



Ex Libris



Newsletter of the Ventura Friends of the Library P.O. Box 403, Ventura CA 93002
Spring 2021

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

by Mary Olson

This is actually our first print newsletter of 2021. With the loss of revenue from our bookstore and large book sales, we have been trying to conserve funds. Monthly email updates have continued. Email does have the advantage of incurring no expense and no lag time for printing and postal delivery. In addition, at a time when library activities are primarily virtual, an email can include a link which will take you right to the activity that interests you!

Email updates from Ventura Friends of the Library should arrive in your inbox right around the the first of the month. If you are not receiving them, we may not have your correct email address. (Or, they may be going right into your spam folder) Please let us know if you are not receiving emails and would like to by emailing friends@venturafriendsofthelibrary.org.

It is not necessary to be a member to receive email updates -- anyone can sign up to our email list at our website. We actually maintain 2 separate lists -- one for members, and one designated for those who are "interested". Some email communications are sent only to the members list, but most, including the monthly updates, are sent to both lists.

Our Amazon book sales and local sales through our website have kept us going this year. We have some great volunteers who have continued working, in part from home, and, to a limited extent, at the warehouse with COVID prevention restrictions.

Our Fund Development Committee has been very active meeting on Zoom and researching grants to fund library activities. Their efforts have borne fruit with a grant from Aera Energy to help fund the BrainFuse tutoring resource. See BrainFuse on page 5.

We are preparing for a book sale on April 17. See page 3. Our expectation is that the procedures we put in place for the October book sale will be followed. In terms of the COVID 19 situation, there is quite a bit of uncertainty. If things improve greatly and the library has opened up to some extent, that could alter how the sale will be conducted. So, once again, watch your email for current information!

We are also happy to invite you to a fun online event. Kate McDermott, author of Art of the Pie will present a tasty tutorial on Saturday, May 8. Prop your tablet on your kitchen counter and invite your mom or kids to join in. You will receive a list of ingredients and recipes in advance. Preregistration is required -- see Member Event on page 3.

We look forward to an eventual return to seeing you all in person, but, for the moment, please join us online.

Look for current information in our emails and at our website <https://venturafriendsofthelibrary.org>.

New Senior City Librarian: Dolly Knight



Dolly began her library career at the Ojai Library as a Library Technician. She later worked at the Camarillo Library, then served as Director of the Ventura County Law Library for 3 years where she became the first non-attorney to win the Joseph D. Loebel award for pro bono service for the creation of a drop-in Legal Clinic. She has been a Senior Librarian for the Santa Barbara Public Library where she oversaw Patron Services and Branches and was part of the team that worked to make SBPL Fine Free starting July 1, 2019. Most recently, Ms. Knight was City Librarian for the Ventura County Library's East Region overseeing the Ray D. Prueter Library, the Piru Library, the Fillmore Library, and the Oak Park Library. She began as Senior City Librarian for the Ventura Region on March 22, 2021.

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