

Letters to Our Community

Guidelines for letters to the editor are on page 35.

Disclaimer: The opinions expressed in Letters to Our Community should not be interpreted as the view of OCN even if the letter writer is an OCN volunteer.

Stealing is a crime

As a local small-business owner and resident, I was recently shocked to discover eight of my business signs were stolen off Black Forest Road between Burgess and Hodgen.

I filed a police report; the investigator verified my signs were not removed by the county

Department of Transportation (DOT). I confirmed with the DOT that I didn't violate the right-of-way regulations, I didn't post any signs on private property, and other business signs posted in the same areas were not removed. Someone went out of their way to target all of my

signs only and steal them.

I often volunteer my services to shelters and provide assistance to lower-income individuals. Having a loss of marketing such as this negatively impacts my availability to help in the community. This is also an issue for home and business

owners, because who will be the next victim?

Let's all help keep our small community safe from thieves. Pay attention and watch out for your neighbors and local businesses.

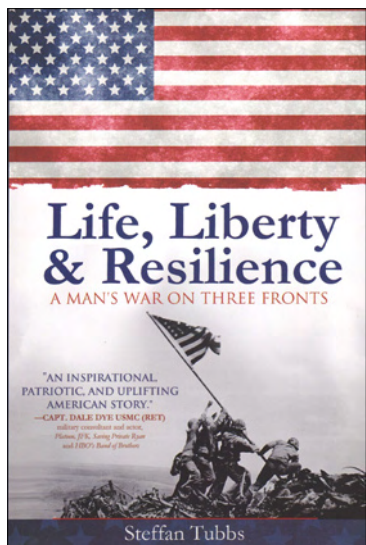
Patricia Pantazis Hunnybun
Pampered Pets & People ■

Between The Covers at the Covered Treasures Bookstore

Spotlight on local authors

By the staff at Covered Treasures

Authors among us have a broad variety of offerings, ranging from science fiction to real life adventures. Following are some samples of their work.



Life, Liberty & Resilience: A Man's War on Three Fronts
By Steffan Tubbs (Steffan Tubbs) \$21.99

Joseph LaNier, a World War II African-American veteran, grew up in Mississippi during an era of deep segregation, hate, and injustice. He joined the Navy,

became one of the first African-American Navy Seabees, and was sent to Iwo Jima. This experience changed his life and solidified his hope for a better life. Despite setbacks due to the color of his skin, LaNier became a very successful pharmacist, eventually settling in Denver. This is a true-life story of resilience, hope, and love regardless of the injustice in this world.

Trusting Calvin
By Sharon Peters (Globe Pequot Press) \$19.95

This remarkable, touching true story shows how a special dog unlocks the heart of a Holocaust survivor with a lifelong fear of dogs. Captured by Nazi soldiers as a teenager, Max Edelman witnessed a German shepherd kill a fellow prisoner in a concentration camp, and his deep fear of dogs was formed that brutal day. Although Max survived the cruelty and deprivation of the camps, his beating by two guards left him blind. Somehow, he buried the past, married, and thrived in his new life in America. However, when he sought help from Guiding Eyes for the Blind, his fear of dogs prevented him from

receiving the assistance offered by Calvin, a dedicated chocolate Labrador retriever. A dramatic event eventually dissolves the emotional shield between man and dog, and a bond of trust and love is formed between them.

The Sinner: Book One of the Dragon Legacy
By Shane Rice and Char Adles (Amazon.com) \$8.99

Hazelin, half-dragon and half-elf, is on a mission to reclaim her throne after being kidnapped at the age of 6. After her escape at age 16, she is bent on defeating those who threaten to enslave her once again. With the help of her new friends, her father, and a secret member of the Olde Royal Family, she might reach her goal and meet her real fate. This book is sheer fantasy with nonstop action as Hazelin reacts to the forces of evil wanting to ensnare her.

Keyser Run and Muckcross Folly (Evelyn Morgan Series)
By J.L. Austgen, \$15.99 each

Evelyn Morgan, who has spent years tracking a world-renowned

assassin, is the team leader of one of the FBI's elite anti-terrorist squads. While investigating the sources of funding for a terrorist cell operating in suburban Washington, D.C., Morgan is ensnared in an international conspiracy more sinister than she could have imagined. One of her agents wants her dead and will stop at nothing to accomplish the goal. In the sequel, Morgan vows revenge against the assassin who planned the operation that destroyed her team. Her investigation uncovers a cunning, deadly new menace that has already struck her family and has her slated as the next victim.

Once Upon Another Time
By Diane Sawatzki (Palmer Divide Productions LLC) \$9.95

While out snowshoeing during a storm, Kate MacKenzie finds shelter in a cave and falls down a passage into the 1860s when a bear startles her. She is trapped in territorial Colorado with Victor, a Ute Indian. Kate struggles to survive the harshness of the time and in doing so, she befriends both whites and Indians,

finds romance, and maintains hope of returning to the 21st century.

Create a Legacy
By Meredith "Kit" Bromfield (Meredith Bromfield) \$18

This practical workbook is a guide to documenting your journey through life; sharing your life with loved ones; and giving them the tools they need to deal with estate matters after your passing. The workbook is made up of four components: value and life lessons; mementos of life lived that we value; assets; and final wishes. Well organized and easy to understand, this workbook is a valuable gift to readers and the families that love them.

Whatever you're in the mood for, these local author publications include inspiring life stories, page-turning mysteries, helpful advice, and more. Why not give one of them a try? Until next month, happy reading.

The staff at Covered Treasures Bookstore can be contacted at books@ocn.me.



Spotlight on Local Authors
Thursday Evenings * 6:30-8:00
at
Covered Treasures Bookstore
105 Second Street in
Historic Monument
719-481-2665 (BOOK)

- April 4 - 6:30 - 8:00 pm**
Meredith Bromfield
Create a Legacy and *Life Changing Choices*
Diane Sawatzki
Once Upon Another Time
- April 6 - Saturday 10:00-11:30 am**
Steffan Tubbs
Life, Liberty & Resilience
10-10:30 - Fire Department Administration Bldg*
10:30-11:30 - Signing at Store
- April 11 - 6:30 - 8:00**
J.L. Austgen
Keyser Run and *Muckcross Folly*
Sharon Peters
Trusting Calvin
- April 18 - 6:30 - 8:00**
Shane Rice
The Sinner: Book One of the Dragon Legacy
- April 25 - 6:30 - 8:30**
First Annual Poetry Reading Evening
Fire Department Administration Building*

* The Fire Department Administration Building is located at 166 Second Street, diagonally across the street from Covered Treasures. Entry is through the side (west) door. Call for further information..

Bird Watch on the Palmer Divide

Double-crested cormorant



By Elizabeth Hacker

The double-crested cormorant, *Phalacrocorax auritus*, is a large black water bird that migrates to this region early each spring. Double-crested refers to the feather tufts above its eyes. Cormorants are also called shags, a name that also was derived from the eye tufts that grow longer, sometimes turn white, and appear "shaggy" as the bird ages.

Birds in the wild have been known to live to be 17.

Range and habitat

It is found across much of North America on freshwater or brackish lakes, rivers, marshes, and ponds. During the winter when inland waters freeze, the double-crested cormorant migrates to open coastal waters.

Characteristics

The name cormorant comes from the Latin for "raven of the sea," a reference to the inky color of its feathers. Its feathers are dark brown or black, and in sunlight it appear iridescent.

The double-crested cormorant male and female look alike. On land, it holds its long body upright. It can weigh as much as 6 pounds, can grow to be 3 feet in length, and has a 4-foot wingspan.

Often it is seen standing on a rock with wings out-stretched like it's posing to be photographed. This is the way the cormorant dries its wings, airs its feathers, and in hot conditions, cools itself. The top of its head is flat and its neck is long and curved. Its beak is long and hooked and it has an orange pouch below its beak.

The double-crested cormorant sits low in the water, and often only its neck and head are visible. It does this to wet its feathers, making them heavier

Southwinds FINE ART

Gallery Hours

Monday: By appointment
Tuesday: By appointment
Wednesday: 1:00 pm – 6 pm
Thursday: 1:00 pm – 6 pm
Friday: 1:00 pm – 6 pm
Saturday: 1:00 pm – 6 pm
Sunday: 1:00 pm – 6 pm

Location: 16575 Roller Coaster Rd.
Colorado Springs, CO 80921
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