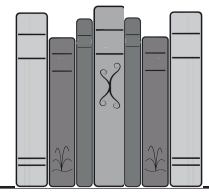


Ex Libris



Newsletter of the Ventura Friends of the Library P.O. Box 403, Ventura CA 93002
Fall 2024

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

by Mary Olson

Today, well into the 21st century, the day to day activities of Friends of the Library have changed a lot since our inception in 1969. We all still value libraries as essential infrastructure, are (sometimes excessively) fascinated by books of all kinds and pretty much allergic to waste. And, we are still receiving a constant stream of donated books, CDs and DVDs. In an effort to fulfill our purpose of supporting our libraries, we continue to expand our bookselling activities.

Our bookstore in E.P. Foster Library is now open 7 days a week, Monday through Saturday, 11:00 am to 4:00 pm and Sundays, 1:00 to 4:00 pm. The roster of bookstore volunteers currently numbers about 50 -- and more would be very welcome. Volunteers may work as little as one 2 1/2 hour shift a month or be available to be called on when a substitute is needed.

We continue to hold large book sales, roughly quarterly, usually at the Vons at Telegraph & Victoria. This activity requires some other types of volunteers -- those who have trucks plus more who are capable of heavy lifting. We also sell items on Amazon and eBay. This allows us to find buyers for collectibles, antiquarian and other quirky items that would not be readily sold to casual shoppers and to capture the value of some rare items.

Before books appear in the store or are transported to a sale, they must be received (also requires a bit of heavy lifting) and sorted. These activities take place at E.P. Foster library and at our warehouse in the county maintenance yard in Saticoy. Sorting can be more of an art than a science, including setting some items aside for research for suitability for listing on Amazon or eBay, organizing the rest by genre and pricing for sale.

Our most recent adventure in sales has been a reinvigorated effort in selling on eBay. Manga are quite popular on eBay. Examples of other types of items we have sold are a 1928 edition of Etiquette by Emily Post, topographical maps of the Mojave desert and a Lafayette Radio electronics catalog from 1974. Sales since May have generated over \$4,000 of income. The tasks in this effort have been divided into researching the value of items; listing the items on the platform; monitoring the site, confirming the sale and purchasing postage and passing along the information; and packaging the items and delivering to the post office.

We have discontinued listing books for sale on our Square store. Our online store for local sales was initiated during the pandemic when libraries had closed their doors. Selling books online with customers picking up their purchases outdoors served us well when libraries were allowing patrons to check out books with a similar procedure. Last year, however, customers to our online store dwindled precipitously, so we are now using it only to offer members the convenience of renewing memberships and making donations online. We also use our Square account to be able to accept credit cards for payment at our periodic outdoor sales.

As you can see, our activities require volunteers with a variety of skill sets. If you have a skill that could improve our performance in any of these areas, please inquire at our bookstore or email bookstore@venturafriendsofthelibrary.org to join our volunteer crew!

It's Time for our
Annual Membership Meeting
October 20 in the Topping Room
with guest author Elizabeth Moore Kraus
"3 Sisters, 3 Weeks, 3 Countries (Still
Talking)"
See page 3 for details

If it's time for the Annual Meeting,
It's time to renew your membership for 2025
Please send in your renewal
in the enclosed envelope



or renew online

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

Thanks for your support for the Friends of
the Library Bookstore in E.P. Foster Library
2nd Look Books Ventura
Monday through Saturday
11:00 am to 4:00 pm
Sunday 1:00 to 4:00 pm

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

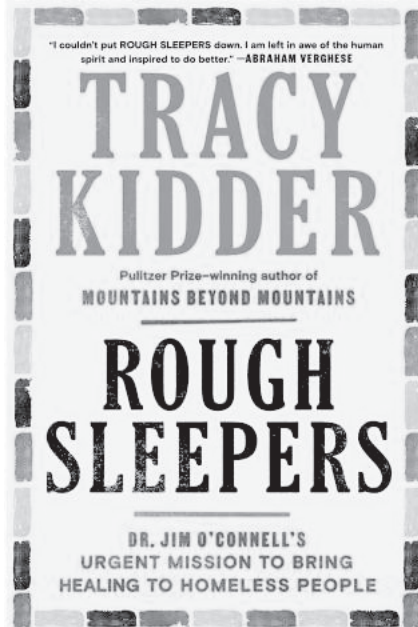
Email: friends@venturafriendsofthelibrary.org

Newsletter Editor: Mary Olson

One County One Book 2024

One County One Book is a program of Ventura County Library which aims to engage the community around a common narrative. This year's community reading selection is:

Rough Sleepers: Dr. Jim O'Connell's Urgent Mission to Bring Healing to Homeless People by Tracy Kidder.



From the publisher's description of *Rough Sleepers*, "Kidder tells the story of Dr. Jim O'Connell, a gifted man who invented a community of care for a city's unhoused population, including those who sleep on the streets—the 'rough sleepers.'"

After Jim O'Connell graduated from Harvard Medical School and was nearing the end of his residency at Massachusetts General, the hospital's chief of medicine made a proposal:

"Would he defer a prestigious fellowship and spend a year helping to create an organization to bring health care to homeless citizens? That year turned into O'Connell's life's calling. Tracy Kidder spent five years following Dr. O'Connell and his colleagues as they work with thousands of homeless patients, some of whom we meet in this illuminating book."

Copies of *Rough Sleepers* are available to borrow at your local Ventura County Library branch.

Dr. Jim O'Connell, the subject of *Rough Sleepers*, will be the featured speaker at the **Ventura County Celebration of Books**. **2:00 – 3:00 pm in the Grand Salon at CSU Channel Islands**. Paperback books will be available for purchase or bring your own for the book signing following the talk. Limit of two copies signed per person.

The State of Homelessness in Ventura County: A Conversation with the Professionals.

A panel discussion in the Grand Salon from 11:00 am to noon

Doug Menges, Executive Director, Many Mansions

Kay Wilson-Bolton, Executive Director, SPIRIT of Santa Paula

Jazmin Clark, Foster Youth Initiatives Coordinator CSUCI

Jeffrey Lambert, Chief Executive Officer, Housing Authority of the City of San Buenaventura

Alicia Morales-McKinney, Program Director, Ventura County Continuum of Care

Bryan Tomlin, Associate Professor of Economics CSUCI

Moderated by Amy Johnson, KCAL News Anchor


See <https://www.vclibraryfoundation.org/events/> for more details.

The culminating One County One Book event will be the 2nd Annual

Ventura County Celebration of Books

on Saturday, October 12, 11:00 am to 4:00 pm on the campus of California State University, Channel Islands.

This event is free and open to the public! Parking is free.



10
12
24

Join us for this year's

Ventura County CELEBRATION OF BOOKS


On the beautiful campus of
CSU Channel Islands

Saturday, October 12, 2024
1 University Drive, Camarillo, CA 93012


Come hear Dr. Jim O'Connell speak at 2pm!
Dr. O'Connell is the subject of the 2024 One County, One Book title selection, *Rough Sleepers* by Tracy Kidder

Featuring food trucks, family activities, and additional lectures by CSUCI faculty


Are you a local author, vendor, or non-profit who would like to participate?
Please contact: email@vclibraryfoundation.org




VENTURA COUNTY
Library



COUNTY OF VENTURA
Library



California State
University



JOHN SPOOR
BROOME LIBRARY
CHANNEL ISLANDS

Ventura County CELEBRATION OF BOOKS

October 12, 2024 11:00 AM to 4:00 PM

CSUCI Campus One University Drive, Camarillo CA

EVENT SCHEDULE

11 am – 1:30 pm North Quad Lawn

- Exhibitors Tabling featuring local organizations, non-profits, and Friends of the Library groups from all over Ventura County.

- Activities for Kids Presented by CSUCI Early Childhood Studies & Ventura County Library

- Bring your own blanket and have a family picnic on the North Quad lawn. Bring your own lunch or enjoy food from a local food truck.

- Food Trucks – The Habit; Mister Softee; Famous Taco Bar. The first 150 servings are complimentary at each truck! Limit one serving per person. University Auxiliary Catering will offer complimentary coffee and water while supplies last.

**Calling All Members!
Come to our Annual Membership Meeting!**

**Sunday, October 20
1:00 to 3:00 pm
E.P. Foster Library Topping Room**

Please, bring a friend -- Our annual meetings are always open to guests who are interested in our organization or our guest speakers!

Our speaker will be Elizabeth Moore Kraus. She has lived in Ventura for over 30 years and is currently teaching at Ventura College. Her book, given a 4.6 rating on Good Reads, is described as an unforgettable memoir of a journey filled with ups, downs, and everything in between ... a must-read book filled with laughter and life lessons.

Her book will be available for purchase and signing at the event.

Her presentation will be followed by a brief business meeting to receive the Treasurer's report, elect the Officers for 2025 and vote on a bylaw change.

Proposed Slate of Officers for 2025

- PRESIDENT: Mary Olson
- VICE PRESIDENT: Carolyn Briggs
- TREASURER:
- RECORDING SECRETARY:
- CORRESPONDING SECRETARY: Star Soto

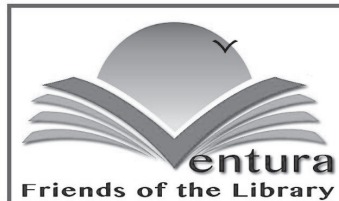
Nominations will also be taken from the floor at the Annual Meeting

*Thank you,
David & Cheryl Menezes
for your generous donation.*

In Memory of Connie Casavan

*Thank you for your donations
Cindi Ruis
Tracey Hendrick*

**You're Invited to the
Annual Membership Meeting**



**Sunday, October 20, 2024
1pm-3pm
Topping Room,
E.P. Foster Library**

Featuring Elizabeth Moore Kraus
discussing her memoir
3 Sisters, 3 Weeks, 3 Countries (Still Talking)



About the Book
3 Sisters, 3 Weeks, 3 Countries (Still Talking) is a memoir of her trip to Ireland, England, and Scotland with her two sisters. All three now retired, they decided they should take a trip together and each sister chose a country to plan for the week of their travel. Navigating family dynamics is not always easy, and close quarters every day with the stress of travelling can be challenging. This memoir explores the past and present family connections and how that influences their relationship on the trip and afterwards.

About the Author
Elizabeth "Liz" Moore Kraus has lived in Ventura County for over 30 years with her spouse, Dave, and son Brent-Stig. At the age of 42, Liz enrolled in college to earn her M.A. in English Literature from CSU Northridge. She taught at Saint Bonaventure High School from 2000-2014, and then at Ventura College until 2019 when she retired. It was shortly thereafter she embarked on the 3 week trip with her sisters. She is working on two more books and is back teaching at VC.



It seems that every year brings another adjustment to our bylaws. This year, recognizing the effects of inflation over the course of time, the board recommends a bylaw change to change the dollar amount requiring a second signature on a check to a purchase exceeding \$500, an increase from the current \$200 specified in the bylaws.

To: Members, Ventura Friends of the Library
From: Board of Directors, Ventura Friends of the Library
Date: October 1, 2024
Subject: BYLAWS - PROPOSED CHANGE

Please review the proposed change to the Association's Bylaws. Proposed **deletion** is in ~~strikeout~~. Proposed addition is in **bold underscore italic**.

We will vote on the proposed change at our October 20, 2024 General Meeting. The Board of Directors has reviewed and supports the proposed change.

ARTICLE IX – FISCAL RESPONSIBILITY

Section 2. Checks.

b. Checks over ~~\$200~~ **\$500** shall require two (2) signatures.



Storytime

E.P. Foster Library

Mondays at 10:30 am

Avenue Library

Tuesdays, 4:00 to 4:30 pm

In English and Spanish

Hill Road Library

Wednesdays at 10:30 am

Saticoy Library

Thursdays, 10:00 to 11:00 am



Paws for Reading

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.

Hill Road Library

Wednesdays, 3:30 to 5 pm

E.P. Foster Library

Thursdays, 4:00 to 5:30 pm



Minecraft Gaming at the library

1st & 3rd Mondays at E.P. Foster Library and Hill Road Library

An in-person Minecraft program where we play on the same server together. This program is limited to participants ages 5-17 years old. Space is limited. First come, first served. Questions about the event, please call 805 626-READ



E.P. Foster Library Crafty Little Fox Club

Wednesdays, 3:30 to 5:00 pm

Kids are welcome to drop by for self-guided arts, crafts and coloring. A special, structured craft will be provided every 4th Wednesday.

Avenue Library Family Coloring

During open branch hours, families are welcome to free coloring pages for all ages. Crayons and colored pencils are provided for in-house use.

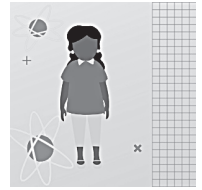


Ventura County Library now has a second mobile library in the growing library fleet.

This new School Mobile Library will serve schools through a partnership with the Ventura County Office of Education, offering a full range of library services to students, particularly those in the underserved areas of Ventura County and where schools do not have credentialed librarians on staff. The School Mobile Library will offer books for students in multiple formats and languages, STEAM instruction and programs, homework support in alignment with current school curriculum and instruction, and access to technology and online resources.

Funding for the School Mobile Library was provided by the Ventura County Library Foundation, Premier America Credit Union, CBC Federal Credit Union, County Schools Federal Credit Union, and Ventura County Credit Union in addition to a \$250,000 Stronger Together: Improving Library Access Grant received by the library through the California State Library.

Little Lab Hill Road Library First Tuesdays 10:30 am to noon



Kids 3 to 7 explore Science, Technology, Engineering, Art, and Math (STEAM) through sensory play, process art, and constructive play. Little Lab is an opportunity for caregivers to bond with children through side-by-side play with caregivers as co-learners. This event takes place on the patio and can often be messy, so please dress accordingly.

Hill Road Library Maker Lab Thursdays, 3:30 to 4:30 pm



October 10: Dissect owl pellets.
October 17: Lego Challenge
October 24: Squishy Circuit Monsters

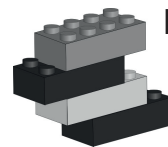
Hill Road Library Discover Science

Saturday, October 19
11:00 to noon



Wind Catcher

Harness the power of the wind with Discover Science Team from the Foothill School of Technology.



Lego Play Avenue Library Wednesdays 2:00 to 4:00 E.P. Foster Library Fridays 2:00 to 4:00

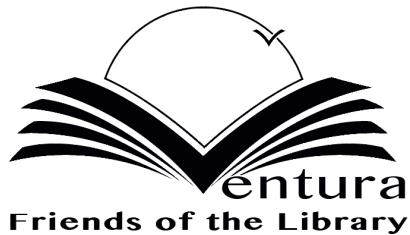
Bring your imagination and experiment with creative designs. Children of all ages welcome!



Game On! at Hill Road Library

Every Sunday, 11 am to 1 pm. Drop by and choose from over 35 games to play! For all ages. Fun for families or a great reason to meet with friends.

Avenue Library Family Stay & Play All are welcome to "stay and play" at the Avenue Library. Board games, card games, puzzles, and more are available during open hours.



P.O. Box 403 Ventura, CA 93002

Ventura County Celebration of Books
October 12
Annual Membership Meeting
October 20

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

Mail: Ventura Friends of the Library P.O. Box 403 Ventura CA 93002

Annual Meeting October 20, Current Members, TIME to RENEW!

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
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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.

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