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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE Rita Nastri

"Summertime...and the livin' is easy," are the first few words of an aria composed in 1934 by George Gershwin for the opera, Porgy and Bess. As historic as those words are, they never get old. Yes, the Friends have gone "dark" as they say, but that doesn't mean we are not working hard. As I write this, congratulations go to Nancy Dixon and her team at the Corner Store for another successful Overstock Sale in June. And Karen Michaud and Evelyn Dial continue to work with their staff at Town Square on the last Saturday of every month for their "Bag of Books Sale."

These sales not only bring in extra revenue for the stores, but they also continue the life cycle of gently used books. Books are donated to each store; books are sold in each store but multiple duplicate books and older books are then culled to make room for the newly donated books. It's a great scheme. Also, the added publicity brings people inside the Corner Store and Town Square Bookstore to gape in awe of something they never knew existed. And, I can't tell you how many of these same customers - especially at Town Square - are seeing the Murrieta Public Library for the first time. It's a win win!



The Library Staff is very busy with the Summer Reading Challenge as well as their exceptional scheduled programs for both kids and adults. No one can say they are bored if they participate. The increase in new construction and new residents to Murrieta has made itself evident in the number of adults and children the staff is serving daily. Melvin Racelis will update us on this.

To add to their busyness, the staff is working with Murrieta school district for its summer lunch program, providing books and more to Murrieta's children. Town Square is adding a coupon for the children to bring home to mom or dad for a free book at the store. Overall, there is no "easy living" here in Murrieta when it comes to both the Friends and the Library Staff. I congratulate and thank every one of our Volunteers and Library Staff for your wonderful kindness and caring for those who come to us for books, programs, conversation or even a place to cool off.

We may be taking a short break from meetings but when we return in September, I'm sure Kiki Fritschi will have another great program lined up for us. We had a "sellout crowd" at our Juneteenth meeting. "Reflect and Remember as We Celebrate Freedom, Equality, and the Resilience of the BLACK COMMUNITY" was our theme, and the Community Room was rocking to the music of Paul Morrell. What a great way to end the season. Thank you Anne Triche Steen and Kiki Fritschi.

Enjoy your summer and all of the festivities, picnics, barbecues, etc. Stay cool and hydrated and most of all, BE SAFE. See you on September 16.

Murrieta Public Library Update

Dear Friends,

Summer is in full swing at the Library with fun and interesting Summer Reading Challenge programs and events continuing through July 19. Patrons of all ages are also pledging to read at least five (5) books and winning weekly prizes. As of June 26, 2025, the number of Summer Reading Challenge registered participants are: Children - 1,504, Teens - 203, and Adults - 274.

The bid package for the Children's Area Expansion was published on June 13, 2025, and bids are due by July 14, 2025. The goal is to break ground sometime in mid-September 2025. The Murrieta Public Library Foundation is still hosting a GoFundMe fundraiser to support the Expansion project and if you wish to donate, please visit <https://gofund.me/7251b9c3>. Your support is crucial in making this expansion a reality.

If you haven't checked out our newest service, PRINCH, a new mobile printing solution, please do. With PRINCH, Library users can easily print documents from their smartphones, tablets, or laptops.

The Lunch at the Library program has been a big success again this year at Murrieta Elementary School and is a wonderful collaboration with the Murrieta Valley Unified School District. The District provides free, healthy lunches for children under the age of 18 during summer break and through a grant from the California State Library, the Library provides pop-up services such as book giveaways, crafts and presenters.



As a reminder, the Library will be closed on Friday, July 4, 2025, in honor of Independence Day, and will reopen on Saturday, July 5, 2025, at 12 p.m.

Patrons will continue to read throughout the summer while enjoying fun programs and events, and this would not be possible without the Friends' efforts and support year after year, which is so appreciated!

Warm regards,

Melvin Racelis, Library Manager

**Editor's Note - You can also send your Library Expansion Donation directly to the Friends of the Murrieta Library using the link or QR Code located below.*

Support the Murrieta Public Library Children's Expansion Project

We are currently raising funds for the Library Expansion Project. Donations will go toward Furniture, Fixtures, and Equipment (FF&E) to help furnish the new space once construction is complete. To contribute, please use the link below or scan the QR code to the right. Every donation makes a difference, and we deeply appreciate your support.

We are a tax-exempt charitable organization under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code. Your donation may be tax-deductible—please consult your tax advisor for details. https://www.paypal.com/donate?campaign_id=6AW8H6T2JEUHG

[Murrieta Public Library Expansion Project](#)



Town Square Bookstore Update

"It's not what the world holds for you, it's what you bring to it."--L.M. Montgomery, "Anne of Green Gables"

Dear Friends:

This quote brings to our minds all the unselfish help, time, and endless chores our fabulous volunteers bring to the Town Square Bookstore. Our long-time volunteers have been joined this spring and summer by new volunteers, including high school and college volunteers working for Community Service Hours. All volunteers bring various skills, but the day to day work is not very glamorous. Vacuum, dust, sweep the sidewalk, clean and sort endless numbers of books, and then shelve and sell them.

The gift is the money collected day to day, month to month, year to year enabling us to support the Murrieta Public Library with programs for children of all ages. This summer has been no exception with the Summer Reading Challenge along with the Garden of Verses storytimes and numerous special/hands-on activities. We thank all Friends for their work and also for purchasing books, CDs, DVDs.

This is our second summer assisting the Murrieta Public Library in the "Lunch at the Library" program. Our goal is to help families "Grow Their Home Libraries". Each week we provide "Build Your Library" coupons to families who have lunch at Murrieta Elementary School. Families redeem their coupons at the Town Square Bookstore, selecting a book for EACH member of the family from our collection of adult and children's books. The joy of reading and owning your own book is what we are "bringing" to our community this summer.

If you would like to become a volunteer, please contact either Evelyn Dial or myself at the Town Square Bookstore, or go on-line and become a member and indicate your wish to volunteer.

Sincere thanks to our volunteers,

Karen Michaud and Evelyn Dial, Town Square Co-Managers

Town Square Bookstore Overstock Sale

WHEN: Saturday, July 26 & August 23
12:00 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.

WHERE: Murrieta Library Community Room

WHAT: Overstock Fiction and Nonfiction

HOW MUCH: \$3.00 per bag
Purchase our bag and 'fill it up'

All proceeds benefit the Murrieta Public Library.

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

Programs - July & August 2025

As Program Director for FOML, I look for National Holidays or events to highlight at our monthly General Meetings. **This Year we will not hold General Meetings in July and August and therefore, no Program.** My plan was for us to celebrate "World Youth Skills Day."

"World Youth Skills Day" is celebrated in July every year to raise awareness of technical, vocational education and training and the development of other skills relevant to both local and global economics.

I am reminded of all the skilled workers in the City of Murrieta who keep our city so beautifully maintained. Our parks, the landscaping, the city buildings, hospitals, our amazing Firefighters and Peace Officers who attend specialized training, sometimes after college requirements as well. In the community where I live, we have 1500 homes with surrounding greenbelts maintained by hardworking landscaping crews, painters, tile roof specialists and so forth.

In July specially, and year-round, let us celebrate the many skilled workers who keep us safe as well as maintain the beauty of our Community, County, State and Our Country.

Kiki Fritschi, FOML Board Program Director

Corner Bookstore Sunshine Sale

On the first full day of summer, the Corner Store Overstock Sale was full of sunshine. The weather was great – no June gloom! Most of all, however, the sunshine was from the many happy faces of all those who helped (and from me, of course, in appreciation).

Just setting up for the sale is a three stage process: Friday evening all the tables, pop-ups, and the *many* boxes of books for the sale are brought up to the front of the store to be ready for Saturday morning. That morning, then, all on hand take everything out onto our covered sidewalk and set up in a way to make it enticing and convenient for the customers. At the end of the day, then, all has to be brought back inside and stored away for the next sale. Whew!!! My *great thanks* to all who made this possible –and the list is long: Carrie and husband Phil DeMaria, Ariana Martinez and son Abel, Rosly and brother Everett, and Arizbeth and brother Alex. Also very much bringing sunshine and help were the Scouts of Troop 318 Murrieta under the leadership of Brenda Sanchez: Ishaika, Elijah, Gavin, Easton, Neema Maria, Eleanor, and Angie. In addition, Scouts Sebastian and Dylan, who are working on their Eagle Scout Badge, stayed all day (from 9 am to 6 pm!), helping customers, replenishing the boxes of sale books – and helping me as I covered the outside sale table all day. Covering the inside sales in the morning were Bob Granzow and Larry Lee, and in the afternoon were Avril Williams and Christy Zelenka.

As we say so truthfully “it takes a village,” and between the wonderful volunteers and the happy customers, most of the Murrieta village was at the Friends Corner Bookstore on June 21 to bring us \$1,053!

A very grateful Manager,
Nancy Dixon

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

Corner Store

39445 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

8 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

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”

Membership Update

"To give without any reward, or any notice, has a special quality of its own." ~ Anne Morrow Lindberg

Dear Friends,

It is with gratitude that the FOML thank our newest members for supporting our mission to help and support our community through our fabulous Murrieta Public Library. The Library provides a multitude of events, programs, and community to all who visit there.

We thank our May and June new members:

Marguerite Rucker, Teresa Beggin, Jeanneth Ignacio, Roberta Jessup, Ray Burnett, and Elizabeth Turner.

June is the beginning of our **"Renew Your Membership"** event. Please note our membership fees have gone up.

Individual: \$20 - Family: \$25 - Supporting \$30 - Patron remains at \$50, Business remains at \$100 and Lifetime remains at \$250.00

Thank you to those who have renewed their membership thus far.

Kristin Weigle Roberts, Alema Cathcart, Martha Minkler, Mari Werner, Corina Corona, Karen Michaud, Julie Francis, Ann Hickey. Diana Bucur, Gretchen Sedlacek, Kathryn Cagle, Roberta Wrye, Karie Clingo, Lois Mayhew, Jo Ann Snodgrass, Judy Parker Matz, Marsha Burkhalter. Lynn Marie Hornecker, and Denis L O'Connor.

With sincere gratitude,

Karen Michaud, Membership Chair, FOML



Scan to Renew Membership



Scan for Friends Website

2025 UPCOMING EVENTS

7/26	Town Sq. Overstock Sale
8/11	Board Meeting
8/23	Town Sq. Overstock Sale
9/8	Board Meeting
9/16	General Meeting

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.....	\$20.00
Family.....	\$25.00
Supporting.....	\$30.00
Patron.....	\$50.00
Business.....	\$100.00
LIFETIME.....	\$250.00

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



SPONSORS



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



First Citizens Bank

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



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



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

Upcoming Community Events

For updated information about the Friends of the Murrieta Library,

go to our website at: murrietalibraryfriends.org/

Or you can visit our Facebook page at: facebook.com/MurrietaFOML/

For updates on Murrieta Public Library events, go to: MurrietaCA.gov/library/

Lastly, for information on City of Murrieta Events, go to: MurrietaCA.gov/

SPACE
AVAILABLE

For comments or suggestions on this newsletter, or information about placing an ad,
contact W. Dan Rexwinkel at info@murrietalibraryfriends.org