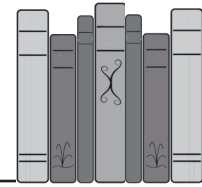


# Ex Libris



Newsletter of the Ventura Friends of the Library P.O. Box 403, Ventura CA 93002  
Spring/Summer 2023

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE by Mary Olson

Recently, Ventura Friends of the Library received a mysterious email from Marin Community Foundation informing us that we would be receiving a donation. It turned out that the ultimate source of the grant, for \$1,000.00, was the Holdfast Collective, Patagonia's new non-profit shareholder.

In September 2022, Patagonia had announced: "The Earth is now our only shareholder. Nearly 50 years after Yvon Chouinard began his experiment in responsible business, ownership of Patagonia is transferred to two new entities: Patagonia Purpose Trust and the nonprofit Holdfast Collective. Every dollar that is not reinvested into Patagonia will be distributed as dividends to protect the planet. "Instead of extracting value from nature and transforming it into wealth, we are using the wealth Patagonia creates to protect the source," said Chouinard. "I am dead serious about saving this planet."

So, this donation, in addition to being quite useful, can be taken as a recognition that the work we do "recycling" books and supporting the institution of the free public library, makes some small contribution to protecting the planet.

This summer, for the first time since 2019, the Summer Reading Program will offer a full roster of live events at Avenue, E.P. Foster, Hill Road and Saticoy libraries. Favorite performers will return to all four branches and themed bi-weekly STEAM activities and challenges will be offered each week. See pages 3 & 4 for the summer schedules.

Avenue and Saticoy libraries will also be participating again in the California State Library's "Lunch at the Library" program June 20 through August 10 (Monday – Friday) from 12 – 2 pm. In addition to providing free lunches for children and teens 18 years and under, the program includes farm/gardening related STEAM activities for the youth in the community.

This year, a new book club for children ages 9 to 12 was initiated at E.P. Foster Library. Foster's Young Readers Book Club continues through the summer. See page 5 for dates and titles. The Hill Road Library Book Club and the Wise Owls book club schedules can also be found on page 5.

See you at the library this summer!



## The Summer Reading Program Find Your Voice

is underway at Ventura County Library. While there are many things to do at the library -- see pages 3 & 4 -- you may record your reading for opportunities to win prizes online at [vencolibrary.beanstack.org](http://vencolibrary.beanstack.org). There you can register for Reading Challenges specially designed for Kids, Teens and Adults.

You may not have noticed, but Reading Challenges are not just for summer, anymore. The library has offered them in other seasons as well. And, in addition to the Summer Reading challenges, there are currently two other reading challenges available.

Ventura County Library's **1,000 Books Before Kindergarten Reading Challenge** is designed to cultivate a love for reading in your little one. The **Growing Readers Challenge** for expectant parents encourages bonding with your baby and encouraging a love of reading from the very start.

So, in any season, find your reading challenge at [vencolibrary.beanstack.org](http://vencolibrary.beanstack.org).

**BOOK SALE !**  
**Saturday, July 8**  
**10 am to 3 pm**  
**at the Vons**  
**at Telegraph & Victoria**