

TWO UPDATES FROM THE FRIENDS OF THE OCEANSIDE PUBLIC LIBRARY

One way the Friends of the Oceanside Public Library raise funds to support the Library is through your generous donations of books, magazines, DVDs and CDs. Those items are sent to the Friends' sorting facility, and then sold in the Friends bookstores located in the Civic Center and Mission Branch Libraries, on Amazon, and at the Thursday Farmers Market in downtown Oceanside.

When the Library closed in mid-March, this source of revenue came to an end.



**Buy-the-Box
Drive-Through
Book Sale**

But not for long. Gail Wells – Friends volunteer and book sorting facility manager – and her colleagues implemented a win-win way to continue generating revenue: The Buy-the-Box Drive-Through Book Sale.

The plan was to sell books by the box, sorted by category – fiction, nonfiction, children's and so on – and charge \$5 for a box of hardcover books; \$7 for a box of oversized books; and \$5 for a bag of paperbacks.

Since the program launched, thousands of books are now in the hands of customers who are enjoying their reading – and the money they saved.

Buy-the-Box Drive-Through Book Sale

- Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.*
- 602 Civic Center Drive, behind Civic Center Library, side door/east alley
- Cash only, face masks required, customers remain in their car.
- No special requests or browsing.
- A volunteer will place the prepacked purchase in the trunk of the vehicle.

*Note: New hours now in effect.

The same Friends book sorting facility we refer to in the article on the left is closing in February to make way for a new fire station and...

CAN YOU HELP?

We are in search of a new location where we can sort the donated books and other items that the Friends sell to raise funds to support the Library.

Without a new location, this source of revenue will be unavailable.

The location must be in Oceanside, a minimum of 2,000 square feet, with amenities to be negotiated.

We believe we will find a new home for our sorting facility, enabling us to continue this critical support of Library resources and services that so enrich our community.

If you know of an available location please call (760) 435-5560.

The Library is not accepting donations at this time. Please check the website for updates.

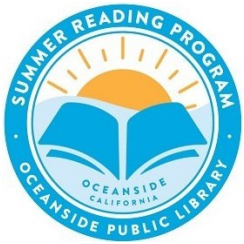
In this Issue: Events and resources supported by Friends of the Oceanside Public Library

The Summer Reading Program, page 2

Oceanside Public Library's Holiday Treats, page 3

Home Deliveries, Virtual Classes and More, pages 4-5

THE FRIENDS OF THE OCEANSIDE PUBLIC LIBRARY SPONSORED A PROGRAM – AND CREATED A LEGACY FOR FUTURE GENERATIONS



The Friends are committed to supporting Library programs to enrich the community, and that includes sponsoring the annual Summer Reading Program for kids, teens and adults. This year the program moved completely online, and the Library invited the community to *Dig Deeper, Oceanside*. The program had two parts:

From June 1 through August 8, participants were invited to commit to reading a specific number of books, and keep an online log of their reading. Kids and teens could earn free books, meal coupons, and museum passes, and there were ongoing drawings for prizes for all age groups. At the program's end, 740 children, teens and adults had participated, reading 5,601 books!

During that same time period, the Library invited the community to *Dig Deeper into Your Story* by writing their thoughts and experiences about this unique time in history: "Tell your stories that reflect on these past months spent social distancing and/or in quarantine. Give first-hand accounts of the conversations, the protests and changes that you've seen this year."

These *COVID Diaries* were submitted and are available in a digital Biblioboard collection for you – and future generations – to read. The stories are also housed in the Library's Heritage Room, a room dedicated to stories of Oceanside and California's past.

We encourage you to explore this legacy, starting with these excerpts:

"I went to our supermarket and it was a madhouse. People flooding in, no carts available, everyone piling up giant orders on the conveyor belts, people being irritable and arguing with each other in the aisles, just nuts. The virus didn't infect me there, but the panic did. I bought far more than I had intended to and hurried home to shut myself in..."

"I live by myself, and my neighbors aren't home much. I don't really talk to them, just say hi. An emotion I have had is 'stuck alone' and lonely. The whole world is really on quarantine..."

"Every single day gives way
To an array of emotional displays.
Subtle dismay with surges to disobey.
A tapestry of pastures, a relay of gestures.
Saddled on a ride of uncertainty..."

"In early July when San Diego County went on the State of California Watch List and reopening was scaled back, I felt Phase 1 fear and despondency all over again. As Juliet Burke said in the TV series *Lost*, 'It doesn't matter who we were. It only matters who we are.' I watched five seasons of *Lost* in the Early Days. We are not plane crash survivors on a tropical island, but I sense that my life is permanently changed..."



This teen's submission is entitled *How I Feel About Quarantine*.

To access the *COVID Diaries*, on the Library homepage under the "Library Services" tab, click "Electronic Resources" and then "Biblioboard." Log on, and scroll down to "Oceanside Public Library Community Collections."

THE FRIENDS CONGRATULATE – AND THANK – THE LIBRARY STAFF

Applying for grants – that is, applying for non-repayable funds given by one organization to another for a specific purpose – is an integral part of operating a nonprofit. And in 2020, our Library staff did a masterful job of researching and writing grant applications.

More than \$267,000 was awarded to Oceanside Public Library in the form of 10 grants from the California State Library, the Federal Communication Commission, and California Humanities.

One example: The California Humanities grant of \$5,000 was applied for by Erin Nakasone, Librarian II, Youth Services. The funding was used for a five-day September program series called *Yōkoso! or “Welcome” in Japanese, An Online Celebration of Japanese Culture*.

The series included daily Japanese storytimes on YouTube along with special events for all ages: an Origami Crane workshop and Community Art Project; a Marble Ink Paper Art demonstration; a tour of the Japanese Friendship Garden in Balboa Park; and a traditional Okinawan *eisa* drumming performance. All the events were on Zoom, Instagram, or YouTube, and participants received a kit of art materials and two books to assist in learning the Japanese written and spoken language.



Eisa is a folk dance that honors the spirits of the performers' ancestors.

The Friends congratulate and thank the Library staff for their ongoing efforts to secure additional funding that allows for even greater outreach to, and enrichment of, our community.

OCEANSIDE PUBLIC LIBRARY'S HOLIDAY TREATS

Library staff has put together a list of books and DVDs for all ages to enjoy – all throughout the holidays! (eBooks can be accessed through the Library and Hoopla.)

The Christmas Boutique by Jennifer Chiaverini (print)

Merry and Bright by Debbie Macomber (print, eBook, eAudiobook)

The Book of Holiday Awesome by Neil Pasricha (print)

Spirit of the Season by Fern Michaels (print, regular and large type)

The Mistletoe Murder and Other Stories by P.D. James (print, eAudiobook)

Last Christmas (DVD romantic comedy, PG-13)

Love the Coopers (DVD, comedy, PG-13)

Dr. Seuss's 'Tis the Season: A Holiday Celebration by Dr. Seuss (print, grades K-12)

Christmas Cheer for the Grouchy Ladybug by Eric Carle (print, ages 4-8)

LEGO Holiday Ideas by Elizabeth Dowsett (print, all ages)

The Polar Express (book, DVD, all ages)

Disney Junior Holiday (DVD, children)

My True Love Gave to Me: Twelve Holiday Stories (print, teen/young adult)

Let it Snow: Three Holiday Romances (print, teen/young adult)

Beethoven's Christmas Adventure (DVD, comedy, teen/young adult)



OCEANSIDE PUBLIC LIBRARY'S SUMMER 2020 SCRAPBOOK



Sam Liston, Technology Analyst, prepping Library materials for home deliveries...Guillermo Valencia, staff, loading the van...two recipients eagerly awaiting their delivery. More than 20,000 items delivered since mid-March!



Lots of virtual staff meetings...



Lots of virtual classes, too – this was STEAM Camp 2020 in July, more than 60 participants!



Lunch at the Library: From June till early August, staff packed kits with books, arts and crafts, then delivered the kits to pop-up locations in Oceanside.



The kids loved their kits!

OCEANSIDE PUBLIC LIBRARY'S SUMMER 2020 SCRAPBOOK



The Summer Reading Program...kids, teens and adults were invited to *Dig Deeper, Oceanside*, and 740 participants read 5,601 books!



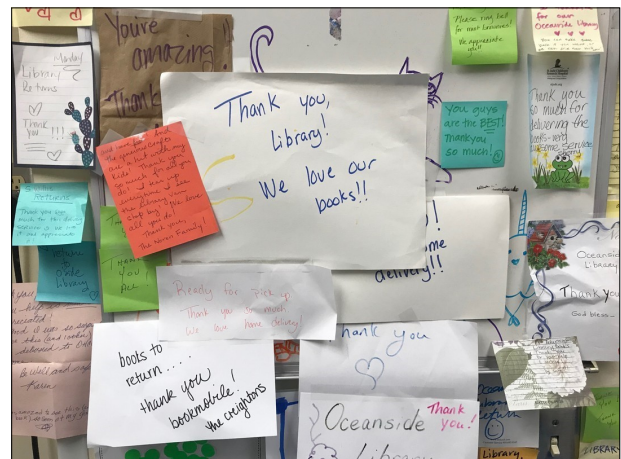
A finished art project from the Mobile Arts Workshop. In June and July, participants experienced step-by-step art exploration.



July: CJ Di Mento, Library Division Manager, and staff partnered with KOCT-TV to shoot a video about the Library's physical and online resources. Now Oceanside students are seeing it in classrooms, and it's on the Library website.



Liz Windle, collecting library materials from the Civic Center bookdrop. The doors were closed but staff was on the job!



Notes from happy Library customers!

ALMA'S THINGS CONSIDERED
A TIME IN THE LIFE OF THE OCEANSIDE PUBLIC LIBRARY BOARD OF TRUSTEES
by Alma Sisco-Smith, President
Library Board Of Trustees

I have the great pleasure of serving as president of the Library Board of Trustees – but what is the Board, and what does it do?

The Board is a group of five volunteers appointed by the Mayor with the consent of the City Council: Paula DeBell, vice president; Dr. Adrienne Hakes, Secretary; William Loftus, EdD, trustee; Charlene Williamson, trustee; and myself. The Board was founded in 1904, the same year as the Library's founding.

The role of the Library Board of Trustees is to oversee Library operations and approve rules and regulations regarding Library hours, services and materials. The Trustees set policy, provide direction for the services, make recommendations to City Council on the budget, authorize payments for Library operations, and monitor expenditures. For example, the Library's expenditures for FY 2019-2020 came in at 97% for administrative and overall 95.6% for materials.

We met in late August, only our second meeting after COVID-19 hit in March and the Library closed. The Board members were highly impressed as one agenda item after another revealed how spectacularly the Library staff had pivoted to a new normal in order to continue services to the community. One example: The home delivery of books and other materials, more than 18,000 items at the time of our meeting.

A phenomenal outcome of work-at-home was that Library staff took advantage of more than 50 training programs provided through the American Library Association. One critical training was Cultivating Racial Equality and Inclusion (CREI) – ours was the only library in San Diego County participating. This led to the staff's development of a public statement endorsed by the Board, and new CREI goals will be added to Library's 2020-2023 Strategic Plan Update.

At our meeting we also welcomed Bill Loftus (pictured) to the Board. As an elementary and secondary school principal – first in the suburbs of Chicago and later retiring from Vista School District – Bill's interests have always been serving the needs of students and families.



While accustomed to many dry-run drills for “duck and cover” from tornadoes to earthquake drills, Bill notes, “They don't come close to the ‘shelter-in-place’ orders we have struggled under since mid-March. Though closing our City's Libraries is not as tragic as turning off the fresh water supplies to residents, I can only assume the toll the lack of services is taking on our Oceanside neighbors. This is the reason I offered to serve on the Library Board after completing my term as a Commissioner with Parks and Recreation. I hope I can help to continue to serve our population, along with the seniors and homeless individuals who have used our Libraries as a refuge and a place to connect with the world outside of Oceanside.”

Memorial, Honorarium and Gift Book Donations

August-October 2020

In Memory of Donna McClintock
Vanity Fair's Women on Women

Donated by:
K.C. Stackawitz Jr.

Membership Corner

“IT WAS THE BEST OF TIMES, IT WAS THE WORST OF TIMES”

When Charles Dickens wrote this famous opening line for his 1859 book, *A Tale of Two Cities*, the “times” he was referring to were the French Revolution (1789-1799).

One hundred and sixty years after the book’s publication, that opening line is applicable to our times, as well. Globally, nationally and locally, no one has been spared the impact of the pandemic on our lives, our health and our economy.

On a local level, Oceanside Public Library was impacted, as well: The Library closed its doors in mid-March, and cancelled all in-person classes, programs and events. For the Library, an organization that thrives on serving the community, it was the worst of times.



But the staff immediately – heroically – moved in another direction: making home deliveries of Library materials, then adding curbside service, and greatly increasing its already-robust online resources for kids, teens and adults: the best of times.

The Friends of Oceanside Public Library suspended all planning for fundraisers, the Library bookstores were closed, and these reliable sources of revenue dried up. For the Friends, who thrive on supporting the Library, it was the worst of times.

So Friends president Chris Wilson took matters in hand and redesigned our website to make it easier to become a Friend, increase your membership level and/or donate – the best of times.

The Library has reopened, the bookstores will be back in business, and the Friends are once again planning fundraisers to continue supporting the purchase of books and other materials, and sponsoring programs and events that enrich the lives of our community.

We’re looking forward to saying, “The Friends of the Oceanside Public Library cordially invite you to...”

As a card holder, you’re already a friend of the Library. Please consider visiting our website, oplfriends.org, and becoming a Friend with a capital “F.”

If you haven’t already done so, please take a moment to read the “Can You Help?” article on page 1. Without a book sorting facility, the Friends won’t be able to sell books in our bookstores, at the Thursday Farmer’s Market and on Amazon.

Laura Arnsbarger
See Gull Editor/Designer

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(760) 435-5560

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Oceanside, CA 92054

Mission Branch:
3861-B Mission Avenue
Oceanside, CA 92058

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.

If you have an article idea or suggestion for the *See Gull* newsletter, please email the editor at larnsbarger@oceansideca.org.

Friends of the Oceanside Public Library

1971-2020

**Celebrating 49 Years of
Community Service**

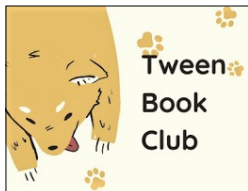
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Founded in 1971 as a non-profit organization, the mission of the Friends of the Oceanside Public Library is to support and promote the services and resources of the Oceanside Public Library through community involvement, volunteer activities, and fundraising. 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.

YOU'VE SHARED WITH US HOW MUCH YOU'RE ENJOYING HOME DELIVERY...



Thank you for all you've done to support my family's reading during COVID-19 – you have no idea how big of an impact you've had. My son has enjoyed all the game nights and tween book club meetings, and my other son was able to take 40+ Accelerated Reader tests thanks to the books we received before the shutdown and via home delivery. I have nothing but the nicest things to say about the library!

– Ashley Wolpers

If you would like to support the work the Library is doing, please consider making a donation, or joining the Friends of the Oceanside Public Library, whose fundraising efforts go entirely to sponsoring Library programs and services. Like many organizations, the curtailment of activities due to COVID-19 has severely impacted the Friends' ability to generate revenue.

Your extra support at this time will make a difference. A year's membership starts as low as \$10 and signing up is easy – visit oplfriends.org or use the mail-in form below.

PURCHASE OR RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP TODAY!

Annual Membership:

Individual — \$10
Family — \$25

Booster — \$50
Patron — \$100

Business or Organization — \$250
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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