

Just Between Friends

Friends of the Hope Borbas Okemos Library
4321 Okemos Road, Okemos Michigan 48864

VOLUME 14 ISSUE IV

FALL 2019

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:

August 31- September 2, 2019
Labor Day Weekend

November 11
Library In-Service Day

November 28 & 29
Thanksgiving

A “Move-able” Feast with Tea-and-Friends

The Friends of the Library just discovered a motherlode of solutions to some of life's most thorny problems. Huge problems, from needing to move across the state and not knowing where to begin, to-horrors!-figuring out how to downsize a home to half the size of your last one, with twice its size of your “things.” Maybe your concerns are smaller but just as immediate, like how best to organize your files, closets, or vast collections of gear and collectibles. Or find the right handyman. Or efficiently decorate for the holidays.



Sharon McRill, along with her consulting company “The Betty Brigade,” provides solutions to these and many more perplexing challenges to our daily lives. Sharon will be the Friends’ guest at our Fall Membership Tea, where she will offer ideas to handling tricky issues from her book “*Downsizing: The Silver Tsunami*.” This volume is a compendium of her 16-plus years in the business of relocating, downsizing, and helping readers resolve logistical and vendor problems. She makes it look easy. Tips and information abound. Come, learn from her experience and expertise.

Join us on **Monday, October 7**, at 2 p.m. in the Okemos Library Community Room as we gather to hear Sharon share her insights and more.

The Fall Friend’s Membership Tea is an annual tribute to all the Friends to thank them for their support of the Okemos Library. In addition, the Tea provides an opportunity for guests to get acquainted with the Friends’ organization.

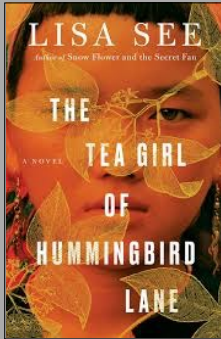
The Friends Board of Directors invites all members of the Friends of the Okemos Library to join us. The event is at The Okemos Library and is free for current Friends members. If you are interested in becoming a member of the Friends, please join us at this event. Bring your friends. The cost is \$7.00 for guests and if they join, the cost will be applied toward the annual membership dues.

Reservations are mandatory because seating is limited. Please call the Okemos Library Information Desk at 347-2023 to add your name to our event registration list. If you have questions, contact Cecelia Kramer, 349-2397.

Friends Book Group Reading

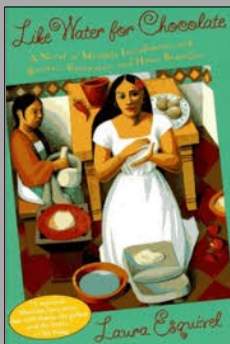
Group meets 1st Thursday of the month at 12 p.m. in the Library Community Room for casual discussion.

SEPTEMBER



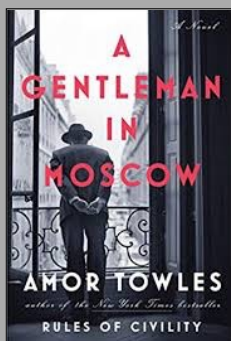
The Tea Girl of Hummingbird Lane
by Lisa See

OCTOBER



Like Water for Chocolate
by Laura Esquivel

NOVEMBER



A Gentleman in Moscow
By Amor Towles

From the Librarian's Desk



Summertime is never slow at the Okemos Library. That's because the library becomes a central place for families. Family members of all ages want to read as part of our summer reading challenge. This year's theme was "A Universe of Stories," a space theme to commemorate the 50th anniversary of NASA landing people on the moon.

This year, 8,965 people enrolled across our 13 locations, with 1,712 enrolled at the Okemos branch alone. That includes babies, kids, teens and adults. The original idea of the summer reading program was to keep students reading for fun during the summer so they wouldn't experience the summer slide in reading ability. Then, pre-reading babies were added to help parents learn that it's never too early to read to your baby. Then, adults wanted in on the fun. Yes, children will read for trinkets, and adults will read for small pieces of chocolate.

Ours is a 9-week program, and we had people signing up with less than week to go. The summer reading program was so popular that we ran out of prizes and had to run out to various stores to find candy and trinkets. We had to scrounge around and ask other branches if they had any spare supplies, any stuff we could use as prizes.

All that busyness is in part funded by The Friends. Therefore, when I hear about how busy we are, how messy the kids, are and how much traffic there is the parking lot, I can say, The Friends make it all possible.

Thank you.

Betsy Hull
Head Librarian



Above: A parking lot, chalk and popsicles make for summer fun

Left: Miss Paoala and Mr. Tom suit up for summer reading challenge, A Universe of Stories



From the Friends President

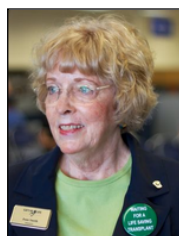
Cecelia Kramer, Friends' President

Memorials Dedicated to Friends of the Library

I, on behalf of the Friends of the Okemos Library, want to express deep heartfelt appreciation to those who have served us so well. Today's unsung heroes are the families who have chosen to honor their loved ones by naming the "Friends of the Hope Borbas Okemos Library" their suggested recipient of memorials.

In recent years, our Friends' family and library staff have mourned the passing of several who worked so diligently on behalf of the Okemos Library. Joan Smith, Don Austreng, Ruth Ann Ference, and Betty Hagberg immediately come to mind. In each case, the Friends of the Okemos Library received memorials on their behalf.

Joan Smith, past Head Librarian, helped shepherd our little library from behind the fire barn to its current building. The Friends along with Joan's family chose a 'living' memorial, a lovely plant-shaded arbor with bench and urn, located right on the library grounds.



Don, whose career included work in the book trade industry, was active in our Thursday Elves Group. Weekly, this group sorts book donations, and prices special editions for our quarterly used book sales. Tribute monies for Don were unrestricted, and they purchased a variety of programs for the library.

Ruth Ann spent her volunteer time working the used book sales. Over the years, she helped set up on the preceding Friday nights, then cashiered sales Saturday and Sunday, or helped with post-sale cleanups. Wherever needed, Ruth Ann was a stalwart active supporter. Her tribute memorials will focus on our Friends' next big project, a renovated kitchen (see related article).

Betty, with over 40 years in the Friends' organization, was both officer and member of our Board of Directors. Betty's artistic talent helped promote our organization's events with whimsical posters populated with delightful Grant Woods-esque people, animals, and yes, frogs, all awash in personality. Again, those monies will be directed to the kitchen project.

These four Friends all had a great love of libraries, particularly our Okemos Library. The remembrances of family and friends honor their dedication.

Note: For a general donation or a memorial to be used specifically at the Okemos Library, checks should be payable to "Friends of the Okemos Library." Checks made payable to "Okemos Library" must be forwarded to the Capital Area District Library (CADL) bank account, the corporate entity for all branch libraries, and may be used throughout the system. All monies given as an outright donation, restricted or unrestricted, or as a memorial to Friends of the Okemos Library, will be used here in Okemos.

2018-2019 OFFICERS

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

PRESIDENT
CECELIA KRAMER

VICE PRESIDENT
LYNN HILDEBRANDT

TREASURER
KAREN SPOTTS

RECORDING SECRETARY
QUENDA STORY

**MERIDIAN TOWNSHIP
CADL REPRESENTATIVE**
SANDY DRAKE

COMMITTEES

Art Show

Book Sale

Communications

Curatorial and Decorations

Grounds & Gardens

History of Okemos Collections

Hospitality

Membership

Program Development

FRIENDS MEETINGS

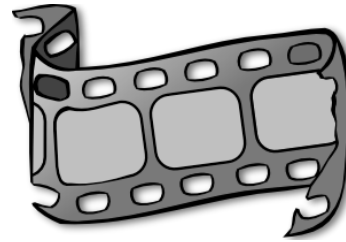
Second Thursday of each month
September through May

6:30 p.m. Social

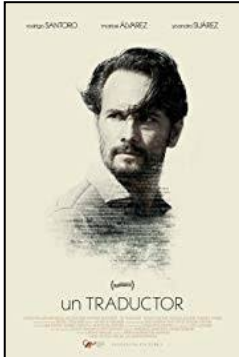
7:00 p.m. Business meeting

Upcoming Films

Film Movement Update



Join film fans on the third Thursday of each month at 6:30 p.m. to view another award-winner independent film from around the world. Adults and mature teens are welcome. For more information contact Eric Stanton, Public Services Librarian at 517-347-2021 ext. 2029. Here is our upcoming FALL 2019 schedule:

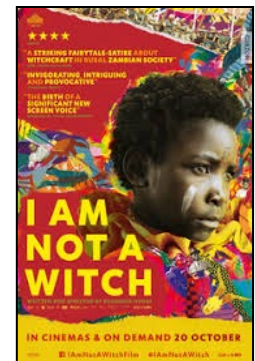


Un Traductor (Cuba) – Thursday, October at 6:30 p.m.

In the wake of the Chernobyl nuclear disaster, Malin, a Russian literature professor at The University of Havana, is sent to translate between Cuban doctors and children sent from the USSR for medical treatment. Torn from the abstract world of academia and forced into the relentlessly real world of medicine, Malin becomes increasingly depressed. When he meets a child, who tells him a story, Malin connects with the kids and finds his way through. Just as he adapts to his new job, the Berlin Wall falls and Cuba enters the deepest economic crisis the island has ever known. But Malin is now so entrenched in the lives of the Chernobyl children that he doesn't notice his young family suffering. He must find his way back to his wife and child through the lessons he learns at the hospital – and become a better person on the way.

I am Not a Witch (Zambia) – Thursday, November 21 at 6:30 p.m.

In her award-winning debut feature, Rungano Nyoni crafts a satiric feminist fairy-tale set in present-day Zambia. When 9-year-old orphan Shula is accused of witchcraft, she is exiled to a witch camp run by Mr. Banda, a corrupt and inept government official. Tied to the ground by a white ribbon, Shula is told that she will turn into a goat if she tries to escape. As the only child witch, Shula quickly becomes a local star and the adults around her exploit her supposed powers for financial gain. Soon she is forced to make a difficult decision – whether to resign herself to life in the camp or take a risk for freedom. A hit at over 50 international festivals, I Am Not A Witch is a must-see for anyone interested in new African cinema and contemporary female filmmakers.



The Paris Opera (France) – Thursday, December 19 at 6:30 p.m.

Sweeping in scope yet full of intimate moments, The Paris Opera offers a candid look behind the scenes of one of the world's foremost performing arts institutions. Over the course of one tumultuous season, director Jean-Stephane Bron nimbly juggles multiple storylines - from ballet and opera rehearsals, to strike negotiations, last minute crises and ticket disputes - revealing the dedication of the talented personnel who bring breathtaking spectacles to the stage night after night.

The movie descriptions are provided through the library's subscription agreement with Film Movement. For more information, visit www.filmmovement.com.

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.

September 5: *The Tea Girl of Hummingbird Lane* by Lisa See

October 3: *Like Water for Chocolate* by Laura Esquivel

November 7: *A Gentleman in Moscow* by Amor Towles

December 5: Annual holiday book talk with CADL Selections Librarians

Film Movement Series (Adults and Mature teens)

3rd Thursdays • 6:30 p.m.

Join film fans to view a foreign or independent film.

October 17: *Un Traductor (Cuba)*

November 21: *I am Not a Witch (Zambia)*

December 19: *The Paris Opera (France)*

See page 4 for movie descriptions

Mind Benders (Held off-site)

Thursdays, Sept. 12, Oct. 10 & Nov. 14 • 11 a.m. – 12 p.m.

Join us for word games and puzzles to stimulate your brain “mental workout”. Held at the Meridian Senior Center inside Chippewa Middle School, 4000 Okemos Road.

Beginner Ukulele 101*

Wednesdays, Oct. 10, 16, 23, 30 & Nov. 6 • 6:30 - 7:45 p.m.

Learn the instrument basics with maestro Jack Nolish of Michigan Coalition of Ukulele Players.

Instrument provided or bring your own. No previous experience required. ***This is a four week consecutive class and registrants must attend all four classes!**

Registration required at cadl.org/events.

Intro to Computer Coding*

Tuesday, September 7 • 6:30– 8 p.m.

Learning how to code doesn't have to be scary! Please be familiar with how to use a computer and mouse, but no coding experience required. ***Registration required at cadl.org/events.**

Using Pronunciator

Wednesday, November 14 • 12 – 1 p.m.

Learn how to use this digital resource, available through CADL, for self-instruction in over 80 languages (including ESOL).

Ukulele Strum-n-Sing (Adults)

3rd Saturday of the month

Saturdays, Sept. 21, Oct. 16 & Dec. 21

• 10 a.m. – 12 p.m.

Strum-n-sing along with the Michigan Capital Ukulele Players. Bring your own uke. Monthly theme and tunes posted on MICUP Facebook page.



Come -Write-In Weekend

Saturday & Sunday, November 16 & 17 • 1– 6 p.m.

We're an official site for National Novel Writing Month. Drop by our event room to work on your novel, plus enjoy tea and coffee. For aspiring writers interested in participating in National Novel Writing Month, visit nanowrimo.org for more information.

Stretch & Balance

Thursdays, September 12–November 21 • 2:30 – 3:30 p.m.

Improve your posture, strength, and balance with exercises and stretching techniques for all levels of fitness. Led by Certified Personal Trainer Lauren Warshaw. Classes are not sequential but recommended. Limited to the first 15 to arrive.

Seed Exchange

Tuesday, October 1 • 6:30–7:30 p.m.

Bring in seeds or cuttings from your plants and exchange them with others. Bringing a picture of the plant is helpful. We'll provide native Michigan flower seeds. Limited to the first 15 to arrive—get a ticket at the info desk.



3-D Snowflakes

Sunday, December 1 • 1- 2:30 p.m.

Make beautiful, giant 3-D snowflakes that can be hung from the ceiling or used as a wall decoration. Teens receive community service credit for school when they donate their creation to area hospitals and nursing homes. Limit to first 20 arrive. Get ticket at info desk.

Cooking Up Plans!

With the major renovation of the Okemos Library six years behind us, adjustments and changes to that upgrade have slowly become necessary. During the last two years, additional furniture was purchased for the Teen Area and Quiet Reading Room. More educational equipment for the children's area, including a busybox and a game table, have been "put into play." New flooring replaced carpeting in the back hallway to better handle the heavy foot traffic. These additions have all been paid for by contributions from the Friends of the Library.

We now turn our attention to the Library staff kitchen. It was installed when the building was built in 1978. At that time, it was a private business, which in following years held several smaller businesses. In 2001, the building was purchased by Meridian Township to be turned into a Library. While there was still no change to its basic kitchen layout, appliances were added occasionally replaced as needed. The 2013 renovation came and went, again without enhancing the kitchen. Library staff by necessity use this area as a lunchroom and break room, and also as a glorified hallway to the back office area.

Because of this history, the Friends have voted to focus attention on this long-neglected area. The Township, as owner of the building, is working with a professional contractor/kitchen planner to develop a design to make the space more efficient. We should be ready for construction late this year, and for a brand new kitchen early next year.

We may have to hold a fundraiser or two to finance this project. The cost, we have been advised, may exceed \$20,000. Should you wish to offer a contribution toward this project, please make your check payable to Friends of the Okemos Library and earmark the Memo for Kitchen Renovation.

We hope we 'stirred-up' your interest in this project. We will keep our members posted as we watch it heat up.

Library Events Continued

Conversational Spanish

Thursdays, Sept. 12 –Nov. 21 (skip Oct. 10) • 10:30 – 11:30 a.m.

Practice and refresh your Spanish with a native-Spanish speaker. We'll have a different theme each session—come to as many as you'd like.

Homemade Holiday-Mason Jar Gifts

Sundays December 8 • 1 – 2:30 p.m.

Need a gift for the holidays? Don't break the bank, join us and create a gift your friends will love. We provide the Mason jar, the recipe ingredients, tags and ribbon. Online registration required at cadl.org/events. Limited to 15.

Hispanic Heritage Month Film Screening

Selected Thursdays • 6:30–8:30 p.m.

Sept. 19: Elysium (USA, rated R)

Oct. 17: Un Traductor (Cuba)

3D Print Lab

Wednesdays, Sept. 18; Oct. 16 & Nov. 20 • 4:30–5:30 p.m.

Design, print and finish 3D objects. (Due to 3D printing times, objects must be picked up at a later time.) Limited to the first 6 to arrive—get a ticket at the info desk.

Children 8-11 need an adult in attendance.

Upcoming Book Sales:



September 7 & 8, 2019
December 7 & 8, 2019

Mark your calendar for the Friends Used Book Sales dates. Each Book Sale is a two-day event, Saturday and Sunday, and held at the Okemos Masonic Center from 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.

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 _____

Email _____ Phone _____

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 support the Friends with an extra **DONATION** for (please indicate)

Framing & Artwork, Staff Kitchen Project, Books & Display Shelving, Any Friends' Project, or

Other _____ Amount \$ _____

I would like to support the Friends by **VOLUNTEERING** for: (please circle) *Book Sale

*Hospitality *Grounds & Gardens *Programs *Membership *Communications

*Curatorial & Decorations *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.

Capturing Summer Fun at the Okemos Library



Top left: Many hands make for light work organizing prize packets

Top: Missiles were launched during a teen program on rocketry that used balloons as projectiles.

Top Right: Dhaya painted rocks and created the design at the library entrance

Bottom left: Impromptu band ended the Music Lady's jam session

517-347-2021
Okemos, MI 48864
4321 Okemos Road
Okemos Library
Friends of the Hope Borbas

