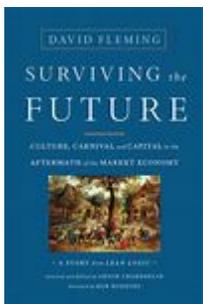


Transition Marquette County Reading Group 2018-2019

The Transition Marquette County Reading Group meets at 7pm on the 2nd Thursday of each month in the Dandelion Cottage Room at Peter White Public Library in Marquette to discuss books reflecting the Mission Statement: *Transition Marquette County promotes creative, compassionate, resilient communities in Northern Michigan. Our goals include nurturing individual and community self-reliance especially in the areas of food, health, water, energy, and housing.* Anyone is welcome to participate. It would help to have at least started to read the book! For more information call Charlie at 226-3314 or email mqtchaz@gmail.com

September 13 *Surviving the Future: Culture, Carnival, and Capital in the Aftermath of the Market Economy*, by David Fleming (Recommended by Rob Hopkins, Richard Heinberg)



We will start off the year with *Surviving the Future: Culture, Carnival, and Capital in the Aftermath of the Market Economy*. The content of this book is from David Fleming (friend, colleague of Rob Hopkins – Mr Transition!), selected and edited after Fleming died by Shaun Chamberlin. Fleming claims that for three centuries, the market economy has been the source and framework for a loose and easy-going, but effective, civil society and social order. As the market economy fails, we will need to look elsewhere. He describes a “lean culture”.

+Charlie’s note: I am finding this a really readable, interesting, and significant book. Thanks to a grant, we have a limited number of free copies for people who will commit to come and be part of the conversation on Sept 13. [The people offering the grant will ask us to complete a survey.] Interested – call Charlie 226-3314 or email mqtchaz@gmail.com

October 11 *A History of the World in 7 Cheap Things - A guide to capitalism, nature, and the future of the planet* by Raj Patel and Jason Moore

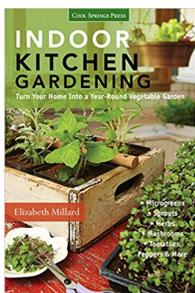


Nature, money, work, care, food, energy, lives – these seven things have made our world. In making them cheap, modern commerce has transformed, governed, and devastated earth. This book proposes a radical new way of understanding – and reclaiming – the planet in the turbulent twenty-first century

“A compelling interpretation of how we got to where we are now and how we might go on to create a more just and sustainable civilization.” - Kim Stanley Robinson

(This book is also recommended by Naomi Klein, Roxanne Dunbar-Ortiz, Marion Nestle, and Bill McKibben, among others!)

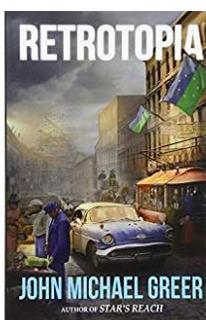
November 8 *Indoor Kitchen Gardening* by Elizabeth Millard



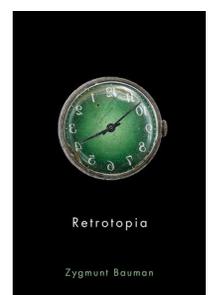
Microgreens, sprouts, herbs, mushrooms, tomatoes and peppers – Millard shows how to grow edibles through the year without specialized equipment beyond pots and kitchen counters! (I love it – she has one picture of wheatgrass growing in soup cans!) Yes, we’ve seen some of this before, but especially as winter draws near, it’s good (and hope inducing) to be planting and harvesting good stuff to eat!

December 13

Reader’s Choice *Retrotopia*



There are in fact two books with this title. One is a scholarly book by Zygmunt Bauman and the other is a novel by JM Greer (he serialized it on The Archruid’s Report before that blog morphed into Ecosophia.) So choose one or the other. They both rest on the premise that our best hope for any kind of future utopia will reflect past cultures more than future technology. Looking for something kind of heavy? Go with Bauman. Or for something a little lighter for these cold, dark days? Go with Greer!

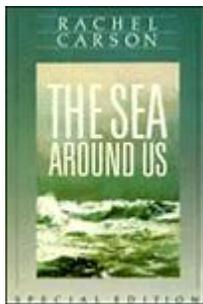


January 19 ***The Big Hunger – The Unholy Alliance Between Corporate America and Anti-Hunger Groups***, by A Fisher (This pretty much contradicts the whole *Wasted* movie vision! If that movie made you mad, this is the book for you!!)



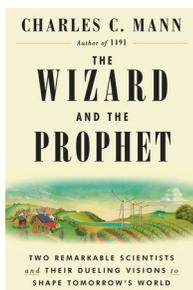
Food banks and food pantries have proliferated in response to economic emergency. From one perspective, anti-hunger leaders have been extraordinarily effective. Food charity is embedded in American civil society, and federal food programs have remained somewhat intact. But anti-hunger advocates are missing an essential element of the problem: economic inequality driven by low wages. Relying on corporate donations of food and money, anti-hunger organizations have failed to hold business accountable for offshoring jobs, cutting benefits, exploiting workers and rural communities, and resisting wage increases. Fisher lays out a vision that encompasses a broader definition of hunger focused on public health, economic justice, and economic democracy

February 14 ***The Sea Around Us*** Rachel Carson



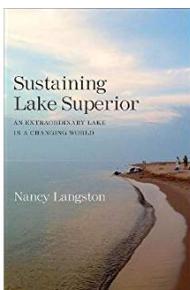
Not her most famous book, but many people think her most moving. Before writing *Silent Spring*, Carson thought of herself as “a poet of the sea”. Published in 1951, this book won the National Book Award and was on the New York Times Best Seller list for a record-setting eighty-six weeks.

March 14 ***The Wizard and the Prophet*** by Charles C Mann



In 1948, William Vogt (the “Prophet” of the title) published *Road to Survival*, suggesting that humans should try to find balance and live within environmental limits. It helped to found the environmentalism movement, and was something of a precursor to the 1972 report *The Limits to Growth*. Norman Borlaug is the Nobel-winning Midwest agronomist whose patiently bred strains of wheat led to the Green Revolution. Mann tells the story of each of these two men, and leads us to consider in a variety of environmental contexts – is it better to live within limits or to push them.

April 11 ***Sustaining Lake Superior*** by Nancy Langston



We tend to think of Lake Superior as clear, clean, even pristine. But Langston notes that pollutants and toxins are arriving from a variety of sources. She is a professor at MTU and spoke at the Northern Climate Network at NMU last spring.

“A cautionary story about the true cost of unenlightened commodification of Lake Superior. Like the Anishinaabe whose stewardship Nancy Langston chronicles, she invokes Seventh Generation thinking: make wise decisions today based on the best interests of future generations.” -Patty Loew, Bad River Anishinaabe

May 9 ***Life Everlasting – the Animal Way of Death*** by Bernd Heinrich



Ok, yes, this sounds a little interesting and a little weird. Heinrich is a really good writer on nature themes. We’re going to give this one a try.

June 13 ***New York 2140*** by Kim Stanley Robinson



We end the year with a good “sea-level rise” story - flooded New Yorkers living on the top floors of skyscrapers, “gondola taxi’s” going up and down the flooded streets.