

Oceanside Public Library Helps Students *Set Up to Succeed!*

A public library invites patrons to learn, to explore, and to experience the ideas and knowledge available in books, DVDs, CDs and to access special programs, as well as use the Internet. But it takes a library card.

That's why the Oceanside Public Library and Oceanside Unified School District (OUSD) extended that invitation to every Oceanside public school K-12 student – about 17,000 students in 23 schools through providing them with their own library cards.

Marie Town, Principal Librarian for Children and Teens, assembled a team of library staff including CJ Di Mento, Jorge Garcia, Amy Kleman, Lisa Ferneau-Haynes, Erin Nakasone, April Stone, Library Director Sherri Cosby, and Sam Liston, who has unique technology skills and know-how because of his previous work for a school district.

The team knew that *Set Up to Succeed* was groundbreaking – providing library access to students on this scale hadn't been done before. One of the many steps was applying for and receiving an impressive \$58,000 federally funded state-based competitive grant from the Library Services and Technology Act through the California State Library. The grant, given to meet a community need, has raised awareness and provided increased staffing for promotional and outreach events.

The Library team also set aside \$10,000 of the grant to fund the purchase of new popular and educational books for the Library's collection to help meet the increased demand for materials by the additional student users.

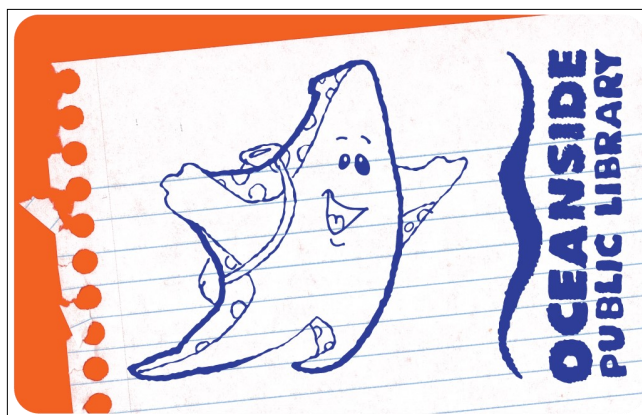
"It was a team effort," Town said, acknowledging her colleague's skills and hard work.

Their results can be measured in the number of additional student users:

In 2018 only 150 new accounts at Oceanside Public Library were created for students.

By September 2019, 10,747 new student library accounts had been created!

(continued on page 2)



The Library team created special Library cards to help students K-5 *Set Up to Succeed*. Older students can use their student ID as their library card.

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

Set Up to Succeed, pages 1 and 2

First-place winner for Oceanside READS, page 4

Free Recreational and Educational Online Resources, page 5

(Set Up to Succeed, continued)



The Library's outreach continues through schools, bookmobiles, and popular events such as the 3D printing classes, the Lego Brick Challenge, Harry Potter's *I've Got the Magic in Me* performance by the El Camino High School drama club, and the Dog Man Police Academy starring the Oceanside Police K-9 Unit (pictured). Friends of the Oceanside Public Library provide welcome refreshments at the functions.

Set Up to Succeed enables Oceanside Public School students to check out books, graphic novels, audiobooks, eAudiobooks and DVDs; use Library computers with free WIFI; attend free Library programs; and prepare for tests such as the SAT, ACT and AP exams. There are now no fines on overdue materials for ages 0-17 years.

Said Town, "One of our Library staff shared this story regarding the program's effect:

'An Oceanside High School student asked me with uncertainty if what her school librarian told her was true – that her school ID number now works as a Library card. When I confirmed that it was true, she was so excited and let out a little cheer! Then she promptly placed some holds and checked out some items.'



"Research has consistently shown," said Town, "that young people who have access to books and other library services do better in school and life. We've enjoyed watching students become excited as they use their new access to the library. Teens especially have been excited as they feel empowered by the welcoming atmosphere and ease of use."

In Memory of Leonard Cosby

Leonard Cosby, husband of Oceanside Public Library Director Sherri Cosby, passed away in January.

Among the many things Sherri and Leonard shared was a devotion to public service; Sherri has worked for the Library for 33 years, as Director since 2011, and Leonard with the Oceanside Police Department. His law enforcement career began in 1986 as a police officer, then sergeant and lieutenant. After his 2016 retirement, Leonard became Police Chaplain and continued in that role until his death.

When they celebrated their 36th wedding anniversary in 2016, Leonard posted this photo and message to Sherri on Facebook:



Remembering all fun, family, and love we've shared for 36 years. Love you, Leonard.

Memorial, Honorarium and Gift Book Donations February 2019 through April 2019

In Memory of Lt. Leonard Cosby
Behind and Beyond the Badge Volume I
Behind and Beyond the Badge Volume II
Tactical Freedom: The PTSD Offensive
by Library Staff

In Honor of Jay Bretney,
Friends of the Library Board Member 2011-2019
Conversations with Turner: The Watercolors
by Friends of the Library

Books: What a miracle it is that out of these small, flat rigid squares of paper unfolds world and world after world.
– Anne Lamott, author

New Signs, a New Video and It's Official:

Welcome to the Oceanside Cultural District!

Did you know that in 2017, Oceanside was selected in a highly competitive statewide process as one of California's 14 inaugural cultural districts? And that...

There's now a downtown area designated as the Oceanside Cultural District...

The Civic Center Library is at the heart of it...

And Library Division Manager CJ Di Mento was the driving force who brought this prestigious designation to Oceanside!

In 2017 Di Mento, who also serves as staff liaison for the City of Oceanside's Arts Commission, learned about a pilot program where the California Arts Council would select cultural districts throughout California that highlight diversity and unique artistic identities.

Di Mento brought together four lead partners: Oceanside Public Library, Oceanside Museum of Art, MainStreet Oceanside and Visit Oceanside. Together, they pursued the state's district designation by shining a light on Oceanside's eclectic culture and diverse array of arts and assets.

The California Arts Council visited Oceanside and "Following that visit," says Di Mento, "Oceanside was selected as one of the first 14 Cultural Districts in California. There was no doubt Oceanside would receive this designation. The creativity,

the artists, the artisans here do amazing work, the cultural events – all are really incredible."

In addition to the Library, district highlights are all in walking distance, and described on the California Cultural District's website as "Theaters, museums, galleries, and practicing artists...home to an eclectic, emerging art scene...a unique place with an abundance of cultural resources."

"Recognition of the Oceanside Cultural District," says Di Mento, "is an exciting step forward for our city, our numerous nonprofit arts and cultural organizations, and the wonderfully talented artists and creative professionals who live or work in Oceanside."

Now *you* can take your own exciting step forward – and step into the Oceanside Cultural District!

For more information about the Oceanside Cultural District, please visit oceansideculturaldistrict.org.



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|--|--|
| 1. Oceanside Museum of Art | 9. Regal Cinemas Oceanside 16 |
| 2. Oceanside Civic Center & Public Library | 10. Coastal Music Studies |
| 3. Star Theater | 11. The Hill Street Country Club at LinkSoul |
| 4. Artist Alley | 12. Oceanside Tattoo – The Arcade |
| 5. Oceanside Theatre Co. at the Brooks | 13. MainStreet Oceanside |
| 6. California Surf Museum | 14. Oceanside Historical Society |
| 7. Rising Star Dance Company | |
| 8. Oceanside Pier and Junior Seau Amphitheater | |



Alma's Things Considered Protecting and Cherishing Our Humanity by Alma Sisco-Smith

As I write this column, we as a nation are in a place that I only recall hearing about from my parents: the polio epidemic of 1952. Today it feels as though we face similar circumstances, and I wondered what we have learned from the experiences of the past. I visited Costco and was shocked. I visited the Oceanside Public Library and was shocked. Were people better off rushing about madly, buying hoards of toilet paper or milling about quietly, serenely, in small numbers browsing or sitting to read?

I researched the history of past epidemics. It was interesting to see similarities, and comforting to find from reading of these past experiences that early common-sense approaches are key to protecting ourselves while awaiting scientific developments.

Although the Library cannot help cure our diseases, it is a place where we learn to protect and cherish our humanity. This is not accomplished by buying toilet paper, but by learning how we all are affected equally and how we can work together for common goals.

These ruminations led me to thinking of two of the many ways our Library helps protect and cherish our humanity. The Library brought Black History Month to a close in February, celebrating Martin Luther King, Jr. by hosting a rededication of the MLK, Jr. Collection (pictured). And in recognition of Cesar Chavez's birthday, March 31, an art exhibit, *Tribute to Immigrant Kitchen Workers*, was wrapped around the upper walls of the Civic Center Library like a toast to the preparations for a feast.

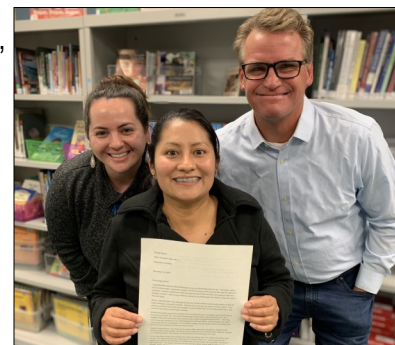


Reginald Owens was among the guests at the rededication of the Oceanside Public Library's Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Collection. Owens was instrumental in establishing the collection in 1989, and its recent update.

Winner of the 2019 Writer-to-Writer Challenge: Wendy Garcia

Oceanside READS Learning Center is an adult literacy program providing one-on-one tutoring. Wendy Garcia is a student of that program.

When Wendy Garcia found out about READS she committed to two evenings a week with tutor Larry Quisenberry to learn to read and write. "I have two daughters," she said, "and my older daughter who was six couldn't read, and I couldn't help her."



Wendy, center, with tutor Larry Quisenberry and READS Literacy Coordinator Chelsea Genack.

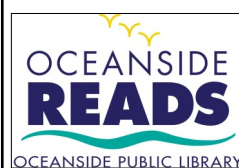
Garcia was so successful in her program she was urged to enter the Writer-to-Writer

challenge hosted by the Southern California Library Literacy Network. Adult learners are invited to read a book of their choice and write a personal letter to the author of that book. Garcia chose *Hana's Suitcase* by Karen Levin, one of Oceanside READS book club selections.

Garcia's letter to Levin reads, in part:

I was affected by the way Fumiko worked with passion to find all kinds of things to show her students...I have two girls and I can't imagine if they had to live the same experiences as Hana during the Nazis power...she tried to survive because her brother gave her hope...hope is one of the more important things that I can relate to this story with my life...

In February the first-place winner in the Beginning Writer category was announced: Wendy Garcia. "I couldn't believe it!" she said.



Oceanside READS Learning Center is an opportunity for adults 18+ to learn to read or improve their reading skills in a welcoming and encouraging environment. To

learn more, or to become a READS tutor, on the Library homepage under the "Library Services" tab click "Literacy Services," or call (760) 435-5680.

We Have a Lot Going On – Online!

Have you explored the online offerings at Oceanside Public Library? On the Library homepage go to the Library Services tab and click “Electronic Resources” or “eBooks & eMedia.”

If you've ever thought, “I’d like to learn to speak French, or Japanese, or Russian, but...” You can, and you can do it for *free*, with an Oceanside Public Library card through our online resources:

Mango Languages: Learn a new language with this interactive database that provides step-by-step lesson plans. Mango’s adaptive learning process evolves to your progress and unique learning behaviors, preparing you to start the conversation with confidence.



The Library offers many other free online learning and recreational options for kids, adults and families:



HelpNow: Brainfuse offers live tutoring and a comprehensive suite of online academic services designed to support many learning needs and styles. HelpNow’s features include homework help, an adult learning center, and thousands of robust lessons.

Learning Express Library: A comprehensive, interactive online learning platform of practice tests and tutorial course series designed to help students and adult learners succeed on the academic or licensing tests they must pass. You’ll get immediate scoring, complete answer explanations, and an individualized analysis of your results.

ChiltonLibrary.com: Auto repair information covering the most popular vehicles of the past 30 years, plus additional coverage of specialty models.

eBooks, eAudiobooks, movies and more are available:

Libby: Download eBooks and eAudiobooks for offline reading or you can stream them to save space. Try a graphic novel, or a picture book with read-along audio.

HOOPLA: Borrow up to 10 items per month: movies, music, eAudiobooks, eBooks, comics and TV shows to enjoy on your computer, tablet, phone or TV. Titles can be streamed immediately, or downloaded to phones or tablets for offline enjoyment later.

Flipster: An easy-to-use digital magazine newsstand for all types of needs and interests.

TumbleBooks Library: eBooks for eKids! Animated, talking picture books, puzzles and games for children with reviews and quizzes to help teachers and parents.

NovelList: Find your next favorite book through an advanced recommendation engine, readalikes, thematic filters and more.

Biblioboard: This platform is for publishing your own work as well as exploring the work of other indie authors.



For veterans and their families:

VetNow: For free VA benefits eligibility, community resources, job assistance, and academic tutoring.

Recommendations from a professional librarian:

Prescription for Reading: Answer some simple questions about books and authors you enjoy, and we’ll email you a reading prescription with five recommendations selected just for you. On the Library homepage go to the “Adults” tab and click “Prescription for Reading.”

Membership Corner

We're glad you're reading the Friends of the Oceanside Library See Gull Newsletter...

But *who* and *what* are Friends?

Before there were Friends of Libraries, there had to *be* libraries.

The first lending library in the U.S. was established in Franklin, MA in the late 1790s. The town had named itself after Founding Father Benjamin Franklin and he, in turn, donated a collection of books to the town. The town agreed that the books would be freely available for the residents to borrow.



Other small libraries opened, then the first large one – Boston Public Library – was established in 1854, with a collection of 16,000 volumes. After the Civil War (1861-1865) tax-funded libraries began spreading across American towns and cities, and by 1920 there were more than 3,500 public libraries in the U.S.

Today, according to the American Library Association, there are 9,057 public libraries in the U.S. Add in library branches, and that number of locations grows to 16,568!

Throughout that growth, as now, there were never enough tax dollars to go around, and in 1922 two groups formed – one in Illinois and one in New York – to raise funds to purchase books for their libraries. They called themselves “Friends of the Library,” and as the need for books grew, so did the number of Friends groups.

That brings us to 1971, and the establishment of Friends of the Oceanside Public Library. We are advocates for the Library, believing its services and programs are essential to the community. When you join the Friends, you're supporting the belief that libraries and lifelong learning are important, and that access to up-to-date information is indispensable to the development of human potential and enlightened self-government.

Every time you walk into the Oceanside Civic Center Library and Mission Branch to borrow a book or DVD; spend time on a Library computer; go online to access an eBook, eAudiobook, music or a movie; participate in a program like *Set Up to Succeed* (page 1) or *READS* (page 4), you're enjoying – and benefitting from – Friends' support.

You're already a Library friend – we encourage you to become a Friend of the Oceanside Public Library!

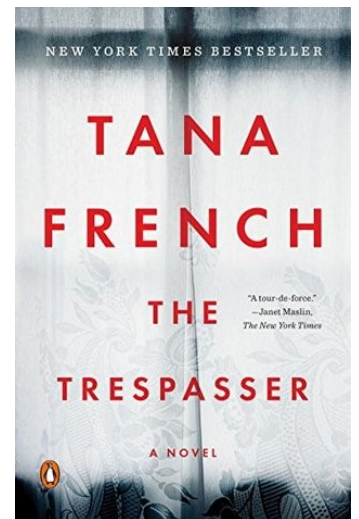
A Friends membership form is available on page 8.

Recommendations from Current Crime Fiction: *The Trespasser* By Tana French

★★★★★ (Five out of five stars)

Tana French blazed on the crime fiction scene winning several prestigious awards for her first novel, *In the Woods* (2007). Ms. French is Irish-American – she lives in Ireland and her novels take place there. She uses the vernacular skillfully in the speech of her characters, making the dialog unique and interesting.

In *The Trespasser* (2016) she writes from the perspective of a new murder squad detective, a woman, who faces challenges from the work, from the harassment within the squad for being female, and from her own internal issues. *The Trespasser* opens with a murder that the detectives on the case initially believe to be a “slam-dunk domestic” but soon it is clear that more is going on.



The novel is a grabber, makes you want to sit and read all afternoon, really a page turner – but with substance and clarity. The writing is skillful and mature. One of the most enjoyable things about the novel was the descriptions of how the murder squad detectives played roles beyond the “good guy, bad guy.” The novel has no stick figures: the personalities and lives of the detectives, suspects and victims are fully depicted as are the relationships between them.

The Trespasser is the sixth of Tana French's novels in her Dublin Murder Squad series and shows the development of an already accomplished writer. If you like crime fiction, you'll want to read her other work and follow her career closely.

Meet Libby



The Trespasser is available through Libby, one of the Library's online resources; see page 5 for details.

You Came – Enjoyed – and Helped Support the Library

Friends of the Oceanside Public Library hosted *Wine, Chocolate & A Good Book*, their spring fundraising event, on February 29 in a lovely home on the Oceanside beach. Wine and chocolate pairings were served, as well as a scrumptious selection of hors d'oeuvres.

Participants enjoyed sunset ocean views from large brick patios, and bid on silent auction items including two fabulous week-long trips.

The star of the evening was Huda Al-Marashi (pictured) with a lively talk about her memoir *First Comes Marriage: My Not So Typical American Love Story*. Al-Marashi stayed afterwards to autograph books and chat with her delighted audience.



Our thanks to all who attend the Friends' fundraising events, including our upcoming BAM sale on August 15. The Friends support the Library through many volunteer hours, and all funds raised by the Friends go toward the Library's purchase of books and materials, and to help with special programs and events.

Congratulations to a Star!

You know Alma Sisco-Smith as a regular contributor to the See Gull newsletter. Sisco-Smith is also the current president of the Library Board of Trustees, and has served as a Trustee since 2012. Now we offer special congratulations to Sisco-Smith, the 2020 recipient of the City of Oceanside Martin Luther King, Jr. Community Service Award.

According to the City's news release, this award "is given annually to a resident of Oceanside who exemplifies the ideals and teachings of Dr. King, and who has served the community in volunteer activities over a long period of time."



Just a few of Alma's services to the community include her volunteer activities with the Library's Oceanside READS program, which led her to become one of the leaders to lobby for the program's sustained funding. She is extremely involved with the North County African American Women's Association, serving as their Scholarship Chair from 2011-2013 and starting a mentoring program for 8th grade girls.

Sisco-Smith feels deeply connected to the thoughts of Dr. King such as, "There comes a time when silence is betrayal. Our lives begin to end the day we become silent about things that matter." Says Sisco-Smith, "These words have been guiding forces in my work."

We congratulate Alma for the well-deserved award – and thank her for all her service.

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The *See Gull* newsletter is published quarterly by 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; and via email and regular mail.



Friends of the Oceanside Public Library

1971-2020

**Celebrating 49 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

At the Friends of the Oceanside Public Library Bookstores You Can Browse – Save – Enjoy!

Every day is bargain day at the Civic Center and Mission Branch Bookstores:

Books, 50¢ to \$3; paperbacks, five for \$1; children's books, half-price; magazines and periodicals, 25¢.

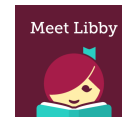
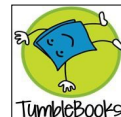
Bookstore hours are 10 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Monday through Saturday, and at the Mission Branch on Sundays from 1:00 p.m. to 5 p.m.

(In line with the City's responses to the situation with COVID-19/ Coronavirus, the Library has temporarily closed all facilities.)

Are You Making the Most of the Library's Free Online Recreational and Educational Resources?

eBooks • eAudiobooks • Movies • Magazines
TV Shows • Music • Graphic Novels
Picture Books • Comics
Puzzles and Games for Kids

Mango Language Lessons
HelpNow Academic Services
Learning Express Practice Tests



See page 5 for details.

PURCHASE OR RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP TODAY!

Annual Membership:

Individual — \$10
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Booster — \$50
Patron — \$100

Business or Organization — \$250
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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.

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