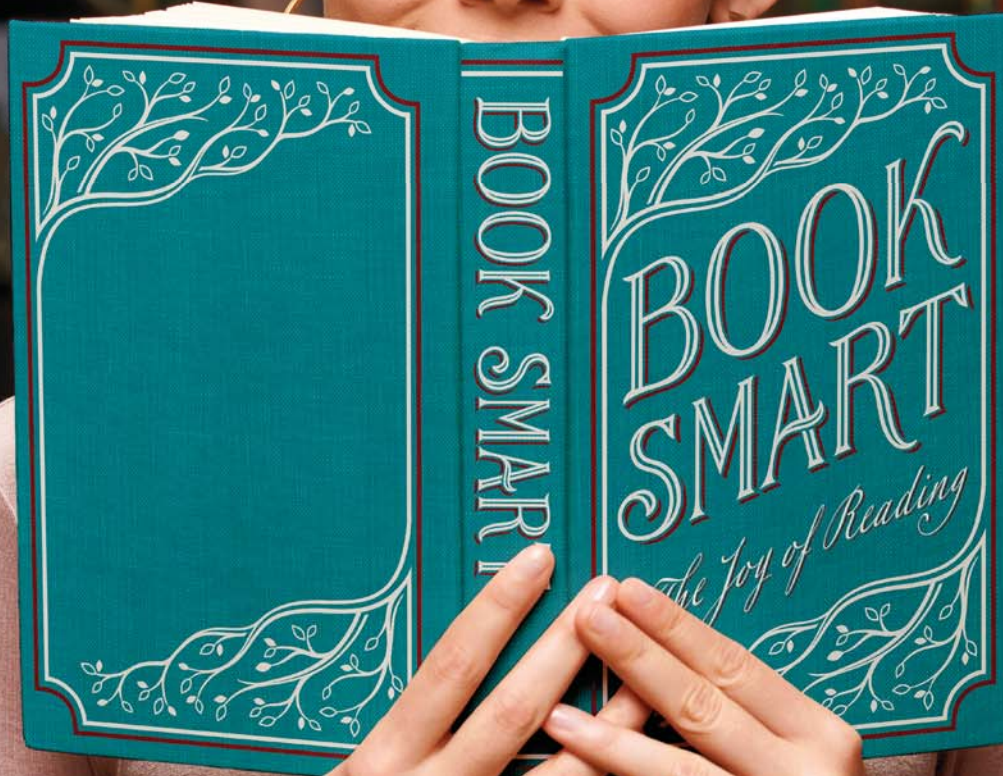


THE LOCALS BEHIND
LORDSTOWN MOTORS
by JIM DeBROSSE

CAN THE ENNEAGRAM
HELP AT WORK?
by LEYLA SHOKOOHE

ENOTECA EMILIA MAKES
A DELICIOUS COMEBACK
by AKSHAY AHUJA

Cincinnati





The Book Doctor Is In

In the windowless basement of the Ohio Book Store, brothers Mike and Jim Fallon keep the family business of book restoration alive and well.

BY LAUREN FISHER

PHOTOGRAPHS BY
CHRIS VON HOLLE

ROEBLING POINT BOOKS & COFFEE

Covington's quintessential neighborhood bookstore, with cozy spaces to read; coffee, tea, and pastries; and café seating out front. To continue serving customers staying home, they're delivering bags of coffee and books within the I-275 loop, up to 20 miles from the store. 306 Greenup St., Covington, (859) 815-7204, roebblingpointbooksandcoffee.com

SMITH & HANNON

As the city's sole Black-owned bookstore, founded by a former school superintendent to promote literacy in the African American community, Smith & Hannon is a hub for conversations between the community and local and national authors. It sells modern and historic Black literature, as well as art, jewelry, and gifts. 1405 Vine St., Over-the-Rhine, (513) 641-2700, smithandhannonbookstore.com

FIRST EDITION RARE BOOKS

This appointment-only bookstore is for purist collectors who appreciate rare, unvarnished first-edition printings, often closest to the author's original intent. Have first editions you're ready to part with? They'll do the legwork, cataloguing and promoting them until they sell for a fair price. 250 E. Fifth St., #1542, downtown, (513) 719-0001, thefirstedition.com

THE OHIO BOOK STORE



CHECK UP TIME The process begins with a delicate examination. Each book arrives in a different condition—some require only a re-binding, while others need to be rebuilt entirely. Mike and Jim remove the covers carefully, scraping away decades of glue, and sew the pages into new binding. “When you first start it, you’re shaking,” Mike says. “Because you don’t want to damage anything.”



By any generous estimation, it would take several—maybe a dozen—trips to fully sort through the shelves of the Ohio Book Store, the four-story fixture on Main Street that’s filled to the brim with rare and collectible books. But down a narrow stairwell tucked away amid the shelves of military history, classics, and music, that’s where the magic really happens. In a pale, windowless room, brothers Mike and Jim Fallon safeguard the family business, painstakingly restoring family Bibles and yellowed pages that predate America itself. And even as independent bookstores fold left and right, Cincinnati’s dedicated book doctors have found themselves busier than ever, stitching back together pieces of history and giving tattered tomes a second chance at life.



Theresa Rebeck, Ursuline Academy alumna, Broadway playwright, and screenwriter, *Bernhardt/Hamlet*, TV’s *Smash*

Thomas Berger, Lockland resident and author, *Little Big Man*, *Arthur Rex*, *Neighbors*

Emily Henry, West Chester-raised novelist, *People We Meet on Vacation*, *Beach Read*

THE OHIO BOOK STORE



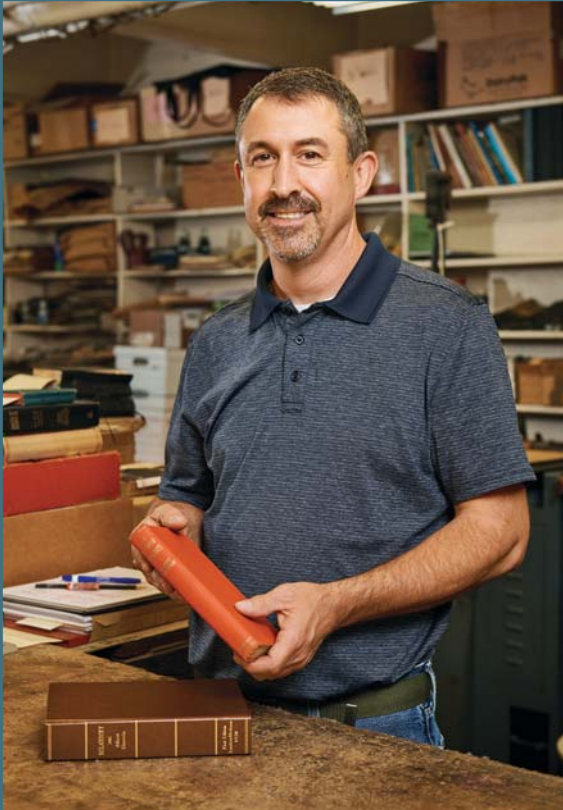
AS REAL AS IT GETS “Don’t get too close,” Mike warns. The molten metal he injects into custom, handset blocks of type has been heated up to a toasty 550 degrees. The typesetting machine is one of nearly a dozen rare, highly specialized devices squeezed into a single room in the basement.



Cuesta Benberry, Cincinnati-born quiltmaking historian, *Always There: The African-American Presence in American Quilts*, *Piece of My Soul: Quilts by Black Arkansans*

Jessica Strawser, Cincinnati Library Writer-in-Residence and novelist, *Almost Missed You* and *Not That I Could Tell*

THE OHIO BOOK STORE



GUARDIANS OF HISTORY

The Fallon brothers rarely come across a lost cause. “We work on a lot of really rare, valuable historical pieces,” says Mike (above), holding a first edition copy of Albert Einstein’s *Theory of Relativity*. The projects closest to their hearts are family Bibles, passed down through generations. “Things that have family meaning,” Mike says. “That’s the most special thing.”



Emma Carlson Berne, Queen City resident and author, *Still Waters, Never Let You Go*

Kathy Y. Wilson, Cincinnati Magazine contributor, journalist, educator, *Your Negro Tour Guide*

Jeffrey Hillard, Mount St. Joseph Professor of English and author, *Shine Out of Bedlam and Shine in Grit City* ©