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AUTHOR A.B. GUTHRIE JR. TO KEYNOTE ANNUAL SPRING LIBRARY FRIENDS' DINNER

MISSOULA --

Montana author and Pulitizer Prize winner A.B. Guthrie Jr. will keynote the annual spring dinner of the Friends of the Library of the University of Montana April 15 in the University Center Gold Oak Room.

The dinner begins at 7 p.m. Guthrie's address will be at 8 p.m.

Arthur Deschamps Jr., president of the Friends of the Library, said the deadline for making reservations for the program with UM Library Dean Earle C. Thompson is April 12. Thompson may be reached by writing him or by phoning 243-2053 or 243-4803 at UM.

The address by Guthrie is being sponsored by the UM Public Exercises Committee and the Friends of the Library.

Guthrie, an Indiana native who lives at 2600 Queen St., Missoula, was graduated from the University of Montana in 1923. He received the Pulitizer Prize in 1950 for his novel "The Way West." His other books include "The Big Sky" and "These Thousand Hills." He is also well known for the quality of his short stories.

"These Thousand Hills" by Guthrie was chosen "book of the week" by the Saturday Review on Nov. 17, 1956. He is currently writing a book he refers to as "a light-hearted western whodunit."

Guthrie became executive editor of the Lexington (Ky.) Leader after serving on the newspaper's staff 20 years.

At the age of six Guthrie moved from Indiana to Choteau. His father, a high school principal and later a newspaperman, encouraged his son in an interest in journalism and the West.

The younger Guthrie began his newspaper career as a printer's devil on The Choteau Acantha.