



Dana Haynes



Caitlin Starling



Valerie Davisson

Lincoln City library goes dark this October

Longer evenings tend to mean fewer twilight walks on the beach, which is sad. But they also signal a distinct uptick in the amount of time available for curling up with a good book, preferably one with a twist in the tale.

And anyone looking for recommendations on which books to choose will find plenty as the Dark & Stormy Night series returns to Lincoln City's Driftwood Public Library for its 16th year.

Every Thursday throughout October, the library will welcome mystery writers to read from their works and chat with readers.

The series begins on Thursday, Oct. 3, with a return visit from Dana Haynes, reading from his new mystery-thriller novel, "St. Nicholas Salvage and Wrecking."

Haynes has spent 25 years in Oregon newspaper newsrooms, split between weeklies and dailies. He currently serves as managing editor of the Portland Tribune and several associated newspapers. He has won awards as a reporter, columnist and editor. A native of the Pacific Northwest, he also served as spokesman and speechwriter for the mayor of Portland. He lives in Portland with his wife, Katy King.

The series continues on Thursday, Oct. 10, with a visit from Christa Yelich-Koth, whose most recent book, "The Jade Castle," is the first in the "Land of Iyah" cycle. Yelich-Koth comes from a varied educational background, from

Spanish immersion primary school, to studying vocal music at an arts high school, to a bachelor of science degree in Biology. She has published five novels to date, as well as a graphic novel and a comic book series. She has also worked as a professional editor for many years and has been fortunate to work with several bestselling writers, both in the US and Internationally. She currently resides on the Oregon Coast.

On Thursday, Oct. 17, the library will welcome Valerie Davisson, who published the fourth book in her Logan McKenna series last November. Having grown up all over the world, including in Italy, Germany and Japan, Davisson eventually earned her master's degree in Anthropology from UC Irvine. She has taught Cultural Anthropology and 6th graders in Southern California, and it was while teaching that she started writing the first two Logan McKenna books. She is the mother of two grown sons, and currently resides with her husband, John, in their dream cottage in the middle of an old-growth forest on the Oregon Coast.

Alexandra Mason will visit the library on Thursday, Oct. 24. Mason has lived a life devoted to reading, writing, teaching and publishing. As a Shakespeare scholar, she wrote one of the first essays to focus on the language of Ophelia rather than of Hamlet; and helped shine a light on the work of Elizabeth Cary, the first woman playwright in England. After a full academic career as a professor and

dean, Mason has authored five books, including the novel "The Lighthouse Ghost of Yaquina Bay," which critics have called "the Mother of all Ghost Stories!" and is sold at lighthouses nationwide. With the Tuesday Writers of Waldport, she has been working on memoirs and a sci-fi fantasy novel called "Shakespeare's Pipe." She lives overlooking the sea on the Central Oregon Coast.

The series wraps up on Thursday, Oct. 31, with a visit from Caitlin Starling. Equipped with an anthropology degree and an unhealthy interest in the dark and macabre, Starling writes horror-tinged speculative fiction of all flavors. Her first novel, "The Luminous Dead," tells the story of a caver on a foreign planet who finds herself trapped, with only her wits and the unreliable voice on her radio to help her back to the surface. Starling also works in narrative design for interactive theater and games, and has been paid to design body parts. She's always on the lookout for new ways to inflict insomnia. She lives, writes and wrangles spreadsheets near Portland.

Dark & Stormy Night series are free and open to all. Each session starts at 4 pm at Driftwood Public Library, located on the second floor of the Lincoln Square civic complex at 801 SW Hwy. 101.

For more information, contact Ken Hobson at Driftwood Public Library, 541-996-1242 or khobson@lincolncity.org.