

Ex Libris



Newsletter of the Ventura Friends of the Library P.O. Box 403, Ventura CA 93002
Summer 2022

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

by Mary Olson

This is actually our first print newsletter of 2022. After our Annual Membership Meeting last October, we had hopes that a return to something like normal was just around the corner.

After months of Zoom meetings, our Annual Membership Meeting was held in person in the Topping Room with a guest speaker. Betsy Chess had recently published her memoir, "Daughter of the Land", recounting her family's history in Ventura County agriculture. 20 Friends' members and 10 visitors came to hear Betsy's fascinating presentation. Our organization purchased 3 copies of the book, one of which was given to Ventura County Library and 2 were given to attendees as "door prizes". Books were autographed, the board for 2022 was elected and we adjourned to enjoy the coming holidays and expected to hold a book sale in January.

What actually followed was a series of unfortunate events!

On the first of January, we received notice from Ventura County Library that library buildings would again close to the public for a three-week period, as a precautionary measure to slow the spread of COVID-19. The library returned to curbside pickup of library books, our plans for a book sale were put on hold, the bookstore in E.P. Foster was closed. We were permitted to have only one volunteer at a time enter the library to process donations (still being received curbside at E.P. Foster and Hill Road) and to fulfill orders from our online store. Volunteers hustled to add items to our online store for local sales and those sales as well as our sales on Amazon continued.

That closure of the library buildings continued until February 16, at which time our bookstore in E.P. Foster library also reopened. Shortly thereafter, we had confirmed permission to hold a book sale at the Vons at Telegraph and Victoria on March 19. Although that left a short time frame to prepare, we decided to go ahead.

Joanne Fields organized an entry for Ventura Friends of the Library in the St. Patrick's Day Parade on March 12. Student volunteers walked along side the decorated car and passed out lollipops with bookmark-sized handouts promoting our book sale and bookstores to the spectators along the parade route. Other publicity for the book sale included the Friends' Email Update, flyers and handouts at the library branches and social media posts by Friends volunteers and Ventura County Library's social media. The book sale netted around \$1500 which was quite a good result under the circumstances.

Meanwhile, back at E.P. Foster Library – there had been a significant plumbing failure. A water leak in the second floor restroom impacted large areas of the second floor, the first floor and the Topping Room lobby. In addition to mold abatement and drying out the affected areas, the structural integrity of the walls and ceilings had to be examined. This caused a closure of E.P. Foster Library which lasted until Friday, March 25. Our bookstore in E.P. Foster reopened on Tuesday, March 29. During the remediation period, the books from our bookstore were all moved into the Topping Room as it was necessary to replace the carpet in the bookstore area. Fulfillment of orders to our online bookstore was delayed as we were unable to access our inventory in E.P. Foster. At present, all bookstore and online bookstore operations have been restored and we are looking forward to another book sale on July 16, and, maybe, a return to something like normal.

Book Sale

Saturday, July 16

10 am to 3 pm

at the Vons

at Telegraph & Victoria

New volunteers always welcome!

Help is especially needed to
Sort and price donated books
Scan and research books for resale value
Assist with online book sales
Staff the desk in the bookstore
Maintain our membership lists
Publicize our activities

If you can help,
leave your contact information at the
bookstore, or email
friends@venturafriendsofthelibrary.org



We are sorry to report that the Friends of the Library Book Discussion which met in the Topping Room on Saturday mornings is no longer functioning. However, there is an FOL Book Group that discusses any or even all the books they read in the past month.

Sometimes members pass along books. This long term group is seeking new members. Right now meetings are on Zoom. In the past, meetings were held in a meeting room or at members' homes, rotating hosts. The group may or may not go back to in person meetings. Contact Kappy Paulson at kmpgen@sbcglobal.net to join.



There are two book clubs which meet at Hill Road Library.

Visit the Hill Road Library to pick up the latest book club selections. For more information and to join Book Club mailing lists, please email Linda.Cherry@Ventura.org

Hill Road Library Book Club

meets on the last Tuesday of the month at 5 pm in person at Hill Road Library. The selection for July is **The Sound of the Sea** by Cynthia Barnett; for August, **The Unhoneymooners** by Christina Lauren; for September, **Mexican Gothic** by Silvia Moreno-Garcia. The book selection for October will be the One County One Book selection.

Wise Owls Book Club

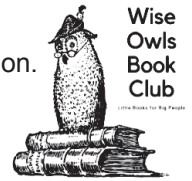
is a quarterly book club for adults who appreciate children's literature. The selection to be discussed on Tuesday, July 12 at 5 pm is

Ways to Make Sunshine by Renee Watson.

The selection for Tuesday, October 11

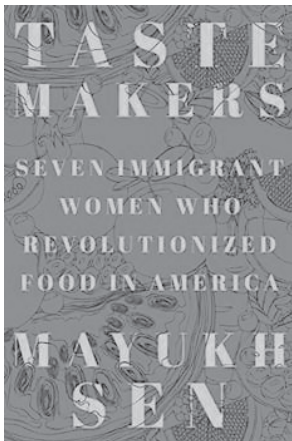
Scary Stories for Young Foxes

by Christian McKay Heidicker.



One County, One Book

unites people across Ventura County in reading the same book and attending related events, such as book discussions and related talks. The Ventura County Library has announced the selection for One County, One Book 2022. This year's title is **Taste Makers: Seven Immigrant Women Who Revolutionized Food in America** by Mayukh Sen!



Taste Makers explores America's modern culinary history through the lives of seven pathbreaking chefs and food writers. This group biography from an electric new voice in food writing honors seven extraordinary women, all immigrants, who left an indelible mark on the way Americans eat today. Taste Makers stretches from World War II to the present, with absorbing and deeply researched portraits of figures including Mexican-born Elena Zelayeta, a blind chef; Marcella Hazan, the deity of Italian cuisine; and Norma Shirley, a champion of Jamaican dishes."

This year's One County, One Book program is officially sponsored by the Ventura County Library Foundation. Copies of the book will be available to borrow from all Ventura County Library branches. Events will run through the month of October and conclude with a special engagement featuring Mayukh Sen on Saturday, November 12, 2022. Stay tuned for more information at <https://www.vencolibrary.org/i-want/one-county-one-book>.

Virtual Open Mic

Virtual and in-house Open Mic!
Every Thursday 6:30 to 10 pm
E.P. Foster Library Topping Room

Enjoy a featured poet, then share your own work with the group. All are welcome to just sit and listen as well.

Zoom meeting
ID 960-750-1600
Zoom opens at 7pm





Ukulele Jam
has returned
to the Topping Room,
E.P. Foster Library.
1st and 3rd Mondays 7 to 10 pm

Paws for Reading is back!



The Paws for Reading Program brings together young readers and affectionate, canine listeners to help boost the confidence of beginning readers. Hill Road Library — Wednesdays, 3:30 to 5 pm
E.P. Foster Library — Thursdays, 4 to 6 pm

Join PAWS dogs for one-on-one reading sessions. 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!

Book Sale
Saturday, July 16
at the Vons
at Telegraph & Victoria

Restock your bookshelves along with
your pantry.

Quality used books at bargain prices.

All proceeds benefit Ventura's libraries.

The Online Bookstore for local sales began during the closures as a way to get good books out to those of you who needed them. We have continued to operate it through the uncertainties of the last few months.

Two new categories have been added for the summer : Great Summer Reading and Youth Summer Reading. Audiobooks and puzzles are also available for your road trips or staycations! Just order online and pick up at E.P. Foster in as little as two days.

<https://venturafol-107753.square.site/s/shop>



Zip Books is back !

This is a grant program funded by the California State Library.



You must have a library card in good standing with the Ventura County Library. Books (print or audio) are delivered to you free and directly from Amazon. After three weeks, return the book to your library branch and hand it to staff please. Put the Amazon receipt or put a note inside the book to identify it as a Zipbook. Print books must be valued under \$50. Audio books and foreign language books can be valued up to \$75. Books should not be available at our library (no prepublication orders or brand new releases please)

Go to <https://www.vencolibrary.org/faq/what-zipbooks> to fill out the request form.



The Friends' Bookstore in E.P. Foster Library is open Tuesdays through Saturdays 11:00 am to 4:00 pm

After another temporary closure due to a plumbing problem in E.P. Foster, the bookstore reopened on March 29 with a bit of a refresh and new carpeting!

The Friends have received an unusual book donation – a collection of more than 700 volumes concerning the Civil War. These include documents from the Union and the Confederacy, memoirs of generals and published academic and popular histories. None of these will be on offer at the July book sale. We are in the process of researching the items in an effort to assure that they are appropriately offered for sale or donated to libraries or academic institutions. If anyone with expertise in vintage or antiquarian books would like to assist in this project, please email friends@venturafriendsofthelibrary.org.

The Ventura County Library is participating in The California State Library's "Lunch at the Library" again this year during the Summer Reading Program. Avenue and Saticoy libraries are locations where free lunches are available for children and teens 18 years and under.

Librarians use this opportunity to introduce visitors to library resources and offer activities relating to nutrition, food waste and farm-to-table. STEAM kits are provided for kids to explore science, math and technology concepts. The library offers these meals in partnership with Ventura Unified School District through the USDA Summer Food Service Program and with the support of generous sponsors including Premier America Credit Union, Ventura Friends of the Library, and Ventura County Library Foundation.



Ventura County Library's summer reading program, **Read Beyond the Beaten Path**, is underway through August 14.

The whole family can register to log their reading at vencolibrary.beanstack.org. Grab-and-go STEAM kits will be available at all library branches, a different one every other week throughout the summer.

This year Ventura County Library is giving away 13 Nintendo Switch Grand Prizes as well as smaller STEAM prizes throughout the summer. In addition, once a child has logged 500 minutes, they may visit their local branch to choose a free new book to add to their home libraries.



Minecraft Bi-Monthly

In-person Minecraft program where we play on the same server together. Computer availability is first come, first served. Arrive at the library early to get signed up.

This program is limited to participants ages 5-17 years old.

Also, please fill out the Minecraft Monthly Gameplay Agreement. Contact the Minecraft Librarian at this email:

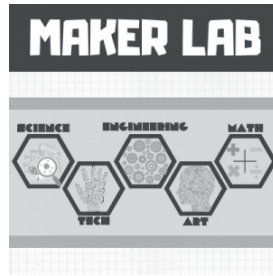
vencolib.minecraft@gmail.com if you have any questions about this event.

E.P. Foster Library

Mondays, 07/18, 07/25, 08/08, 08/22 4:00 to 5:30 pm

Minecraft Monthly at Hill Road Library

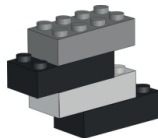
Mondays, 07/18, 07/25, 08/22 4:00 to 5:30 pm



Maker Lab E.P. Foster Library

Tuesdays, 4-6 PM
07/19, 07/26,
08/16, 08/23

Join us twice a month to explore making stuff. Designed for ages 8+



Lego Play E.P. Foster Library

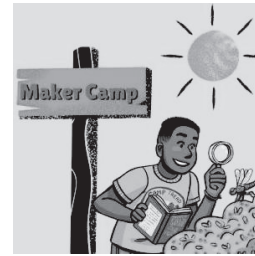
Fridays, 2:00-4:00
07/15, 07/29, 08/12
Build, learn, and play!



Paul's Prehistoric Park

E.P. Foster Library
Wednesday, July 20
3 to 4pm

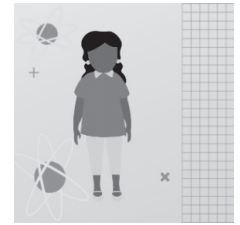
Learn what We Know and what We Imagine about Dinosaurs. See How Drawing simple shapes can lead to creating these Fantastic Beasts from Millions of Years Ago.



Maker Camp Hill Road Library

most Thursdays,
3:30 to 5:00 pm

Explore science, technology, engineering, art, and math through fun projects. Recommended for children 7-18. Younger children are welcome but may need adult assistance.



Little Lab Hill Road Library

Tuesdays,
10:30 am to noon

Explore Science, Technology, Engineering, Art, and Math (STEAM) through play. Caregivers can bond with children through side-by-side play with caregivers as co-learners. This event takes place outdoors and can often be messy,. Recommended for ages 3-7



Bilingual Musician/ Singer Nathalia E.P. Foster

Monday July 25
11 am to noon

Bilingual singer Nathalia is a wonderful performer who will sing in both Spanish and English for children of all ages! This event will be held outside on Main Street.



Summer Snow Day with Kona Ice

Hill Road Library
Tuesday, August 9
3 to 5 pm

Kona Ice End of Summer Reading Party

E.P. Foster Library
Monday, August 15
4 to 5pm
Join us for FREE Kona Ice to celebrate the end of summer reading and all the fun we had this summer at the library!

Keep up with all the news at <https://venturafriendsofthelibrary.org>

Email: friends@venturafriendsofthelibrary.org

Newsletter Editor: Mary Olson

Ventura Friends of the Library held our **Annual Membership Meeting** on Sunday, October 24, 2021 in E.P. Foster Library Topping Room.

We finally met in person again after 2 years of Zoom meetings. We even had a guest speaker, Betsy Blanchard Chess, join us for a discussion and book signing of her memoir, **Daughter of the Land**. The book chronicles her family's colorful and consequential history in the agricultural industry on the Central Coast.

Her presentation was followed by a brief business meeting to receive the Treasurer's report, elect the Officers for 2022 and vote on a bylaw change.

The following additions (in ***bold underscore italic***) to Article VIII, Section 2 of the Bylaws were adopted:

ARTICLE VIII – COMMITTEES
Section 2. Standing Committees.

6) Fund Development. Encourage memorial gifts, endowments, bequests, and other projects which will enrich the resources of the library.

All members of the Fund Development Committee shall be members in good standing of the Association.

The Fund Development Committee shall maintain minutes of their meetings and make those minutes available to the Board of Directors.

Grant proposals developed by the Committee shall be submitted to the Executive Committee for approval before submission to the potential grantor.

Officers elected for 2022	
PRESIDENT:	Mary Olson
VICE PRESIDENT:	
TREASURER:	Annie Winch
RECORDING SECRETARY:	Ellen Klope
CORRESPONDING SECRETARY:	Star Soto

Unfortunately, we were not able fill the position of Vice President on our board. Our board is a working board and the Vice President is required to chair a standing committee. Currently, we lack chairs for several standing committees. Existing board members are performing essential tasks. However, our organization could be more effective if all our committees were populated. The constraint on in-person meetings has certainly been a factor in these difficulties. If you are interested in becoming more involved with the activities of the Friends of the Library, please drop by to chat at the book sale on July 16 or email friends@venturafriendsofthelibrary.org.

Thank You

to our members who renewed at the Patron level

- | | |
|----------------------|--------------------------|
| Mary Braitman | Joy Kobayashi |
| Patricia Brown | Debbie McKay |
| Connie Casavan | Nancy McMillan |
| Annette Clark | Ken & Sharon Oelschlager |
| Nan Drake | Marietta O'Farrell |
| Joyce & John Fish | Debora Schreiber |
| Linda Kay Fisher | Yvonne Seabold |
| Dottie Gragg | Kathleen Sisson |
| Carol Greeby | Berta Steele |
| Janice & Jeff Hackel | Mary Stewart |
| Genevieve Hinkle | Sally Weimer |
| | Carolyn Wood |

And thanks to our new Lifetime Members

- | | |
|---------------|-----------------------|
| David Bayer | Barbara Niles |
| Will Thompson | Marcia & Bill Wakelee |

Thank you for your donations

- | | |
|------------------|-------------------|
| Victoria Ammons | Romy Jue |
| Stuart Bloom | Arlien Pratt |
| Annette Clark | Berta Steele |
| Carol Frazier | Marion Towar |
| Barbara Hillburn | Yuss Family Trust |

Thanks to Kathleen and Jack Shaffer for their donation of posters for the bookstore in E.P. Foster.

Thanks to Graphic Design & Production for the donation of bookmarks promoting the bookstore and online bookstore.

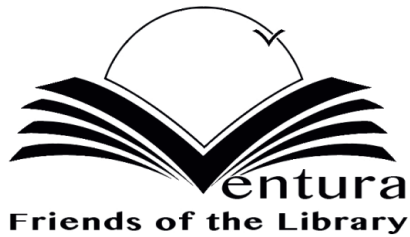
*** TRIBUTE ***

in honor of
Dottie Gragg
from
the Warehouse Crew
on the occasion
of her 90th birthday
and still on the job!

*** MEMORIAL ***

in memory of
Mary Ann Benton
from
Alberta Word

Remember
You can renew your membership
or make a tax-deductible donation at
<https://venturafol-107753.square.site/s/shop>



P.O. Box 403 Ventura, CA 93002

Book Sale July 16

**Join Ventura Friends of the Library and help make our libraries even BETTER!
We support the public libraries of the City of Ventura in delivering library services, including:**

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

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

Lifetime \$1000	Business \$250	Patron \$100	Family \$35	Individual \$25	Student \$10
-----------------	----------------	--------------	-------------	-----------------	--------------

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Address: _____

Email: _____

<input type="checkbox"/> I want to help save printing and mailing costs—Please email Newsletters to me.

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