

On the Same Page

Ashe County's Literary Festival

A Mountain Medley

2019 AUTHORS

Diane Chamberlain
PT Deutermann
Georgann Eubanks
Robert Gipe
Jaki Shelton Green
Ronni Lundy
Beth Macy
AJ Mayhew
Alan Michael Parker
Stephanie Powell Watts



ON THE SAME PAGE: A CELEBRATION OF READING

Ashe County's 12th annual *On the Same Page Literary Festival* promises attendees a medley of characters and places, both real and fictional, by a group of outstanding authors. Some of our authors are participating in the Festival and visiting Ashe County for the first time and others are familiar faces.

2019 FESTIVAL READ

This year's Festival Read is ***Dopesick: Dealers, Doctors, and the Drug Company That Addicted America*** by Beth Macy.

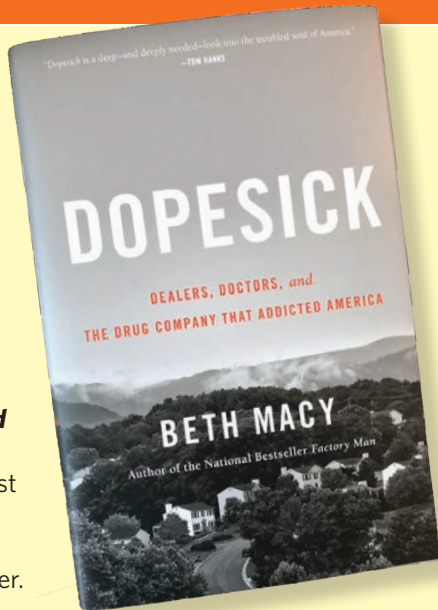
Upon its release in August 2018, *Dopesick* was an instant *New York Times* (NYT) and indie bestseller. According to the NYT, "*Dopesick* is a harrowing, deeply compassionate dispatch from the heart of a national emergency" from a bestselling author and journalist who has lived through it.

According to Macy's publisher, Little, Brown and Company: . . . *From the introduction of OxyContin in 1996, Macy parses how America embraced a medical culture where overtreatment with painkillers became the norm. . . . In these politically fragmented times, Beth Macy shows, astonishingly, that the only thing that unites Americans across geographic and class lines is opioid drug abuse.*

Events begin with the **Festival Read Kick-Off on Thursday, August 8 at 1:00 p.m.** at the **Ashe County Public Library**. Join us as we begin "*Exploring the Heart of Dopesick.*"

On **Thursday, August 29 at 1:00 p.m.**, we will hear the perspectives of local professionals on "*Opioids and Ashe County*" as part of a Panel Discussion. **Ashe County Public Library.**

The **Festival Read Wrap-Up Discussion** will be held on **Tuesday, September 17 at 1:00 p.m.**, at the **Ashe County Public Library**. At this event, "*Banishing the Stigma,*" we will discuss the book and suggest practical ways for individuals to approach opioid misuse on a local level.



WRITER IN RESIDENCE—NEW!

New for 2019 is the Appalachian Writer in Residence (AWiR) position, filled this year by Robert Gipe. The AWiR post is sponsored by the Ashe County Public Library in partnership with *On the Same Page*. Authors chosen for this residency strive to portray contemporary Appalachia with nuance and authenticity in their work. The AWiR is an integral part of the Festival, participating in a number of events spanning the week of the Festival.

FESTIVAL WORKSHOPS

On the Same Page provides several opportunities for local writers to work with our featured authors. This year's schedule offers three workshop opportunities.

- **"A Character-Building Experience" with Robert Gipe.** Focus on character development and how character development drives plot, plus discussions of voice and the use of illustration. A **two-part workshop** that begins on Tuesday, September 17 and concludes on Wednesday, September 18, 6:30–8:30 p.m., **Ashe County Public Library.**
- **"That's Not What Happened" with Alan Michael Parker.** Focus on investigating the relationship between experience and the imagination. Wednesday, September 18, 8:30–10:30 a.m., **Ashe County Public Library.**
- **"The Poet Witnesses: Writing Documentary Poetry" with North Carolina's Poet Laureate Jaki Shelton Green.** Focus on the idea of the poet as documentarian, historian and agitator. Friday, September 20, 2:30–4:30 p.m., **Ashe County Public Library.**

For more detailed information, see the Festival Schedule page. All workshops are free of charge; however, registration is limited and reservations are required. Sign up early! Call the Ashe Arts Center to reserve your place (336-846-2787).



Adding to the Medley

There's always something good going on in Ashe County, not just the Festival. This year, our Mountain Medley includes several events before and after the Festival, presented by the Ashe County Arts Council, local businesses, and local writers, artists, and craftspeople.

- **Wordkeepers**, an informal event for local writers, takes place on **Saturday, August 10 and Saturday, October 19 at 4:00 p.m.** Refreshments and five-minute readings of our latest and best! Email RenfroDiana@msn.com to reserve a space at the podium. **Ashe Arts Center.**
- **Gallery Crawls** happen every second Friday through October from **5:00-8:00 p.m.** Stroll around West Jefferson, visiting shops and galleries and enjoying music and refreshments along the way. **September 13 and October 11. Downtown West Jefferson.**
- **Elliot Engel**, one of our favorite historians, returns on **Monday, September 16 at 7:30 p.m.** with **"Master of Mayberry: The Miraculous Life of Andy Griffith."** Tickets are available from the Ashe Arts Center, 336-846-2787. **Ashe Arts Center.**
- **Art on the Mountain!** Fine art and cool crafts outdoors on **Saturday, September 28, 9:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m.** Featuring books and writers, pottery, fibers, paintings, photographs, woodworking, jewelry, and more. **Ashe Arts Center.**



The *On the Same Page Literary Festival* is made possible through the generosity of organizations, businesses, and individuals who believe in the power and beauty of the written word. One special group of

individual donors is our PAGE TURNERS. Each year, they provide a large share of support for our Festival! If you enjoy the Festival, consider becoming a PAGE TURNER. During the events, any Festival volunteer with an OTSP name tag can give you more information. Check OnTheSamePageFestival.org or call the Ashe Arts Center at 336-846-2787.



SAVE THE DATE!

Sept. 15-19, 2020

ASHE COUNTY: THE COOLEST CORNER OF NORTH CAROLINA

In Ashe County, we take our celebration of the outdoors and the arts seriously! We are in the High Country of northwestern North Carolina, and West Jefferson is our largest small town. Ashe County is home to the New River, Mount Jefferson State Natural Area, Pond Mountain, and the Bluff Mountain Preserve. Whether you enjoy hiking, biking, canoeing, kayaking, fishing, tubing—or just taking in our spectacular views—you will not be disappointed.

You won't have to be here long to know the arts are a big part of what makes this community so delightful. From our Barn Quilt Trails to a thriving community theater group, from mountain music to an arts district filled with unique galleries and public art, Ashe County offers an unexpected and delightful arts experience.

For information on lodging, restaurants, shopping and more:

arlibrary.org/ashe
ashechamber.com/ashevisitor
ashecounartyarts.org
ashefarmersmarket.com
visitwestjefferson.org

Our 2019 Sponsors

Thank you!



Friends of the
Ashe County Public Library





A Celebration of Reading
Ashe County's Literary Festival
September 17-21, 2019

Ashe County Arts Council
303 School Avenue
West Jefferson, NC 28694

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