

FEBRUARY 2019

Press/Publicity report



AT THE LIBRARY

The Best Books of 2018:

Kirkus Reviews

**From the Pueblo City-County
Library District**

Fiction

"The Girl Who Never Read
Noam Chomsky," by Jana
Casale*

"Florida," by Lauren Groff*

"The Mere Wife," by Maria
Dahvana Headley*

"The Great Believers," by
Rebecca Makkai*

"A State of Freedom," by Neel
Mukherjee*

"The Other Woman," by
Daniel Silva*

Non-Fiction

"The Cadaver King and the
Country Dentist: A True Story
of Injustice in the American

South," by Radley Balko*

"Frederick Douglass: Prophet
of Freedom"*

"The Consciousness Instinct:
Unraveling the Mystery
of How the Brain Makes
the Mind," by Michael S.
Gazzaniga*

"A Wilder Time: Notes from a
Geologist at the Edge of the
Greenland Ice," by William E.
Glassley*

"Patriot Number One:
American Dreams in
Chinatown," by Lauren
Hilgers*

"The Tangled Tree: A Radical
New History of Life," by
David Quammen*

*Titles are either available
or can be recommended in
the eBook format through
PCCLD's Cloud Library
Collection

CALENDAR

TODAY

Knit and Crochet Table Gang:

1:30 to 3:30 p.m., Thurston Room of the Robert Hoag Rawlings Public Library, 100 E. Abriendo Ave., 251-1938 or jpf6476@hotmail.com.

Pueblo Storytellers: 1 to

2:30 p.m., Robert Hoag Rawlings Public Library, 100 E. Abriendo Ave., all adults welcome, 543-6234. 11th St., 542-4578 or 821-2756.

Cast Off Knitters: 1 to 4

p.m., Pueblo West Library, 298 S. Joe Martinez Blvd., 330-465-0193.

Pueblo West Writers: meeting, 6:30 to 8:30 p.m., Pueblo West Library, Jerry King room A, 298 S. Joe Martinez Blvd., pueblowestwriters.wix.com/pwwg

LIFE

Things to do in Pueblo

No. 2: Pecha Kucha Night, Vol. 25 will take place at 7 p.m. today in the InfoZone Theater inside the Robert Hoag Rawlings Public Library, 100 E. Abriendo Ave.

Eight presenters will deliver fast-paced, six-minute talks and speakers include Ashley Bowen, Bonnie Bowman, Luke Edwall, Judy Gaughan, Laura Getts, Emily Gradišar and Mike Pettigrew.

Doors open at 6:30 p.m. and there will be complimentary appetizers and refreshments served.

For more information, call Sara Schwartz at 553-0220.

COLORADO'S OLDEST DAILY NEWSPAPER | 150TH YEAR

The Pueblo Chieftain

Saturday, February 9, 2019

f facebook.com/ThePuebloChieftain | t [@ChieftainNews](https://twitter.com/ChieftainNews) | chieftain.com | \$1.25

Inspired to learn



Violet Carty, 2, listens to a speaker as a container of blue death feigning beetles is passed around Friday during a Pueblo Zoo presentation at the Robert Hoag Rawlings Public Library. [CHIEFTAIN PHOTO/STEPHEN SWOFFORD]

CALENDAR

TODAY

Origami Odyssey: 2-4 p.m. Idea Factory at Rawlings Library. Valentines will be folded. All are welcome. 544-6420. Knit and Crochet Table Gang, 1:30 to 3:30 p.m., Thurston Room of the Robert Hoag Rawlings Public Library, 100 E. Abriendo Ave., 251-1938 or jpf6476@hotmail.com.

Pueblo Storytellers, 1 to 2:30 p.m., Robert Hoag Rawlings Public Library, 100 E. Abriendo Ave., all adults welcome, 543-6234. 11th St., 542-4578 or 821-2756.

Pueblo West Toastmasters, meeting, 6:30 to 8 p.m., Pueblo West Library, 298 S. Joe Martinez Blvd., pueblowestttm.toastmastersclubs.org or 609-352-8703.

Cast Off Knitters, 1 to 4 p.m., Pueblo West Library, 298 S. Joe Martinez Blvd., 330-465-0193. Retired Enlisted Men's

583-8180. Pueblo Toastmasters, 6 p.m., Robert Hoag Rawlings Public Library, 100 E. Abriendo Ave., 415-1176.

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AT THE LIBRARY

New Books

From the Pueblo City-County Library District

Fiction

“The Winter of the Witch,” by Katherine Arden*
“The New Iberia Blues: A Dave Robicheaux Novel,” by James Lee Burke*
“In an Absent Dream,” by Seanan McGuire*
“Crucible: A Thriller,” by James Rollins*
“You Know You Want This: “Cat Person” and Other Stories,” by Kristen Roupenian*
“Golden State,” by Ben Withers*

Non-Fiction

“Hollywood’s Eve: Eve Babitz and the Secret History of L.A.,” by Lili Anolik*
“The Universe Has Your

Back: Transform Fear to Faith,” by Gabrielle Bernstein*
“Never Grow Up,” by Jackie Chan*
“The Point of It All: A Lifetime of Great Loves and Endeavors,” by Charles Krauthammer*
“The First Conspiracy: The Secret Plot to Kill George Washington,” by Brad Meltzer*
“Breaking and Entering: The Extraordinary Story of a Hacker Called “Alien”: Jeremy N. Smith”*

*Titles are either available or can be recommended in the eBook format through PCCLD’s Cloud Library Collection

LIFE

The art of storytelling

Chautauqua Scholar seeks to educate and inspire through her performance as Maya Angelou

By Luke Lyons
The Pueblo Chieftain

The day before a performance, Becky Stone is frantically studying.

She's gathering additional, specific facts about the historical figure she's portraying so she can answer the audiences' specific questions.

"The Q and A is the hard part," Stone said. "People want to know specific dates and things. As a Chautauqua Scholar, you have to be able to answer those questions the way the character would."

For 15 years, Stone has performed as key African American figures such as Pauli Murray, Harriet Tubman, Rosa Parks and, now, Maya Angelou.

Stone will portray Angelou at Pueblo Community College's Fortino Ballroom, 900 W. Orman Ave at 11 a.m. Tuesday and at the Robert Hoag Rawlings Public Library, 100 E. Abriendo Ave. at 7 p.m. Wednesday.

The events are free and open to the public.

For Stone, performing as these powerful women is an honor.

"They're all heroes," she said. "That's one thing Chautauqua tries to do; tell the story of American heroes. All these ladies, in one way or another, have done something heroic."

Stone graduated from Vassar College with a degree in drama.

While there, she fell in love with performing — mainly in a singing group. After college, she was recruited by the Chautauqua Scholarship storytelling program in South Carolina to perform as key African American figures.

If You Go

Who: Becky Stone, Chautauqua Scholar
What: Black History Month: Maya Angelou
When: 11 a.m. Tuesday and 7 p.m. Wednesday
Where: Pueblo Community College on Tuesday and Rawlings Public Library Wednesday

The Chautauqua Scholars tell stories from the person's life, highlighting the key struggles and successes. These stories illustrate the impact that people like Angelou have on society as a whole.

Stone began portraying Angelou in 2017, and had a year to develop the character.

"The very first thing that any scholar should do is read everything that person has written and everything they've written about themselves," Stone said. "Then you move on to what other people have written about them."

Next, Stone watched any footage she could find of the author. She searched YouTube footage of Angelou speaking and of interviews she gave.

Stone did everything she could to learn about Angelou, including reading her cookbook.

"She has one cookbook where every recipe is related to an anecdote from her life," Stone said. "There's one story I put into the presentation that I've only found in that cookbook. So, it was worth it to read it."

While preparing to play Angelou, Stone admitted that she had a hard time liking her at first.

"I just found that she was making, in her life, such poor decisions," Stone said. "I was

See STONE, A9



Becky Stone poses for a picture while in character as Maya Angelou [COURTESY PHOTO]

STONE

From Page A7

reading and going, 'No! No! Don't do that! Why are you doing that?' Then, she'd go ahead and do it."

As she continued to read and research, however, her love and admiration for Angelou grew.

She began to understand why her writing and words had such an impact on others.

"By the end, I loved her,"

Stone said. "You love people as imperfect as they are. She was so wonderfully honest about who she was in her life in her ups and downs.

"She grew so much over her lifetime and shared that wisdom with so many people that I just grew to love her."

Stone tries to convey her love on stage when she becomes Angelou.

She shares stories about her faults as well as her greatest strengths. Stone hopes to illustrate why Angelou is as important as she is.

"When I present her, I'm not as smart as Maya Angelou was, but I try to present her as intelligent and I try to carry myself with some of her arrogance and haughtiness that she has," Stone said. "But I also try to bring her warmth.

"She did amazing things."

Through all of her performances, Stone hopes that people grow an appreciation and desire to learn American history.

She hopes that audiences will feel inspired by the stories she tells, as well as the

question and answers session that follows.

"I hope people are inspired to begin to overcome difficulties in their own life and also to overcome some of the barriers between us as black and white, old and young, male and female," Stone said.

"I think Angelou's poetry is wonderful and treats so many of those relations."

ll Lyons@chieftain.com
Twitter: @luke_lyons14

AT THE LIBRARY

New Books

From the Pueblo City-County Library District

Fiction

“The Lost Man,” by Jane Harper*
“Out of the Dark: An Orphan X Novel,” by Gregg Hurwitz*
“I Owe You One,” by Sophie Kinsella*
“The Rule of Law,” by John Lescroart*
“Good Riddance,” by Elinor Lipman*
“Unquiet,” by Linn Ullmann*

Non-Fiction

“Brutally Honest,” by Melanie Brown*
“The Inflamed Mind: A Radical

New Approach to Depression,” by Edward Bullmore*

“Be Fearless: 5 Principles for a Life of Breakthroughs and Purpose,” by Jean Case*

“Bluff City: The Secret Life of Photographer Ernest Withers,” by Preston Lauterbach*

“Are u ok?: A Guide to Caring for Your Mental Health,” by Kati Morton*

“Where We Go from Here: Two Years in Resistance,” by Bernie Sanders

*Titles are either available or can be recommended in the eBook format through PCCLD's Cloud Library Collection

S | LOCAL BRIEFS

**City-County Library District's
Board of Trustees vacancy**

The Board of Pueblo County Commissioners and Pueblo City Council are seeking qualified candidates for one vacancy on the Pueblo City-County Library District's Board of Trustees.

Applications will be accepted through 5 p.m. Friday and may be submitted online at [county.pueblo.org](http://pueblo.org). Select Boards & Commissions, Upcoming Term Expirations.

CALENDAR

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TODAY

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Pueblo Storytellers: 1 to 2:30 p.m., Robert Hoag Rawlings Public Library, 100 E. Abriendo Ave., all adults welcome, 543-6234.11th St., 542-4578 or 821-2756.

Cast Off Knitters: 1 to 4 p.m., Pueblo West Library, 298 S. Joe Martinez Blvd., 330-465-0193.

SATURDAY

All Pueblo Grows Seed-

Lending Library: 9:30 to 11:30 a.m., community seed exchange, Thurston Room of the Robert Hoag Rawlings Public Library, 100 E. Abriendo Ave. 583-6566 or volunteers@allpueblogo.org.

Lacemakers of Southern

Colorado: 9 a.m. to 1 p.m., Lamb Library, 2525 S. Pueblo Blvd.

OPINIONS

PUEBLO 101

Bargain books, boffo business model



Blake Fontenay

If I were to go into business for myself, ideally I would prefer to sell a product that cost me nothing to produce. Also, I'd rather not have any personnel expenses. And because I'm a frustrated author, my start-up would have something to do with books.

Unfortunately, the local Friends of the Library chapter has beaten me to the punch. The nonprofit organization operates Books Again, a used bookstore located at 622 N. Union, a block away from the Robert Hoag Rawlings Library.

An all-volunteer staff of 35 to 40 people runs the bookstore. And all of the books sold there are acquired through donations from various sources.

"It's really a perfect world for retailers," said Jim Stuart, Books Again's manager.

Yes, it is. But the genius

of the idea wasn't immediately apparent to everyone in the Friends organization when discussions about opening the store began.

First, a little history: Friends was started in 1960. Like other groups of the same name located in other cities, Friends provides support for various programs and projects at local libraries.

Fast forward to 2000, when construction work started on the Rawlings Library building. Library officials wanted to keep tabs on how the work was progressing, so they leased space in the building currently occupied by Books Again.

The Friends group had been holding annual sales to get rid of surplus books no longer needed by the local library branches. Rather than just holding those sales once a year, someone suggested opening a bookstore that would make them available year-round.

While lots of Friends groups around the country do book sales, apparently not many have their own freestanding bookstores.

Stuart said not everyone warmed to the

idea immediately.

"Some people said e-books are becoming popular," Stuart said. "In a few years, people may not even be reading books."

Nevertheless, after construction on the library was finished, Friends began sub-leasing the building next door and opened Books Again.

Despite the early misgivings, the store did fairly well in the early years, generating about \$60,000 to \$75,000 in annual sales. Then in 2009, sales eclipsed the \$100,000 mark for the first time.

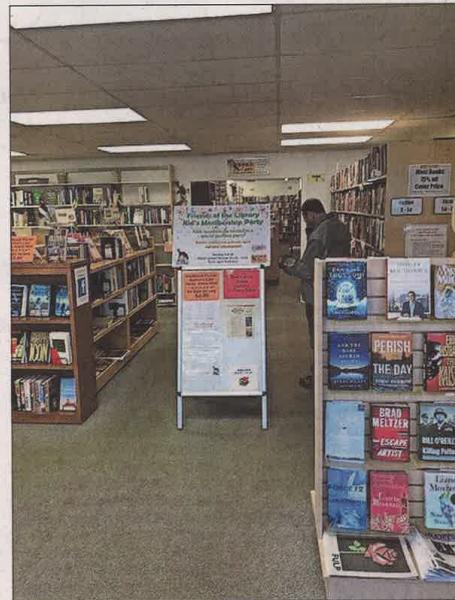
"We haven't grossed less than \$100,000 in sales in any year since then," Stuart said.

Since the store's opening in 2005, total sales have passed \$1.3 million.

So where does all the money go? After paying rent, utilities and other overhead expenses, Friends donates the profits to the Pueblo City-County Library District.

Books Again carries about 50,000 books in stock. And trust me, as a guy who spends a lot of his spare time in bookstores, I have to say

See FONTENAY, B4



The store has about 50,000 books in stock, many of them by highly successful authors. [CHIEFTAIN PHOTO/BLAKE FONTENAY]

FONTENAY

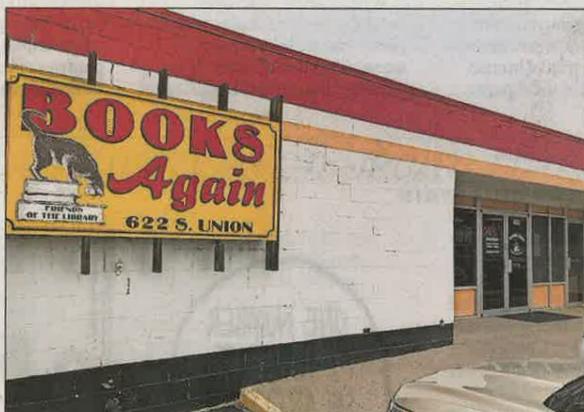
From Page B1

the selection is pretty good. Browsing through the fiction section, for example, you'll find a "who's who" of the top authors in the field.

Books that are in good condition typically sell for about one-fourth of their retail prices. Books Again also offers special sales, like its "Books in a Bag" events, where shoppers can purchase as many books as they can stuff into a bag for a low flat rate, usually about \$7. On the day I visited last week, hardback books by authors whose last names begin with the letters D through H were selling for only \$2. So of course I bought a couple.

Beyond being a place where people can buy books cheaply, Books Again also is an outlet for people like me whose wives have strict rules forbidding them from hoarding books.

In addition to surplus books from the library,



Books Again accepts donations from individuals and groups.

"Book lovers absolutely hate to destroy a book," Stuart said. The man knows me.

There are some items that Books Again politely declines to accept. Magazines and encyclopedias, for example. Stuart said those items take up too much space and don't sell well. And if you're thinking you have a rare complete set of Encyclopedia Britannicas

that would fly off the store's shelves, be advised that it's really not that rare.

Books Again isn't able to sell all the books it receives, so it donates some of them to prisons, nursing homes and other places where people who want to experience the joy of reading can be found.

Some books that aren't in good condition may end up in the recycling pile, but the store's goal is to find homes for as many of them as possible. In that way, it's like an

adoption center for products of the printed word. Which makes it perfect for soft-hearted saps like me.

Blake Fontenay, The Chieftain's opinion page editor, is new to Pueblo. His column, Pueblo 101, describes what it's like to see the city through the eyes of a newcomer. To make comments or offer suggestions on what he should try next, email him at bfontenay@chieftain.com.

Books Again has generated at least \$100,000 in annual sales every year since 2009. [CHIEFTAIN PHOTO/BLAKE FONTENAY]

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TODAY

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Cast Off Knitters: 1 to 4 p.m., Pueblo West Library, 298 S. Joe Martinez Blvd., 330-465-0193.

Origami Odyssey: meeting, 7 to 8:30 p.m., Idea Factory of the Robert Hoag Rawlings Public Library, 100 E.

Pueblo Toastmasters: 6 p.m., Robert Hoag Rawlings Public Library, 100 E. Abriendo Ave., 415-1176.

SATURDAY

Southeastern Colorado Genealogical Society: meeting, 12:30 p.m., Ryal's Room, Rawlings Library, 100 E. Abriendo Ave. Carol Dunn will present information about Fremont County Mines. The 2 p.m. program will be about the Affect of the Great Depression on Southeastern Colorado and will be presented by Mike Thomason. 250-5782.