

Our
27th Season!

2013 – 2014 Schedule

Books Between Bites at




Order a lunch in
advance from
Chapters
Coffeeshouse & Café
630/406-8005
Pick up when you arrive

Noon – 1:00 PM Third Thursday of the Month

Batavia Public Library, 10 South Batavia Avenue

Bring, or purchase lunch at Chapters Coffeeshouse & Café, to enjoy during the program


This symbol by a date
indicates the author's
book will be available
for sale and signing

Thursday, September 19, 2013



Beyond Bartman, Curses & Goats: 104 Reasons Why It's Been 104 Years

Author/Presenter: Chris Neitzel

For our opening program we welcome Oswego teacher and coach Chris Neitzel to the program. His book is an attempt to lay out 104 rational reasons why the Cubs have not won a World Series title since 1908. Chapters include Near Misses, Ones that Got Away, Daft Drafts, Money Matters, and more. A lively discussion will, no doubt, ensue.

Thursday, October 17, 2013



Barack Obama, Abraham Lincoln, and the Structure of Reason

Co-Author/Presenter: Dan Van Haften

Dan Van Haften, of Batavia, and David Hirsch revealed Abraham Lincoln's systematic writing structure in *Abraham Lincoln and the Structure of Reason* (2010). Their second book demonstrates how President Obama embraced Lincoln's structure. Van Haften, with many interesting stories, shows precisely how Obama duplicates the structure Lincoln used in the Gettysburg Address and virtually all of his great speeches.

Thursday, November 21, 2013



Kessen's Kronikles: The Adventures of a Cross Country Canine

Author/Presenter: Jennifer Rae

Kessen, a retired therapy dog, was destined at birth to be of service to persons with disabilities. Here he shares his story as only a dog might tell it. For 10 years, Jennifer Rae Trojan (who writes as Jennifer Rae) has helped raise puppies for service organizations that breed, train, and donate dogs to the disabled. Using Kessen's voice, Rae puts into words what dogs might experience during their journey toward service.

Thursday, December 19, 2013



Give Me Chocolate

Author/Presenter: Annie Hansen

Batavia author Annie Hansen will discuss her first novel—the first in her Kelly Clark mystery series. Kelly Clark comes home to quaint Geneva, Illinois, for a fresh start after a horrific divorce. She settles into the apartment above Chocolate Love, her sister's specialty dessert shop in the Historic District. Just when it looks like she is getting her life on track, she stumbles over a dead body in the kitchen of Chocolate Love. Has her violent past followed her home?

Betty Moorehead & Becky Hoag
Books Between Bites
630/482-9157

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Thursday, January 16, 2014

Batavia Celebrities, 1908–1909

Presenter: Mayor Jeff Schielke

Batavia Mayor Jeff Schielke makes his annual visit to the program to share stories and historical anecdotes about Batavia. This year he shares a whole file of materials put together by the late Batavia historian, Bill Wood.

Thursday, February 20, 2014

Ramblers: Loyola Chicago 1963 — The Team that Changed the Color of College Basketball by Michael Lenehan

Presenter: Lester Munson

Munson, nationally known commentator and ESPN senior writer and legal analyst, discusses the story of a Loyola University basketball team that shattered barriers on its way to a national championship. In 1963 the Loyola Ramblers of Chicago took the NCAA men's basketball title from two-time defending champion Cincinnati.

Thursday, March 20, 2014

The Good Food Revolution: Growing Healthy Food, People, and Communities by Will Allen

Presenter: Jennifer Downing
One Book, One Batavia selection

In this memoir, MacArthur "genius grant" recipient Will Allen tells the inspiring true story of the Milwaukee urban farm he developed by cashing in his retirement fund. After a professional basketball career and success in the corporate world, he took on the challenge of addressing several issues in one fell swoop: the urban food desert, public health, racism, and unemployment. Jennifer Downing, a champion of real food, offers consultations, events, and classes.

Thursday, April 17, 2014

Rediscovering Great Chicago Writers: Willard Motley and John Bartlow Martin

Presenter: Rick Kogan

We are delighted that Rick Kogan, of the *Chicago Tribune* and WGN radio is returning. Motley (1909–1965) wrote a column in the *Chicago Defender* under the pen name Bud Biliken. His novels include *Knock on Any Door* and *Let No Man Write My Epitaph*. Martin (1915–1987) wrote for several magazines and was Adlai Stevenson's speechwriter and biographer.

Thursday, May 15, 2014

A Girl of the Limberlost by Gene Stratton-Porter Presenter: Pam Otto

Travel back in time with an enchanting tale by Indiana author and naturalist Gene Stratton-Porter. This quaint story, first published in 1909, follows young Elnora Comstock as she matures from awkward teen to fine young adult—a spectacular transformation mirrored by the book's other leading characters, the caterpillars and moths. Otto, who also dabbles in writing and nature in her work as a St. Charles Park District manager, will highlight specific passages and present real-life examples of the moths portrayed in Stratton-Porter's vivid prose.