

Just Between Friends

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

VOLUME 14 ISSUE 1

WINTER 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:

December 24 & 25, 2018
Christmas

December 31, 2018 & January
1, 2019
New Years

January 2, 2019
Martin Luther King Jr. Day

Looking Backward and Forward

During 2018, the Friends of the Library were tapped to help make the library more *patron friendly*. The Friends' help was needed to again renew library furnishings. Ever since the major Library renovation of 2013, librarians have noticed the increasing volume of patrons, which now required adjustments to some types of library usage.

The librarians presented their needs to the Friends, who accepted the challenge to fund approximately \$20,000 worth of new furnishings and to repurpose and update others. The Friends were able to do this, thanks to donations from their membership and to the hard work of our Used-Book Sale volunteers and to the book-buying public.



To accommodate additional seating in the popular Quiet Reading Room, the Friends added more chairs to this section and purchased another square table with chairs to meet the need for work/study space with electric outlets. Several comfortable new chairs were also purchased for the Teen Section, including new carrels for quiet study.

Moving into the future, such needs will continue to evolve. Next Spring, the Library's front entrance, from the foyer door to the Service Desk, will receive heavy-duty carpeting to withstand the heavy incoming foot traffic, traffic that's just as busy in the 'Holds' shelving area, making wear on the carpet a perennial concern.

Our Okemos Library is one of the busiest branches of the Capital Area District Library. The Community Room especially gets considerable use. Because the librarians tailor each scheduled event to its use or theme, the table and chair configurations in this room are often changed more than once a day; display tables and other audio/visual equipment are set up and removed many times during the week. Additionally, the flooring installed in the 2013 renovation is now stained, and the walls have been smudged and marred. With at least 20 separate bookings of the Community Room calendar each week, the hard and constant use has taken its toll, resulting in the room looking tired and frayed.

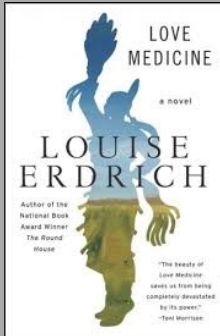
A fresh approach was needed, and the Friends have come through. For the first quarter of 2019, they have scheduled parts of the library to receive fresh paint and new flooring. The Community Room itself will undergo a top-to-bottom facelift with wall paint, and new, heavy-duty flooring installation. The difference should be stunning.

The Friends of the Library are dedicated to making upgrades like these possible so your Library experience is as pleasant as can be. They just say, "*It's what we do.*"

Friends Book Group Reading

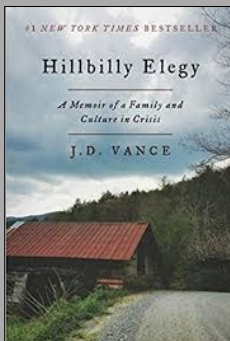
Group meets 1st Thursday of the month at 12 p.m. in the Library Community Room for casual discussion.

JANUARY



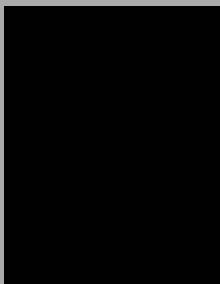
Love Medicine
by Louise Erdrich

FEBRUARY



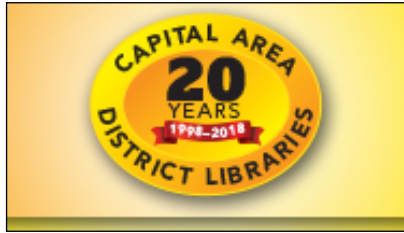
Hillbilly Elegy
by JD Vance

MARCH



To Be Announced

From the Librarian's Desk



2018 was a big birthday year for the Capital Area District Libraries as we celebrated our 20th year in existence.

CADL was formed by combining the old Ingham County and Lansing Public School system libraries, a mash-up of under-funded, poorly-resourced libraries that nevertheless played an important role in each of their communities. The original Okemos Library, later to become the Hope Borbas Okemos Library, was one of those and started before the 1950s as a bookshelf in the back of the original Township Hall.

The various Lansing libraries consisted of the current downtown branch on Capitol Avenue and the current South Cedar branch. The Ingham County system included every other branch including Webberville, Williamston, Haslett, Okemos, Foster, Mason, Holt, Dansville, Aurelius, Stockbridge, and Leslie.

District libraries are governmental entities similar to school systems. Both have boards of directors that represent all of the communities and it can levy millages. The CADL millage has passed every four years since 1998. The 2018 millage was no exception, passing with about 70 percent of the vote throughout the district. The Friends of the Okemos Library played their part, supporting the campaign with money, signs, and advocacy. While this is no surprise, it is still appreciated as goodwill can't be taken for granted.

I may not be around to celebrate another library milestone birthday, but I know the Friends will be. As such, so will the library.

Again, thank you.

Betsy Hull
Head Librarian



Above: Library Clerk Susan Andrews and daughter Kate with dancers from Central Michigan University as part of the Hispanic Heritage celebration.



Left: Dance lessons were part of the program during the Hispanic Heritage celebration. The event room carpet will be replaced next year with the help of the Friends.



From the Friends President

Cecelia Kramer, Friends' President

The Role of the Friends of the Okemos Library

Many area residents love their library and want to do more for it than just own a library card. These are the folks who step up and join the Friends of the Okemos Library.

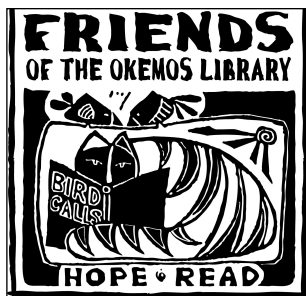
The Friends of the Okemos Library is a separate organization, distinct from the Capital Area District Library (CADL). It bridges the gap between the CADL, which supplies programs, materials and personnel, and Meridian Township, which supplies the building. The Friends is Okemos Library's official support body, including its building and its programs.

Volunteers are the backbone of this Friends organization. They have no paid staff that does the work. Every Friend is driven by a love of the library and a desire to continue improving it. They realize that despite what taxpayers contribute toward the library's operation, there are needs that go beyond public support.

Those needs involve "people power" to carry out the Library's many programs. Friends assist library staff by supplying materials for programs. They create "kitchen magic" to enhance programs and events. They put out the newsletter you are reading. And Friends raise money to support library programs and needs like furniture. Their biggest fundraiser is perhaps its most popular: the Used-Book Sale. Friends do the manual labor to sort, move, display, and sell about 5,000 books at each of these quarterly book sales. They add a warm touch to the community's spirited participation of such events, making them not only successful, but memorable.

Join the Friends of the Okemos Library. If you have a couple of extra hours per month, consider becoming more active at the Library through the Friends' Board of Directors. It's a fun group! We meet once a month during the school year. For an investment of limited volunteer time, you reap the benefit of showing your commitment to a community facility you value.

While dues and donations are an important part of the budget, we realize that "many hands make light work." If you have questions about how to join or be more active, please contact me at (517) 349-3297.



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

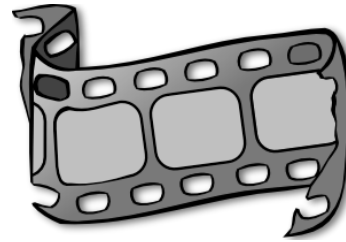
Second Thursday of each month
September through May

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 to view and discuss a foreign or independent film. Adults and mature teens are welcome. There will be soda and popcorn! 6:30 -8:30 p.m. For more information contact Eric Stanton, Public Services Librarian at 517-347-2021 ext. 2029. Here is our upcoming Winter 2019 schedule:



In Between (Israel 2016) – Thursday, January 17 at 6:30 p.m.

Lalia (Mouna Hawa), Salma (Sana Jammeli), and Nur (Shaden Kanboura) share an apartment in the vibrant heart of Tel Aviv. Lalia, a criminal lawyer with a wicked wit, loves to burn off her workday stress in the underground club scene. Salma, slightly more subdued, is a DJ and bartender. Nur is a younger, religious Muslim girl who moves into the apartment in order to study at the university. Nur is both intrigued and intimidated by her two sophisticated roommates.

Glory (Bulgaria 2017) – Thursday, February 21 at 6:30 p.m.

Tsanko Petrov, a railroad worker, finds millions of leva [Bulgarian currency] on the train tracks. He decides to turn the money over to the police, for which the state rewards him with a new wristwatch that soon stops working. Meanwhile, Julia Staikova, head of the PR department of the Ministry of Transport, loses Petrov's old watch, a family relic. Here starts his desperate struggle to recover both his old watch and his dignity.



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



Upcoming Book Sales:

March 2 & 3, 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.**

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.

January 3: *Love Medicine* by Louise Erdrich

February 7: *Hillbilly Elegy* by J.D. Vance

See page 2 for book descriptions

Film Movement Series (Adults and Mature teens)

3rd Thursdays • 6:30 p.m.

Join film fans to view a foreign or independent film.

January 17: *In Between* (Israel 2016)

February 21: *Glory* (Bulgaria 2017)

See page 4 for movie descriptions

Mind Benders (Held off-site)

Thursdays, January 10 & February 14 • 11 a.m. – 12 p.m.

Join us for word games and puzzles to stimulate your brain and help you to remain sharp and alert. Grab a cup of coffee and get ready for an enjoyable “mental” workout. Held at the Meridian Senior Center inside Chippewa Middle School, 4000 Okemos Road.

ESOL Conversation Group

Wednesdays, January 9 – February 27 • 12 – 1:30 p.m.

Practice your English reading and speaking skills by reading articles, books and short stories aloud. This is not formal English instruction.

Conversational Spanish *

Thursdays, January 24 & February 14 & 28 • 10:30 - 11:30 a.m.

Are you planning a trip, expanding a career, or just want to learn about the culture? Refresh and practice the Spanish you know with native Spanish-speakers and a different theme each session. Registration required for EACH session at cadl.org/events.

3D Print Lab (Adults and Teens)

Wednesdays, January 23 & February 20 • 4 – 5 p.m.

Learn how to design, print, and finish 3D objects.

Due to 3D printing times, objects will have to be picked up at a later time. Limited to the first 6 to arrive.

Mighty Mac Night

Monday, January 7 • 6:30-7:30 p.m. (Snow date: January 14)

Warm up a cold night with Jacquie Sewell, author of *Mighty Mac: The Bridge That Michigan Built*. Hear how men and resources came together to realize the dream of uniting the Upper and Lower Peninsulas of Michigan.



Ukulele Strum-n-Sing (Adults and Teens)

Saturdays, January 19 & February 16 • 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.

Beading 101 (Adults & Teens)

Fridays, January 19 & February 8 • 1–2:30 p.m.

We'll provide the supplies plus tea and snacks. You provide the creativity. Limited to the first 12 to arrive.

Adulting 101! (Ages 16 & up)

Being an adult is hard! Drop in and learn some skills to apply to everyday life.

Thursday, January 24 – Financial Planning 101 (Presenter: Benjamin Eichler, Whippetree Financial) • 7–8 p.m.

Wednesday, February 27 – Casual Conversation 101 (Presenter: Kevin Skarritt, Flock Marketing) • 7–8 p.m.

Earrings 101 (Adults and Teens)

Friday, February 22 • 1-2:30 p.m.

We'll provide supplies, plus tea and snacks. You provide the creativity! Limited to the first 12 to arrive.

Build a Birdhouse * (Ages 12 and up)

Tuesday, February 19 • 7 -8 p.m.

Gene Wasserman, Country Coordinator for Michigan Bluebird Society and owner of WoodCraft Kits, will show how to identify birds, feed them, and attract them to your yard for nesting. Then make a birdhouse of your own!



Mystery Solved!

The plot was revealed to all who came to hear mystery writers Kelly Montee and Kristy Nichols divulge the secrets of their mystery writing team as P.J. Parrish at the Friends annual Fall Event. Over tea and sweets the duo brought light to the secrets of their craft for the capacity crowd. A number of prizes were handed out so many felt doubly rewarded.





The Friends are a 501 (c)(3) not-for-profit corporation, so any gifts given to the Friends are tax deductible to the extent of the law. A generous gift above your regular membership dues can be made at any time during the year to count as a tax deduction, but time is running out for the 2018 charitable-giving year.

Your gift may be undesignated or, should you desire, targeted to one of the Friends special projects. Help freshen the painted walls or purchase new flooring in the Community Room with your contribution or direct it toward your favorite Friend's on-going project, like Summer Reading Program or this newsletter.

Your tax-deductible, year-end financial gift would be greatly appreciated. Thank you for your support.

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 ☐ Art Sale ☐ Hospitality ☐ Membership
☐ Communications ☐ Curatorial & Decorations ☐ Grounds & Gardens ☐ History
☐ Programs ☐ Other _____

I am providing an extra **DONATION** for: ☐ Framing & Artwork ☐ Small Patron Furnishings Initiative
☐ Books & Display Shelving ☐ 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.

Who Are the Friends?

The Friends of the Okemos Library are people like you who believe that a library is a vital component of a healthy community.

What Do We Do?

To fulfill our mission we:

- Promote the Library and its services.
- Act as Library advocates.
- Support literacy.
- Purchase of supplies for programs.
- Sponsor cultural enrichment events.
- Set up and Staff the Quarterly Used Book Sale
- And much, much more.

What Are the Benefits of Membership?

As a Friends member you will enjoy:

- Timely notices of events.
- Invitations to:
 - Annual Meeting.
 - Members-only pre-sales.
 - Special events.
 - Quarterly newsletter.
- Pleasure you gain from knowing that you help your

Library provide outstanding services and materials that enrich your community.

Already a Friend?

Thank you!



The Friends purchased additional tables and paid to have Connectrac installed to place electrical wiring under the carpet without cutting into the concrete.

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

