

## What's Better than a Bookstore? Two Bookstores!

And thanks to the Friends of the Oceanside Public Library, you can shop at two bookstores, one at the Civic Center Library, and one at Mission Branch.

The bookstores offer a variety of fiction, non-fiction, and children's books, CDs, DVDs, magazines and even an assortment of greeting cards.

Most hardbacks are in the \$1 to \$3 range, and paperbacks sell at five for \$1 during our frequent sales. Children's books are usually half price, and CDs and DVDs: just \$1.



The bookstores are maintained by the Friends of Oceanside Public Library and staffed by volunteers who can help you find a perfect stocking stuffer, birthday gift, no-reason gift – and a gift for yourself.

And every purchase is a gift to your community because it supports Oceanside Public Library's year-round programs, special events, books, materials, and media purchases and more.

The Civic Center Library Bookstore is open Monday through Saturday, 10:00 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. The Mission Branch Bookstore is open Monday through Saturday, 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m., and Sunday, 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.

*Mona Marra, Civic Center Library Bookstore Manager*  
*Arne Pearson, Mission Branch Library Bookstore Manager*

**In this Issue: Events and resources supported by the Friends of the Oceanside Public Library**

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**Alma's Things Considered**  
**THE LAYERS OF LIFE**  
By Alma Sisco-Smith

Recently I reported for jury duty, and after we were dismissed at 11:45 AM I was drawn to a seating area outside the building – a large, tranquil garden.

I took out a newspaper that had been sent to me by a young man who was incarcerated in the Mule Creek State Prison, a facility in



lone, CA that houses about 4,100 prisoners.

What an irony of taking this moment in this place to read a message from this individual. He had sent a note through the Friends of Oceanside Public Library after reading an earlier *See Gull* column

of mine. He'd said he found it inspiring and hopeful for him as he tutored other prisoners to read.

I was touched to see the beautiful and professional newspaper put together by various inmates.

My new acquaintance provided astonishing coverage of their performance of Shakespeare's *Julius Caesar* after a 32-week study with a Marin Theatre Group. Unbelievable! A description of each character in the play and the impact of playing those roles was artfully described, and it was heartening to read that each inmate felt enlightened from the experience.

Without knowing any of them, I felt proud for them and pleased that in that place and time, each had found value in the arts that helped them to "learn something of themselves."

And I felt a level of gratitude that a young man had found a way to establish contact with the public domain by reaching out through the Friends of the Oceanside Public Library and in turn engaging with me, thanks to the *See Gull*.

I closed the newspaper and pulled out my journal to make notes, to capture this moment of time and reflect on these new layers that had been added to my life.

I closed my eyes, felt blessed, and as they say in Costa Rica – "*Pura Vida!* Pure Life!"

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The *See Gull* newsletter is published quarterly by the Friends of the Oceanside Public Library and is available at the Civic Center Library; the Mission Branch Library; the Oceanside READS Learning Center; online at [oplfriends.org](http://oplfriends.org); and via email and regular mail.

If you know someone who would like to be added to our mailing list, please email us at [FriendsOfOceansidePublicLibrary@hotmail.com](mailto:FriendsOfOceansidePublicLibrary@hotmail.com).

# Here's the Story of...Here's the Glory of...



No matter how big the library or how large its funding, no library, anywhere, has every book, audiobook, CD or DVD its patrons want.

So aren't we lucky to have Link+?

With Link+ you can search hundreds of libraries in California for a book, audiobook, CD or DVD and if it's available, request it...

**For free.** And using Link+ is easy.

We launched Link+ in April and since then more than 4,000 items have been sent from other libraries to Oceanside Public Library patrons just like you.

They logged-on to their account, searched for the item, and when it wasn't at an Oceanside Public Library, they saw the image at the top right of this page.

So they clicked on the blue "Search and request from another library with Link+" and found the item, (middle image), then requested it (bottom image).

Here are more important things to know about Link+:

**Your item** generally arrives at the requested library in seven days or less.

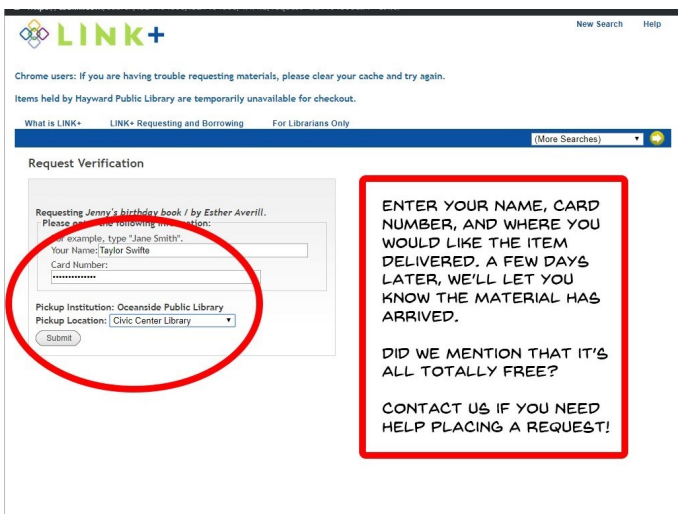
**You can choose** where you want to pick up your item – the Civic Center Library or Mission Branch.

**Your loan time period** for books and most audiovisual material is 21 days with one possible renewal for an additional 21 days. Some DVDs have a seven-day loan period and are not renewable.

**You can check** the status of your Link+ request – just click on "My Account" and "Holds." The status will show as "INN-Reach REQUEST," "In Transit" or "Ready. Must pick up by (date)." You'll be notified by email or phone call that your item is available.

**You can return** your Link+ item to either Oceanside Public Library location.

In just a few days you can start enjoying reading, listening to or watching your Link+ requested item!



If you have any questions about Link+ please call 760-435-5600 or ask one of the friendly Library staff at the Information Desks.

# Special Events at the Oceanside Public Library!



## Winter Reading Challenge for Children and Teens

December 1, 2019 to January 31, 2020

In this event, kids (up to 18) read, or are read to, five books, and then return to the Oceanside Public Library for a free book and a free kids' meal or 6" sub from Subway. Participants can sign up at any Library location or online at [oceansidepubliclibrary.beanstack.org](http://oceansidepubliclibrary.beanstack.org).

## I've Got the Magic in Me: A Harry Potter Kids Event, Civic Center Library

Saturday, December 7, 11am

Kids ages six and up, and their families are invited to a Harry Potter-themed party featuring a presentation from the El Camino High School Drama Club and hands-on crafts and games.

## Family Pajama Storytime with Llama Llama, Civic Center Library

Monday, December 16, 6pm

Children of all ages and their families are invited to an evening storytime featuring special guest Llama Llama from the popular book series *Llama Llama Red Pajama* by Anna Dewdney. Children are welcome to come dressed in pajamas, bring their favorite stuffed animal, and enjoy stories, songs and crafts.



## Holiday Sing-Along Program with The Sunset Strummers

Saturday, December 14 at 2pm at the Mission Branch Library AND Saturday, December 21 at 11am at the Civic Center Library.

The Sunset Strummers Ukulele Band bring their festive and interactive holiday music show to the Oceanside Public Library! All are invited to attend this free music program. For all ages.

## GIFTS GALORE! BOOKS AND MORE!

A New Friends of the Oceanside Public Library Fundraising Event

Where: Community Room at the Civic Center Library

When: December 8, 2019

Time: 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.

**Lovely gift books priced to sell:** new, antique, leatherbound, cookbooks, beautiful books, rare books.

**Gifts** such as: quilts, tote bags, aprons, and other unique items found no place else!

**Silent Auction for a family vacation** in South Lake Tahoe: a three-bedroom condo, available 4/25/2020 to 5/2/2020; opportunity prize drawings throughout.

## Recommendations From the Archives:

***Gaudy Night* by Dorothy L. Sayers** ★★★★★ (Five out of five stars)

One of the best-loved mystery writers from the past is Dorothy L. Sayers. Interested in what Oxford, England was like before the second world war? Want to get an idea of how life was lived in a woman's college at that time? Sayers' novel, *Gaudy Night*, copyright 1936, takes us into the mind of an intellectual English woman, Miss Harriet Vane, who is being romantically pursued by Lord Peter Whimsey.

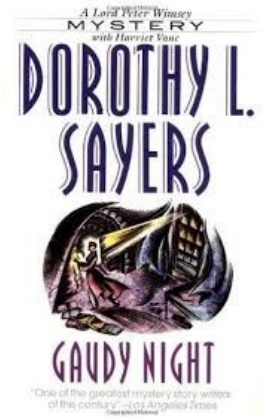
Miss Vane returns to Oxford for a reunion, called the Gaudy – and what follows is a knotty and elaborate puzzle, with humorous situations rife with perplexing clues.

Not an easy read, Sayers was interested in writing detective fiction that explored in exquisite depth the personalities of her characters and the details of the crime settings as well. The crimes in Sayers' fiction are secondary to the story, and arise from complex characteristics of the criminal – indeed, out of the human condition.

*Gaudy Night* is a stand-alone novel, but may be best enjoyed in the midst of other Sayers' novels featuring Whimsey and Vane such as *Strong Poison* (1930) and *Have His Carcase* (1932).

Born in 1893, Sayers was one of the first women to receive a degree from Oxford, finishing with first-class honors. Besides writing brilliant detective novels, she was a translator of classic works from Latin, wrote poetry, worked in a publishing firm and also as a teacher.

*Gaudy Night* is one of those classics you'll want to return to and read again and again in order to be immersed in another place and time, and to harvest clues you might have missed. You can order it from Link+, the Oceanside Public Library lending program featured in this issue of the *See Gull*.



### The Friends of the Oceanside Public Library are Fortunate To Have Supporters Like You!

Dear Friends,

It's hard to believe that 2019 is almost over as we dive into Fall and the holidays arrive so quickly. Because I know you value the Library and the services it provides to our community, would you please consider a year-end gift to the Friends? It is all about continuing, and even increasing, your support for our Library – an essential institution in the City of Oceanside – and a personally important destination for many who live here. Your generous past gifts have enabled the Friends to:

- Provide the Library with funds needed for children/teen/adult programs;
- Provide homework assistance for our school-age children;
- Continue strong annual support of the Summer Reading Programs, free concerts, and cultural programs;
- Purchase thousands of books and literacy materials;
- Fund the Career On-line High School and STEAM Summer Enrichment programming;
- Assist the Library in offering computers and internet access to patrons who would not otherwise have digital access, and more.

Friends help to ensure that the Oceanside Public Library is there for everyone to use and enjoy. If we want the Library to continue providing comprehensive services for our residents, now is the time to make a gift. I hope you will consider a gift in any amount, perhaps giving a donation as an alternative to a holiday gift for a family member.

Thank you for your continued generosity and support. Your gift ensures that the Library will be there for you now and for generations to come.

Blake Kern, Membership Chair



# Spotlight On...

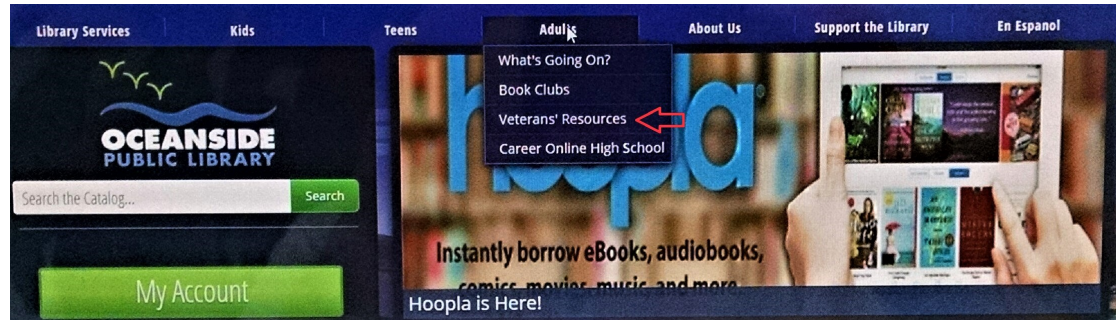
## Oceanside Public Library's Veterans' Connect Resource Center



There are more than 18 million veterans in the U.S., and more than 240,000 reside in San Diego County.

So it's likely that you know one or more veterans, and perhaps their families.

But did you know that Oceanside Public Library's services include a Veterans' Resource Center?



The easiest way for a vet or their family members to get acquainted with the Veterans' Resource Center is on the Library website (see image above); just click Adults, then Veterans' Resources.

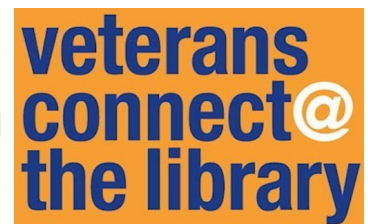
This takes you to the Veterans' Resources page and a list of hotlines, along with links to San Diego County, California and Federal resources.



There's also a link to VetNow, a free online resource for VA Benefits eligibility, community resources, job assistance and academic tutoring for veterans and their families.

Oceanside Public Library also offers on-site veterans' services at the Civic Center Library, 330 N. Coast Highway, second floor.

The Veterans' Connect Resource Center features books, brochures and other material on education, employment, housing, health, disability, and other benefits that may be available for veterans and their families.



Trained volunteers are available to meet with veterans and their families at the Civic Center Library Resource Center; for an appointment call 760-435-5571 or email [oceansidevetconnect@gmail.com](mailto:oceansidevetconnect@gmail.com).

The Civic Center Library is open Monday-Thursday from 10:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.; Friday and Saturday 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.; and closed Sunday.

*Let us remember the service of our veterans, and let us renew our national promise to fulfill our sacred obligations to our veterans and their families who have sacrificed so much so that we can live free.*

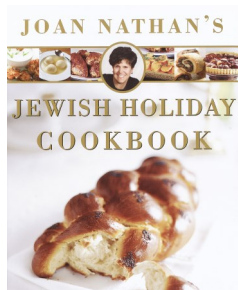
– Dan Lipinski, U.S. House of Representatives

# Oceanside Public Library Books of the Season

Are you looking for something new and delicious to prepare for the holidays? How about something with a holiday touch to read and enjoy?

Here's a list compiled by your Oceanside Library team that includes cookbooks, novels and more, specially selected for you:

**Joan Nathan's Jewish Holiday Cookbook:** Revised and updated on the occasion of the 25th anniversary of the publication of *The Jewish Holiday Kitchen*.  
by Joan Nathan



**Vegan Holiday Kitchen:** More than 200 delicious, festive recipes for special occasions.  
by Nava Atlas

**Royal Holiday:** A spontaneous holiday vacation that turns into an unforgettable romance.  
by Jasmine Guillory



**Merry and Bright:** A delightful holiday novel of first impressions and second chances.  
by Debbie Macomber

**Holidays on Ice:** The beloved holiday collection from the American humorist, comedian, author, and radio contributor.

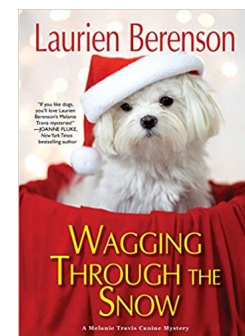
by David Sedaris



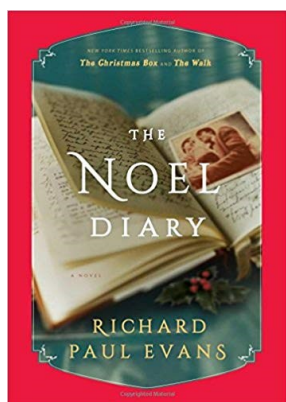
**Gluten-Free Baking for the Holidays:** Sixty recipes for traditional festive treats.  
by Jeanne Sauvage

**Handcrafted Christmas:** Ornaments, decorations, and cookie recipes to make at home.  
by Susan Waggoner

**A Christmas Return:** A holiday mystery filled with bygone relationships and hidden secrets.  
by Anne Perry (Large Type)



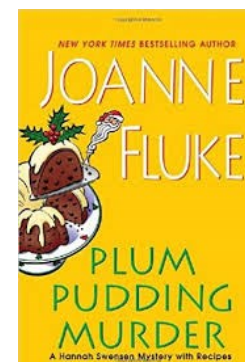
**Wagging Through the Snow:** A Melanie Travis Mystery with warm, sometimes humorous scenes of family life.  
by Laurien Berenson (Large Type)



**Debbie Macomber's Christmas Cookbook:** The best-selling author shares holiday recipes and memories.  
by Debbie Macomber

**The Noel Diary:** A man receives the best Christmas present he could ask for: the chance to re-write the past.  
by Richard Paul Evans

**Plum Pudding Murder:** A Hannah Swenson Mystery with holiday recipes.  
by Joanne Fluke



Library books and materials are supported in part by the Friends.

## Homework Helpers and Book Buddies

Do you know a child who needs help with homework or with their reading? Oceanside Public Library offers free homework help and reading assistance provided by volunteers for students in Grades K-8th.

**Mission Branch Library**  
3861-B Mission Avenue  
Mondays-Thursdays, 3:30-5:30pm

**Civic Center Library**  
330 N. Coast Highway  
Mondays-Thursdays, 3:30-5:30pm

No registration is required, but holiday hours may vary; please call (760) 435-5600 and ask for Children's Services.

# Friends of the Oceanside Public Library

1971-2019

*Celebrating 48 Years of  
Community Service*



Facebook.com/OPLfriends

**oplfriends.org**

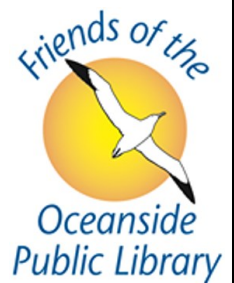
FriendsOfOceansidePublicLibrary@hotmail.com

**FOUNDED IN 1971 AS A NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION, THE MISSION OF THE FRIENDS OF THE OCEANSIDE PUBLIC LIBRARY IS TO SUPPORT AND PROMOTE THE SERVICES AND RESOURCES OF THE OCEANSIDE PUBLIC LIBRARY THROUGH COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT, VOLUNTEER ACTIVITIES, AND FUNDRAISING. THE ORGANIZATION MAINTAINS A MEMBERSHIP OF PERSONS INTERESTED IN THE LIBRARY, SPONSORS SPECIAL PROGRAMS AND CULTURAL EVENTS FOR BOTH CHILDREN AND ADULTS, AND WORKS TO ENHANCE THE LIBRARY'S COLLECTION AND FACILITIES.**

## How Sweet It Is!

**A Fundraising Event For  
The Friends of the Oceanside Public Library:**

***Wine, Chocolate and a Good Book***



**February 29, 2020**

Watch for the Friends' flyer  
for venue and details.

Friends' fund-raising supports the Ocean Public Library's classes, events, purchases and other resources.

**PURCHASE OR RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP TODAY!**

**Annual Membership:** Individual — \$10      Booster — \$50      Business or Organization — \$250  
Family — \$25      Patron — \$100      Benefactor — \$500

**Donation:** I've enclosed an extra \$ \_\_\_\_\_ to help the Friends.

**Make check payable to:** Friends of the Oceanside Public Library. Membership and donations are tax-deductible.

**PLEASE PRINT**

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

**To return by mail:** Friends of the Oceanside Public Library, 330 N. Coast Hwy., Oceanside, CA 92054-2824

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MUSIC CDS \* 50 ¢ DVDs \* \$1  
VHS \* 2 for 25 ¢  
CASSETTES \* 25 ¢ or 5 for \$1

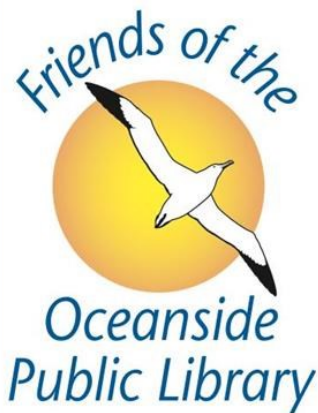
# Friends of the Oceanside Public Library

We invite you to join us to support the library!



**BOOKS  
AND  
MEDIA  
CLOSEOUT  
SALE**

Saturday, November 16, 2019  
10 am to 4 pm  
602 Civic Center Drive  
(Members can enter at 9 AM)



To learn more about  
Friends of the Oceanside  
Public Library events or  
how to get involved visit  
us on Facebook at  
**Facebook.com /  
oplfriends**  
or call 760-435-5564

**SAVE THE DATE**  
2/15/2020  
BAM Sale

330 North Coast Hwy ☐ Phone (760) 435-5560 ☐ [oplfriends.org](http://oplfriends.org)

HARD COVER BOOKS \* \$1  
PAPERBACK \* 25 ¢ or 5 for \$1  
CHILDREN'S BOOKS \* 25 ¢ to \$1  
NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC \* 10 ¢