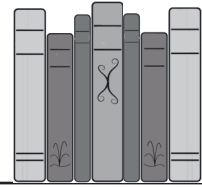


# Ex Libris



Newsletter of the Ventura Friends of the Library P.O. Box 403, Ventura CA 93002  
*Spring/Summer 2026*

## **PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE**

by Mary Olson

The E.P. Foster Library renovation is well underway now. The Friends of the Library are looking forward to the upcoming improvements, but, meanwhile, have made many adjustments to function during the disruption.

The sorting of book donations that had previously been done in E.P. Foster is now being done at our warehouse (11251 Riverbank Drive, in the Ventura County Saticoy Operations Yard). Many bookstore volunteers are now working at the warehouse. The sorting and packaging of books to be sold on eBay is also being done at that location. We have extended the times we accept donations of books there to Monday through Friday from 9 to 11 am.

We are experimenting with Pop-up sales. We have had a booth at Ventura Downtown Farmers Market and will be there again on June 13 and July 11. During the closure, the Mobile Library stops on Main Street in front of E.P. Foster from 10:00 am to 1:00 pm on Mondays and we have also popped up on some of those occasions. Our ability to continue these activities depends on the availability of volunteers, especially those who drive trucks and can lift boxes of books to transport books to the pop-up locations.

If you are interested in volunteering to help in any of our bookselling endeavors, please email [bookstore@venturafriendsofthelibrary.org](mailto:bookstore@venturafriendsofthelibrary.org)

Our monthly board meetings will be held for the foreseeable future on the third Wednesday at 3:00 pm at the Ventura College Foundation conference room at 71 Day Road. This is a much smaller room than the Topping Room, so if a member would like to attend a board meeting, please email [friends@venturafriendsofthelibrary.org](mailto:friends@venturafriendsofthelibrary.org).

The next large book sale will be at the Vons at Telegraph and Victoria on Saturday, May 30. Hope to see you there!



## **E.P. Foster Library Renovation Update**

Asbestos remediation has been completed successfully and environmental testing has confirmed the space is clear and safe. This means workers will soon begin jackhammering the building's flooring for old pipe replacement and making way for installation of a modern air conditioning system. The project remains on track, and the community can look forward to a safer, more comfortable library in 2027.

In the meantime, the Mobile Library will continue making weekly Monday stops in front of the library from 10 am to 1 pm. The renovation project is funded with contributions from the California State Library, Ventura County and the City of Ventura.

San Buenaventura Friends of the Library (that still is our proper name) has also contributed \$250,000 to this project from our Capital Improvement Fund. Here's a little history of Our Capital Improvement Fund. The Friends of the Library board in 1999 established that fund at the Ventura County Community Foundation after receiving a bequest of \$320,000 from Harry Bostwick. Harry had been the business manager of the local newspaper (then the Star-Free Press) and a sports and travel writer, as well as an active member of several community organizations. An endowment fund was also established at that time. Endowments are held in perpetuity with an annual payout of earnings of around 5% with any additional fund growth going to increase principal. We receive distributions from our endowment fund at the end of each year, which are generally used to purchase books for E.P. Foster, Avenue, Hill Road and Saticoy branches. Capital improvement funds are paid out as agreed in a contract entered at the time of establishment of the fund. Our Capital Improvement fund has grown over the years through annual contributions from our earnings from book sales and memberships and investment return. In 2017, the Friends contributed \$200,700 from that fund in support of the establishment of Hill Road Library.

And, this year, we are happy to be able to contribute to the renovation of E.P. Foster Library.

*Thank You!*

*for your generous donation!*

*Ryan Wojtyla*

**OFFICERS OF THE  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS  
2026**

<b>PRESIDENT</b>	Mary Olson
<b>VICE PRESIDENT</b>	Carolyn Briggs
<b>TREASURER</b>	Valerie Magro
<b>RECORDING SECRETARY</b>	Charlotte Anthony
<b>CORRESPONDING SECRETARY</b>	Star Soto



Are You Interested  
in Chatting  
about Books?

If you have a passion for books (literary fiction & non, graphic novels, etc.) consider joining our **Zoom Book Group**, which meets at **2:00 PM on the fourth Thursday** of each month. We chat about the books we read, including those we adore and those we rate a meh! Occasionally, we also exchange books. Membership in Friends of the Library is not a requirement to join this group, and perhaps we will inspire you to become a member. Like the library, it's free. For further information, please reach out to Kappy Paulson at [Paulson.Kappy@gmail.com](mailto:Paulson.Kappy@gmail.com)

**Hill Road Library Book Club**

Join a lively discussion of great books. Print and audio copies of the current selection are held for checkout at the Hill Road branch, and digital versions are available.

Meets on the **last Tuesday of each month.**

**June Meeting: Tuesday, June 30, 4 to 5 pm**

*Tilt* by Emma Pattee

July 28: *West with the Night*, a memoir by Beryl Markham

August 25: *Meet the Neighbors*, a nonfiction work by Brandon Keim

**Wise Owls Book Club  
Hill Road Library**

**Wise Owls** is a quarterly Book Club for adults who enjoy reading children's literature.

**Summer Selection:**

*Island of the Blue Dolphins* by Scott O'Dell  
Tuesday, August 18, 5:00 to 6:00 pm

**BOOK SALE  
SATURDAY MAY 30TH**

**Vons Grocery Store  
Telegraph & Victoria  
(6040 Telegraph Rd)**

**10am to 3pm**

**Shop Selected Categories**

**Fiction  
Non-Fiction  
Vintage & Collectibles  
Graphic Novels & Manga  
Puzzles, DVDs, CDs  
Sheet Music**



**Young Adult  
Children's  
Fiction/Non-Fiction  
Board Books  
Picture Books**

**Pocket-size Fiction Special Sale**



All Proceeds Benefit Ventura Libraries



**Pop-Up Book Sales!**

**Look for our booth at  
Ventura Downtown Farmers Market**

We'll be selling books at the Farmers Market on Saturday June 13 and Saturday July 11. You will find us on Main Street, across from the Mission. Check for other pop-up sales at our website.

The Friends' Sale Shelves in Hill Road Library offer some great buys, as well. Just take a look whenever you visit Hill Road, make your selection and drop your payment in the box.

The Friends have also listed collectible and antiquarian books for sale on eBay: <https://www.ebay.com/usr/friendsventura>

With the temporary closure of E.P. Foster Library for much needed renovations, Ventura Friends of the Library can no longer accept donations of books at that location.

Book donations can be made at Avenue, Saticoy and Hill Road libraries during open hours and at our warehouse (11251 Riverbank Drive, in the Ventura County Saticoy Operations Yard) Monday through Friday from 9 to 11 am.

If you are interested in volunteering to help in any of our bookselling endeavors, email [bookstore@venturafriendsofthelibrary.org](mailto:bookstore@venturafriendsofthelibrary.org) We especially need help with transportation of books to pop-up locations.

VENTURA COUNTY LIBRARY

# SUMMER READING 2026

BIBLIOTECA DEL  
CONDADO DE VENTURA

LECTURA DE VERANO

**JUNE 1 - AUGUST 1**

1 de junio - 1 de agosto

**REGISTER ONLINE:**

INSCRÍBASE EN LÍNEA:



[ventura.readsquared.com/](https://ventura.readsquared.com/)

**Read! Complete Activities!  
Earn Points! Prizes!**

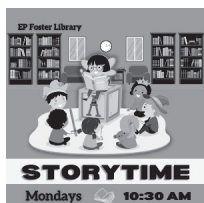
Lee! ¡Realiza las actividades!  
¡Gana puntos! ¡Premios!



## ReadSquared Reading Tracker & Rewards

ReadSquared is the digital backbone of the Summer Reading Program, giving participants of all ages a fun and easy way to log reading minutes, earn virtual badges, and unlock exciting prizes. Available online and through the app, ReadSquared lets kids set personal goals, track their progress, and celebrate every milestone— whether they've read five minutes or five hours. Parents can manage family accounts, and adults have their own dedicated reading challenge.

<https://ventura.readsquared.com/>



### Storytimes!

**Mobile Library on Main Street in front of Foster Library: Mondays, 10:30 to 11:30 am**

**Avenue Library: Tuesdays, 4:00 to 4:30 pm. English and Spanish.**

**Saticoy Library: Tuesdays, 10:00 to 11:00 am Hill Road Library: Wednesdays, 10:30 to 11:00 am.**

### PAWS for Reading

**Hill Road: Wednesdays, 3:30 to 5:00 pm Avenue Library: Thursdays, 3:30 to 5:00 pm**

Join PAWS dogs for one-on-one reading sessions. Children can practice their reading skills in the company of our gentle and attentive furry friends. Arrive at the library early to choose a book and get in line to read to a special pooch. Children of all ages are welcome!

**Hill Road Library Little Lab** Science and Sensory Play Tuesdays in June and July at 10:30 AM

Little Lab occurs (almost) every Tuesday during June and July, and the first Tuesday of the month during the rest of the year. Designed for children 3-7



### Hill Road Library Uno for All!

Every Sunday, 11 am to 1 pm. Join us on Sundays at the Hill Road Library when we break out the UNO decks!

Bring your friends, family, favorite opponents, and GAME ON!

### Avenue Library Family Stay & Play

Families are welcome to stay and play with our collection of board games, card games, and puzzles at the Avenue Library during open hours.

### LEGO Play at Avenue Library

Wednesdays, 2:00 to 4:30 pm

### Stardew Party Hill Road Library Thursday, June 25 3:00 to 5:00 pm



In honor of our Summer Reading theme "Plant a seed, read," and the 10-Year Anniversary of Stardew Valley, we're having a farm party!

Make a fuse bead work of art inspired by your favorite crops, characters, or animals, start some of your own crops to grow at home, and more! Dress-up and overalls encouraged! All ages welcome!

### Summer Snow Day Hill Road Library Thursday, July 9 2:30 to 4:30 pm



Join us for our annual Summer Snow Day at the Hill Road Library!

We'll cool down with icy crafts, a screening of Frozen II, and soft-serve ice-cream from Mister Softee for Summer Reading Program participants! Dress-up and costumes encouraged! Space is limited.

Keep updated at [venturafriendsofthelibrary.org](https://venturafriendsofthelibrary.org) Email: [friends@venturafriendsofthelibrary.org](mailto:friends@venturafriendsofthelibrary.org)

# 2026 SUMMER READING



## THE REPTILE FAMILY

HILL ROAD LIBRARY: THURSDAY, JUNE 18 @ 3:00 PM  
 AVENUE LIBRARY: MONDAY, JUNE 22 @ 2:30 PM  
 SATICOY LIBRARY: TUESDAY, JUNE 30 @ 3:00 PM



## NATHALIA

AVENUE LIBRARY: MONDAY, JUNE 15 @ 2:30 PM  
 SATICOY LIBRARY: TUESDAY, JUNE 16 @ 3:00 PM



## BUBBLEMANIA

HILL ROAD LIBRARY: TUESDAY, JUNE 23  
 1<sup>ST</sup> SHOW: 10:30 AM  
 2<sup>ND</sup> SHOW: 3:00 PM



## ARTY LOON

AVENUE LIBRARY: MONDAY, JUNE 29 @ 3:00 PM



## CHRISTOPHER T. MAGICIAN

HILL ROAD LIBRARY: THURSDAY, JULY 2 @ 3:00 PM



## KYLE TIERNAN

SATICOY LIBRARY: TUESDAY, JULY 7 @ 3:00 PM



## SAVING WILDLIFE INTERNATIONAL

AVENUE LIBRARY: MONDAY, JULY 13 @ 2:30 PM  
 SATICOY LIBRARY: TUESDAY, JULY 14 @ 3:00 PM  
 HILL ROAD LIBRARY: TUESDAY, JULY 21  
 1<sup>ST</sup> SHOW: 10:30 AM  
 2<sup>ND</sup> SHOW: 3:00 PM



## FAMILY GAME DAY



## GAMEZ ON WHEELZ & KONA ICE

EP FOSTER LIBRARY  
 W/MOBILE LIBRARY  
 MONDAY, JUNE 8 @ 1:00 PM  
 651 EAST MAIN STREET  
 VENTURA, CA 93001

SATICOY LIBRARY  
 THURSDAY, JULY 9 @ 2:00 PM  
 1292 LOS ANGELES AVENUE  
 VENTURA, CA 93004

AVENUE LIBRARY  
 MONDAY, JULY 20 @ 2:30 PM  
 606 N. VENTURA AVENUE  
 VENTURA, CA 93001

HILL ROAD LIBRARY  
 THURSDAY, JULY 23 @ 2:30 PM  
 1070 SOUTH HILL ROAD  
 VENTURA, CA 93003



### Movie Mondays at Hill Road Library

Join us for a family-friendly movie at 3 pm on Mondays during June and July.

Movie selection for June 1st: **Zootopia 2**; June 8th: **GOAT**; June 15th: **Wicked For Good**

Our movie selection for June 22nd is **The Princess Bride**. (Inconceivable!); June 29th: **Hoppers**

Movie selection for July 6th: **The Wild Robot**; July 13th: **Elio**; July 20th: **The Super Mario Bros**;

July 27th: **The SpongeBob Movie: The Search for SquarePants**





### Garden to Table Series with Master Gardeners

#### Amazing Succulents

**Hill Road Library Tuesday, June 2, 4:30 to 5:30 pm**

Learn everything you need to know for happy cacti, indoors or out, and meet fellow garden enthusiasts in the area.

This event is free and open to the public. No registration required; walk-ins welcome!

**Beat the Heat: Summer Vegetables You Can Still Plant  
Avenue Library, Wednesday, June 3, 6:00 to 7:00 pm**

Learn which warm-season vegetables thrive when planted in June in our Mediterranean climate and discover varieties that can handle our summer conditions. Link to register: <https://surveys.ucanr.edu/survey.cfm?surveynumber=48916>

Walk ins welcome! As the library is closed at the event time, please enter through the side door entrance on Simpson St.

**Introduction to Hydroponics: Growing More in Less Space  
Saticoy Library, Saturday June 6, 11:00 am to 12:30 pm**

Learn about both commercial and DIY hydroponic systems, which plants thrive in soil-free environments, and simple maintenance techniques to ensure success. Perfect for apartment dwellers, homeowners with small yards, or anyone interested in efficient year-round growing methods using less water and space. Taught by Certified Master Gardeners Terry Garman and Susan Gooden  
Link to Register: <https://surveys.ucanr.edu/survey.cfm?surveynumber=48972> Walk ins Welcome!

**Gardening Tools: Tool School – Basic to Brilliant  
Hill Road Library Tuesday, July 14, 4:30 to 5:30 pm**

Everything you need to know about gardening tools—from the essential must-haves to advanced options. You'll discover the tools every gardener needs, explore high-quality options, and even learn how to create your own gardening wish list with tools that match your unique needs. Taught by Certified Master Gardener, Gary Bednorz

#### Bird Friendly Gardens

**Avenue Library, Wednesday, July 15, 6:00 to 7:00 pm**

Transform ordinary yards and gardens into vibrant ecosystems that provide food, water, shelter, and nesting sites for a variety of bird species throughout the year. Taught by Certified Master Gardener Kat Baker. Link to Register: <https://surveys.ucanr.edu/survey.cfm?surveynumber=49227> Walk ins welcome!

#### Artichokes!

**Avenue Library, Wednesday, August 12, 6:00 to 7:00 pm**

Tips, tricks, and techniques to successfully add these beautiful, productive plants to your vegetable or ornamental garden — from first planting to your first delicious harvest. Taught by Certified Master Gardener Terry Garman. Link to Register: <https://surveys.ucanr.edu/survey.cfm?surveynumber=49226>  
Walk ins welcome!



### A Tour of Outdoor Sanctuaries

Showcasing outdoor retreats, artists' studios  
views, gardens & bird watching

**Saturday, June 6, 2026 | 12PM - 4PM  
Ventura**



**Tickets go on sale April 1, 2026**  
[www.vclibraryfoundation.org](http://www.vclibraryfoundation.org)  
**\$40**

**Ventura County Library Foundation**

invites you to

**“Books, Birds, and Blooms: Outdoor Sanctuaries” Fundraiser**

in Ventura on June 6, from Noon to 4:00 pm  
Explore a series of inspiring outdoor sanctuaries while celebrating the vital role libraries play in enriching lives. Experience a setting with 280-degree ocean views, artist and pottery studios, native plants, nesting birds, the mobile library, a book giveaway, refreshments, and opportunities to connect with fellow supporters of literacy and lifelong learning.

Tickets are priced at \$40. For more information or to purchase a ticket, please visit <https://vclibraryfoundation.org/>

Ventura Friends of the Library will have books for sale on related topics in the parking lot at Community Presbyterian Church, 1555 Poli Street during the event.

Proceeds from the event will directly benefit the Ventura County Library System, helping to fund essential programs and services.

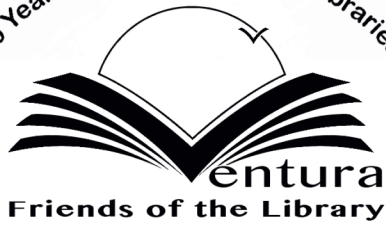
#### Adult Collage Lab

**Saticoy Library Every fourth Saturday of the month  
from 2:30–5:00 PM**

**Avenue Library Collage Guild in the Meeting Room  
Saturdays, June 20, July 18 & August 15**

Collage enthusiasts of all skill levels are welcome for a self-directed creative experience. Supplies are provided; however, you may bring your own.

50 Years of Serving Ventura Libraries



P.O. Box 403 Ventura, CA 93002

**Book Sale May 30**  
**Summer Reading Program**  
**begins June 1**

Join **Ventura Friends of the Library**, and help make our libraries BETTER!

Ventura FOL supports the public libraries of the City of Ventura in delivering library services, including:

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Purchase of library materials and equipment, e.g. books, CDs, DVDs, books on tape</li> <li>• Summer programs for children and youth</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Increase public awareness of legislation and other events that may affect the delivery of library services</li> <li>• Special programs, receptions, speakers, &amp; field trips</li> </ul> |
|---|---|

*Your membership at any of the levels below helps make all this possible.*

(Make checks payable to: Ventura Friends of the Library and mail to P.O. Box 403, Ventura CA 93002)

Lifetime \$1000	Business \$250	Patron \$100	Family \$35	Individual \$25	Student \$10
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Name: \_\_\_\_\_

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

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

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

<input type="checkbox"/> I want to help save printing and mailing costs—Please email Newsletters to me.
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We need YOUR help! FOL is a 501(c)(3) tax-exempt organization run entirely by VOLUNTEERS. Please consider volunteering in any of the following areas. Just check the boxes. We'll contact you.

<input type="checkbox"/>	Bookstore	<input type="checkbox"/>	Book Pickup	<input type="checkbox"/>	Special Sales	<input type="checkbox"/>	Publicity	<input type="checkbox"/>	Membership	<input type="checkbox"/>	Computer
<input type="checkbox"/>	Book Sales	<input type="checkbox"/>	Book Sorting	<input type="checkbox"/>	Fundraising	<input type="checkbox"/>	Newsletter	<input type="checkbox"/>	Programs	<input type="checkbox"/>	Other