

Just Between Friends

Friends of the Hope Borbas Okemos Library

VOLUME 11 ISSUE 2

SPRING 2016

LIBRARY HOURS

SUNDAY

1 - 6 PM

MONDAY

9 AM - 9 PM

TUESDAY

9 AM - 9 PM

WEDNESDAY

9 AM - 9 PM

THURSDAY

9 AM - 9 PM

FRIDAY

9 AM - 7 PM

SATURDAY

9 AM - 7 PM

Capital Area District Library Upcoming Closings:

Easter
Sunday, March 27, 2016

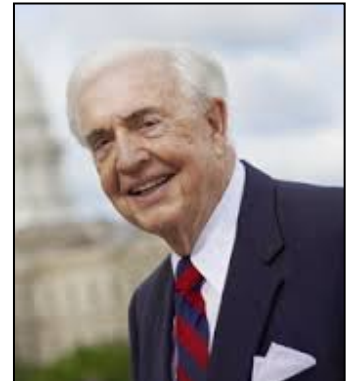
Memorial Day Weekend
Saturday, May 28 – Monday,
May 30

July 4th
Sunday, July 3 & Monday, July 4

Strawberries -- With a Side of Political Nostalgia, Please...

A Breakfast with Frank J. Kelley

This Presidential election season has been so animated with excited political chatter that the Friends' **Breakfast with Frank J. Kelley** wanted to add to the buzz. And add we did! Our featured speaker at this year's 43rd Annual Strawberry Breakfast on **Saturday, May 21, 10 a.m. at the Okemos Library**, is one of this state's most beloved politicians: Frank Kelley, Michigan's pre-eminent former Attorney General for 37 memorable years (1962 to 1999) -- which made him both the youngest (37 years old) and oldest (74 years old) Attorney General in this state's history!



Come listen to this most distinguished of lawyers describe the challenges he faced and inroads he made in his long career as our Attorney General. Frank Kelley grew up during the hey-day of Detroit's booming car industry, in the armament manufacturing and pre-civil rights era. His recall of encounters with state and national political personalities is as fascinating as his transition from small town law to the groundbreaking environmental and consumer protection cases that defined his career.



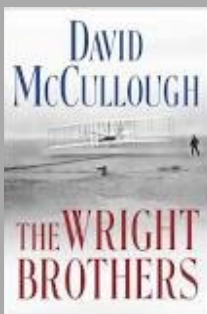
In retirement now, Mr. Kelley's most recent achievement is his memoir "The People's Lawyer." Copies of the book will be available for signing.

Continued on page 4

Friends Book Group Reading

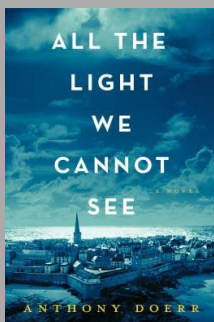
Group meets 1st Thursday of the month at 12 p.m. in the Library Community Room. Casual discussion.

MARCH



The Wright Brothers
by David McCullough

APRIL



All The Light We Cannot See
by Anthony Doerr

MAY



Just Mercy- A Story of Justice
and Redemption
by Bryan Stevenson

From the Librarian's Desk



My mother used to say that you could count yourself rich if you could count on five friends. I am rich, indeed, at the library because I can count on many Friends to make the library better.

Some of these Friends I know by name because they appear weekly at the library to do the tedious work of book sorting, boxing, and hauling to the storage unit. Later these same boxes are schlepped to the book sale. It's a real upper-body workout.



Some Friends I know because they attend the monthly board meetings and help plan programs that will benefit library service. These are the ones who have to listen to my library report.

Some Friends I only know on sight from helping them set up the book sales. Sale after sale, it's the same people who move about like worker bees. There are hundreds of boxes to unpack that contain thousands of books that need to be neatly organized on tables. It's monotonous work that needs to be done in a few hours, requiring some heavy lifting and attention to detail. Nobody gets paid.



Some Friends are generous with their time, others with their memberships. In whatever form it takes, it's a commitment by a few Friends to make their library better for the many, who often don't recognize the Friends hard work. I do.

Have you renewed? Your support is essential to our success!

Look for your individual renewal date on the address label.



From the Friends' President

Cecelia Kramer, Friends' President

Technology Competence Strengthens Ties

With the many programs and events we design to beckon the community through our Library doors, the Friends of the Library form a natural bridge between library and the Okemos community. We aim to breathe life into what is otherwise just a formal repository for literature and data. We want the library experience to be, dare I say, ultra *user-friendly*.

Helping us in this effort is something that came out of nowhere a while back and revolutionized how the world seeks, finds and uses information—the internet. This revolution found the Friends stepping gingerly into the electronic age.

Personally, the specifics of this new technology confounded me. The more technogifted on our Board found themselves at my computer – *a lot* - giving me pointers. But I persevered and one happy day I was actually able to post an item on our Facebook page --all by myself! I had graduated from the “Tech-No” some dubbed me, to a “Tech-Knowhow”!

I simply marvel at the head-spinning changes we’ve made in such a short time span. Just a few years ago a key job on our Friends’ Board was phoning members with reminders of board meetings, scheduled events, etc. Today, I carry out these functions in a fraction of the time we used to, merely by emailing to a “distribution” list containing our board’s e-addresses. I can text-message this information too.

In fact, this newsletter you are reading was put together over long distances, starting from my laptop (with me in Massachusetts), through editing in Michigan, to desktop publishing (Ohio), then back to Michigan again for printing the hardcopy version. Isn’t technology wonderful?

Our Friends’ web page is in its second redesign and is easy to navigate and obtain information from. Check it out at: www.friendsoftheokemoslibrary.weebly.com. We have both an email site on CADL’s web page, and our own location at: www.facebook.com/FriendsOfTheOkemosLibrary We also deliver this newsletter electronically to a couple hundred subscribers in our Friends membership.

With the many 21st century electronic advances, and our Friends’ increasing skills applying them, I keep my eye on that bridge between the Friends of the Library and Okemos community, and see it stretch and grow and become stronger than ever.

2015-2016 OFFICERS

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

PRESIDENT
CECELIA KRAMER

VICE PRESIDENT
LYNN HILDEBRANDT

TREASURER
KAREN SPOTTS

RECORDING SECRETARY
QUENDA STORY

**MERIDIAN TOWNSHIP
CADL REPRESENTATIVE**
QUENDA STORY

COMMITTEES

Book Sale

Communications

Grounds & Gardens

Hospitality

Membership

Program Development

FRIENDS MEETINGS

Second Thursday of each month
September through May in the
Library Community Room.

6:30 p.m. Social

7:00 p.m. Business meeting

The Way to Wear Your Hat

Women's History Month

What better - or more fun - way is there to celebrate March as Women's History Month than to rummage through her historical closet! Specifically interesting is that part of her wardrobe reflecting her evolving tastes in clothing styles after the First World War, the postwar years that ushered in sweeping changes in how women saw themselves.

Actual examples of this radical transition are available at the ongoing exhibit at MSU Museum. Titled "Up Cloche: Fashion, Feminism, Modernity," this exhibit showcases the clothing styles women preferred in the early '20s, and describes women in the postwar era as rejecting tradition and embracing more body-conscious styles. Those years found the young American 'flapper' wearing her newly won freedom to vote, earn, and learn directly on her body, choosing shorter dresses, clear stockings, bobbed hair – and the iconic head-hugging "cloche." No hat ever became more synonymous with an era than this bell-shaped one considered 'clever' and 'smart,' framing the face with fashionable Art Deco panache.



Don't miss this exhibit! It offers stunning examples of how American women of the 1920s and '30s used consumer goods to become modern, and covers so many aspects of the "flapper" era! The exhibit will be at the museum through August, and it is free.

AND - On Sunday, April 17th from 2:30 – 4:00

p.m. there will be a special curator-led tour of the MSU Museum's "Up Cloche" exhibit for Friends of the Okemos Library! **This will be limited to the first 20 members** who reserve a spot by calling Peggy Kelly at (517) 349-0926. Please give her your name, phone number(s), and email address, as we will be confirming your reservation. Then a week before the event, we will reconfirm and let you know about a possible "gathering of Friends" after the tour.

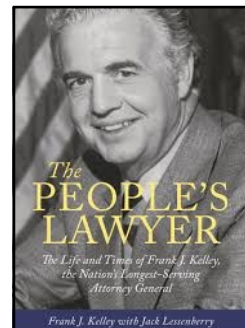


Peggy Kelly and Mo McMullen model flapper-style fashion including the Cloche hats

Breakfast with Frank Kelly, *continued from page 1*

Attendees at the "Breakfast with Frank Kelley" will enjoy a hearty buffet including strawberries. The cost is \$15.00 for Friends' members, and \$18.00 for non-members. **Space is limited. Prepaid reservations are absolutely necessary.** Make checks out to Friends of the Okemos Library and mail them, or drop them off at the Library, 4321 Okemos Road, Okemos. **Reservations needed by Tuesday, May 17.**

The doors to the event will open at 9:30 a.m. on Saturday, May 21. If you have questions, please call Cecelia Kramer, 349-3297 or the Library at 347-2021.



Okemos Library Events

FOR ADULTS

Friends Book Group

1st Thursdays • 12 p.m.

Our group meets first Thursday of each month for a lively discussion about books we've read. New members always welcome.

March 3: *The Wright Brothers* by David McCullough

April 7: *All the Light We Cannot See* by Anthony Doerr

May 5: *Just Mercy - A Story of Justice and Redemption* by Bryan Stevenson

Okemos Book Group

4th Thursdays • 12 p.m. New members welcome.

March 24: *Mr. Penumbra's 24-hour Bookstore* by Robin Sloan.

April 28: *Don't Ever Look Back* by Daniel Friedman

May 26: *The Bees* by Laline Paull

Film Movement Series (Adults & Mature Teens)

3rd Thursdays • 6:30 p.m.

Please join us each month for another award-winning independent film from around the world. See page 6 for the upcoming Spring 2016 schedule.

ESOL Reading Group

Wednesdays: March 9–May 25 • 12–1:30 p.m.

Practice your English reading and speaking skills by reading articles, books, and short stories aloud.

Conversational Spanish

Thursdays: March 3 & 17; April 14 & 28; May 12 & 26 • 10:30–11:30 a.m.

Do you know “un poquito de español”? If you know a little Spanish, these sessions will help you refresh, practice, and expand your skills. Presented by native Spanish speakers, it has a different theme each session.

Red Cross Blood Drive

Tuesday, March 2 • 11:30 a.m. – 5:30 p.m.

Consider helping this worthy cause by donating blood today. Walk-ins are welcome but appointments are appreciated; make one at redcrossblood.org (sponsor code CADL), or call 1-800-733-2767.

Japanese Tea Ceremony

(Age 12 and up)

Tuesday, March 8 • 6:30–8 p.m.

Take part in a formal Japanese Tea Ceremony with guest presenter Saya Kaneda. Limited to the first 16 people to arrive.



A Coloring Party For Grown-ups

Saturday, March 12 • 2–3 p.m.

Leave your kids and worries at home when you relax, unwind, and express your creativity through coloring. Supplies provided but bring your own if you like. Seating limited to the first 20 adults to arrive.

Sights, Flavors, and Sounds of India

Saturday, April 2 • 2–4 p.m.

Learn about the traditions and cultures of India from presenter Anshu Varma, plus enjoy various foods and spices, and take home easy recipes. Limited to the first 30 adults to arrive.

Wigs for Kids®

Saturday, May 14 • 9 a.m. to 12 p.m.

Get a free hair cut and style from Great Clips by donating your hair to Wigs for Kids.

Hair must be at least 12" in length. Call 347-2031, ext. 3 to make a ½ hour appointment.



Upcoming Films

Film Movement Update

Please join us each month for another award-winning independent film from around the world. For more information contact Eric Stanton at 517-247-2021 ext. 2029. Here is our upcoming Spring 2016 schedule:

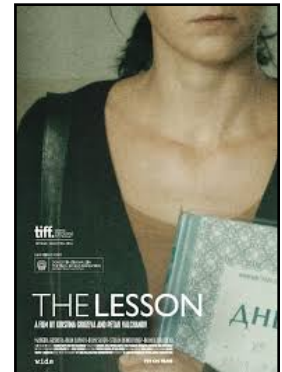


Marie's Story (France) – Thursday, April 21 at 6:30 p.m.

At the turn of the 19th century, a humble artisan and his wife have a daughter, Marie, who is born deaf and blind and unable to communicate with the world around her. Desperate to find a connection to their daughter and avoid sending her to an asylum, the Heurtins send fourteen-year-old Marie to the Larnay Institute in central France, where an order of Catholic nuns manage a school for deaf girls. There, the idealistic Sister Marguerite sees in Marie a unique potential, and despite her Mother Superior's skepticism, vows to bring her out of the darkness into which she was born.

The Lesson (Bulgaria) – Thursday, May 19 at 6:30 p.m.

In a small Bulgarian town, Nade is an honest, hard-working elementary school teacher and devoted mother, struggling to keep her life together. Her unemployed, alcoholic husband has secretly spent their mortgage payments on booze, the agency where she translates legal documents for extra cash is going under, and a thief in her class has stolen the last of her money out of her purse. With few options left, Nade turns to a local loan shark for help, but with the repossession of her home looming, she finds herself with little hope. Resorting to measures her former self would have found depraved, Nade attempts one last desperate act to get the money she needs.

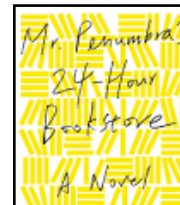


Secrets of War (Netherlands) – Thursday, June 6 at 6:30 p.m.

Tuur and Lambert are best friends in a Nazi-occupied Dutch village who pass their days playing soldiers and exploring local caves, mimicking a war that seems far removed from their everyday life. When Maartje joins their class, the young girl immediately stands out as different from her classmates. Yet the boys embrace their new friend, forming a unique bond based on shared adventures, secrets and mischief. Ultimately, the realities of war find even them. Lambert's father, a Nazi sympathizer, is named mayor of their town and Tuur discovers his own father and brother have joined the resistance, instantly putting the two boys at odds. Meanwhile, Maartje is hiding a secret of her own, one that not only threatens to tear the new friends apart, but could lead to devastating consequences for them all.

Join Us!

Looking for a new book group? Then please join the **Okemos Book Group**. We meet the 4th Thursday of the month at 12 p.m. All are welcome.



March 24: *Mr. Penumbra's 24-hour Bookstore* by Robin Sloan.

April 28: *Don't Ever Look Back* by Daniel Friedman



May 26: *The Bees* by Laline Paull



Your Membership Counts! Annual dues are an important part of the funds that the Friends donate to the Library in the form of books, furniture, programs and services. Please use the coupon below to renew or join.

Be a Friend of the Hope Borbas Okemos Library!

Membership Application: ☐ Renewal ☐ New

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ Zip _____

Phone _____ Email _____

Individual	<input type="checkbox"/>	\$10.00
Family	<input type="checkbox"/>	\$15.00
Patron	<input type="checkbox"/>	\$25.00
Business	<input type="checkbox"/>	\$50.00
Lifetime	<input type="checkbox"/>	\$300.00
Contribution	<input type="checkbox"/>	\$_____

I would like to **VOLUNTEER** for : ☐ Book Sale ☐ Board of Directors ☐ Hospitality

☐ Communications ☐ Membership ☐ Grounds & Gardens ☐ Programs

☐ Other _____

I am providing an extra **DONATION** for: ☐ Framing & Artwork ☐ Landscaping

☐ Community Room Chair Upgrades ☐ Any Friends' Project ☐ Other _____

Please make checks payable to: Friends of the Okemos Library. Return to the Library at 4321 Okemos Road, Okemos, MI 48864. Friends of the Okemos Library is a 501 (c)(3) corporation. Gifts are tax deductible to the extent provided by law.



Tip of the Hat



Our Okemos Library Friends Board of Directors gained considerable gravitas when Lynn Hildebrandt joined our organization three years ago. Lynn has spent years in the book publishing world and has a strong intellectual curiosity about many topics. Ever the serious thinker and seasoned community activist, Lynn brought her far-ranging vision and very clear ideas on an expanded role that our Friends' Board should play in the Library and the greater Okemos community.

Lynn developed the concept of a Community Conversation program, in which the Okemos Library would offer regular monthly opportunities for the public to interact with academics and other leading experts in our local community. In what may have been the first formal proposal in the 63-year history of our organization, she offered a plan to initiate conversations on topics of a STEM (science, technology, engineering and math) nature. Bees, solar panels, water resources, turtles, locally sourced food, and Michigan's geology were just some of the subjects explored in this exciting series.

Each program features an expert speaker on a specific topic in an informal session, where audience members could ask questions during the course of the presentation. This dynamic of speaker and audience interaction is surprisingly effective as a teaching tool. The result: the advancement of knowledge throughout the community and the bonus of realizing the depth of expertise available right here in our area.

The program was a great success due to Lynn's hard work. Additionally, Lynn routinely steps in to help the Friends' Board with thoughtful suggestions in meetings and working behind the scenes. She keeps the Board on topic with a thoughtful, often humorous, moment that is always on point. Last summer Lynn was recruited for the Executive Board and elected Vice President. We are so grateful for her expertise! She has shown us new ways the Library and its Friends group can generate ideas benefiting our community.

2016
Friends Book Sale Dates:
March 5 & 6
June 11 & 12

Okemos Library
 4321 Okemos Road
 Okemos, MI 48864
 517-347-2021

