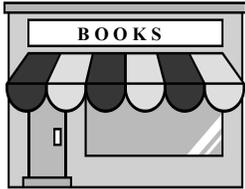




BOOKNOTES



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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

The Friends are taking their annual two month "vacation" during July and August—as I hope many of you are doing also! We had a busy first half of the year, with so many of you volunteering thousands of hours in the Friends' bookstores to enable us to raise funds to support the Library. We also held several fundraisers, including a trip to the Old Globe Theater to see the musical, "Emma," lunches/dinners at Rustico's and J. Carter's Tavern and Grill, selling books at the Murrieta Firefighters' Barbeque, and a booksigning at the Corner Bookstore with Doug McAllister, author of "The Sovereign Principles." Many thanks to all of the volunteers who worked so hard to make those events successful!

As a result of your efforts, the Friends have been able to provide \$15,700 for the Murrieta Public Library's 2011 Spring, Summer, Fall and Winter Programs. The Summer Reading Program is now in full swing, and is proving very popular with the community—just last week a program on "Animals Across the Globe" drew over 200 attendees!

Our program co-chairs, Maggie Pilotte and Mary Wulfsberg, found a wonderful variety of authors to speak to us, and have more entertaining programs planned for the latter part of the year. Don't miss Julie Weber Grace discussing her work in textiles at our September 20, 2011 meeting!

Many of you wrote letters to our legislators about preserving State funding for libraries this year. This is a difficult year financially at every level of government, and our Library is experiencing cutbacks, but thanks to a proactive use of technology, the City of Murrieta's support, the incredibly dedicated Library staff, and your efforts, the Library is maintaining its hours of operation and services to the community.

Even during this "vacation" period, the Friends are continuing to volunteer in the bookstores, to sell books on the internet, and to plan for Fall activities. We are currently working with the Murrieta Public Library Foundation on a fundraiser at the Library in early Fall — watch for details!

Judy Call

MURRIETA PUBLIC LIBRARY

Dear Friends ~

In case you have not been here to witness the organized chaos, the Library has been a very busy place this summer! With many thanks to you, the Summer Reading Programs (SRP) are a huge hit with the kids, teens and adults. We have received such a tremendous response to the excellent programs that we are experimenting with holding the programs outside in Town Square Park, just to be able to accommodate more bodies! The more the merrier and we really want all the kids to experience the great programs that you have provided for them through your generous support! SRP statistics will be provided in the next *Booknotes*!

On June 21, 2011, the Murrieta City Council approved the 2011/2012 fiscal year Library Budget. The new Library budget is \$1,981,702, which has decreased 11% from the 2010/2011 budget of \$2,217,937. The Library will use \$276,302 of the Library's Reserve fund to balance the new fiscal year budget. Assuming the economy will stay the same as it is currently, the Library will use approximately the same amount from the Reserve account for the next eight to 10 years and still leave 25% of the original Reserve money for a true emergency.

As for the State budget, I am sure you have heard that the Legislature passed the budget. The \$15.2 million dollars for the Public Library Foundation fund (PLF), California Services and Library Act (CLSA), and Literacy programs is still intact.

However, there are several "Trigger Bills" attached to this budget; one is a "tier one" (AB 121) bill and the other is a "tier two" (SB 83) bill. If \$3 billion of the projected \$4 billion revenue is *not* received by the State as of December 15, 2011, the tier one cuts will be triggered in January. Fortunately 40% of that amount is already in the bank; only time will tell if the rest comes in on time.

(Continued on page 2)

"The biggest seller is cookbooks and the second is diet books—how not to eat what you've just learned to cook."Andy Rooney

MURRIETA PUBLIC LIBRARY

(Continued from Page 1)

Unfortunately, the entire \$15.2 million dollars of the public library monies are in the tier one (AB 121) bill. Our funding will be the first to go if the revenue projections are not met in December! There is another issue regarding this \$15.2 million dollar amount; only \$3 million is for PLF; the 2010 appropriation for PLF was \$12.9 million...

We have been given a reprieve from the Governor, but we are still in limbo until word about the anticipated revenues comes in around December and no plan from the State Library has been shared as to how that \$3 million will be distributed amongst all of the Libraries in the state who receive monies from the PLF.

What is the bottom line? For this fiscal year, we are *okay*. The Library budget covers everything related to library operations: staffing, utilities, custodial, library supplies and collections, just to name a few accounts. In order to maintain the balance of our budget, we are looking at some very lean years ahead; at least until the property taxes increase significantly (always a dual-edged sword on that!).

We appreciate the hard work of the Friends and understand that times are lean for us all. However, together we will continue providing the very highest quality services, collections and programs to the best of our ability! With imagination, commitment and experience we will get through this situation together!

Loretta McKinney
Director of Library Services

MEMBERSHIP..... July August

Welcome to six new members—
Ann Hickey, Joanne Loomis, Susan Matuzak,
Martha Minkler, Gary & Julie Roberts and
Catherine C. Torlage,

A huge thank you to members for heeding the yellow highlight on your address label and sending your check for membership renewal.

A reminder that the new membership rosters are available in either bookstore.

PROGRAMS

The Friends of the Library will continue to have great speakers at their meetings. **Coming attractions** are:

Tuesday, September 20, 2011—10:00AM —

JULIE WEBER GRACE—textile artist showcasing her personalized creations.

Tuesday, October 18, 2011—10:00 AM—

DENISE HAMILTON—mystery writer. Her books have been shortlisted for many awards including Edgar, Macavity and Anthony.

Tuesday, November 15, 2011—10:00AM—

FRANK MARTER—pianist. He will delight us with a musical recital.

All meetings take place in the Community Room in the Library, are free and open to the public. Please come and join us, and by all means, bring your friends.

Maggie Pilotte/Mary Wulsberg, CO-Chair

MEMBER NEWS

Bernice Evendorff, is doing well. Her health is much better than previously reported. She is going to take a temporary leave, though, as our Sunshine Chairman. Still, let us know of anyone in need of a card from the Friends. We will be sure it gets sent.

Also, we are so glad to report that our wonderful, hard-working Refreshment Co-Chair, Coletha Hutchison, has received very good reports on all her tests and is once more enjoying good health.

Nati Martinez is going to be our Assistant Treasurer. Welcome aboard, Nati. As Treasurer, I am looking forward to working with you.

We have been receiving emails from Carol and Ed Van Dorn keeping us posted on their trip across country. One of the highlights was seeing the shuttle launch in Florida In May. Getting there was an experience in itself having to drive through a blinding thunderstorm. The pictures she emailed of the shuttle launch are fascinating. We're hoping Carol will share some of these experiences at one of our general meetings after they return..

We had an extremely successful fundraiser at J. Carter's Tavern and Inn in June. Lots of Friends and friends of Friends showed up. We received a check for \$294.06 from the restaurant. Thanks so much for supporting this "Friends Day" at J. Carter's Tavern Grill. Thanks, too, to Sandra Lucas for arranging this most profitable fundraiser.

Last, but certainly not least, a big "thank you" to our president, Judy Call, for her generous donation of \$1,500.00. Your donation is much appreciated, Judy!!

OUR LOGO Represents:



Libraries and Book Lovers.....
The Open Book in the background

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"

Stories, Stories, Stories

Nancy Dixon

Everyone loves a story. When you think of books, you think of stories. The pages of each book have stories to tell— fiction or non-fiction — for young, old, and in-between.

While it's true that you can't judge books by their covers, you can tell quite a bit about their owners. And what stories they have to tell! They tell quite a bit about the owner's tastes, interests, and passions, as well as how much they loved and respected the books themselves. We recently received a donation at the Corner Store of about a hundred of children's "chapter books," all in pristine condition. At first I thought they had never been read, but on further inspection I realized that they had been lovingly cared for by a child who respected books (as probably taught her by her mother). Just by the titles and types, I followed her from elementary to middle and on to high school. One of the books had a journal which was intended for writing, and there was her name: Chelsea! There was also a dated order form for a book club, and from that I could deduce that she is now nineteen or twenty. How fun! I feel like I know Chelsea!

There are also what I call "flyleaf stories." Primarily, it's the owner's name we see on the flyleaf, and even that information speaks volumes (pun intended). Bonnie Stalnaker followed a couple and their daughter as they moved from Canada to Michigan, then to California. Once here, the husband died, so only the wife's name appeared, then eventually only the daughter's. The books keep them alive for us by telling a bit of their life's journey as well as their interests and passions.

Another amazing treasure was donated by Marvin Curran: his mother's book collection. (For those of you who aren't familiar, E. Hale Curran was a central figure in early Murrieta, and Marvin was our first fire chief.) In the books were not only Hale's wonderful flourish of a signature, but many had the inscriptions of significant Murrietans who had given her books. Several were even from Hale's childhood days. I not

only learned that she had very eclectic interests, but also that she came originally from Vermont. All this information really came alive for me when I asked Marvin to come by and see if perhaps he might want to reconsider his donation of some books (like several that belonged to his grandfather in Vermont). He didn't want them back, but he did spend quite a long time telling me all about the many people whose names appear in the books. Talk about stories! I have been in contact with the Library so that we can record Marvin telling all these stories, and have that oral history to add to the books themselves for the Heritage Room. An historical treasure just on the flyleaves of books!

Each FOML bookstore tells a unique story, a delicious "casserole" full of the flavors of the stories of the many wonderful volunteers. At the Corner Store, we are able to add the stories of our many teen volunteers who themselves thrive on breathing in the years of stories of the "mature" volunteers. Together there is a synergism which becomes the binding, if you will, of the "Bookstory." This story brings a life and character which enlivens a space with shelves and closed volumes to a vibrant center which enriches those who volunteer there and those who shop there. And that's what draws in our customers who love not only the delight of finding books they love, but also of sharing their own stories. The bookstores are a lively gathering place which extends the Library's mission to meet the intellectual, educational, cultural -- and, may I add, social -- needs of the community.

So, if the stories between the covers aren't enough for you, come to -- or better yet volunteer at -- one of our bookstores to exponentially expand your experience of stories, stories, stories.

P.S. There is another amazing "flyleaf" *interstate* story unfolding as we go to press, so you'll have to wait for the next edition to find out what happens.

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Watch for your Expiration Date to be highlighted on your newsletter. This lets you know your Membership dues are due! Also, please advise of any change in address, phone or email. This will help us keep our mailing list current. Thanks!!

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Wednesday	10-6
Thursday	10-6
Friday	10-5
Saturday	10-5

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 of Library Services
 Phone: 304-Book

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"The key word in 'community' is 'unity'."