

THE PAGE TURNERS 2017

April 17th – **A Man Called Ove** by Fredrik Backman

Ove is a curmudgeon. Ove has staunch principles, strict routines, and a short fuse. People call him a bitter neighbor. But must Ove be bitter just because he doesn't walk around with a smile plastered to his face all the time? This novel about the angry old man next door is a thoughtful exploration of the profound impact one life has on countless others.

May 15th – **The Book That Matters Most** by Ann Hood

This is an enthralling novel about love, loss, secrets, friendship and the healing power of literature. Ava's 25 year marriage has fallen apart, and her two grown children are pursuing their own lives outside of the country. Ava joins a book group, not only for her love of reading but also out of sheer desperation for companionship.

June 19th – **The Tumbling Turner Sisters** by Juliette Fay

It's 1919 and the world of entertainment, vaudeville is king. Nell, Gert, Winnie, and Kit Turner love going to vaudeville shows but have no interest in becoming performers themselves until their household is rocked by tragedy and they are faced with eviction. Along with their star struck mother and Nell's infant son, they hit the road as the Tumbling Turner Sisters, an acrobatic act that eventually lands them on the thriving vaudeville circuit. As the crowds applaud and the footlights blaze, the Turner sisters must balance the societal constraints of the day with the independent women they are learning to become.

July 17th – – **This Is Your Life: Harriett Chance** by Jonathan Evison

The author has crafted a lighthearted novel with an endearing heroine at the helm. Through Harriett, he paints a bittersweet portrait of a postmodern everywoman, her story told with great warmth, humanity and humor.

August 21st – **News of the World** by Paulette Jiles

It is 1870 and Captain Jefferson Kyle Kidd travels through northern Texas, giving live readings to paying audiences hungry for news of the world. An elderly widower who has lived through three wars and fought in two of them, the captain enjoys his rootless, solitary existence. He is offered a \$50 gold piece to deliver a young orphan to her relatives in Texas. Four years earlier, a band of Kiowa raiders killed Johanna's parents and sister, sparing the little girl. Recently rescued by the U.S. army, the 10 year old has once again been torn away from the only home she knows. This novel is a work of historical fiction that explores the boundaries of family, responsibility, honor and trust.

September 18th - **The Readers of Broken Wheel Recommend** by Katarina Bivald

Broken Wheel, Iowa, has never seen anyone like Sara, who traveled all the way from Sweden just to meet her book-loving pen pal, Amy. When she arrives, however, she finds Amy's funeral guests just leaving. Amy stays and opens a bookstore! A heartwarming reminder of why we are booklovers, this is a sweet, smart story about how books find us, change us, and connect us.

October 16th – **The Throwaway Children** by Diney Costeloe

This is the story of two sisters sent first to an English, then an Australian orphanage in the aftermath of World War II. Rita and Rosie Stevens are only nine and five years old when their widowed mother marries a violent bully called Jimmy Randall and has a baby boy by him. Under pressure from her new husband, she is persuaded to send the girls to an orphanage – not knowing that the papers she has signed will entitle them to do what they like with the children.

November 13th – **A Long Way Home: A Memoir** by Saroo Brierley

****Afternoon meeting 2nd week??**

“**The Lion**” movie was based on this memoir. Saroo Brierley was born in an Indian town called Khandwa. In 1986, aged only 5, he lost all contact with his family when he was at a train station waiting for his brother who never returned. After living on the streets of Calcutta for 3 weeks by himself, he then got placed into a local orphanage where an Australian family adopted Saroo. He grew up with his newly adopted parents in Hobart, Tasmania where he spent the next 25 years. By using Google Earth and an image etched into his brain as a 5 year old, he found his home town. He travelled to India to try and find members of his family.

December 11th – **Wishin' and Hopin'** by Wally Lamb

****Christmas Noon Lunch Meeting. Note 2nd week of December.**

Wally Lamb delivers a holiday treat with **Wishin' and Hopin'** - an unforgettable novella that captures the warmth and joy of the holiday season. Poignant and hilarious, Lamb's Christmas tale focuses on a feisty parochial school fifth grader named Felix Funicello. Lamb writes a vividly detailed portrait of the 1960's and the inner workings of a Catholic schoolboy's mind. This book is both heartwarming and laugh out loud funny.