



JUNE 2018

A LETTER FROM ARLENE

Here it is mid-June and I've decided now is good as a time as any to recommit to writing my monthly newsletter. I know, it's been a number of years since I have done this. My apologies. As we all know, "life happens". When that pesky "life" shows up you have to pare down the commitments and responsibilities and focus on the priorities. To begin, let's recap what the newsletter includes. I will be sharing details about books (imagine that), events taking place in the store (such as new book releases and new products). What's new to the newsletter is, "Meet My Neighbor" highlighting a business neighbor I admire and do business with, "Where Are They Now" giving you an update on a former employee, and "Chew on This" musings from Ophelia. And now, off to the show!

Here's what I'm reading this month- "The Alice Network" by Kate Quinn, the June book club selection. I've recently started it and am excited, as I've read so many positive reviews. The book is historical fiction, set just after WWII; I'm only on page 15 and hooked! Join us in the store on the 18th at 7:00 to hear everyone's take on it. You are always welcome to drop in, whether you've read the book or not.

Next, "Ghost Boys" by Jewell Parker Rhodes. Tackling a rather difficult subject, Ghost Boys follows eleven-year-old Jerome, as he is shot by a police officer in Chicago. In the afterlife he meets Emmett Till, and the story expertly highlights racial injustices, while trying to right the wrongs of the world to readers beginning to explore and learn about these issues. Written for 10-14-year olds, it is a difficult subject matter that is quite well done. I'm reading other books this month, but those books aren't in publication yet, so I'll save those for another time.

So many new products arrive each week, it's hard to list them all here! To highlight a few, we have recently begun to offer bags of Perfect Pop Kettle Corn, a Woodstock company owned by Jim Zei. It's quite yummy and we are having a hard time not breaking open a bag or two while we work. Marvin's Toys updates their inventory weekly and there are many fun outdoor and summer activities being brought in. Summer Bridge books are in stock to keep those little minds engaged over the summer break, too!

For those of you reading this and living outside of our area, be sure to catch some of my Facebook live videos, (which can be found on the store's Facebook page) where I take you on a tour of the store and highlight these products.



CHEW ON THIS!

MUSINGS FROM OPHELIA

"I wonder what it would be like to live in a world where it's always June..."

WHERE ARE THEY NOW?

Selfishly, I've chosen my daughter Chelsea as the former employee to highlight this month. Chelsea worked for RBTL during high school, as well as when she was home on college breaks and shortly after graduation before relocating to San Francisco. After living in San Francisco for five years, Chelsea and her partner (now wife) Andrea decided to make the trek across the country and call Vermont their home. Upon moving, they quickly realized there were few options for "great" coffee in the region, which they had become accustomed to. After a great deal of research and ingenuity, they decided to open their own business and Upper Valley Coffee (UVCR) was born. Chelsea works on web development projects for a Seattle-based company. UVCR coffee is proudly being served at RBTL. Here is a link to their website in case you want to buy a pound or two!

uppervalleycoffeeroasters.com

MEET MY NEIGHBOR

Down 2 Earth opened in September 2014 by Woodstock Native, Nina Huffman. She specializes in natural and handmade goods, with the main focus being Native American-made jewelry along with crystals/minerals and artinsal work. Nina was inspired to open her own store on the Square when she

was a teenager and helped her parents at their former shop, Bison Trading Post, which was located on Main Street. Nina's mother, Cindy and sister Anna help put on the weekends, and it has become another family business adding to the Woodstock Square's uniqueness.

