*, noted historians Gary J. Kornblith and Carol Lasser tell the story of how, in the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries, Oberlin residents, black and white, understood and acted upon their changing perceptions of race, ultimately resulting in the imposition of a color line. Founded as a utopian experiment in 1833, Oberlin embraced radical racial egalitarianism in its formative years. By the eve of the Civil War, when twenty percent of its local population was black, the community modeled progressive racial relations that, while imperfect, shone as strikingly more advanced than in either the American South or North. Emancipation and the passage of the Civil War amendments seemed to confirm Oberlin's egalitarian values. Yet, contrary to the expectations of its idealistic founders, Oberlin's residents of color fell increasingly behind their white peers economically in the years after the war. Moreover, leaders of the white-dominated temperance movement conflated class, color, and respectability, resulting in stigmatization of black residents. Over time, many white Oberlinians came to view black poverty as the result of personal failings, practiced residential segregation, endorsed racially differentiated education in public schools, and excluded people of color from local government. By 1920, Oberlin's racial utopian vision had dissipated, leaving the community to join the racist mainstream of American society.

Drawing from newspapers, pamphlets, organizational records, memoirs, census materials, and tax lists, *Elusive Utopia* traces the rise and fall of Oberlin's idealistic vision and commitment to racial equality in a pivotal era in American history.

Kuk, Yarko, ed. *From Glaciers to Glass: A Comprehensive History of Northwest Ohio, Vol. 1*. The University of Toledo Press (Toledo, OH) 2018. PB \$24.95. *From Glaciers To Glass: A Comprehensive History of Northwest Ohio* is a two-volume series that contains the best of the nearly ninety years of articles from *Northwest Ohio History* and its predecessor, *Northwest Ohio Quarterly*. The purpose of these two volumes is to showcase the outstanding quality of local history scholarship. Great care has been taken to ensure the articles selected capture the breadth and depth of northwest Ohio history. The articles have been arranged in a chronology that allows the reader to grasp the evolution of our region. This volume covers the natural history of the region, the history of Native Americans, and the Early Republic period through the Civil War.

Morhard, Ruth Hanford. *Mrs. Morhard and the Boys*. Citadel/Kensington Books (New York, NY) 2019. ARC.

Josephine Morhard never waited for something to happen. At twelve years old, fiercely independent Josephine left her family's Pennsylvania farm to start a new life. Coming of age during one of the most devastating times in America and weathering two bad marriages, Josephine put her personal problems aside to insure a productive future for her daughter

and son. But Junior was a volatile boy of eight—until his mother came upon a novel sports idea to encourage discipline, guidance, and self-worth in her son. Out of a dream, an empty lot, and the enthusiasm of other neighborhood kids, Josephine established the first boys' baseball league in America. Her city—and the country—was watching. Beyond all expectations, the Cleveland Indians rallied behind her project. Indians legends Bob Feller, Jeff Heath, and Roy Weatherly helped hone the boys' skills; renowned sports reporter Hal Lebovitz became an umpire; and they were given permission to play in historic League Park. All the while, as Josephine's Little Indians graduated into the Junior American and Junior National Leagues, and finally a Little World Series, she instilled in her boys strong values, good sportsmanship, and an unprecedented sense of accomplishment. Some of them, like Ray Lindquist and Jack Heinen, would become Minor League players. Not one of Mrs. Morhard's boys would ever forget her. Josephine Morhard's daughter-in-law recounts the extraordinary life and accomplishments of a resilient, selfless, and determined woman. Her inspiring true story—a long time coming—is something to cheer for.

Nichols, David Andrew. *Peoples of the Inland Sea: Native Americans and Newcomers in the Great Lakes Region, 1600-1870*. Ohio University Press (Athens, OH) 2018. PB \$29.95.

Diverse in their languages and customs, the Native American peoples of the Great Lakes region—the Miamis, Ho-Chunks, Potawatomis, Ojibwas, and many

others—shared a tumultuous history. In the colonial era their rich homeland became a target of imperial ambition and an invasion zone for European diseases, technologies, beliefs, and colonists. Yet in the face of these challenges, their nations' strong bonds of trade, intermarriage, and association grew and extended throughout their watery domain, and strategic relationships and choices allowed them to survive in an era of war, epidemic, and invasion. In *Peoples of the Inland Sea*, David Andrew Nichols offers a fresh and boundary-crossing history of the Lakes peoples over nearly three centuries of rapid change, from pre-Columbian times through the era of Andrew Jackson's Removal program. As the people themselves persisted, so did their customs, religions, and control over their destinies, even in the Removal era. In Nichols's hands, Native, French, American, and English sources combine to tell this important story in a way as imaginative as it is bold. Accessible and creative, *Peoples of the Inland Sea* is destined to become a classroom staple and a classic in Native American history.

Pirnia, Garin. *Rebels and Underdogs: The Story of Ohio Rock and Roll*. Red Lightning Books (Bloomington, IN) 2018. PB \$15.00. From Cleveland to Cincinnati and everywhere in between, Ohio rocks. *Rebels and Underdogs: The Story of Ohio Rock and Roll* takes readers behind the scenes to witness the birth and rise of musical legends like the Black Keys, Nine Inch Nails, Devo, the Breeders, Chrissie Hynde of the Pretenders, and many others who got their start in garages and bars across Ohio. Through candid, first-hand interviews, Garin

Pirnia captures new stories from national legends like the Black Keys and slow-burn local bands like Wussy from Cincinnati. Discover why Greenhornes' members Patrick Keeler and Brian Olive almost killed each other on stage one night, what happened to the pink guitar Trent Reznor of Nine Inch Nails gave to band member Richard Patrick, why Devo loved the dissonance when they were booed by 400,000 music lovers in England, and so much more. *Rebels and Underdogs* is the untold story of the bands, the state, and rock itself.

Rubin, Susan Goldman. *Maya Lin: Thinking with Her Hands*. Chronicle Books (San Francisco, CA) 2017. HC \$17.99. The Vietnam Veterans Memorial in Washington, D.C., is one of the most famous pieces of civic architecture in the world. But most people are not as familiar with the reserved college student who entered and won the design competition to build it. This accessible biography tells the story of Maya Lin, from her struggle to stick with her vision of the memorial to the wide variety of works she has created since then. The carefully researched text, paired with ample photos, crosses multiple interests—American history, civic activism, art history, and cultural diversity—and offers a timely celebration of the memorial's 35th anniversary as well as providing an important contribution to the current discussion of the role of women and minorities in society.

Stockwell, Mary. *Interrupted Odyssey: Ulysses S. Grant and the American Indians*. Southern Illinois University Press

(Carbondale, IL) 2018. HC \$34.50. In this first book devoted to the genesis, failure, and lasting legacy of Ulysses S. Grant's comprehensive American Indian policy, Mary Stockwell shows Grant as an essential bridge between Andrew Jackson's pushing Indians out of the American experience and Franklin D. Roosevelt's welcoming them back in. Situating Grant at the center of Indian policy development after the Civil War, *Interrupted Odyssey: Ulysses S. Grant and the American Indians* reveals the bravery and foresight of the eighteenth president in saying that Indians must be saved and woven into the fabric of American life. In the late 1860s, before becoming president, Grant collaborated with Ely Parker, a Seneca Indian who became his first commissioner of Indian affairs, on a plan to rescue the tribes from certain destruction. Grant hoped to save the Indians from extermination by moving them to reservations, where they would be guarded by the U.S. Army, and welcoming them into the nation as American citizens. By so doing, he would restore the executive branch's traditional authority over Indian policy that had been upended by Jackson. In *Interrupted Odyssey*, Stockwell rejects the common claim in previous Grant scholarship that he handed the reservations over to Christian missionaries as part of his original policy. In part because Grant's plan ended political patronage, Congress overturned his policy by disallowing Army officers from serving in civil posts, abandoning the treaty system, and making the new Board of Indian Commissioners the supervisors of the Indian service. Only after Congress banned Army officers

from the Indian service did Grant place missionaries in charge of the reservations, and only after the board falsely accused Parker of fraud before Congress did Grant lose faith in his original policy. Stockwell explores in depth the ousting of Parker, revealing the deep-seated prejudices that fueled opposition to him, and details Grant's stunned disappointment when the Modoc murdered his peace commissioners and several tribes—the Comanche, Kiowa, Cheyenne, and Sioux—rose up against his plans for them. Though his dreams were interrupted through the opposition of Congress, reformers, and the tribes themselves, Grant set his country firmly toward making Indians full participants in the national experience. In setting Grant's contributions against the wider story of the American Indians, Stockwell's thoughtful reappraisal reverses the general dismissal of Grant's approach to the Indians as a complete failure and highlights the courage of his policies during a time of great prejudice.

Taylor-Lehman, Dylan. *Dance of the Trustees: On the Astonishing Concerns of a Small Ohio Township*. Trillium/OSU Press (Columbus, OH) 2018. PB \$21.95. On September 9, 2015, in the quirky village of Yellow Springs, Ohio, the Miami Township Board of Trustees arbitrated a dispute concerning an area bed and breakfast that was apparently causing a lot of problems in the neighborhood where it was located. People were irate—the B&B was considered too loud or unfairly under attack, and the township officials were called incompetent by both sides for not ruling in their

favor. The trustees looked amused, concerned, interested, annoyed, and baffled at the situation before them. But this quaint debate was one of many fascinating problems the trustees deal with on a daily basis. While Miami Township is small, the concerns are myriad—cemeteries are filled with unknown remains, there is a fire department to oversee, and they sometimes take legal action against properties clogged with junk. The responsibilities are doubly impressive considering no trustees have backgrounds in public office. This book combines entertaining nonfiction vignettes with well-researched township history—including its history of religious cults and the possibility that Lee Harvey Oswald was once in town—and elucidates the processes behind an entire civic division. The book documents twenty-first century township life with humor, warmth and erudition, but also with the scholarship befitting an easy-to-read civics textbook.

Nonfiction

Ali, Kazim. *Silver Road: Essays, Maps, & Calligraphies*. Tupelo Press (North Adams, MA) 2018. PB \$17.95.

In 1953, Yoko Ono wrote a score called "Secret Piece," an open-ended formula for musical performance in a forest at daybreak. Beginning with this invitation to creation, and using essays, diary entries, prose maps, and verse fragments, Kazim Ali marks a path through quantum physics, sixth-century Chola Empire sculptures, the challenges of literary translation and of climate change, and destruction of a priceless set of handmade flutes by airport security. Amid shards from far-flung

histories and geographies, he finds the cosmos.

Bryner, Jeanne, and Cortney Davis, eds. *Learning to Heal: Reflections on Nursing School in Poetry and Prose*. The Kent State University Press (Kent, OH) 2018. PB \$29.95. What is it like to be a student nurse? What are the joys, the stresses, the transcendent moments, the fall-off-your-bed-laughing moments, and the terrors that have to be faced and stared down? And how might nurses, looking back, relate these experiences in ways that bring these memories to life again and provide historical context for how nursing education has changed and yet remained the same? In brave, revealing, and often humorous poetry and prose, *Learning to Heal* explores these questions with contributions by nurses from a variety of social, ethnic, and geographical backgrounds. Readers meet a black nursing student who is surrounded by white teachers and patients in 1940, a mother who rises every morning at 5 a.m. to help her family get ready for their day before she herself heads to anatomy class, and an itinerant Jewish teenager who is asked, "What will you become?" These individuals, and many other women and men, share personal stories of finding their way to nursing school, where they begin a long, often wonderful, and sometimes daunting journey. Many of the nurse-authors are experienced, well-published writers; others are academics, widely known in their fields; but each offers a unique perspective on nursing education. Notably, an essay by Minnie Brown Carter and an interview with Helen L. Albert provide valuable ethnographies

of underrepresented voices. Through strong, moving essays and poems that explore various aspects of student nursing and provide historical perspective on nursing and nursing education, all have stories to tell. *Learning to Heal* tells them in ways that will appeal to many readers, both in and out of the nursing and medical professions, and to educators in the medical humanities.

Dowdy, Joanne Kilgour, and Rachael Fleischaker, eds. *Text Sets: Multimodal Learning for Multicultural Students*. (Leiden, The Netherlands) 2018. PB \$116.00. *Text Sets: Multimodal Learning for Multicultural Students* integrates a multicultural approach to teaching with standards-based instruction and multimodal learning opportunities in a variety of content areas. This unique combination allows teachers to meet the demands of their curriculum while recognizing and honoring the diverse students in their classroom. Each chapter provides an annotated text set with a specific theme, curricular goals, and instructional activities that suggest ways for students to interact with the texts. In addition to providing ready-made text sets, it models a framework for teachers to build their own text sets based on the individual needs of their schools and communities.

Edwards, Scott. *Quintessential Jack: The Art of Jack Nicholson on Screen*. McFarland & Company, Inc. (Jefferson, NC) 2018. PB \$35.00.

After several years of small roles and experimental screenwriting during his early career, Jack Nicholson got his big break in 1969

with *Easy Rider*. The next year *Five Easy Pieces* made him a star. Since then the twelve-time Academy Award nominee has won Best Actor twice (*One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest* and *As Good as It Gets*). This critical study examines each of Nicholson's film roles as well as his screenwriting and directorial efforts. Fascinating personal insights are provided through interviews with stars such as Mews Small, James Hong, Millie Perkins, Michael Margotta, Shirley Knight, Joe Turkel, Ed Nelson, Hazel Court, the Monkees, several Apollo astronauts, Hell's Angel Sonny Barger, Peter Fonda, Bruce Dern, and many more.

Ewing, Tom. *Bill Monroe: The Life and Music of the Blue Grass Man*. University of Illinois Press (Urbana, IL) 2018. HC \$34.95.

The Father of Bluegrass Music, Bill Monroe was a major star of the Grand Ole Opry for over fifty years; a member of the Country Music, Songwriters, and Rock and Roll Halls of Fame; and a legendary figure in American music. This authoritative biography sets out to examine his life in careful detail—to move beyond hearsay and sensationalism to explain how and why he accomplished so much. Former Blue Grass Boy and veteran music journalist Tom Ewing draws on hundreds of interviews, his personal relationship with Monroe, and an immense personal archive of materials to separate the truth from longstanding myth. Ewing tells the story of the Monroe family's musical household and Bill's early career in the Monroe Brothers duo. He brings to life Monroe's 1940s heyday with the Classic Bluegrass Band, the renewed fervor for his music sparked by the folk revival

of the 1960s, and his declining fortunes in the years that followed. Throughout, Ewing deftly captures Monroe's relationships and the personalities of an ever-shifting roster of band members while shedding light on his business dealings and his pioneering work with Bean Blossom and other music festivals. Filled with a wealth of previously unknown details, *Bill Monroe* offers even the most devoted fan a deeper understanding of Monroe's towering achievements and timeless music.

Gebben, Claire. *How We Survive Here: Families Across Time*. CoffeeTown Press (Kenmore, WA) 2018. PB \$21.95.

As far back as Claire Gebben can remember, her grandmother wrote letters to the "relatives in Freinsheim," relatives living in a rural wine-making town in Germany. After her grandmother dies, Claire keeps the tradition alive, writing letters and emails. In 2008, relative Angela Webber travels from Germany to visit Claire in the Pacific Northwest and brings with her a surprise—fifteen letters, dated 1841 to 1900—discovered in an attic in Freinsheim. The first is written by Angela's and Claire's 4x-great grandfather, an early German immigrant to Cleveland, Ohio. As the two begin translating the Old German script, they become captivated by the stories: a wagon business burning to the ground, an amputation that requires a wooden leg, an uncle who heads off for the California Gold Rush. That fall, Claire enters a Master of Fine Arts in Creative Writing program, and for her thesis decides to write about the people of the letters. An ambitious undertaking, given her scant

knowledge of German language and history. Meanwhile, Claire's immediate family has dwindled to just a few, and she must help her elderly aunt who can no longer live on her own. Then, at the start of the thesis project, Claire's father dies, and with him, the oral history of his German ancestors. Long distance from Germany, though, Angela agrees to help, and Claire perseveres, embarking on research that includes an intensive blacksmithing class and trips to Ohio and Germany. In the process, Claire's dwindling family expands in unexpected, meaningful ways. Via nineteenth-century correspondence, twenty-first-century emails, and present-day relationships and experiences, *How We Survive Here: Families Across Time* weaves together how we strive and survive, amid connections past and present and the broader sweep of history as it impacts our families across time.

Kendhammer, Brandon, and Carmen McCain. *Boko Haram: Ohio Short Histories of Africa*. Ohio University Press (Athens) 2018. PB \$14.95.

From its small-time origins in the early 2000s to its transformation into one of the world's most-recognized terrorist groups, this remarkable short book tells the story of Boko Haram's bloody, decade-long war in northeastern Nigeria. Going beyond the headlines, including the group's 2014 abduction of 276 girls in Chibok and the international outrage it inspired, *Boko Haram* provides readers new to the conflict with a clearly written and comprehensive history of how the group came to be, the Nigerian government's failed efforts to end

it, and its enormous impact on ordinary citizens. Drawing on years of research, *Boko Haram* is a timely addition to the acclaimed *Ohio Short Histories of Africa*. Brandon Kendhammer and Carmen McCain—two leading specialists on northern Nigeria—separate fact from fiction within one of the world's least-understood conflicts. Most distinctively, it is a social history, one that tells the story of Boko Haram's violence through the journalism, literature, film, and music made by people close to it.

Scott, Sophronia. *Love's Long Line*. Mad Creek Books/OSU Press (Columbus, OH) 2018. PB \$19.95.

Sophonria Scott turns an unflinching eye on her life to deliver a poignant collection of essays ruminating on faith, motherhood, race, and the search for meaningful connection in an increasingly disconnected world. Scott contemplates what her son taught her about grief after the shootings at his school, Sandy Hook Elementary; how a walk with Lena Horne became a remembrance of love for Scott's illiterate and difficult steelworker father; the unexpected heartache of being a substitute school bus driver; and the satisfying fantasy of paying off a mortgage. Scott's road is also a spiritual journey ignited by an exploration of her first name, the wonder of her physical being, and coming to understand why her soul must dance like Saturday Night Fever's Tony Manero. Inspired by Annie Dillard's observation in *Holy the Firm* that we all "reel out love's long line alone . . . like a live wire loosed in space to longing and grief everlasting," Scott's essays acknowledge the loneliness, longing, and grief exacted by

a fearless engagement with the everyday world. But she shows that by holding the line, there is an abundance of joy and forgiveness and grace to be had as well.

Stansberry, Matt, and David Wilson. *Rust Belt Arcana: Tarot and Natural History in the Exurban Wilds*. Belt Publishing (Cleveland, OH) 2018. PB \$16.95.

A young bear—The Fool—is cast off from its mother in the spring to wander a fragmented suburban forest, to be harried by dogs and traffic, chased through golf courses and farms. An ocean-going trout climbs industrial, sewage-tainted rivers in the Midwest. The river is both sick and healthy; the trout, understood here as The Magician, is both wild and made. What does the Tarot have to tell us about the flora and fauna of the industrial Midwest? *Rust Belt Arcana* uses this time-tested structure to explain, juxtaposing the characteristics of the cards of the Tarot's Major Arcana to the creatures and plants around us. The idiosyncratic essays that result connect biology and natural history to the human condition; they are stories of abundance and loss, limning the persistent remnant wilderness of the Rust Belt. Exploring this natural history helps us to see beauty in a beleaguered landscape often dismissed as unremarkable, and to define our remarkable place in it.

Sturgeon, Walter E. *Appalachian Mushrooms: A Field Guide*. Ohio University Press (Athens) 2018. PB \$35.00.

From one of the region's foremost mushroom hunters—Walter E. Sturgeon—comes a long-overdue field guide to finding and identifying the mushrooms

and fleshy fungi found in the Appalachian mountains from Canada to Georgia. Edibility and toxicity, habitat, ecology, and detailed diagnostic features of the disparate forms they take throughout their life cycles are all included, enabling the reader to identify species without the use of a microscope or chemicals. *Appalachian Mushrooms* is unparalleled in its accuracy and currency, from its detailed photographs to descriptions based on the most advanced classification information available, including recent DNA studies that have upended some mushrooms' previously accepted taxonomies. Sturgeon celebrates more than 400 species in all their diversity, beauty, and scientific interest, going beyond the expected specimens to include uncommon ones and those that are indigenous to the Appalachian region. This guide is destined to be an indispensable authority on the subject for everyone from beginning hobbyists to trained experts, throughout Appalachia and beyond.

Williams, John. *Worth Going Back: A Memoir of Alaska*. Monday Creek Publishing (Buchtel, OH) 2018. HC \$16.99.

The sun glistening off snow-capped mountain peaks, the tall spruce of the north swaying in a gentle breeze, salmon making their final swim—this is what welcomed John and his wife Teddi on a road trip to the uppermost points of North America. A son Pete supplied an item that motivated a documentation of such a journey: a simple blank journal. John realized that dates and places were not what brought him here, but a lifetime of history and preparation. The

journey goes backward in time as well as being in the present. On this road trip, he could take his children, grandchildren, sisters, brothers, and visitors on a venture back as each day presented new and amazing sites that only he and his wife could see. His present will become history, but his history created the present. The stories are real. The people are real. A cast of characters details the relationship. Along the road, John understands that there is always something beyond that can't be seen. Life's ventures either harden or temper us. The latter gives one purpose and even an appreciation for where we are. John chose the latter.

Fiction

Bernard, Ted. *Late-K Lunacy*. Petra Books (Ontario, CA) 2018. HC \$30.00.

Set in a Midwest university town, fictional pre- and post-apocalyptic environmental events lead up to the mid-2030s. Will climate change, the breakdown of myriad systems, and a global pandemic take the world over the cliff? Complexity science lends frightening authenticity as the story unravels, while Bernard challenges readers through a new vision of tomorrow.

Hurt, Bryan. *Everyone Wants to Be Ambassador to France: Stories*. Red Hen Press (Pasadena, CA) 2018. ARC.

A seagull, a goat, and a teenage boy enter into a bizarre love triangle that leaves one of them dead and the other two changed forever. A grief-stricken astronaut quits NASA to paint pictures of the moon. A lonely scientist creates stars in his basement and becomes enraged when he discovers that one of his stars harbors life.

An eighteenth-century British aristocrat adopts two teenage girls and absconds with them to France, determined to raise one of them to become his perfect wife. By turns humorous and heartbreaking, this debut collection offers weird and wonderful stories that illuminate the hidden truths of life.

Kachuba, John. *Dark Entry*. Hellbender Books (Mechanicsburg, PA) 2018. PB \$14.95.

In the eighteenth century, members of the Dudley family settled in the deep woods of the Dark Entry Forest in northwestern Connecticut. Only a century later, Dudleytown was a ghost town with nothing left in the encroaching forest but cellar holes. Legend has it that the Dudleys were descended from a family in England that came to a bad end and that a curse followed them to America, a curse that drove residents of the settlement to murder and suicide. In 1989, Sandy Lawrence, fleeing her abusive boyfriend, is given the use of her friend's house in Dark Entry, one of the few homes in the isolated forest. She is unaware of the legends about Dark Entry but soon discovers the horrifying truth—something evil is alive and well in the deep woods, something intent upon murder. What began as a peaceful retreat from her domestic troubles now becomes a terrifying fight for her life.

Loewenstein, Laurie. *Death of a Rainmaker: A Dust Bowl Mystery*. Kaylie Jones Books (Brooklyn, NY) 2018. PB \$16.95.

When a rainmaker is bludgeoned to death in the pitch blackness of a colossal dust storm, small-town sheriff Temple Jennings shoulders yet another burden in the hard

times of the 1930s Dust Bowl. The killing only magnifies Jennings's ongoing troubles—a formidable opponent in the upcoming election, the repugnant burden of enforcing farm foreclosures, and his wife's lingering grief over the loss of their young son. As the sheriff and his young deputy investigate the murder, their suspicions focus on a teenager serving with the Civilian Conservation Corps. The deputy, himself a former CCCer, struggles with remaining loyal to the corps while pursuing his own aspirations as a lawman. Meanwhile, his wife Etha is secretly bringing meals to the hobos camped outside of town. It has been fifteen years since her young son accidentally drowned, and in the malleable adolescent faces of the young men around the campfire she imagines how her own Jack might have looked. As the evening wears on and Etha overstays her welcome, she is rescued by one of the teenagers, Carmine, who comes from the mean streets of Chicago. When Temple arrests Carmine, the CCC suspect, he is housed in the county jail and Etha takes advantage of her position as prison cook to get to know him. While she sits outside his cell and he wolfs down her apple pies, he tells her his story. She quickly becomes convinced of his innocence and sets out to prove it. But Etha's investigations soon reveal a darker web of secrets, which imperil Temple's chances of reelection and cause the husband and wife to confront their long-standing differences about the nature of grief.

Martin, Lee. *The Mutual UFO Network: Stories*. Dzanc Books (Ann Arbor, MI) 2018. HC \$26.95. In *The Mutual UFO Network*,

Pulitzer Prize finalist and master of the craft Lee Martin presents his first short story collection since his acclaimed debut *The Least You Need to Know*. With Martin's signature insight, each story peers into the nooks and crannies of seemingly normal homes, communities, and families. The footprints of a midnight prowler peel back the veneer of a marriage soured by a long-ago affair. A con man selling faked UFO footage loses his wife to the promise of life outside the ordinary. And a troubled man, tormented by his own mind, lies in the street to look at the stars, and in doing so unravels the carefully constructed boundaries between his quiet neighbors. From friendship and family to all forms of love, *The Mutual UFO Network* explores the intricacies of relationships and the possibility for redemption in even the most complex misfits and loners.

Nye, Michael. *All the Castles Burned*. Turner Publishing Company (Nashville, TN) 2018. HC \$32.99.

When Owen Webb, the son of working-class parents, receives a scholarship to the prestigious Rockcastle Preparatory Academy, the mysterious and enigmatic Carson Bly, an upperclassman from a wealthy and powerful family, befriends him. Their friendship, deepened through a love of basketball, becomes an obsession for Owen, who is desperate to avoid the growing trouble at home between his parents. When Owen's father is arrested for a shocking and unexpected crime, his family is torn apart, and Owen's anger and fear are carefully manipulated by Carson's mercurial and increasingly dangerous personality. Owen, who

has fallen in love with Carson's beautiful but troubled sister, quickly finds himself caught up in a complex web of lies that threatens his once-promising future.

Ramspeck, Doug. *The Owl That Carries Us Away*. BkMk Press, University of Missouri-Kansas City (Kansas City, MO) 2018. PB \$15.95. Winner of the G. S. Sharat Chandra Prize for Short Fiction, selected by Billy Lombardo. These twenty-nine short and short-short stories, set largely in the contemporary Midwest, echo such primal struggles as mortality, the hunt, growing up with parents who face desperation, and just-out-of-reach dreams for the future. A young boy finds a possum skull and brings it home as compensation for a family tragedy; a newly-married woman imagines that mushrooms are growing from her husband's body; and a woman who absconds with her sister's baby envisions a life for them in Florida. Ramspeck never flinches as his characters confront violence, cruelty, love, and tragedy in ways that are as surprising as they are unsentimental.

Rothman-Zecher, Moriel. *Sadness Is a White Bird*. Atria Books (New York, NY) 2018. HC \$26.00.

In this lyrical and searing debut novel written by a rising literary star and MacDowell Fellow, a young man is preparing to serve in the Israeli army while also trying to reconcile his close relationship to two Palestinian siblings with his deeply ingrained loyalties to family and country. The story begins in an Israeli military jail, where—four days after his nineteenth birthday—Jonathan stares up at the fluorescent lights of his cell and recalls the series of events that

led him there. Two years earlier: Moving back to Israel after several years in Pennsylvania, Jonathan is ready to fight to preserve and defend the Jewish state, which his grandfather—a Salonican Jew whose community was wiped out by the Nazis—helped establish. But he is also conflicted about the possibility of having to monitor the occupied Palestinian territories, a concern that grows deeper and more urgent when he meets Nimreen and Laith—the twin daughter and son of his mother’s friend. From that winter morning on, the three become inseparable: wandering the streets on weekends, piling onto buses toward new discoveries, laughing uncontrollably. They share joints on the beach, trading snippets of poems, intimate secrets, family histories, resentments, and dreams. But with his draft date rapidly approaching, Jonathan wrestles with the question of what it means to be proud of your heritage and loyal to your people, while also feeling love for those outside of your own tribal family. And then that fateful day arrives, the one that lands Jonathan in prison and changes his relationship with the twins forever. A 2018 National Jewish Book Award Finalist for Debut Fiction.

Strawser, Jessica. *Not That I Could Tell*. St. Martin’s Press (New York, NY) 2018. HC \$26.99.

When a group of neighborhood women gathers, wine in hand, around a fire pit where their backyards meet one Saturday night, most of them are just ecstatic to have discovered that their baby monitors reach that far. It’s a rare kid-free night, and they’re giddy with it. They drink too much, and

the conversation turns personal. By Monday morning, one of them is gone. Everyone knows something about everyone else in the quirky small Ohio town of Yellow Springs, but no one can make sense of the disappearance. Kristin was a sociable twin mom, college administrator, and doctor’s wife who didn’t seem all that bothered by her impending divorce. The investigation turns up more questions than answers, with her husband, Paul, at the center. For her closest neighbor, Clara, the incident triggers memories she thought she’d put behind her, and when she’s unable to extract herself from the widening circle of scrutiny, her own suspicions quickly grow. But the neighborhood’s newest addition, Izzy, is determined not to jump to any conclusions—especially since she’s dealing with a crisis of her own. As the police investigation goes from a media circus to a cold case, the neighbors are forced to reexamine what’s going on behind their own closed doors and to ask how well anyone really knows anyone else.

Tassone, Don. *Small Bites: Forty Short Stories*. Golden Antelope Press (Kirksville, MO) 2018. PB \$15.95.

In *Small Bites*, Don Tassone offers readers bits of contemporary life, mostly gentle, mostly optimistic, often instructive. Stories range from flash-fiction size half-pagers to twenty-page studies of how relationships develop, how decisions are made and unmade, how persuasion and collaboration work. The collection is divided into fourteen tiny Appetizers, twelve substantial Entrees, and fourteen small but intense Desserts. Appetizers like “Friends”

and “Run” are quick and easy to consume; they’re secular parables, meant to produce a small, “got it!” sense of surprise as readers fill in what’s implied but not directly stated. Entrees range more widely, sometimes questioning current forms of connectivity, sometimes underscoring a sense that humans need to trust and to engage with one another. “The Discord in Our Souls,” for example, leaves readers puzzling over which of several bad options is least bad. “Beauty Mark” traces a model’s reaction to the accident that defaces her. “Everything Is Real” includes a ghost. Most stories in the final set, the Desserts, focus on beginnings and endings—on little acts of courage, sweet though painful memories, manageable ironies.

Thomson, Cindy. *Enya’s Son: Daughters of Ireland Book 3*. 7th & Cherry Publishing (Pensacola, FL) 2018. PB \$15.99.

Is love enough for a mother who must be separated from her son? Having escaped a violent childhood, Enya is safe living with her husband’s powerful clan. When her long-awaited son is born, she must fulfill a vow made in desperation—the boy is dedicated to God and goes to live with the local priest. Still, she clings to the hope that the church’s influence will eradicate any trace of her bloodline’s temperament. The monks rename him Columcille, which means “Dove of the Church.” In a prophetic dream, Enya learns her son will grow in power and influence, and her heart is at peace. But while Enya understands her son’s influence will be for the good of the church, others believe the prophecy predicts political influence, and try to prevent

Columcille from seeking power—though he does not desire it. As he rises to prominence in the church, Columcille’s temper erupts when a king’s decision goes against him, and he calls his clan to arms. The consequences are more devastating than anyone could have imagined and change his life forever. This retelling of the early life of St. Columcille and his mother will usher readers on a fateful journey through ancient Ireland’s monastic centers, her wild coastline islands, and the land Columcille believed was filled with holy angels, a place where he felt safe, yet was destined to abandon.

Poetry

Arcangelini, M.J. *Waiting for the Wind to Rise*. NightBallet Press (Elyria, OH) 2018. PB \$14.00. The newest collection of poetry from the author of *Room Enough* includes poems touching on subjects ranging from the poet’s responses to aging, his cherished memories, and his outrage at today’s political climate.

Barngrover, Anne. *Brazen Creature*. University of Akron Press (Akron, OH) 2018. PB \$15.95. *Brazen Creature* spans a young woman’s awakening. The poems’ concerns are twofold: violence against women and girls that has become rooted in the land, and verdant female desire and self-assertion in the face of entrenched oppression. In the poems’ Midwestern towns and farmlands, patriarchy is a ghost that haunts the cottonwoods, soybean fields, and creek beds. The speaker is in limbo between fear and yearning, vulnerability and transgression, drought and flood, saving a life and needing to be saved.

Burroughs, John. *Loss and Foundering*. NightBallet Press (Elyria, OH) 2018. PB \$13.00. *Loss and Foundering* contains twenty-four poems written by John Burroughs during the past nine turbulent years of his life. Confessional and raw, these poems reveal a heart both broken and healing through the power of love.

Cook, Juliet. *Malformed Confetti*. Crisis Chronicles Press (Parma, OH) 2018. PB \$12.00. The latest collection from the “Queen of Grotesque,” Juliet Cook, featuring “assembly line doll head roach motel,” nominated for a 2019 Pushcart Prize.

Feen, Sandra. *Fragile Capacities: School Poems*. NightBallet Press (Elyria, OH) 2018. PB \$12.00. *Fragile Capacities*, subtitled *School Poems*, is the result of a career spent in the classroom. In her thirty-two-year career, Sandra Feen taught high school English, Creative Writing, QUEST, and Humanities, and twice won Teacher of the Year at her school. Feen also taught adult evening high school for several years, along with writing workshops at Ohio State University, Clark State Community College, and Wright State University. *Fragile Capacities* contains forty pages of twenty-one poems. At times showing frustration, at other times, keen observation and an uncanny ear for dialogue, the poems range from poignant to tragic to triumphant, and Feen’s voice is clear throughout the book.

Finkelstein, Norman. *From the Files of the Immanent Foundation*. Dos Madres (Loveland, OH) 2018. PB \$17.00. *The Foundation* is a network

of spies and secrets, an infinite arcanum of hierophants and fools, residing in a mansion of closets and trapdoors, stairways and hallways, nested studies surrounding a library where the scholars sleepwalk forever and the catalogers despair...Welcome to the Immanent Foundation.

Gildzen, Alex. *Son of Hollywood*. NightBallet Press (Elyria, OH) 2018. PB \$15.00. “In memory of Capitol, Lincoln, and Rivoli, movie houses of Elyria, all gone,” *Son of Hollywood* is a delicious romp through decades of the Big Screen, Hollywood fantasies, and the musings of a true cinephile. Of *Son of Hollywood*, Gildzen writes, “Alex Gildzen has been writing about Hollywood almost as long as he’s been writing. He’s never had a Hollywood address until recently when he purchased his “final resting place” around the corner from Rudolph Valentino at Hollywood Forever, the cemetery next to Paramount Studios. If you like these poems he invites you to visit his spot (Cathedral Mausoleum, Corridor Valentino 2, Tier 5, Niche 7) and kiss his glass.”

Glassmeyer, Susan F. *Invisible Fish: Poems*. Dos Madres (Loveland, OH) 2018. PB \$17.00. *Invisible Fish* is a poetic chronicle from girlhood to post-middle age by Midwestern author and somatic therapist, Susan F. Glassmeyer. These compelling lyrics and merciful narratives do not shy away from suffering or death, nor from what is poignant and joyful. The whole realm of the visible—the world as it is—is held together by what we cannot see. Because the poems in this full-length collection

are grounded in the sensory life of “the body”, they ring true to the reader, inviting mindfulness and evoking curiosity and reverence for what is invisible.

Gunter-Seymour, Kari. *Serving*. Crisis Chronicles Press (Parma, OH) 2018. PB.

Kari Gunter-Seymour’s new poetry collection features the title poem, “Serving,” nominated for the 2019 Pushcart Prize.

Howey, Christine. *Citizen of Metropolis*. Crisis Chronicles Press (Parma, OH) 2018. PB \$7.00.

This volume features nineteen poems, including “Citizen of Metropolis”; “I Don’t Like This Title”; “Things That Make Me Sit”; “Satisfaction”; “Rock-A-Bye Baby”; “One Second”; “My Muse Eats Cheetos”; “Destination Vacation”; “Meals”; “Losing It at Age 73”; “Edward Hopper, Motivational Speaker”; “An Evening Out”; “Beowulf at Breakfast”; and the Pushcart Prize-nominated “William Randolph Hearst, Driving Alone, San Simeon.”

Hurley, Pat. *Hard to Swallow*. NightBallet Press (Elyria, OH) 2018. PB \$12.00.

Hard to Swallow is co-authored by Pat Hurley and her late husband Bill Hurley. This book, as Pat describes it, “documents their individual perspectives on his esophageal cancer journey, through poetry.” With Pat’s poems on pages opposite Bill’s poems, we get a unique mirror perspective of their lives during this most difficult time. We find ourselves exploring their labyrinths of love, humor, wonder, fear, dread, and anger through poems filled with reflections, revelations, tenderness, and truth.

Kress, Leonard. *Living in the Candy Store: And Other Poems*. Encircle Publications (Farmington, ME) 2018. PB \$15.95.

The latest collection from the author of *The Orpheus Complex* features “Elmo,” “The Wild Rose,” and many more. It is an expansion of a chapbook, also called *Living in the Candy Store*, published by Finishing Line Press in 2011.

Matthias, John, and John Peck. *Regrounding a Pilgrimage*. Dos Madres (Loveland, OH) 2018. PB \$19.00.

For many years the poets John Matthias and John Peck, friends since their time together at Stanford in the 1960s and often paired by reviewers and critics, have wanted to combine Matthias’s long poem about the pilgrimage routes to Santiago de Compostela and Peck’s long meditation on the subject, “Agensay, Agengrownde, Matthias,” the first version of which appeared in Robert Archambeau’s selection of essays on Matthias’s work, *Word Play Place*. In this special edition, where the two pieces appear in extended dialogue, their long-standing wish has been achieved. Katie Lehman has made this possible by re-editing both texts and offering Peck the opportunity to extend his meditation in many ways. More than that, she has included Archambeau’s essay on Matthias’s work, “History, Totality, Silence,” as an introduction. Readers will find these texts both challenging and rewarding.

McIntire, Jonie. *Beyond the Sidewalk*. NightBallet Press (Elyria, OH) 2018. PB \$8.00. *Beyond the Sidewalk* is a beautiful homage to McIntire’s beloved

city, Toledo. Its thirty-two pages contain twenty-four poems and one photo, including several of her “zip code” poems, written in response to Toledo City Paper’s “Ode to the Zip Code” contest. Among the gems contained within its pages are “I Hate the Factory that Takes You So Often” and “What the Dog Buried.” McIntire’s love for her hometown shines throughout the book, and her wry humor takes you along with her as you both travel “beyond the sidewalk.”

Nezhukumatathil, Aimee. *Oceanic*. Copper Canyon Press (Port Townshend, WA) 2018. PB \$17.00. In her fourth collection, Aimee Nezhukumatathil hums a bright blue note—a sensuous love song to the Earth and its inhabitants. *Oceanic* is both a title and an ethos of radical inclusion, inviting in the grief of an elephant, the icy eyes of a scallop, “the ribs / of a silver silo,” and the bright flash of painted fingernails. With unmatched sincerity, *Oceanic* speaks to each reader as a cooperative part of the natural world—the extraordinary neighborhood to which we all belong. This is a poet ecstatically, emphatically, naming what it means to love a world in peril.

Paulenich, Craig. *Old Brown*. Bottom Dog Press (Huron, OH) 2018. PB \$16.00. Here’s a fine book that dares to look into the heart of the personage of the American abolitionist John Brown. Using all of the tools which he can imagine, Craig Paulenich plunges into the heart of the man and of America.

Roberts, Andy. *Out of Blue*. NightBallet Press (Elyria, OH) 2018. PB \$11.00.

The fifth NightBallet Press collection by Pushcart Prize nominee Andy Roberts features twenty-four poems, including “Geezers,” “Egg Rolls,” and “Walking Stick.”

Rzicznek, F. Daniel. *Settlers*. Parlor Press (Anderson, SC) 2018. PB \$14.00.

Transversing the territory between the pastoral and the elegiac, F. Daniel Rzicznek’s *Settlers* inhabits the hidden, wild places of the American Midwestern landscape. The idea of “settling”—that a landscape can be tamed, that a human consciousness can fall back into immobility—is one these poems grapple with and resist, all the while charting the cathartic effects of the natural world on a collective imagination dually wounded by the madness of the post-industrial era and the multiplication of tragedy via media saturation. Within the “settled” landscape, it becomes clear that nothing, in fact, can be settled. Love, compassion, forgiveness, and transcendence all turn out to be moving targets, and *Settlers* offers glimpse after glimpse of an unstable world in whirling, mesmerizing motion. Where the exterior landscape of weather, light, and water skirts the interior wilderness of dream, vision, and prayer, these poems go out walking with their feet in the marsh and their hats in the infinite clouds, hoping to find what exactly it means to be human in a world imperiled by humans, and all the fascinating and frustrating complexities contained therein. Part of Free Verse Editions, a joint venture between *Free Verse: A Journal of Contemporary Poetry & Poetics* and Parlor press.

Salmons, Chuck. *Patch Job*. NightBallet Press (Elyria, OH) 2017. PB \$10.00. *Patch Job* is a collection of poems by Salmons that, in Cathryn Essinger’s words, “are a homage to the men who shaped him, the machinists, mechanics, and carpenters, who taught him how to use spackle, to toss horseshoes, and to do a day’s work, even when he knew that his job was to not be like my father.”

Santer, Rikki. *Dodge Tuck Roll*. Crisis Chronicles Press (Parma, OH) 2018. PB \$15.00. The latest collection of poetry from prolific Youngstown poet Rikki Santer includes “Afterlife,” which has been nominated for a 2019 Pushcart Prize.

Santer, Rikki. *Make Me That Happy*. NightBallet Press (Elyria, OH) 2018. PB \$15.00. Santer’s latest collection includes “Arguments for Furniture” and “Still Life with Whoopee Cushion.”

Schraeder, E.F. *Chapter Eleven*. Partisan Press (Norfolk, VA) 2018. PB. Schraeder’s vivid, barbed poems tell stories of debt-saddled college students, financially insecure adjunct professors, and a healthcare system that too often is, as the title suggests, morally bankrupt. These are protest poems from the part of America that’s struggling and often failing to get ahead.

Smith, Steven B. *Where Never Was Already Is*. Crisis Chronicles Press (Parma, OH) 2018. PB \$15.00. Steven B. Smith’s magnum opus, *Where Never Was Already Is*, a collection of decades worth of his best poetry combined with a liberal

array of his renowned collage art, featuring twenty-seven collages and roughly 250 poems on 324 pages. His poem “Eclipse Myths” from this collection has received a Pushcart Prize nomination.

Soter, Anna. *Breathing Spaces*. Kelsay Books (American Fork, UT) 2018. PB \$14.00.

The current co-chair (with Fred Anderle and Charlene Fix) of the Hospital Poets US Program for the Ohio State University Medicine and the Arts Program/Humanism in Medicine presents her latest collection of poetry. Featuring a variety of themes from dualism to nature to teaching and renewal.

Sproat, Kezia. *Tuwyn*. Skye’s the Limit Publishing (Galena, OH) 2018. PB \$8.99.

A compilation of poems authored by Kezia Sproat over several decades. Poems examine life in Ohio and the United States as well as commentary on social, economic, and political issues.

Trautman, Kerry. *Artifacts*. NightBallet Press (Elyria, OH) 2018. PB \$8.00. *Artifacts* is a stunning journey of discovery. Its thirty-two pages contain twenty-two poems, all rich in language and masterfully written. Among Trautman’s “Archeological Surveys” are those of “the CD Collection of a Somewhat-Poor Girl,” “a Curated Native American Clothing Exhibit,” and “Drummers and Poets.” Trautman does not hold back, does not flinch, as she explores themes of both darkness and light.

Young Adult & Middle Grade

Arnett, Mindee. *Onyx & Ivory*. Balzer + Bray (New York, NY) 2018. HC \$17.99.

They call her Traitor Kate. It's a title Kate Brighton inherited from her father after he tried to assassinate the high king of Rime. Cast out of the noble class, she now works for the royal courier service. Only those most skilled ride for the Relay and only the fastest survive, for when night falls, the nightdrakes—deadly flightless dragons—come out to hunt. Fortunately, Kate has a secret edge: she is a wilder, born with forbidden magic that allows her to influence the minds of animals. And it's this magic that leads her to a caravan mysteriously massacred by drakes in broad daylight—the only survivor Corwin Tormane, the son of the king. Her first love, the boy she swore to forget, after he condemned her father to death. With their paths once more entangled, Kate and Corwin uncover secrets past and present to face this threat of drakes who attack in the daylight and the darker menace behind them.

Clark, Jay. *Finding Mr. Brightside*.

Henry Holt and Company (New York, NY) 2015. PB \$9.99.

She didn't expect her silver lining to be wearing gray sweatpants. Abram and Juliette know each other.

They've lived down the street from each other their whole lives. But they don't really know each other—at least, not until Juliette's mom and Abram's dad have a torrid affair that culminates in a deadly car crash.

Sharing the same subdivision is uncomfortable, to say the least.

They don't speak. Fast-forward to the neighborhood pharmacy, a year later. Abram decides to say hello.

Then he decides to invite Juliette to

Taco Bell. To her surprise as well as his, she agrees. And the real love story begins.

Meyer, Karen. *Simon Kenton, Unlikely Hero: Biography of a Frontiersman*. Sable Creek Press (Glendale, AZ) 2018. PB \$12.99. He lived on the edge of danger, and the frontier provided plenty of it! Indian attack, disease, even near-starvation—early pioneers faced these and more. Never one to run away from danger, frontiersman Simon Kenton used his scouting skills to aid them whenever he could. Rifle loaded, Kenton crept as silently as an Indian to rescue kidnapped settlers. His narrow escapes from Shawnee Indians rivaled those of his famous friend, Daniel Boone. Simon's influence on the events of his day can be gauged by the men he counted as friends—the daring military leader George Rogers Clark, fellow frontiersman Boone, and the renegade Simon Girty, whom settlers loved to hate. Bravely facing gauntlets and tortures, Kenton earned great respect from the Shawnee and admiration from the pioneers.

But would the death sentence of burning at the stake be his undoing? Tramp the woods with frontiersman Simon Kenton and gain a new appreciation for what the pioneers faced as they sought to claim their own slice of wilderness on the Ohio frontier. Simon Kenton first came to Kentucky in 1772 as a teen fleeing justice. The land captivated his heart and he dedicated the next twenty-eight years to helping settlers, fighting Indians, and scouting for famous military leaders. When Lord Dunmore picked a fight with the Shawnee, Simon and his buddy Simon Girty carried war messages

at the Battle of Point Pleasant. They also carried Chief Logan's eloquent speech to the peace negotiations. When his friend Daniel Boone fell from a Shawnee bullet, Simon lifted him like a sack of grain and carried him to safety. When George Rogers Clark led the daring attack on British Kaskaskia, Kenton played a key role. When captured and tortured by Shawnee Indians, Simon showed remarkable courage and endurance. When General "Mad Anthony" Wayne led an army in the Northwest Indian War, Captain Kenton headed the crew of one hundred scouts. When the Greenville Treaty brought peace and settlement of the Ohio Country, Simon headed to this new frontier. When Tecumseh and his brother The Prophet gathered Indians for a final effort to regain their lands, Kenton rode to investigate rumors and kept the nation advised. When Tecumseh joined forces with the British in the War of 1812, Simon, though not a young man, rode with the Kentucky militia as an advisor. Read the story of this mostly unsung hero of our nation's early history.

Juvenile

Bunting, Eve. Illus. by Will

Hillenbrand. *I'm a Duck*.

Candlewick Press (Somerville, MA) 2018. HC \$15.99.

Sometimes it takes a lot to get your webbed feet wet! An adorable picture book makes a splash with a story about conquering your fears. "I cannot swim, and that is bad. A landlocked duck is very sad."

Dow, Connie Bergstein. *From A to Z with Energy!* Free Spirit Publishing (Minneapolis, MN) 2019. ARC.

"Skate along the Ice for I! For J

we Jam and Jive. K's for Kicking as you swim and float and splash and dive." Watch the alphabet come to life as children run and twirl and jump and play their way through the ABCs with energy! This imaginative alphabet book teaches young learners not only how to move from A to Z but also how to creatively have fun as they stay active and keep their bodies healthy and strong. The book includes a special section for parents and caregivers with tips for using movement to teach social-emotional skills.

Jenkins, Betty White. Illus. by Marjorie McVey White. *How Do We Know That Spring's Aglow?* Monday Creek Publishing (Buchtel, Ohio) 2018. HC \$17.99. Experience the magic of springtime as it comes to life with flowers blooming, birds singing, and many other signs that make spring aglow. The inspiration for this book was the result of the author's final exam for a Children's Literature class at Ohio University in the spring of 1966. At that time, the author's professor suggested that it was worthy of being published. The

book was then put in a closet and read from time to time to younger family members. Fifty-two years later, *How Do We Know That Spring's Aglow?* is a timeless theme that is enjoyed as much by readers today as it was when it was written in 1966.

COMING SOON

Author Event: Jessica Strawser February 17, 2019, 1:00 to 3:00 p.m., The Book Loft of German Village, Columbus, Ohio

The best-selling author of *Not That I Could Tell* discusses her new novel, *Forget You Know Me*, in a conversation with fellow Ohioan and author Kristen Lepionka. Free. For more information and to register, visit www.eventbrite.com/e/jessica-strawser-forget-you-know-me-tickets-53973804101.

Ohioana Book Club February 20, 2019, 10:00 a.m. to noon, Ohioana Library, Columbus, Ohio

The book for February is *Mrs. Sherlock Holmes* by Brad Ricca, a 2018 Ohioana Award finalist in nonfiction. If you would like to attend, please e-mail us at ohioana@ohioana.org.

From Prison to Prominence: The Life and Literary Work of Chester Himes February 20, 2019

6:30 to 8:00 p.m., Martin Luther King, Jr. Branch/Columbus Metropolitan Library, Columbus, Ohio
Columbus author Yolonda Tonette Sanders (the *Protective Detective* mystery series) presents an interactive program on trailblazing African American novelist Chester Himes, who went from being an inmate at the Ohio Penitentiary to an influential writer and creator of the black detective genre. Presented as part of the "I, Too, Sing America: The Harlem Renaissance at 100" celebration. For information, email ohioana@ohioana.org.

Carnegie Authors Series: Paula McLain March 10, 2019, 2:00 to 3:00 p.m., Columbus Metropolitan Library's Main Library, Columbus, Ohio

The third annual series of author talks presents Ohioana Award winning novelist Paula McLain (*The Paris Wife*). For more information, visit <https://events.columbuslibrary.org/event/1447611>.

Author Night: Salvatore Scibona March 12, 2019, 7:00 to 8:00 p.m., Gramercy Books, Bexley, Ohio
National Book and Ohioana Award finalist Salvatore Scibona discusses his long-awaited new novel, *The Volunteer*, in a conversation with WOSU book critic Kassie Rose. For more information, visit www.gramercybooksbexley.com/event.

Ohioana Book Festival April 27, 2019, 10:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Columbus Metropolitan Library's Main Library, Columbus, Ohio

Join us for the 13th annual Ohioana Book Festival in a new venue! The event features more than 150 Ohio authors, panel discussions, a book fair, special activities for children and teens, food trucks, and more. Free and open to the public. No ticket or advance registration required. For more information, visit www.ohioana.org.