

Mark your calendars for these events:

- The Feb. 13 online program “Demystifying Publishing” (See Page 3).
- The April 9 program with a working title “Booking the National Pastime: Writing a Baseball Book.” Expected panelists are **Jim Walker, Judith Hiltner, Stuart Shea and Thom Hennin**. Location TBA.
- The 2024 Midland Authors book awards and banquet on May 14 at the Cliff Dwellers Club in Chicago.

## Biblio File

**Anne-Marie Oomen** has been awarded the 2023-2024 Michigan Author Award, which recognizes significant Michigan authors for lifetime achievements. Also, Anne-Marie is working on a book titled *The Lake Huron Mermaid: A Tale in Poems*, which will follow the 2018 book *The Lake Michigan Mermaid*, also co-authored with **Linda Nemeč Foster**. Her most recent book, *The Long Fields*, is a compilation of essays spanning three decades. ... Thanks to **Carol Saller**, who is leaving the Midland Authors’ board after the end of her term, for her many contributions. ... Sports historian **Charles Billington** writes to say: “I had a busy autumn, to wit: I had four book presentations during the fall, at the Eisenhower Library in Harwood Heights, the Elk Grove Village Library, the Niles Senior Center and the Arlington Heights Senior Center. My new book on the 1963 Chicago Bears was issued by McFarland in December.” (See Literary Latest, Page 6.) ... **Patricia Skalka**, who is joining the Midland Authors Board, was the guest of honor at the annual Author’s Tea sponsored by the American Association of University Women Milwaukee-Waukesha Branch this past fall. Speaking to an audience of more than 100 people, she talked

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**Daniel Bliss (from left), Kari Lydersen, Monroe Anderson, Betty O’Shaughnessy and former Midland Authors President Dick Simpson** discuss Chicago’s recent mayors at the launch for their new book, *Chicago’s Modern Mayors* on Jan. 9 at the Harold Washington Library Center in Chicago. (Photo by Thomas Frisbie)

## New book presents insights on 5 recent Chicago mayors

BY THOMAS FRISBIE

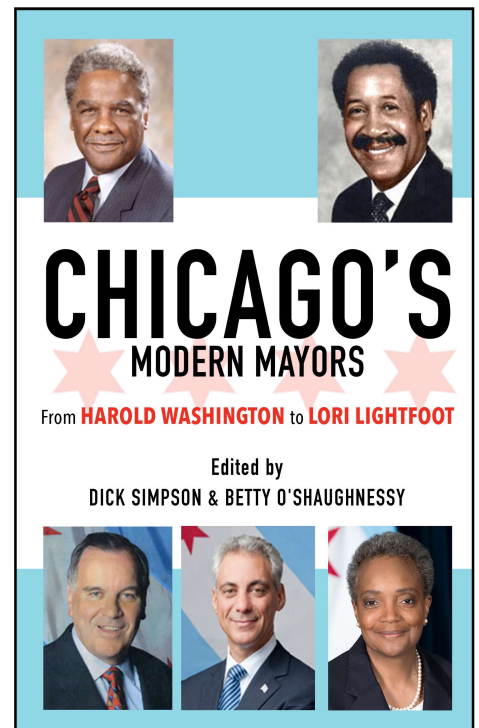
**B**ack in 1983, the late Midland Authors members **Paul M. Green** and **Melvin G. Holli** wrote *The Mayors: The Chicago Political Tradition*, which went through four editions.

On Jan. 9, in a program co-sponsored by the Chicago Public Library, the Midland Authors presented the book launch for a follow-up book, *Chicago’s Modern Mayors: From Harold Washington to Lori Lightfoot* (University of Illinois Press, Jan. 31).

Contributors to the book are **Monroe Anderson, Daniel Bliss, Dennis R. Judd, Kari Lydersen, Xolela Mangcu, Betty O’Shaughnessy, Marco Rosaire Rossi, Dick Simpson, Costas Spirou and Gregory D. Squires**. It was edited by Simpson and O’Shaughnessy.

On the panel discussion about the book

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# ■ Modern Mayors Continued from Page 1

in the Winter Garden room of the Harold Washington Library Center in Chicago were Bliss, Lydersen, Anderson, O'Shaughnessy and Simpson.

To open, O'Shaughnessy said the five modern mayors were in office at a time when the city had a decreasing population, increasing income inequality and an economy that was transitioning from manufacturing to a "global and service economy."

"All of the mayors we discussed governed during financial, economic and social crises," she said.

The mayors worked in two ways to approach those challenges, she said. There were the "establishment" or "builder" mayors – Richard M. Daley and Rahm Emanuel – and the progressive/reformer mayors.

A modern "establishment" mayor sees himself or herself as the CEO of the city with a goal of attracting corporations and tourists to the city while progressive/reformer mayors prioritize the needs of the communities and neighborhoods, O'Shaughnessy said.

Anderson said Eugene Sawyer, who followed Harold Washington as mayor (with David Orr briefly filling in as mayor between Washington and Sawyer) was the "between-a-rock-and-a-hard-place" mayor. He emerged as an appointed mayor after infighting in the City Council following Washington's death.

Unlike Sawyer, Washington had been elected through strong support in the black community.

Although many people did not think "the black community would actually vote for a black mayor, would stick together enough to elect one, it happened. It happened because it had literally become a movement," Anderson said. "It was more than just an election."

Sawyer had been alderperson longer than most on the Council and he was "a quiet, nice man whom everybody liked," Anderson said.

"[But he] had never done an interview. He had never had anything to say. Nobody knew who he was, except for people on the City Council, of course,"



**Rich Harris (from left), former President Midland Authors President Rich Lindberg, Program Chair Mary Wisniewski, Literary License Editor and former Midland Authors President Thomas Frisbie and Jim Sikora attend the Midland Authors' Jan. 9 program at the Harold Washington Library Center in Chicago. (Photo by Rich Harris)**

Anderson said. "He was their idea of a compromise. Their plan from the beginning was either he would do their will or they would get rid of him."

Simpson read remarks from Judd, who was unable to attend the program, and Spirou who together wrote the section of the book about former Mayor Richard M. Daley.

"They started out trying to tell the story of [what the two authors call] the city of spectacle. But they discovered the story of the city of spectacle can't be told without recognizing Daley as its chief author, architect and builder. ... He presided over a period of stability that had not been seen since his father's time. ... He calmed the racial waters after Council Wars."

Nineteen of the 30 tallest buildings in Chicago were completed during the Daley years, along with Millennium Park, the authors wrote.

"He created a heady atmosphere of optimism: We could come back, we could become Chicago again."

The city was transformed from a troubled industrial city to a global powerhouse, they said.

"[But the city suffered from a] succession of corruption scandals that dogged him year after year [and there were] constant reports of police brutality [and] the city's deteriorating financial condition," they wrote. "Near the end of his term in office, Daley sold valuable city assets in privatization deals."

Rahm Emanuel was more similar to Richard M. Daley than was readily apparent, but was very different in brand and style, Lydersen said.

Emanuel didn't have the air of a Chicagoan. He didn't grow up in Chicago or have the Chicago accent, she said.

"He didn't seem to have the ability or willingness to do what for Daley was maybe largely lip service but that Daley did do in consulting with community leaders and organized labor leaders and ... playing ball with all the power brokers in the city," Lydersen said.

"Rahm had that very corporate, efficiency-driven approach he instituted from Day One or even in his promises before

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*Watch the full program at: <http://tinyurl.com/3y49kytz>*

## *Society of Midland Authors Program*

# **Demystifying Publishing**

**How to Get Published: How to Keep Publishing**

**(Hints and insights: what to do once writing is finished)**

**Tuesday, February 13, 2024**

***Free and open to the public***

**Virtual Panel discussion: 7-8 CST pm**

To join: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83839767320?pwd=a2R0OU5hYmQ2a0h5Y2pZUjYlZkRaUT09>



**Donna Beasley** is a children's book author, former digital travel magazine owner, writing coach and president/publisher of KaZoom Kids Books, a multicultural children's publishing company, focusing on Black and Latino characters and stories for children ages 3 to 8.



**Sylvia Frank Rodrigue** acquires history and criminology books for SIUPress. Through her business Sylverlining she copyedits nonfiction and fiction manuscripts. She was editor-in-chief at LSU Press and associate editor at Stackpole Books. Rodrigue is the co-author of *Images of America: Baton Rouge* and *Historic Baton Rouge*.



**Sharon Woodhouse** was an indie publisher for over 25 years (Lake Claremont Press, Everything Goes Media). She currently owns Conspire Creative, which provides coaching, consulting, and project management services for authors and publishers, with a specialty in entrepreneurship and publishing options.

To learn more, contact moderators MarleneTarg Brill: [marlenetbrill@comcast.net](mailto:marlenetbrill@comcast.net) or Walter Podrazik: [wallypodrazik@live.com](mailto:wallypodrazik@live.com).

## Biblio File

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about her protagonist Dave Cubiak and discussed the inspiration, challenges and research involved in each of the seven books in her Dave Cubiak Door County mystery series. “Over the past several years, I’ve given countless talks about my work, and I am always amazed by the interest that people show in the process and the characters,” Patricia said. “It’s especially heart-warming to realize that so many readers are drawn to Cubiak and empathize with his life and struggles. One woman told me that his story was her story.” ... Former Midland Authors President **Craig Sautter** appeared Jan. 14 for 10 minutes on WLS/ABC TV’s “Our Chicago,” speaking with Mark Rivera about the next night’s Iowa primary and the 2024 presidential election. Craig writes, “[Rivera] had a copy of *Inside the Wigwam: Chicago Presidential Conventions 1860-1996* on the table in front of us.” ... Hard Case Crime is bringing out **Jack Clark’s** *Nobody’s Angel* in February in paperback. Jack writes to say, “It’s a reissue of Hard Case’s 2010 mass market paperback of the same book. This all came about after Quentin Tarantino

### Literary License

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## New ‘Daily Life’ poetry column

On Nov. 6, **David L Harrison**, Missouri’s seventh Poet Laureate started a weekly newspaper column called “Poetry from Daily Life.” It has grown quickly to be included in five newspapers in Missouri, Kansas and South Dakota. Harrison has assembled a list of 60 poets and professors in the United States, Canada and England who have agreed to contribute one or



David L. Harrison

more guest columns. His first guest was former U.S. Poet Laureate and Midland Authors member **Ted Kooser**.

Each column when it appears is sent to the Missouri Press Association website to make it simple for other papers to pick it up at no charge.

Harrison says, “I believe the column can be a valuable resource for future teachers and English majors.”

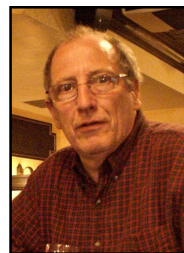
picked it as his favorite novel last year. It will actually be the fourth edition of the same book. In 1996, I self-published it under the title *Relita’s Angel* and sold it out of my cab. I took it back from Hard Case in 2021 and self-published it again.”

... In his December newsletter, **Keir Graff** said **James Kennedy** “might be the most purely creative writer I know.” Also, Keir wrote the longest article Newcity has ever published, and the publication is rolling it out online as a 10-part series. ... **Dan Dinello** wrote a feature story – on the website Informed Comment – titled “The Real Dr. Strangelove: Kissinger’s Legacy of Mass Murder, Contempt for Human Rights, and Military Aggression.” ...

**Frank Sennett** reports his thriller *Shadow State* is a finalist in the Best New Novel by a Chicagoan category of the Chicago Reader’s Best of Chicago awards. ... In a post, **Mary Wisniewski** wrote, “I’ve been doing a special project – recording my biography of Nelson Algren as an audiobook. It’s harder than I thought – you keep having to do sentences over because you mispronounced something you thought you knew how to say – like ‘ribald.’” ... Midland Authors Board Member **Chris Lynch** and former Midland Authors Board Member **Patrick McBriarty** are featuring the heyday of newspapers in their latest episode of their Windy City Historians podcast titled “The Front Page Era.” One of the most infamous editors from the 1920s to the 1960s

was Harry Romanoff. As the resourceful night editor of the Chicago American, “Romy” would regularly outwit the competition armed with little more than a telephone to get the scoop. The program features a rare audio recording of Romanoff spinning tales from his 50-year career. ... **Tara Betts** is scheduled to read from her 2022 collection *Refuse to Disappear* on Feb. 24 at Binghamton University Friday.

... **Amelia Cotter** was quoted in the Oct. 30 Northwest Indiana Post-Tribune. ... On Dec. 6, **Cynthia Clampitt** wrote “The Sweep of History: Asia Meets Europe at Chicago Restaurants” for Newcity. ... **Deborah Newton Chocolate’s** *My First Kwanzaa Book* was among the titles KPBS-TV (San Diego) chose on Dec. 5 for its list of “Recommended holiday season books for parents, young adults and children.” ... On Nov. 26, **Dennis Foley** joined **Rick Kogan** to talk about his book *Feloniously Yours* on WGN (Chicago) radio. ... On Dec. 22, CBS Chicago interviewed **Dick Simpson**. ... New Straits Times in Malaysia ran an interview with **Dipika Mukherjee** on Jan. 13. ... **Edward “Ted” McClelland** wrote “Maybe the Midwest Is a State of Mind” for the Oct. 25 Chicago magazine. ... On Jan. 16, **Jonathan Eig** gave a keynote speech at Northwestern University and spoke about his latest book, *King: A Life*. ... **Eldon Ham** wrote “Sports history’s biggest flubs and blunders” for the Dec. 30 Chicago Sun-Times.



Jack Clark

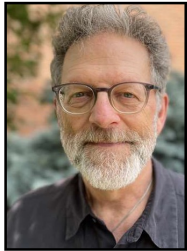
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## New Members

**James Armstrong**, the first poet laureate of Winona, Minnesota, and a professor of English at Winona State University, is author of *Monument in a Summer Hat* (New Issues Press, 1999); *Blue Lash* (Milkweed Press 2006), and *Nature, Culture and Two Friends Talking*



**James Armstrong**

(New Issues Press 2015). His latest book is *Empire* (Shipwreck Books, 2023). He has published poems and essays in *TriQuarterly*, *RHINO*, *Porcupine*, *Gulf Coast*, *Orion*, *Poetry East* and other journals. Armstrong received the PEN-New England Discovery Prize for poetry in 1996, and he has been awarded both an Illinois Arts Council Fellowship in poetry and a Minnesota State Arts Board Fellowship in poetry. He was an artist in residence at Isle Royale in 1994 and on Grand Island National Recreation Area in 2004.

He grew up in Kalamazoo, Michigan, and he was nominated by **Emilio DeGrazia**.

**Frank Sennett** is the author of nine books. They include the debut of the Rafe Hendrix thriller series, *Shadow State* (Crooked Lane, 2023); *Groupon's Biggest Deal Ever* (St. Martin's, 2012); *Nash, Metropolitan* (Five Star Mystery, 2004), and



**Frank Sennett**

*Nash, Rambler* (Five Star Mystery, 2003).

Sennett has an MFA in creative writing from the University of Montana and a journalism degree from Northwestern University.

He recently joined the faculty of Southern New Hampshire University, where he teaches online fiction courses in the MFA program.

He was nominated by **Keir Graff**.

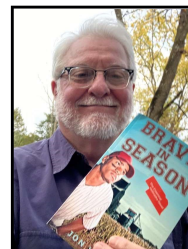
**Mary Lang Sollinger** is the author of *From Inspiration to Activism: A Personal Journey Through Obama's Presidential Campaign* (Little Creek Press, March 1, 2020).

Sollinger grew up in a small town in Wisconsin's heartland and now lives in Madison, Wisconsin.

She was nominated by **Judith Brenner**.

**Jon Volkmer** is from Nebraska, and much of his writing is set in that state. Now he is in Pennsylvania, where he is professor of English and director of creative writing for Ursinus College.

Volkmer is the author of the novel *Brave in Season* (Sunbury Press, 2023); the young adult biography *Roberto Clemente* (Townsend Press, 2008); the poetry collection *The Art of Country Grain Elevators* (Bottom Dog Press, 2006), and *Eating Europe; A Meta-nonfiction Love*



**Jon Volkmer**



**Mary Lang Sollinger**

*Story* (Parlor Press, 2006).

He was nominated by **Dick Simpson**.

**Katherine Jellison** is the author of *Entitled to Power: Farm Women and Technology, 1913-1963* (University of North Carolina Press, 1993); *It's Our Day: America's Love Affair with the White Wedding, 1945-2005* (University Press of Kansas, 2008), and (with Steven D. Reschly) *Amish Women and the Great Depression* (Johns Hopkins University Press, 2023).

Jellison is a professor of history and director of the Central Region Humanities Center at The Ohio University.

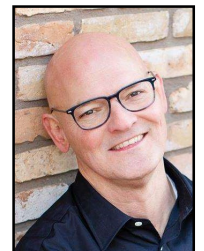
Jyllison has published numerous articles about Midwestern farm women's labor and Midwestern marriage customs.

She was nominated by **Jon Lauck**.

**Steve Fox's** debut story collection is *Sometimes Creek* (Cornerstone Press, 2023), which won the American Book Fest Best Book Award.

His fiction has appeared in *New Ohio Review*, *Orca*, *Midwest Review*, *MQR*, *Whitefish Review* and others. He holds an M.A. in Spanish from the University of Wisconsin-Madison.

He was nominated by **Sharon Woodhouse**.



**Steve Fox**

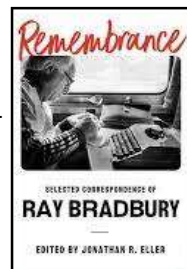
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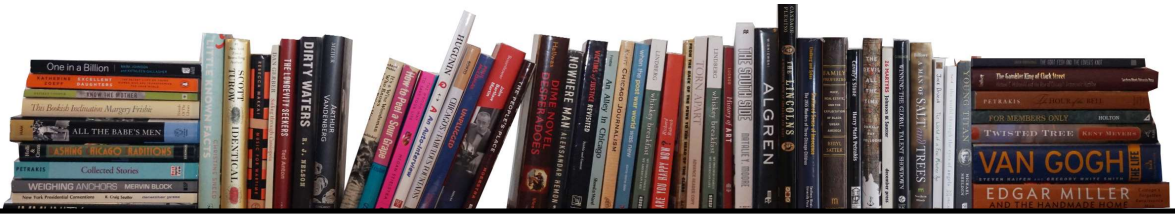
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... Newcity said of **Garnett Kilberg Cohen's** latest collection *Cravings* (See Literary Latest, June, 2023), "Many of the twelve stories that comprise this collection bring an essayistic style to the short-story form." ... On Jan. 16, Hour Detroit magazine wrote of **Ghassan Zeineddine's** Midland Authors-honored

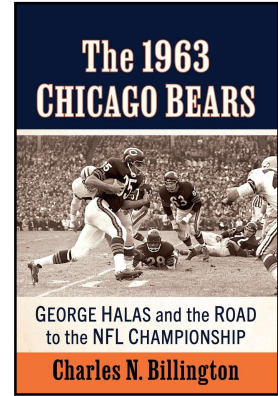
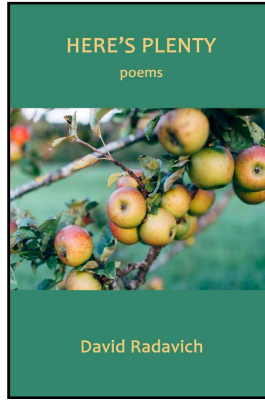
book *Dearborn*, "Zeineddine's storytelling is so seductive, and his sense of absurdity so acute, he's able to lead readers in all sorts of directions, many of them unpredictable." ... **Jonathan Eller** edited *Remembrance: Selected Correspondence of Ray Bradbury* (Simon & Schuster, Nov.



7, 2023). Booklist said, "*Remembrance* is a true labor of love and belongs in any library that has a Ray Bradbury collection." ... **Scott Turow** wrote "Why Joe Biden, 81, Needs to Hand Over the Car Keys – Now" for the Dec. 13 Vanity Fair. ... **Judith F. Brenner** is scheduled to hold a book signing on Feb. 18 at Westfield Shoppingtown in Palm Desert, California, for her novel *The Moments Between Dreams*.



## Literary Latest



### 'WONDERFUL EXPERIENCE

Here's what **Keir Graff** tells Literary Latest about his latest book: "*The Royal Game* (Blackstone Publishing, Jan. 30, 2024) was less an inspiration than an assignment. Alloy Entertainment, a book-packaging arm of Warner Brothers Television, asked me and my writing partner, Linda Joffe Hull, if we would be interested in writing a romantic mystery loosely inspired by the real-life relationship of Prince Harry and Meghan Markle.



**Keir Graff**

Linda Keir, write about marriages in trouble.

"Anyway, we said yes, and the whole thing was a wonderful experience, from brainstorming an outline with Alloy's creative executives, to writing in our usual fashion, to working with our new publisher, Blackstone.

"It's our first foray into a romantic story line, and the trade reviews have been strong. We're hoping readers will have as much fun with it as we did!"

### NEW BOOK OF POEMS

**David Radavich's** new collection, *Here's Plenty*, has just been published by Cervenà Barva Press.

Radavich writes to say, "After living in the Midwest for some 40 years, I retired to North Carolina to be near our daughter, son-in-law and twin granddaughters.

"It was a totally new and fascinating culture to me, which is reflected in *Here's Plenty*, my new book of poems. A landscape of great fertility and a social ethos that is gracious and friendly as well as being, on occasion, violent and racist. Some of the poems in this collection deal with the Midwest and with universal themes as well. As the title indicates, plenty!"

Shelby Stephenson, former poet laureate of North Carolina, wrote, "This work evokes the American South – in all its messy, charming, baffling glory. As a microcosm of the fragile planet we inhabit, this region struggles with violence, poverty, racism and outdated social convention.

"And yet the ever-renewing beauty of the fertile landscape, a deep-seated love of story-telling and the warmth of everyday people bring us the possibility of re-assessment and redemption.

"The poems in David Radavich's *Here's Plenty* come in seamless variations of splendor."

### 'HISTORICALLY ACCURATE ACCOUNT'

**Charles N. Billington's** new book is *The 1963 Chicago Bears: George Halas and the Road to the NFL Championship* (McFarland, Dec. 21, 2023).

Billington says, "My goal in writing the book was to provide professional football fans with an historically accurate account of one of the most dominant teams in Chicago history.

"Many Bears followers know little of the team's history, these pivotal years for the NFL's development, and the league's complicated history with gambling."

Midland Authors member **Rick Kogan** wrote in the Jan. 16 Chicago Tribune, "As fine as Billington is at writing about games, he is equally adept at providing historical and societal perspectives. ... [George] Halas is movingly captured by Billington."

From the publisher: "This thorough examination of the 1963 NFL Championship chronicles the trials and triumphs of Chicago's historically most neglected champions against the economic, social, legal and human-interest backdrop of professional football in the 1960s."

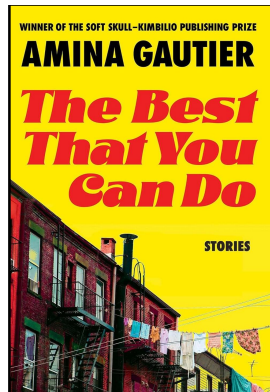


**Charles N. Billington**

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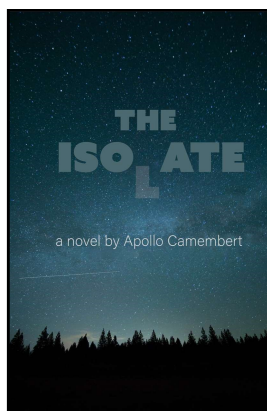


### TIGHTLY CRAFTED SHORT STORIES

Of *The Best That You Can Do: Stories* (Soft Skull, Jan. 16, 2024), **Amina Gautier** tells Literary Latest, “I’m the kind of writer who likes to follow my energy and my interests wherever they lead, which keeps me from getting bored and prevents me from producing over-worked stories.

“The coronavirus pandemic affected my energy and my interests; the social isolation left me with plenty of time to write but depressed my spirits and sapped my energy. I couldn’t sustain the energy necessary to complete full-length multi-scene 3,000- to 6,000-word short stories, so instead of beating myself up I focused on doing the best that I could do, which was to write in short flashes and bursts. Since keeping safe during the pandemic meant social distancing which meant that I couldn’t just go out into the world roaming for stories, I turned inward, mining the depths of memory to produce tightly crafted very short stories.

“I was holed up in my apartment in Chicago binge watching local public TV channels and inhaling episodes of ‘Love Boat,’ ‘Odd Couple’ and ‘Taxi’ – all the classic shows I loved as a kid, which sparked nostalgia and a creative urge to be retrospective that inspired many of the stories in *The Best That You Can Do*. In many ways, *The Best That You Can Do* is a love letter for those of us who belong to Generation X, for those of us who feel forgotten, and for those of us who would like to look back.”



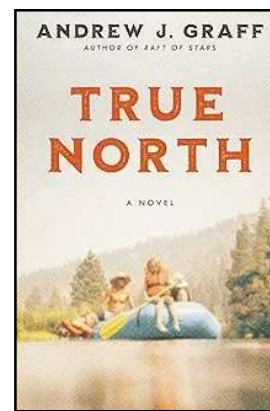
### A SIGNPOST TO A NEW SPACE

**Eckhard Gerdes** writes, “I’d been thinking about the issue of isolation for a long while, partially because of the pandemic, but also partially because I am by nature an introvert.

“When I was young, I visited a couple who lived in what one would now call “stealth housing” on Grand Avenue in the middle of a warehouse district. Everything in the neighborhood looked industrial. And past my friends’ nondescript entrance, they lived in a beautiful fantasy world with a sculpture garden and indoor waterfall. It was awesome, and it stuck with me.

“That visit became the germ of the idea that grew into *The Isolate* (Black Scat Books, Feb. 1, 2023). The book is different from anything else I have done in some significant ways. I think it is a signpost to some new space for me to work in, so I decided I should use a nom de plume for this book and any that follow in its vein. I took ‘Apollo’ from Guillaume Apollinaire, and I took ‘Camembert’ from Bert Camembert, a pseudonym used by Daevid Allen.

“Those two were touchstones for my journey through the writing process. They reminded me I needed to enjoy the writing process. I can’t not write, so I might as well enjoy it. Why agonize over my compunctions? If I can’t accept them, then I should shed them. And because writing for me has always been my primary compunction, I accept it. I am not writing for the fashion of it all. I am trying to work out some issues that are a bit deeper than that. So the book touches on that issue that has been central to all my work, the meeting place of the innerworld and the outerworld. which Nicolas of Cusa said was located in infinity.”



### WRITING ABOUT THE NORTH WOODS

**Andrew J. Graff**, the 2022 Midland Authors Adult Fiction winner, has a new book out, *True North* (Ecco, Jan. 16, 2024).

“When I finished writing *Raft of Stars*, which takes place in the fictional Wisconsin county of Marigamie County,” Graff writes to say, “I knew I wanted to keep writing about the north woods. *True North* is that novel, and it was also an opportunity for me to explore several threads of my life. I’m a dad, a husband, and a whitewater raft guide. I’ve had this long-lived daydream about buying a rafting company and a camper, and living the van life with my family, which was exactly what the lead character does in *True North*.

“The novel is a story about family, river adventure, small towns and what it takes to pull off a dream in peril.”

Publishers Weekly wrote, “With this exciting and intelligent family drama, Graff returns to the Wisconsin Northwoods terrain of *Raft of Stars*. Graff expertly balances his character-driven domestic fiction with an exciting adventure story.

“Readers will enjoy the ride.”

From the publisher: “As the summer of 1993 begins, Sam and Swami Brecht roll into town with a twenty-six-foot Winnebago camper van, their three young kids, and the deed to Woodchuck Rafting Company.

“Sam and Swami met as young, adventurous river guides but, a decade later, find themselves weighed down by money worries and the demands of adulthood.”

# ■ Modern Mayors Continued from Page 2

he took office.”

Bliss said his contribution to the section of the book on Emanuel was to look at Emanuel’s management structure as well as his contribution to infrastructure and economic development.

“There [was] some significant innovation to come out of the Emanuel administration and yet along with it some significantly bull-headed management decisions, choices of senior leadership in management that I think somewhat wore him down,” Bliss said.

Emanuel inherited a very unfavorable financial situation from Daley, he added.

“You had a pension situation that was out of control and remains extremely pre-

carious. ... After a very promising start, Emanuel sort of retreats into a comfort zone here, a comfort zone that a lot of CEO-type characters fall into, of appointing people where they trust the loyalty and don’t look enough at the skill set and personality and how they are equipped to do the job.”

Discussing former Mayor Lori Lightfoot, Simpson said, “There was an arc that went from the Harold Washington reform and progressive mayoralty to the Lori Lightfoot reform and progressive mayoralty.”

Lightfoot based her candidacy on a call for reform, Simpson said.

Daley and Emanuel had rubber stamp Councils. But under Lightfoot, 12 new

aldermen were elected and the Council split into four factions.

“Mayor Lightfoot encountered big challenges and crises during her administration,” Simpson said, “most notably the COVID-19 pandemic, and generally she handled them well – better than, for instance, Mayor [Brandon] Johnson’s handling of the asylum-seeker and migrant crisis. ... She had the same reform and progressive goals that motivated Harold Washington.

“One of her key programs, for instance, that you will remember is INVEST South/West. She wanted to redirect the money from the city but also from the private sector to the parts of the city that had been neglected.”

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## Literary Largess

Dues cover mailings and other organi-

zational expenses, but the Society always needs additional money for programs such as the awards at the annual May

book awards banquet.

Thanks to **Scott Turow**, who made a recent contribution.

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