# Please record the titles of the books and circle the librarian's favorite!

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Sign your name\_\_\_\_\_

We welcome any comments, good or bad, that you may have:





This has been a very unique year to say the least. First and foremost we want to keep staff, their families, our patrons and their families as safe as possible.

We also want to be able to provide you with a little bit of normalcy by keeping our tradition of having our Adult Winter Reading Program. It's going to be a little bit different but that's okay!!

Starting January 4<sup>th</sup> and ending March 27<sup>th</sup> you must read a total of four books. One of those four MUST be a librarian's favorite! You may NOT count any books that you have read previous to January 4<sup>th</sup>. Books, audio books, and all downloadable items will count.

Turn in the back of this brochure by Saturday, March 27th, and you will receive a small gift. Your name will also be put into a hat and we will draw for gift cards and other prizes.

Salem Township Library's Adult Winter Reading Program 2021



January 4<sup>th</sup> thru March 27<sup>th</sup> 2021

#### **Sharon's Books**

AF "Red Sky Over Hawaii" Sara Ackerman

AF "Story of Arthur Truluv" Elizabeth Berg

AF "The Last Train to London" Meg Clayton

AF "Westering Women" Sandra Dallas

AF "The Medallion" Cathy Gohlke

AF "The Book Woman of Troublesome Creek"

Kim Richardson

AF "The Story of Beautiful Girl"
Rachel Simon

AF "Heirloom Garden" Viola Shipman

AF "The Giver of Stars" Jojo Moyes

#### Wanda's Books

AF "The Fourth Monkey" J.D. Barker

AF "Unquiet Ghosts" Glenn Meade

AF "Silencing Eve" Iris Johansen

AF "The Inn Keeper's Sister" Linda Goodnight

AF "The Life She was Given" Ellen M Wiseman

AF "Before We Were Yours" Lisa Wingate

MYS "The Plot is Murder" V.M. Burns

MYS "Not a Sound" Heather Gudenkauf

AF "Island of Sweet Pies and Soldiers" Sara Ackerman

# Lisa's Books

NF "Grit & Grace" Tim McGraw
NF "A Dog Called Hope" Jason Morgan
MYS "Woman on the Edge" Sam M Bailey
AF "Life After" Katie Ganshert
NF "I Still Believe" Jeremy Camp

#### Diane's Books

AF "The Guardians" John Grisham

NF "All-American Murder" James Patterson
AF "The Silent Patient" Alex Michaelides

AF "What Rose Forgot" Nevada Baar

AF "Big Lies in a Small Town" Diane Chamberlain

# Jenny's Books

AF "The Gown" Jennifer Robson
AF "The Christmas Bus" Melody Carlson
NF "The Blood of Lambs" Kamel Saleem

#### Colleen's Books

AF "Things We Couldn't Say" Diet Eman
AF "The Looking Glass" Richard Paul Evans

AF "An American Marriage" Tayari Jones

NF "Flat Broke with Two Goats" Jennifer McGaha

NF "We Had to be Brave" Deborah Hopkinson

"I wonder if the snow loves the trees and fields, that it kisses them so gently? And then it covers them up snug, you know, with a white quilt; and perhaps it says, "Go to sleep, darlings, till the summer comes again."

Lewis Carroll

"What good is the warmth of summer, without the cold of winter to give it sweetness."

— John Steinbeck



**NOTES:** 

# Jenny's Books

# The Gown by Jennifer Robson

This fictional book with lots of historical details follow the struggles of three women spanning generations. It is set in London after the war. It follows two women's work as embroiderers on a wedding gown for Princess Elizabeth.

## The Blood of Lambs by Kamei Saleem

Wow! This book was eye opening to me. Kamal, a boy born in Lebanon has by age 15 has been running with terrorists and smuggling weapons. He comes to America to convert people to Radical Islam. A terrible car accident leaves him alone and with no insurance. The love, kindness and grace shown to him by his doctor that takes him in changes his life.

## The Christmas Bus by Melody Carlson

When Edith finds out her children are not coming home for Christmas, she decides to open up her B& B in Christmas Valley for guests. With a bossy, cranky guest and a couple who has a crazy colored bus that is broken down, Edith starts to think this was a bad idea. Luckily her town, who celebrates Christmas all year remembers the true meaning of Christmas in the end.

# Sharon's Books

# Red Sky Over Hawaii by Sara Ackerman

Following The attack on Pearl Harbor, the government began taking away anyone thought to be a sympathizer of Japan. Lana Hitchcock hides two German girls and a Japanese fisherman and his son. It's a story of her struggles to keep them hidden.

# Story of Arthur Truluv by Elizabeth Berg

This is a story that proves life is better when shared with others. Three unlikely strangers became friends and eventually build a loving family unit. This story shows that happiness can be found no matter your age when it seems all hope is lost.

# The Last Train to London by Meg Clayton

Truus Wijsmuller, a childless Dutch woman risks her life to smuggle children out of Nazi occupied countries to nations who will take them. She sets off in a race against time to lead hundreds of children to freedom.

# Westering Women by Sandra Dallas

The year is 1852 and all-around Chicago are signs soliciting "eligible women" to travel west to the gold mines. A young seamstress named Maggie and her daughter join 42 other women to make this journey. This is a story of the hardships they endured and finding strength they didn't know they possessed.

#### Medallion by Cathy Gohlke

This is a story of two couples whose lives are torn apart by Hitler's war. Sophie and Janek are a British couple who are awaiting their first child. Rosa and Itzhak are a Jewish couple who never imagined their first child would be born in a ghetto. Rosa fears her child won't survive so they send her away wearing one half of a medallion. It's their only hope of ever finding her after the war.

#### Women of the Copper Country by Mary Russell

This story begins in 1913 in Calumet Michigan where men risk their lives in the mines for a meager salary. Annie Clements is a woman ahead of her time and she begins to go against the mine owners. She tries to improve the conditions of everyone in the mining community.

## Book Woman of Troublesome Creek by Kim Richardson

This is a story of Teddy Roosevelt's Kentucky Pack Horse Library Project. Cussy Mary Carter is one of those pack horse librarians. She is also one of a kind. She is one of the few remaining "blue" people. It's a look into her life delivering books in the Appalachian Mountains.

#### Story of Beautiful Girl by Rachel Simon

The year is 1968. Lynnie, a young white woman, with developmental disabilities and Homan, an African American deaf man, are locked away in an institution called the School for the Incurable and Feebleminded. They meet, fall in love and escape to find refuge in the house of Martha, a retired school teacher. This is the beginning of a 40-year journey.

#### Heirloom Garden by Viola Shipman

This Michigan author writes under his grandmother's name. Iris Maynard lost her husband in the war, her daughter dies of an illness and Iris loses the will to live. A young couple move in next door and slowly begin to give Iris a reason to live.

# The Giver of Stars by JoJo Moyes

This is another story of the pack horse librarians. Alice Wright marries an American hoping to escape her sheltered life in England. She soon finds life in small town Kentucky to also be claustrophobic. She and four other women commit themselves to share a love of learning with the people of Kentucky.

# Wanda's Books

## The Life She Was Given by Ellen Marie Wiseman

This is a story about a girl who was locked in an attic by her parents. She didn't know why she could only go out of the house when nobody was around and go outdoors at night. A circus came to town. 20 years later a girl inherited the house and found the attic and other secrets about both of the lives.

# Island of Sweet Pies and Soldiers by Sara Ackerman

This book takes place in Hawaii in 1944. Violet and her daughter are trying to put their lives together again after her husband just disappears. The war is on, money is short and people are being watched. Violet and friends try to figure out if her husband was taken or murdered.

# Before We Were Yours by Lisa Wingate

This story is written about "Georgia Tann and her Memphis Tennessee Children's Home Society". The story begins as Avery, who is a senator's daughter, goes back home to South Carolina to help her father win an election. Her father is visiting a nursing home and a lady resident comes up to Avery and looks at her bracelet. Later Avery noticed it was missing. The story continues on what that bracelet means to Avery and that lady. This book does go from current day to past years.

# Plot is Murder by V. M. Burns

This book is the first in a series. Samantha and her husband had a dream to open a mystery bookstore. Her husband dies and Sam decides to buy property and open a bookstore. The story involves Sam's spunky grandmother and her colorful retiree friends to figure out who murdered the realtor who sold Sam the property before Sam goes to jail for murder. Some parts you just laugh out loud.

#### *The Fourth Monkey* by J.D. Barker

This is a book that is not for the faint of heart. It does have swearing in but a great story. This is the first book in a series and several more to follow. The Fourth Monkey is a serial killer and he delivers a box with some body part in to identify the person who he has taken. In a couple of days another box comes with another body part. The detective that works on the case has a past history with the Fourth Monkey but doesn't know it. DO NOT READ THIS BOOK AT NIGHT YOU MIGHT NOT SLEEP.

#### Unquiet Ghosts by Glenn Meade

Eight years ago, Kathy's husband and children vanished on an airplane trip and were never found. Kathy went on with her life. They find the airplane miles from where it should have landed and the only body found is that of the pilot. Find out what happened!

#### *Innkeeper's Sister* by Linda Goodnight

This story takes place in Tennessee. Grayson and his brother are in business converting old historical buildings into restaurants. Next to this old building is an Inn that was also restored by the family. Grayson and his brother stay there while they are renovating the gristmill. They find a Civil War skeleton. Find out how the mystery joins the two historical buildings!

#### Not a Sound by Heather Gudenkauf

Amelia is a nurse who has a tragic accident that leaves her deaf. She loses everything because of depression. Two years later she begins to come back but she discovers a body on the river that she paddleboards on. Clues begin to surface and Amelia's investigation hits close to home. Very interesting story.

# Silencing Eve by Iris Johansen

This book is number 18 of a series and this is NOT the first book. Eve Duncan is a forensic sculptor. Everyone thinks that Eve was blown up in a barn by a person that kidnapped her. CIA and FBI come to her memorial and some of her friends don't believe that she died. Read the book and see how it ended. If you must read a series in order, the first book is titled, "The Face of Deception".

# Lisa's Books

<u>Grit and Grace</u> by Tim McGraw: Train the Mind, Train the Body, Own Your Life This isn't your typical get healthy in five easy steps kind of book. It's not about what type of exercise is best or the latest workout trend you need to be doing. It's also not about the latest diet and what you should and shouldn't\*t be eating. Nor is it about how to lose weight or how to achieve the perfect body shape. He even points that last one out. What it is, is a really, really good motivational health book,

Tim McGraw shares a part of his own personal story and how committing to move changed his life for the better. In his book, Tim wants you to take what he has learned and apply it to your own circumstances. And he gives realistic advice on how starting with small changes add up to big results.

#### A Dog Called Hope by Jason Morgan and Damien Lewis

Jason Morgan served in the military with the Air Force and in 1999, he was injured while on a secret assignment in Ecuador. This accident left him paralyzed from the waist down. Jason was in a very hard and depressing place and struggled a lot with the pain. To make matters worse, his wife left him and their 3 boys - the oldest one being only 6 years old.

Several years after the accident, he met a woman who volunteers for Canine Companions for Independence. She suggested to Jason that he should apply for a service dog. He was accepted and matched with a lab named Napa'. And this book is that story. It's about Jason and how Napal changed his life and gave him hope.

#### *Life After* by Katie Ganshert

This story takes place in Chicago where somebody blew up a train. There were 22 people on board and only one person survived. Her name is Autumn Manning. She remembers nothing about that day and is haunted by the question of "why?". Why did she survive over anyone else who was on that train?

You also meet in this story a man named Paul Elliott whose wife was one of the passengers who died. He has two younger kids, and all he wants to do is forget. It's now a year later and the anniversary of the tragic event. And Paul's 12 year, old daughter has found a way to grieve over her mother's death . . .by writing the only one who might listen; Autumn Manning.

# Woman on the Edge by Samantha M, Bailey

The book starts out with a woman named Morgan who is standing on the subway platform waiting for the train to come when all of a sudden this bedraggled looking woman runs up to her and says, "take my baby". Morgan is thoroughly confused; but this woman insists that Morgan take her baby and protect her and even calls Morgan by name. Before Morgan has much of a chance to respond, the woman shoves her baby at Morgan, then jumps in front of the train. Or was she pushed? What follows is a story that will keep you guessing and wondering what in the world is going on.

\* Disclaimer, there is a little bit of colorful language peppered throughout.

#### I still Believe by Jeremy Camp (memoir)

For those of you who are unfamiliar, Jeremy Camp is a solo Christian artist in the music industry. In 2001 he was married to Melissa. And 3 months later, she died of cancer. Prior to being married, Jeremy was just getting into the music business. After he suffered this great loss, he didn't feel like worshiping. But he heard God speak to him, "Pick up your guitar. I have something for you to write". And what he wrote became one of his best-selling songs called, 'I I still believe". This book is about that and so much more. It's about Jeremy's life growing up and how he got into music. It's about Melissa's story. It's about Jeremy and Adrienne, his second wife. It's about "even when he couldn't see, he still believed".

# Colleen's Books

# Things We Couldn't Say by Diet Eman

It is a true story of Diet Eman, a Dutch woman, who, with her finance, Hein Sietsma risked everything to rescue Jews in Holland during World War II. Their courageous effort saved hundreds of Jews. It is a story about heroism, faith, and love. It is a biographical narrative that kept me in suspense. I give the book five stars as I really could not put it down.

# We Had to Be Brave by Deborah Hopkinson

It is true stories of Jewish children that fled Nazi Germany, risking everything to escape to safety on the Kindertransport, The Kindertransport saved over 10,000 children. The book starts by sharing the regular childhoods of Nazi children and the horror they faced as they were bullied. Imagine getting on a train and leaving your parents, arriving in a new place, where you don't speak the language and everything is different and you have no idea what is happening to your family. It is a very well written and well researched book that has many references to audio recordings and interviews.

#### Flat Broke and Two Goats by Jennifer McGaha

It is a memoir that tells the struggles of a young couple that lose their home. They have \$4.57 in their bank account and worst of all the husband owed for years of back taxes. Their adventure takes them from a Cape-Cod style home to a hundred-year-old, mice-infested, snake ridden cabin in North Carolina. The book is a bit wordy in places. It is

about a family and the consequences they endure as a result of living beyond their means. They were creative in learning new skills and living a remote lifestyle.

## The Looking Glass by Richard Paul Evans

An ex-minister, gambler, and fugitive from justice, Hunter Bell, comes to the aid of Quaye MacGandley, a beautiful young Irish woman, abused and abandoned by a brutal husband, and together these two lost and wounded people find a way to bring healing to each other and make each other whole. It is a book about love, gentleness, and grace.

#### An American Marriage by Tayari Jones

Newlyweds Celestial and Roy are both the American Dream and the New South. He is a young executive and she is an artist on the brink of an exciting career. They are settling in on the routine of their life together, when they are ripped apart by circumstances that neither could imagine. Roy is arrested and sentenced to twelve years for a crime that he did not do. As Roy's time in prison passes, Celestial is unable to hold on to that love that has been her center. It shows life's injustices and the messiness of human relationships. Its real and there is growth and hope for a better future.

# Diane's Books

# The Guardians by John Grisham

Quincy Miller has been in prison for 22 years for the murder of a young lawyer. A fellow inmate fabricated a story about Miller confessing, his ex-wife claimed that he owned several guns, a witness lied about seeing him flee the scene and a key piece of evidence that disappeared was planted.

A former priest, Cullen Post works for an organization called Guardian Ministries. Guardian Ministries investigates court transcripts and personal letters from convicts to determine if someone is innocent.

Quincy Miller becomes one of the blessed clients of this unique organization.

#### All-American Murder by James Patterson

It has just occurred to me that my love of true crime and mystery came from my dad. I remember he had true crime magazines and he always had a book in his hand. Thank you, dad.

Aaron Hernandez was a college All-American who became the youngest player in the NFL. He was a tight end for the New England Patriots. Shortly after making his first Pro Bowl he was linked to a series of violent incidents.

This book fascinated me. Why in the world, when you had everything you could ever want in life, would you throw it all away? P.S. I'm not even a football fan!

#### The Silent Patient by Alex Michaelides

The twist in this book literally made me say out loud, "What the heck just happened?" And I had to reread that part just to make sure I had read it correctly.

London based psychotherapist, Theo Farmer, becomes obsessed with Alicia Berenson, a rising star painter who's convicted of murdering her fashion photographer husband, Gabriel.

After the murder she stops speaking entirely and is placed in the Grove, a secure psychiatric unit where Theo applied for a job six years later to meet and treat the silent Alicia.

I hope you all are shocked by the twist in this story as I was.

#### What Rose Forgot by Nevada Baar

Rose Dennis wakes up in an Alzheimer's Unit in a nursing home. She has no memory of how or why she is there but she knows something is wrong. Her relatives were the ones to commit her, all the legal papers were drawn up, and the authorities are on the side of the nursing home.

With the help of her computer hacker/recluse sister Marion and thirteen-year old granddaughter Mel, Rose begins to gather her strength and fight back—to find out who is after her and take back control of her own life. But someone out there is still determined to kill Rose, and they're holding all the cards

#### Big Lies in a Small Town by Diane Chamberlain

It's really hard to describe this book in a small blurb. I really love Diane Chamberlain's books. It's really about two artists, living 78 years apart in a small southern town, and a third artist that links them together.

Released on an early parole by Jesse Jameson Williams's (a prominent African American artist) daughter Lisa, Morgan Christopher must restore a mural painted by Anna Dale in 1940. She must finish it in time for a gallery opening. If she misses the deadline, she will not receive the \$50,000 she has been promised and she will go right back to jail.

You won't regret reading this book!