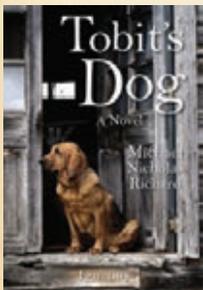


# SUMMER BOOK CLUB



**Wednesday, July 21, 2021  
7:00 to 8:30 PM  
Annex Room #1**



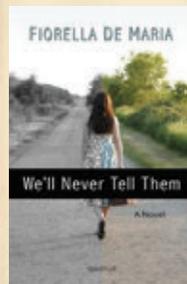
**Tobit's Dog**  
By *Michael Nicholas Richard*

Despite the ever present oppression of the Jim Crow South around him, Tobit Messenger had become a prosperous and well respected man. Then one day forces beyond his control start a cascade of misfortune that leaves him blind and nearly destitute. It is then that an affable travelling musician, who calls himself Ace Redbone, shows up on his doorstep claiming to be a distant relative.

In an effort to alleviate his family's dire situation, Tobit allows his son, Tobias, to accompany Ace Redbone on a quest to collect a long overdue debt. Together, Ace, Tobias, and a most peculiar dog named Okra set off on a journey that will lead to unexpected consequences. Currents of grace begin rippling through not only Tobit's family but his entire community as hidden crimes are revealed and justice, which had almost been despaired of, is served.

This retelling of the biblical story of Tobit, set in North Carolina during the Depression, brings to life in surprising ways the beloved Old Testament characters, including the important but often overlooked family dog.

**Tuesday, August 17, 2021  
7:00 to 8:30 PM  
Annex Room #1**



**We'll Never Tell Them**  
By *Fiorella De Maria*

Kristjana, a nurse in England, flees twenty-first-century London in order to avoid a decision about her future. While attending a dying man in a Jerusalem hospital, she escapes into another woman's past and discovers there the courage to embrace her own destiny. Through his vivid story telling, Kristjana's cancer patient, Leo Hampton, recounts his mother's life—her upbringing in colonial Malta, her education in Edwardian England, and her service as a volunteer nurse during World War I.

Captivated by the story of Liljana Hampton, Kristjana is pulled into the agonies and the ecstasies of a previous generation, which almost seem more real to her than those of her own life. Through her vicarious experience of another woman's personal history, Kristjana discovers the secret of fearlessly embracing her future.

With her passionate and colorful prose, award winning author Fiorella De Maria seamlessly weaves back and forth between the past and the future. She realistically brings to life the cobbled streets of Old World Malta, the halls of an English boarding school, and the trenches of the Great War as she explores the age-old quest for some sense of security in a dangerous and uncertain world.