



~~ YOUR LIBRARY PAGE ~~

September 2023

Silver Maples Library

<https://silvermaples.org/residents/library/>>

Please consult *The Messenger/News to Use* for announcements.

Find the following books on the New Book Cart.

### 2023 Library Committee Member Picks

Each month a Library Committee member selects a new book for our collection and provides a brief description. This month Joe Zikmund chose the following title:

***Sapiens: A Brief History of Humankind*** by Yuval Harari. International best seller. Chapters organized chronologically from 70,000 BCE to the present. Yet, each chapter is about us, you and me, here and now, today. With chapters entitled A Day in the Life of Adam and Eve, History's Biggest Fraud, There is No Justice in History, And They Lived Happily Ever After, how can the reader go wrong? Readily accessible, thoughtful, often provocative, and occasionally funny. Yes, homo sapiens can, at times, be humorous.

***American Prometheus: The Triumph and Tragedy of J. Robert Oppenheimer*** by Kai Bird. #1 NYT Bestseller; Pulitzer Prize Winner. Chronicles the life of the brilliant quantum physicist who led the effort to build the atomic bomb for his country in a time of war who was subsequently targeted during the McCarthy era by the FBI and others - an American Prometheus as he, too, after "stealing fire from the gods," was publicly tried and punished for his actions. The inspiration for the recent major motion picture *Oppenheimer*.

***The Best of It: New and Selected Poems*** by Kay Ryan U.S. Poet Laureate 2008-2010. Two hundred poems including both a retrospective of her work as well as never-before-published poem which will appeal equally to longtime fans and general readers.

***Black Ops: the Life of a CIA Shadow Warrior*** by Ric Prado who left war-torn Cuba with his family at the age of 7 but ended up in a CIA career spanning the Cold War and the Age of Terrorism. A memoir of life in the shadowy world of assassins, terrorists, spies and revolutionaries.

***Her Last Flight*** by Beatriz Williams. In 1947 photographer and war correspondent Janey arrives in Hawaii to research a planned biography of forgotten aviation pioneer, Sam, after tracking down Irene who she believes to be his former student. And thus begins Irene's tale including a mysterious disappearance during a flight.

***The Irish Cowboy*** by D.W. Ulsterman. Haunted by memories of what could have been while fighting the constant onslaught of old age and regret, Hap suddenly receives two unexpected visits. One of them intends to take his land by force. The other hopes to give him another chance to know real love.

***Left on Tenth: A Second Chance at Life*** by Delia Ephron. Bestselling writer of romantic comedies finds a second chance for love only to be diagnosed four months later with leukemia. Peter and her close girlfriends are by her side as the miracles of modern medicine help her survive. Written with clarity, warmth, and honesty about facing death.

***Lessons in Chemistry*** by Bonnie Garmus. #1 NYT Bestseller. Elizabeth, a research scientist in 1960s California, takes a detour when she becomes the unlikely star of a TV cooking show. She isn't just teaching women to cook but rather daring them to change the status quo.

***The Man Who Died Twice*** by Richard Osman. New York Times Best Seller. The club of four members live at Cooper's Chase, a posh retirement village. An old pal arrives desperate for help having been accused of stealing diamonds worth millions from the wrong men. Just as clever and warm as his first book in this series. An unputdownable, laugh-out-loud pleasure of a read soon to be made into a movie by Spielberg.

***Murder Comes Calling (LP)*** by C.S. Challinor. Scottish barrister Rex Graves travels to quiet Notting Hamlet at the request of his widowed friend, a bumbling retired medical pathologist, who in a panic tampered with evidence related to four unsolved murders. Rex befriends the locals in his effort to find the crucial connection among the deceased.

***My German Brother: A Novel*** by Chico Buarque. The renowned Brazilian musician and author Chico Buarque's attempt to reconstruct through fiction and humor his obsessive lifelong search for a lost sibling combining what was, what might have been, and outright fabrication, all in order to arrive at the truth.

***The New Yorker Book of Baseball Cartoons*** edited by Robert Mankoff. It's *New Yorker* cartoons! What more do you need to know?

***What Happened to the Bennets (LP)*** by Lisa Scottoline. Jason and his family were, by chance, carjacked by members of a dangerous drug-trafficking organization resulting in the death of his daughter. The FBI warns they are in danger and spirits them away into the witness protection program designed to protect criminal informants not law-abiding families. But was the carjacking by chance? Jason suspects not and acts.

***When We Left Cuba*** by Chanel Cleeton. Instant NYT Bestseller. Beatriz, recruited by the CIA to infiltrate Fidel Castro's inner circle, seeks revenge and her former sugar heiress life lost during the Revolution but finds herself caught between Cuban American politics and the perils of an affair with a powerful man driven by ambitions of his own.

***A Woman Unafraid: The Achievements of Frances Perkins*** by Penny Colman. Frances Perkins was appointed by President Roosevelt as Secretary of Labor during the Great Depression, a time when women did not have careers let alone political power. She prodded, pressured, and persuaded businessmen, labor leaders, and politicians to respond to the needs of the American people and end child labor, establish safer working conditions, fairer wages, reasonable working hours, unemployment insurance, and Social Security all of which exerted a far-ranging influence on twentieth-century America.

### **Series/Prolific Authors**

Patterson - <b><i>The Summer House</i></b>	
--	--