Our Booknotes Editor asked me to address the Friends’ Bookstores this month, and I was delighted to comply. You see, in my days as Publicity Director, I had already touted to the local newspapers the great little hidden secrets here in Murrieta. Not only do we have one, we have two. Not every Friends group can boast about that. Additionally, one of those is a five-star, Yelp rated bookstore (look it up). That’s the Corner Bookstore, managed by Nancy Dixon and staffed by a team of volunteers. It occupies 3,100 square feet and is located in the Gateway Center, just east of the I-215 at the corner of Los Alamos Road and Whitewood Road.

And not to be overlooked is our Town Square Bookstore co-managed by Maggie Pilotte and Laurie Razo. Located next to the Library and a good deal smaller, it also packs a mighty punch and adds much to the Murrieta community. This store specializes in Internet sales which takes time and knowledge. Our Managers work long hours to keep their stores clean, well stocked and organized so customers can easily find what they want. And don’t think you will be getting a dog-eared old book. Most books are gently used and most in like new condition.

Stop in to either store, browse and have a chat with the volunteers. And of course, be sure to look for one of our fantastic Overstock Sidewalk Sale So let’s get the word out about our Bookstores so that it won’t be the best kept secret in Murrieta.

Oh yes, one last thing. We are looking for a volunteer to learn and do Internet sales at the Corner Bookstore. This is a great opportunity to show off your computer skills, interact with other volunteers and make a difference. If you are interested or know of someone who would like to volunteer for this position, please contact me. We will provide the training.

rnastri@verizon.net or 951-698-8640
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AND IT OPENS THE DOORS TO A WONDERLAND

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Saturday.... 12-4
Closed on Library holidays

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39445B Los Alamos Road
Murrieta Gateway Center
Phone: 677-5350
Hours: Mon, Tues, Thurs....10 to 4
Wed & Sat........................10-6
Friday. .....................10-8

Nancy Dixon

And of course, as usual, at the helm was Captain Nancy Dixon making sure it was all organized for another smooth sale-ing. These volunteers are the most faithful crew who truly enjoy being “on board” with Nancy.

The Editor

Classified Ads…

Internet Sales at the Corner Bookstore: Needed: A person who love books, loves to do research on books, is computer literate and is wondering what they could do to fill their spare time—with, preferably, something useful. The Corner store needs someone to manage their on-line sales. There will be on-the-job training, pleasant working conditions and the satisfaction of helping support our Murrieta Public Library.

Publicity Chairman: This person shall be responsible for communicating all events, programs, fundraisers, etc to the community through news publications, magazines, through our website, etc. in order to increase attendance, participation, support and awareness. He/she should enjoy creative writing and be able to communicate via email to our local media monthly. It only involves a few hours per month.

Special Events Chairman: These are one-time events throughout the year and include the Friends participation in the Fire and Rescue BBQ in April, Field of Honor Flag sales in November, Friends of Libraries Week in October and The Christmas Tree in Town Square. There is a budget for these activities and the chair will be working with other Board members (Membership Chair and Bookstore Managers) to promote these events

Creative Person—to help with the decorations in the Corner Bookstore Children’s Corner. All decorations supplied and they are changed monthly to fit the theme or holiday of the month.

r nastri@verizon.net or 951-698-8640

Be a significant part of this significant organization by volunteering. We hope to be flooded with calls for those of you seeking more information.

Use this to go to Friends Facebook page
SPECIAL MARCH DATES
March 1st—Read Across America Day—This is observed on the school day closest to March 2nd, the birthday of Dr. Seuss.
March 10th—Daylight Savings Time begins
March 17th—St. Patrick’s Day
March 20th—First Day of Spring

SPECIAL APRIL DATES
April 1st—April Fool’s Day
April 21st—EASTER
April 22nd—Earth Day

MEMBERSHIP……..Karen Michaud, Chair
As we enter March, and once again celebrate Women’s History Month, we are reminded of how many wonderful women are part of the Friends of the Murrieta Library membership. These volunteers work tirelessly at the Corner and Town Square Bookstores, as well as providing hospitality and programs for the General Meetings, participate in the Christmas Tree project, attend the Firefighters BBQ, help with the Field of Honor Flag sales and in general support all our many Library programs.

If you know of another friend, male or female, who wants to provide help for our Library programs and other events, please have them fill out a Membership form, available in the Booknotes or at either the Corner or Town Square stores.

Join the likes of Alice Paul, Susan B. Anthony, Lucretia Mott and Elizabeth Cady Stanton and join the Friends, volunteer and make a difference in our community.

Also, look for biographies of famous American women at our Corner and Town Square Bookstores and celebrate Women’s History Month!

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”

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.

The Friends of the Murrieta Library’s website is full of information about upcoming programs, current and past Booknotes, location of our two remarkably complete Bookstores, membership applications, Officers and Directors’ names, volunteer opportunities and other useful information. Use this link for direct access to our website.

www.murrietalibraryfriends.org

A RECAP OF BOOKSTORE SALES FOR 2018
Town Square Store $24,622.49
Internet 10,157.42
$34,779.91
Corner Store $76,197.00—In-Store Gross
Internet 4,950.00—Net
Expenses 60,771.00)
$20,377.00
The Corner store has more overhead, but the gross sales figure represents approximately 54,100 books that crossed their counter. It just keeps getting better. The February 23rd tri-annual Sidewalk sale alone brought in $1,507.75.
Dear Friends,

We have some terrific programs planned for this spring. Thanks to the generous donation from the Friends of the Murrieta Library, there will be Rusty Blade: Pirate Adventure on Wednesday, March 27th at 4:00 p.m. This program is for families and will include pirate songs and high seas drama. On Tuesday, April 2nd at 10:00 a.m., there will be Annie Banannie: 3 Little Pigs. Using balloons, Annie Banannie weaves together an unforgettable and hilarious tale in her signature storyteller style. Teens have the Fantastic Beasts Escape Room to look forward to on April 3rd. Participants will solve puzzles to escape before time runs out. A program update for the adults-monthly Genealogy Consulting has been canceled until further notice.

The Library recently received a $1,000 donation from the Temecula Valley Woman’s Club. The donation will be used to help fund two of the Library’s programs: $500 towards the purchase of a banjo and a mandolin and $500 for books for the staff Storytime collection.

The New York Times is now available online at the Murrieta Public Library! Access is made possible by the California State Library and will provide libraries with direct access to nytimes.com from 1851 to the present, including:

- All regular newspaper content (articles, editorials, etc.)
- All multimedia, including video, photography, VR features and all new multimedia
- Spanish and Mandarin Chinese versions of nytimes.com
- Personalized access, including e-mail newsletters such as California Today, mobile apps for phones and tablets, with customizable news feeds, and article recommendations based on topics you most commonly read about

To access the New York Times when in the Library, go to nytimes.com/register and register or log in if you’ve already registered. If you want access from home or outside of the Library, go the Library’s web page at www.murrietalibrary.info and click on the E-Resources link and then click on the NY Times Offsite Access link. You will receive a code to redeem for 24 hours of full off-site access. You will need to log in or register first.

Lastly, due to the Tour de Murrieta bike race event, the Library will be closed on Saturday, March 9. The book drops will be open, but traffic may make it difficult to access the book drops. Library users are reminded that while the Murrieta Library will be closed for the one day, books, DVDs, CDs and other materials can be renewed beforehand at the Library or via the Library’s web page where library patrons can view their personal accounts and access a variety of free resources that are always available for research.

**HAPPY SPRING!!**

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**NEW MEMBERSHIP / RENEWAL FORM**

**MEMBERSHIP DUES**

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

Lifetime members receive an engraved leaf on the “GIVING TREE” in the Library.
A DREAM FULFILLED

I had the great, good fortune to celebrate my 90th birthday with four of the most important people in my life and to satisfy an item on my bucket list – the Panama Canal. Son, Dale, and daughter-in-law, Terri (who planned every minute detail so perfectly) and daughter, Dawn and son-in-law, Jim, treated me to an extraordinary, fairy-tale trip from beginning to end, full of fabulous sights.

We went to Grand Cayman Island first, a gorgeous, tropical Caribbean paradise, where, among other things, we experienced, after dark, bioluminescence in the water. There are only six places in the world where this takes place. Fascinating!! We swam the next day with sting rays – miniature manta-like rays – that came right up to us and just hung out. So fun!! The boat rides both times were so beautiful and so great!! After luxuriating in the ocean, soaking up the sun, we proceeded to the Dominican Republic, another gorgeous, tropical island where we were able to enjoy more sun, swimming and relaxation. Then on to Panama.

Our first encounter with the Panama Canal was riding alongside the canal on the Panama Canal Railway – built before the canal in 1855 – refurbished now, complete with outside viewing platforms. The train goes from Panama City to Colon. We disembarked in Colon and were driven to the Miraflores Visitor Center that housed a detailed museum and a bird’s eye view of the canal, giving you a wonderful overview of a gigantic container ship, followed by two small ferries, followed by a private yacht, followed by another behemoth container ship all going through the locks at that point. Amazingly Awesome!!

The following day, we took a tourist boat through the locks – in and out – ourselves, about a six hour journey, experiencing the thrill of watching all the activity firsthand. This included the opening and closing of the gates controlling the water, the tugs guiding and the trains beside the ships, also guiding them. Watching the wall beside us get higher or smaller depending on whether we were going in our out of the locks. We could even reach out and touch the wall. This whole, complete coverage of the canal was not only a thrilling adventure, but an unequaled learning experience. A treasured memory!!

As if this were not enough, our fabulous Friends of the Murrieta Library board surprised me at our February general meeting with the most absolutely stunning Happy Birthday party spearheaded by Pat Farmer and Nancy Dixon; complete with a wall decorated with adjectives starting with the letter C describing the name Carol that Nancy painstakingly researched from “Roget’s Thesaurus”; the most delicious and beautifully decorated birthday cake; vases full of flowers—white carnations, lovely red roses—and, President, Rita Nastri, read Maggie Pilotte’s very touching tribute. When I first walked into the Community Room and saw the decorations on the wall, I thought it was just a welcome home celebration—not a full-fledged birthday fete. But what a happy, MUCH APPRECIATED surprise. Thank you all!!! What a pleasure it is to belong to such a great group, supporting—our Murrieta Public Library.

Carol Carson, Director/Treasurer, Founding Board Member, Lifetime Member,

Booknotes Editor, Mother Hen Emeritus
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