



**PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE**      ..... Rita Nastri

It's hard not to start the January Booknotes without saying Happy New Year! So here I am with my annual greetings.

The Friends had an absolutely fantastic year in 2023. Bookstore sales were well over those of 2022. Overstock sales helped the bottom line soar as well. And all that came about by the hands of our volunteers. All of that cleaning, lifting, shifting and sorting counted more than you will ever know. Congratulations to Corner Store Manager Nancy Dixon, Director of Volunteers at Town Square Karen Michaud, and Town Square Co-manager Laurie Razo. I'm also sure the acceptance of credit cards as payment for the books has helped the bottom line tremendously. And while I'm discussing volunteers, please think about becoming a bookstore volunteer. It really is a fun job (job is not a good description of Friends volunteering).

This year, we've managed the shift to a different starting time for our programs with many positive results and we will continue to meet every other month (odd months) at the 3:30 pm time. Kiki Fritschi will update you for the January program. We thank Starbucks on Madison for their contributions to the coffee hour as well as Eleanor Newhard who provides the savory snacks. The late Carol Carson noted in the January 2018 Booknotes, "Two of the best ways to overcome winter doldrums are by 1) giving to others and 2) by hanging out with friends." Evelyn, Nancy D, Dan, Karen, Kiki, Nancy E, and I look forward to your giving generously of your Time and Talent and hanging out with the Friends at the Refreshment Table for a joyous New Year.

I'm hoping everyone received the notice that we have an election this year to fill only one Board position vacated by Kurt Korneisel. If you or someone you know would like to be a Director and have your name placed on the ballot, please let Dan Rexwinkel or me know by January 5th. And this brings to mind the fact as we move ahead, we may soon need new members for the Board of Directors. New Directors bring new energy and ideas to this already dynamic group. If you are interested, please contact me or one of the Board members.

Here is another of my "Drum roll, Please!" Congratulations to Nancy Eberhardt and Dan Rexwinkel who sought, prepared paperwork and processed an application for a grant from Riverside County Nonprofit Assistance Fund-Inland SoCal United Way for \$25,000. As of the writing of our Booknotes, the funds were just direct deposited into the Friends' checking account this morning. The disposition of these funds will be discussed and voted upon at the January Board meeting. It's almost 5 pm as I write this and the sky is still bright and colorful.

It's not even a few days since the Solstice and the days are getting longer already. That's a good sign. I'm hoping you had a beautiful Christmas holiday and week. As we end 2023, I wish all of our wonderful members and volunteers a healthy and great New Year ahead!

*2024 UPCOMING EVENTS*

1/8      Board Meeting

1/16     Annual Meeting with Jonathan Ingram

2/12     Board Meeting

2/17     Corner Store Sidewalk Overstock Sale

3/11     Board Meeting

3/19     General Meeting  
Women's History Month with Nancy Dixon

**Now Accepting Credit Cards, Apple Pay, and Google Pay at Both Stores**

**Corner Store**

39445 B Los Alamos Road  
Murrieta Gateway Center  
Phone: (951) 677-5350  
10:00 to 4:00 - Monday, Tuesday, Thursday  
10:00 to 6:00 - Wednesday, Friday, Saturday

**Buy A Good Book**



**Support A Good Cause**

**Town Square Store**

Town Square at the Library  
Across from Murrieta Elementary  
Phone: (951) 600-5724  
10:00 to 4:00 - Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday  
1:00 to 4:00 - Saturday

# Murrieta Public Library Update

Dear Members of the Friends of the Murrieta Library,

As we step into the new year, it is with immense gratitude and pride that we reflect on the extraordinary contributions each of you has made through the efforts of the Friends in 2023. Your dedication, time, and effort at the bookstores and volunteering in various ways are crucial in providing our community with an amazing Library, and we are sincerely thankful for your continued support.

In 2023, together, we achieved remarkable milestones. Your efforts played a crucial role in organizing and executing a staggering 199 programs, drawing an impressive attendance of 15,602. Additionally, your support has allowed us to distribute 34,017 take-home kits. All of this would not be possible without the funding provided by the Friends. These programs and resources have not only enriched the lives of individuals within our community but have also strengthened the bonds that make our Library a truly special place.

Looking ahead, we are excited to share our plans for the future. In the spring of 2024, we anticipate completing the schematic design of the children's area expansion, a project that will enhance the library experience for our youngest visitors. Furthermore, we have created new positions where we have had the opportunity to promote several passionate and talented members of our staff and we anticipate adding additional staff that will help us expand our programs and services as our community continues to grow.

The Friends of the Murrieta Library has been the cornerstone of our success since the beginning and continues to be through your commitment, dedication, and efforts. As we embark on these exciting developments, we are confident that together, we will continue to make the Murrieta Public Library a beacon of knowledge, creativity, and community engagement.

Once again, thank you for your invaluable contributions in 2023. We are truly fortunate to have such a dedicated and passionate group of individuals as part of our Library family.

With sincere appreciation, Melvin Racelis, Library Manager



## Corner Bookstore Sidewalk Overstock Sale

**WHEN:** Saturday, February 17, 2024  
10:00 AM to 5:00 PM

**WHERE:** Friends Corner Bookstore  
Los Alamos & Whitewood, east of I-215  
(951) 677-5350

**WHAT:** Overstock Fiction and Nonfiction

**HOW MUCH:** \$1.00 - Hardbacks  
50¢ - Trade Paperbacks  
25¢ - Regular Paperbacks

All proceeds benefit the  
Murrieta Public Library

Friends of the Murrieta Library  
*A California 501(c)(3) Nonprofit  
Public Benefit Corporation*

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## A New Year's Thank You

As we welcome the dawn of a New Year, we want to take a moment to express our heartfelt gratitude to you for your unwavering dedication and hard work throughout the past year. Your commitment to supporting the Friends of the Murrieta Library has truly made a difference in our community.

The Friends plays a vital role in enriching the library experience for everyone, and it is your passion and efforts that have contributed to its success. Your countless hours of volunteer work, your creative initiatives, and your genuine love for fostering a love of reading and learning have not gone unnoticed.

As we embark on a New Year, we are excited about the possibilities that lie ahead for our library and our community, thanks to your continued support. Your contributions have created a warm and welcoming space for knowledge, connection, and growth.

Here's to a New Year filled with even more achievements, collaborations, and shared moments of joy. Thank you for being an integral part of the Friends of the Murrieta Library. Your dedication is truly appreciated, and the impact of your efforts will undoubtedly be felt for years to come. Wishing you all a happy and prosperous New Year!

## January Program

As we kick off a New Year, we want to welcome Guest Speaker, Jonathan Ingram, our former City of Murrieta Mayor. As a resident and former small business owner with over 30 years of construction experience, he has celebrated numerous successes and overcome failure, loss and understands what each of us has at one time experienced.

You will not want to miss Jonathan speak about our public safety teams and fire, attracting local well-paying jobs, reducing long commutes, and his vision for the importance of economic development and investing in education for our youth. This includes our Murrieta Valley Unified Schools and our Award-Winning Library!



You will be impressed with Jonathan's story, including his wife of forty years, Melody and their children who are local educators. He and his family have pioneered programs and invested in our veterans, seniors and our animals. They feel fortunate to have been able to raise their family while living in the same community where they worked. He will help us learn how to accomplish this dream too. Jonathan served from 2014-2022 on Murrieta's City Council and as Mayor of our third safest-rated city in the nation! Listen and learn how he strives to raise the standard of living for all of Riverside County.

The public and guests are all invited to attend. We look forward to seeing Y-O-U. Adults and Children, Tuesday, January 16, 2024. Arrive early to experience all the Murrieta Library offers, then join us at 3:30 p.m. in The Murrieta Library Community Room for the program and refreshments provided by FOML.

Kiki Fritschi, Program Chair

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## March Program

Mark Your Calendars Tuesday, March 19th as we Celebrate the First of Spring and National Women's History Month at our program following the General Meeting! During the month of March, we give a little extra attention to all of the



amazing accomplishments of strong, determined women. FOML will highlight our Board Member, Nancy Dixon as we celebrate, honor and recognize women throughout the country who understand that, for a positive future, we need to eliminate bias and discrimination entirely from our lives and institutions

We all know Nancy Dixon, Manager of the Friends of Murrieta Library Corner Bookstore for more than 21 years. Nancy will share amazing stories of the long line of strong women in her family as well as her own eclectic life. She will also read from a book she is writing, and share a children's story she wrote!

This Program promises to delight both Children and Adults who frequent our Library and FOML Bookstores!

Kiki Fritschi, Program Chair

## Board of Directors Election

We have a unique election cycle this year. Due to the COVID emergency, Board positions were extended for one year in January of 2021. Therefore, Friends of the Murrieta Library does not have positions up for election at the January 2024 General Meeting. However, there does exist one appointed position with a term expiring in 2025. Article V, Section 5 regarding vacancies states, "a successor Director shall serve until the next election at which time the unexpired term shall be filled by the candidate having the most votes after the regularly elected positions have been filled". Given this vacancy, we will hold an election for the one unexpired Director position at the January General Meeting.

- Individual Memberships of the Corporation shall have one vote.
- Family category shall have a maximum of two votes. Members must be 18 years of age to vote.
- All lifetime members, if a couple, also have two votes.
- The election to fill the one Director's position will be held at the January 2024 General Meeting and voting will again be available by email prior to the meeting.
- Program Chairs and Board Officers will be elected by the 2024 Directors after the January 2024 General meeting.



Please contact Parliamentarian, Nancy Eberhardt at [Neberhardt66@gmail.com](mailto:Neberhardt66@gmail.com) no later than January 5, 2024 if you are interested in becoming part of the Board of Directors or a Chairperson of a committee or for more information on the duties of the Directors and Chairs. Membership in good standing is required to participate in this election or to run for a Director or Chair position.

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## Town Square Bookstore Update

"You must do the things you think you cannot do." ~Eleanor Roosevelt

Welcome 2024 and Hau'oli Makahiki Hou,

Thanks to our volunteers and our customers, we had a wonderful year at the Town Square Bookstore. Although we are only open Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday 10 AM to 4 PM, and on Saturday from 1 to 4 PM, we earned more than the previous year. The August Overstock Sale and our Internet Sales truly helped with our income. Our customers continue to support us by buying books, CDs, DVDs, and giving donations of money and books. We take in approximately 250 plus books per week. Some qualify for our Internet program and the others are cleaned, priced, and shelved for purchase. Since we have such a small store, we have instituted our "daily overstock sale" by having books, CDs, DVDs on sale outside the store for 50 cents each. This has helped generate more customers and more purchases on a daily basis.

Also, our electronic "Square", allowing customers to use their credit cards, has allowed customers to purchase, "just one more item" and extend our daily income at the store. This has been an amazing and successful addition to our store. Our wonderful volunteers enjoy using it and see the difference this has made in our daily sales. We are so grateful for this lucrative innovation.

Thank you once again to our amazing volunteers who show up regularly and do an amazing job with our customers as well as cleaning, pricing, and shelving materials. As always, we need MORE volunteers, so if you are interested, please stop by the store.

Mahalo, Karen Michaud

# Membership Update

"Write it on your heart that every day is the best day in the year." ~Ralph Waldo Emerson

Dear Friends of the Murrieta Library,

Thank you to all our members, and volunteers at both bookstores, for another successful year for the Friends of the Murrieta Library. At last count we have 184 active members. Thanks to our new members and to all the returning members who renewed their membership during 2023.



Scan to Renew Membership

Membership and bookstore monies provide support and programs for the Murrieta Public Library and your personal support is greatly appreciated. Starting in 2024 the Library is adding a third storytime to their calendar. This is so exciting for the children and parents who participate in these amazing programs. Tuesdays will have Lapsit for babies/adults. Wednesdays will have storytime for toddlers and their adult. And now, Thursdays will have an independent storytime for preschool children on their own!

Cheers to a great 2024 Membership year!

Karen Michaud, Membership Chair

**Sign up a friend - Print, detach, and mail form below - - - - or drop off at the Library or either Bookstore.**

### New Membership / Renewal Form

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City, Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

Specify any special interests, i.e., Board Member, Bookstore volunteer, Programs, Membership, Hospitality, Ways & Means, Special Events, etc.

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Friends of the Murrieta Library, P.O. Box 235, Murrieta 92564

### MEMBERSHIP DUES

Individual.....	\$15.00
Family.....	\$20.00
Supporting.....	\$25.00
Patron.....	\$50.00
Business.....	\$100.00
LIFETIME.....	\$250.00

**Lifetime members are honored with an engraved leaf on the "GIVING TREE" in the Library.**



Scan for Friends Website

The **Friends of the Murrieta Library's** website is full of information regarding programs, location of our two remarkably organized and complete Bookstores, current and past copies of our newsletter **Booknotz**, volunteer opportunities, membership forms, and Officers and Directors. Use this link for more information: <https://murrietalibraryfriends.org>

### OUR MISSION STATEMENT

As the Friends of the Murrieta Library, our mission is to support the Murrieta Public Library through fundraising, advocacy and volunteerism, and to promote awareness of and support for the Library as it serves the informational, educational, cultural, and recreational needs of our Community.

### OUR LOGO

Represents.....



Libraries and Book Lovers.....The Open Book  
The City of Murrieta.....The Letter M  
The Gem.....Murrieta is known as  
"The Gem of the Valley"  
It also stands for all our volunteer "Gems"

 SPONSORS 

We thank the following businesses for their support of the Friends of the Murrieta Library.



24690 Washington Ave  
Murrieta, CA 92562  
(951) 677-0960



41520 Ivy Street  
Murrieta, CA 92562  
(951) 461-0411



25175 Madison Ave  
Murrieta, CA 92562  
(951) 698-4313



39413 Los Alamos Rd, Suite A  
Murrieta, CA 92563  
(951) 677-1700



SPACE  
AVAILABLE



For comments or suggestions on this newsletter, or information about placing an ad,  
contact W. Dan Rexwinkel at [info@murrietalibraryfriends.org](mailto:info@murrietalibraryfriends.org)