



# Ex Libris



Newsletter of the Ventura Friends of the Library P.O. Box 403, Ventura CA 93002  
Winter 2020

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

by Mary Olson

From book clubs to Medicare explainers to travel adventure, the library offers many programs of interest to Seniors. (Check out page 4 for current Tai Chi and Road Scholar offerings)

As the City of Ventura is now in the process of developing a Senior Strategic Plan, many of us library supporters have attended community meetings and spoken up for the place of our libraries in this planning.

City Council had allocated Measure O funding to develop a Senior Strategic Plan that will allow the City of Ventura to:

1. Identify current and emerging senior needs, potential gaps in services, and partnership opportunities and
2. Develop a set of realistic goals for meeting senior needs with strategies and actionable steps for accomplishment

GreenPlay, LLC, a nationally-known parks and recreation management consulting firm, was hired by the City of Ventura to develop the Senior Strategic Plan. City Council established the Senior Strategic Planning Ad Hoc Committee to support the development of the Plan and assist in engaging the community in the process which included a series of community meetings.

At this point in the process, a draft plan will be presented to the City Council on January 27 and 28. This will be followed by a 2 week comment period.

If you would like to follow the progress of the Senior Strategic Plan and share your comments, please go to <https://www.cityofventura.ca.gov/1662/Senior-Strategic-Plan> or contact Emily Fox, Community Partnerships Manager [efox@cityofventura.ca.gov](mailto:efox@cityofventura.ca.gov) (805) 658-4793

In other news of civic engagement, Ventura County Library was named one of 59 libraries nationwide to receive a \$2,000 Library Census Equity Fund grant from the American Library Association to bolster library services to hard-to-count communities and help achieve a complete count in the 2020 Census.

The funds will be used for computer equipment for the Mobile Library to facilitate participation in underserved areas of Ventura County in special Census 2020 Mobile Library events.

## Treasurer's Update

While closing out the books for 2019 and preparing for the next book sale at the beginning of February, I am reminded how fundamental consistent book selling revenue driven by your volunteer service are to supporting our libraries. The bookstore, self-service shelves at Hill Road Library and online sales produced over \$35,000 (over \$670 per week) and periodic sales produced over \$4200 for 2019. For 2019 the Ventura Friends will be able to give over \$53,000 to the Ventura County Library System for the benefit of Ventura's libraries.

Funds are used to purchase thousands of books as well as encourage the joy of reading and strengthen reading skills in children by providing enriching and engaging programs. These programs reach children of all ages from early literacy to summer reading program to teen discussion groups.

If you can volunteer at the next or any periodic sale or in the bookstore please contact us at [friends@venturafriendsofthelibrary.org](mailto:friends@venturafriendsofthelibrary.org), leave a note with the bookstore store cashier or call (805) 750-6630.

--Kathy Thomson



Ventura County Library Adult Literacy READ Program is now recruiting adult volunteer tutors who would like to help other adults improve their reading and writing skills.

The READ program trains adult volunteers to provide free one-to-one reading instruction for adults in need of basic literacy skills, including the development of phonetic reading skills combined with communication skills. No teaching experience is required and the training is free. The next five-week tutor training series begins at VACE, 5200 Valentine Rd, on Wednesday Feb 5, 2020, 5 - 8:30 p.m. For more information about how you can support literacy and make a difference in someone's life, call (805) 677-7160.



### Ventura Friends of the Library Annual Membership Meeting

took place on October 20 at Hill Road Library. The very brief meeting followed the final event of our 50th anniversary year celebrations.

That Sunday, Friends, their guests, local dignitaries and helpers gathered at Hill Road Library for music, hors d'oeuvres, door prizes and displays. Mark Lager, Library Technology Manager, served as Master of Ceremonies.

The Broadway Juniors, directed by Miriam Arichea, serenaded us with songs chosen for the occasion to honor the Friends, such as "Thank You for Being a Friend" and "You've Got a Friend in Me."

Mayor Matt LaVere spoke about the importance of a vibrant library system to a community. Library Director Schram thanked the Friends for their hard work and dedication, noting that Hill Road Library could not have opened without our financial contribution. She presented the Friends with a plaque commemorating 50 years of service and advocacy. The plaque will be displayed in our bookstore in E.P. Foster Library. Friends' President Mary Olson gave a brief overview of the history of the Friends. She emphasized that libraries are dynamic, offer more services than most people realize, and that everyone is welcome.

Hill Road Café furnished finger food on the patio; Ivor Davis served up sparkling cider and presided over the door prize drawings. Guitarist John Bardi added to the festivities. A Power-Point played on the library's giant flat-screen with photos, documents, letters, newspaper articles from the Friends' archives. The original documents were displayed in scrapbooks that had been lovingly assembled over years. One of the original Friends, Hazel Clymer, was on hand and enjoyed seeing a news photo of herself from the early days. The new Mobile Library/Bookmobile was parked outside for tours and information.\*

Following the celebration, our brief annual meeting convened. The Treasurer's end of year report was accepted and the Board of Directors for 2020 was elected.

<b>PRESIDENT</b>	Mary Olson
<b>VICE PRESIDENT</b>	Joanne Fields
<b>TREASURER</b>	Kathy Thomson
<b>RECORDING SECRETARY</b>	Ellen Klope
<b>CORRESPONDING SECRETARY</b>	Star Soto

\*The account of our 50th Anniversary Celebration was largely excerpted from Jill Forman's reporting for The Breeze.

### FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY BOOK DISCUSSION

meets in the Topping Room on the first Saturday of the month from 10 am to noon. This group reads a variety of fiction and non-fiction and is always open to new members!

Saturday, February 1:

**The Little Paris Bookshop** by Nina George

This meeting will be in E.P. Foster Rentfrow Room due to book sale in Topping Room.

Saturday, March 7:

**Between the World and Me** by Ta-Nehisi Coats

Saturday, April 4:

**Poetry Month** - share a few favorite poems!

For more information, contact Donna at reader1011@icloud.com

### \* MEMORIALS \*

*in memory of Ed Elrod*

*from*

Yvonne Seabold

Ed Elrod was known to many as proprietor of the Ventura Book Store. In addition to his love of books and languages and support of the Friends, he was a supporter of the Ventura Music Festival and the Diversity Collective of Ventura County.

*in memory of Bob Swanson*

*from*

Ann Elliott

Bob was a true friend of the Friends of the Library.

### *Thank you to our donors*

Carolyn Briggs	Barbara Hilburn	Peter Mcgoon
Dale Condra	Romy Jue	Berta Steele
Terrence Foley	Mary Lynch	Connie Taft

to John Orr *for his Business Membership*  
and to those who renewed membership  
at the patron level

Victoria Ammons	Carol Lindberg
Everard Ashworth	D.E. Mckay
Lila May Atkisson	Nancy McMillan
David Bayer	Traci Miller
Mary & Bob Braitman	Barbara Niles
Constance Casavan	Marietta O'Farrell
Nan Drake	Kathleen & Jeffery Paulson
Charles Elliott Jr.	Neil & Mary Ann Robinson
Frances Elliott	Yvonne Seabold
Joyce & John Fish	Berta Steele
Edris Foukes	Will Thompson
Genevieve Hinkle	Stephanie Tiffany
Jeanne Hunt	Lou & Rosemary Vigorita



E.P. Foster Library Topping Room

Saturday, February 1  
Members only 9 to 10 am  
Open for all 10 am to 3 pm

Sunday, February 2  
Open for all 12 to 3 pm

Thanks to a recent large donation,  
this sale will feature vintage books.  
Quality used books at bargain prices.

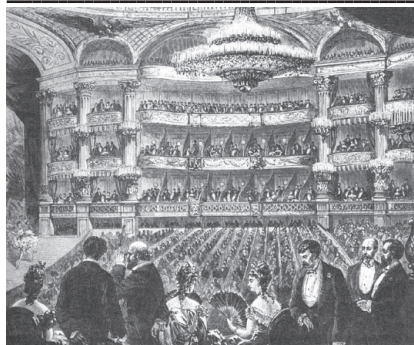
Watercolors & Photos by Susan and  
Hank Stoutz will also be for sale.

Framed watercolors up to \$150.00  
Unframed watercolors and photos  
\$5.00 to \$40.00



All proceeds benefit Ventura's libraries!





### Opera Santa Barbara Noontime Concert

E.P. Foster  
Topping Room

Friday, January 31  
Friday, March 27  
12:00 to 1:00 pm

Beautiful opera performed in a cozy setting.

Come enjoy a free noontime concert presented by members of Opera Santa Barbara's Christmas Studio Artist Program. One of the library's most popular events.

Also, appearing at the Ojai Library

Thursday, January 30, 12:00 to 1:00 pm

### Tai Chi: Moving For Better Balance E.P. Foster Library



The Ventura County Area on Aging and the Ventura County Library are partnering to bring simplified Tai Chi for seniors. Canes and walkers are okay. Mondays and Wednesdays, 10:00 to 11:30 am for 12 weeks. A new class began January 6. For more information and to register please contact: Fall Prevention Program Coordinator 805-477-7300



CALIFORNIA  
NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY

### A California Native Plant Society Lecture

Tuesday, February 18, 2020

Tuesday, April 21, 2020

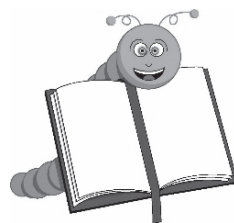
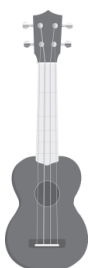
7:00 pm to 9:00

E.P. Foster Library Topping Room

Please join us for an interesting and enlightening lecture series presented by the California Native Plant Society, Channel Islands Chapter.

### Ukulele Jam

Join folks of all ages and experience levels to jam out on your ukulele! Beginners welcome, every 2nd and 4th Monday in the Topping Room at E.P. Foster Library.



### Hill Road Library Book Club

**January 28: The Soul of an Octopus**

by Sy Montgomery

**February 25: Washington Black**

by Esi Edugyan.

Multiple copies of Book Club books & audiobooks will be available at the library or download Book or Audiobook using cloudLibrary.

Discussions on fourth Tuesday of month, 6:00 to 7:00 pm.

All are welcome who have read the book!

### Road Scholar: Adventures in Life-Long Learning

Hill Road Library  
Thursday, February 6  
4:30 to 5:30 pm



Jill Swaim, Road Scholar Ambassador, presents an informational lecture on this life-long learning travel program. Road Scholar is a not-for-profit organization whose mission is to inspire adults to learn, discover, and travel.



### Sunday Matinees at Hill Road Library

Sundays, 11:30 am to 1:30 pm

The first Sunday Matinee film screening features the film Downton Abbey, Sunday, January 26, 2020

In February, Sunday Matinee film screening series celebrating Black History Month will feature a different film each Sunday.

Feb. 2: Selma - PG-13 - 128 min.

Feb. 9: Remember the Titans - PG - 114 min.

Feb. 16: Southside With You - PG-13 - 84 min.

Feb. 23: Harriet - PG-13 - 125 min.

Bring your favorite movie snacks.

Questions? Call (805) 677-7180.

### Poetry Open Mic Night

E.P. Foster

Thursdays @ 7:30-9 pm

Hosted by Phil Taggart.

Free and open to the public. Enjoy a featured poet, then share your own work. All are welcome to just listen as well.



Keep up with all the news at [www.venturafriendsofthelibrary.org](http://www.venturafriendsofthelibrary.org) and Ventura Friends of the Library on Facebook  
Email: [friends@venturafriendsofthelibrary.org](mailto:friends@venturafriendsofthelibrary.org) Newsletter Editor: Mary Olson



**Storytime!**

Avenue Library Bilingual  
Mondays, 3:30 to 4:00 pm

E.P. Foster  
Tuesdays, 10:30 am  
and Wednesdays, 10:30 am

Hill Road Library  
Wednesdays, 10:30 am

Saticoy Library  
Tuesdays, 10:00 am  
Library opens to general public at 1:00 pm

Introduce your child to early literacy and the library with stories, poems, music, movement, & fun!



**Dance Party!**

**in the Topping Room**  
**All Dance parties are 10-11 am**

Enjoy non-stop music and movement for children ages 2-5 and their grownups.

Dance party will be held on these dates: Thursday - 2/06, Friday - 02/14, Saturday - 02/22, Friday, 02/28, Friday, 03/06, Saturday, 03/14, Thursday, 03/19, Friday, 04/10, and Friday, 05/01.



**Paws for Reading**

Children improve their reading skills through reading aloud to certified therapy dogs.

At E.P. Foster Library, appointments are available for Saturdays, 12 - 1. For additional information or to schedule an appointment, call 805-648-2716 & ask for the 2nd Floor Service Desk.

At Hill Road Library, Paws for Reading will be available on Wednesdays at 3:30 pm. Arrive at the library early to choose a book and get in line to read to a special pooch. Children of all ages welcome!

Saticoy Library, Wednesday, March 4, 12:00 to 1:00 pm. Come and visit Claudia and her partner, Clementine, and earn a free book! (805) 671-5148.

**Teen Advisory Group**  
**E.P. Foster Library**

1st & 3rd Wednesdays  
OR 2nd & 4th Tuesdays  
5:00 -6:00 PM



Support the library with these events & tasks: Horror in the Stacks, E.P. Foster Library Makerspace, Virtual Reality, Book Displays, Mini-maker Faire, Foster Con

\*We provide free food.\* \*This group is for 9th-12th grade and it counts towards community service requirements!\*

\* We are currently preparing for Foster Con, a Mini Comic Con.

Please contact Phillip at [phillip.yocham@ventura.org](mailto:phillip.yocham@ventura.org) if you would like to participate.



**E.P. Foster Library Game Night**

Monthly, after library hours  
on these dates: 2/07, 3/20, 4/17  
from 5-7 PM in the Makerspace Area on the 2nd Floor.

Play the Wii U, Wii, PS2, Minecraft PC, the Oculus Rift VR(ages 13+), and some board games/puzzles.

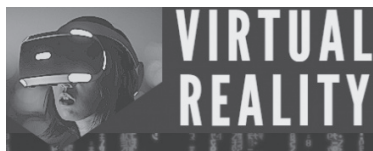
All attending must enter the library before 5:30 pm.  
Sponsored by the Teen Advisory Group.



**Makerspace Open Workshop**  
**E.P. Foster**

Wednesdays, 3:00 to 5:00 pm

For Kids & Teens, drop-ins welcome, no prior experience needed. Try out the New Maker Menu!



**E.P. Foster Virtual Reality**

Wednesdays, 3:30-5:30 pm  
on the 2nd Floor.

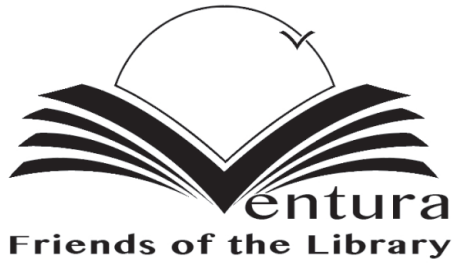
Explore the virtual world with these different VR platforms: Samsung Gear VR, Oculus Go, Oculus Rift, and HTC Vive. ALL VR HEADSETS can only be used by those aged 13 and older.



**Hill Road Library Maker Lab**

Thursdays, 4:00 pm to 5:00 pm

Explore making stuff with the 3D printer, Legos, Little Bits, Dash & Dot Robots, or Squishy Circuits. Aimed at ages 10+



P.O. Box 403 Ventura, CA 93002

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 FOL 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