

Four Rivers Charter Public School Division 2 Summer Reading 2011

Note: Audio versions of some of these books are being made available on our school's web site. They are best heard by using Internet Explorer.

Go to www.fourriverscharter.org/books

Incoming 9th graders must read two books:

To Kill a Mockingbird by Harper Lee

The Man who Counted: A Collection of Mathematical Adventures by Malba Tahan

Incoming 10th graders must read two books:

The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks by Rebecca Skloot

plus 1 book from the list below.

A Walk in the Woods by Bill Bryson

Returning to the U.S. after 20 years in England, Iowa native Bryson decided to reconnect with his mother country by hiking the length of the 2100-mile Appalachian Trail. Awed by merely the camping section of his local sporting goods store, he nevertheless plunges into the wilderness and emerges with a consistently comical account of a neophyte woodsman learning hard lessons about self-reliance.

Better Off: Flipping the Switch on Technology by Eric Brende

An undergraduate course in the history of technology led Brende to enroll in a graduate program at M.I.T. that contemplated the social effects of machines on human life. He then decided to test his idea that the more advanced the machine, the bigger the downside, by moving to the country to farm and live cheaply without electricity for 18 months.

Coming of Age in Mississippi by Anne Moody

Anne Moody lived through some of the most dangerous days of the pre-civil rights era in the South. Through the NAACP and later through CORE and SNCC she has first-hand experience of the demonstrations and sit-ins that were the mainstay of the civil rights movement, and the arrests and jailings, the shotguns, fire hoses, police dogs, billy clubs and deadly force that were used to destroy it.

Into the Wild by Jon Krakauer

After graduating from Emory University in Atlanta in 1992, top student and athlete Christopher McCandless abandoned his possessions, gave his entire \$24,000 savings account to charity and hitchhiked to Alaska, where he went to live in the wilderness. Four months later, he turned up dead. His diary, letters and two notes found at a remote campsite tell of his desperate effort to survive, apparently stranded by an injury and slowly starving. *Into the Wild* sheds light on the forces that drive people to drop out of society and test themselves in other ways.

It's Not About the Bike by Lance Armstrong

In 1996, young cycling phenom Armstrong discovered he had testicular cancer. In 1999, he won the Tour de France. This volume covers his early life, his rise through the endurance sport world and his medical difficulties. Cancer "was like being run off the road by a truck, and I've got the scars to prove it," Armstrong declares. As he gets worse, then better, Armstrong describes the affections of his racing friends and of the professionals who cared for him.

The Legacy of Luna: The Story of a Tree, a Woman and the Struggle to Save the Redwoods by Julia Butterfly Hill

In December 1997, Hill (who calls herself Julia Butterfly), 23, climbed 180 feet up a redwood tree she dubbed Luna to protest the logging of northern California's ancient redwood forests. She came down 738 days later. Now a hero of the environmental movement, Hill relives her ordeal in a dramatic first-person narrative revealing just how much she saw her protest as a spiritual quest.

Mountains Beyond Mountains by Tracy Kidder

At the center of *Mountains Beyond Mountains* stands Paul Farmer. Doctor, Harvard professor, renowned infectious-disease specialist, anthropologist, the recipient of a MacArthur "genius" grant, world-class Robin Hood, Farmer was brought up in a bus and on a boat, and in medical school found his life's calling: to diagnose and cure infectious diseases and to bring the lifesaving tools of modern medicine to those who need them most. This book shows how radical change can be fostered in situations that seem insurmountable.

Outcasts United: A Refugee Team, an American Town by Warren St. John

Warren St. John tells the incredible stories of an entire program of immigrant refugee soccer players in Clarkston, GA. Each player's family has an amazing survival story from war-torn and politically oppressed areas of the planet. The book is a sports story, a sociological study, a tale of global and local politics, and the story of a determined woman who became involved in the lives of her young charges.