



Just Between Friends

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

VOLUME 15 ISSUE 1

Winter 2020

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:

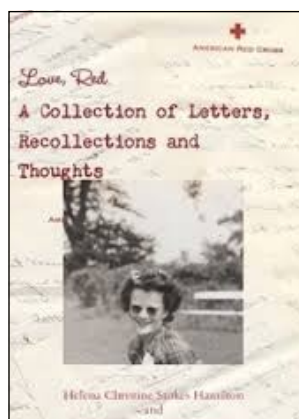
December 24 & 25, 2019
Christmas

December 31, 2019 &
January 1, 2020
New Year's

January 20, 2020
Martin Luther King Jr., Day

Mid-Winter Letters of Love

A tribute to love and Valentine's Day is the theme for a Friends' Mid-Winter afternoon event. A collection of letters and diary entries from a WWII Red Cross worker to her family back home took Lara Alspaugh on a thought-provoking journey. As a writer, Lara uses her grandmother's written recollections as a jumping off place and expands them with further research and her own insight. The letters and diary entries cover over two years that Helena Stokes served devastated England and France, then returning home as she and her new husband continue to deal with their new life after leaving the war behind.



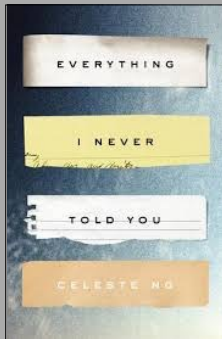
Local author and Award Finalist in the Women's Fiction Category for the 2019 American Fiction Awards, Lara Alspaugh will take our Friends on this journey through her discussion of her book while also sharing many items of family memorabilia. Her book *Love, Red* and her presentation demonstrate the deep love and respect Lara has for her grandmother and her correspondence. This is a perfect Valentine's week event scheduled for Tuesday, February 11 at 1:30 p.m. in the Okemos Library Community Room.

Join the Friends for tea and light refreshments to hear Lara Alspaugh share her book and journey. The Event is free for current members of the Friends and \$7 for Guests. Call the Library Information Desk at 517-347-2021, ext. 3 to make a reservation as space is limited. Additional questions about this event, call Cecelia Kramer, 517-349-3297.

Friends Book Group Reading

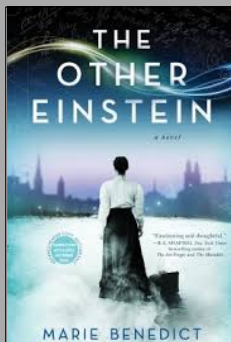
Group meets 1st Thursday of the month at 12 p.m. in the Library Community Room for casual discussion.

JANUARY



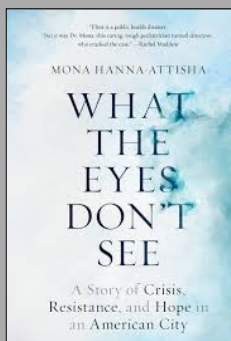
Everything I Never Told You
by Celeste Ng

FEBRUARY



The Other Einstein
by Marie Benedict

MARCH



What the Eyes Don't See
By Dr. Mona Hann-Attisha

From the Librarian's Desk



As we enter the season of short days and long nights, I want to contrast that darkness with some of the bright moments happening at the library.

First, let me tell you about our:

- Fabulous story times that build a foundation for early literacy,
- Our successful afterschool programs such as Full Steam Ahead! that help promote learning in science, tech, engineering, art and math,
- Our "Pizza and Pages" book group for students or our "Kids Reading to Dogs" program, or
- Our dedicated teen advisory board that gives young adults a chance to support their community.

Additionally, I could tell you about our:

- Weekly English language classes for kids and adults, and
- Our many adult events that give adults a place to stretch and balance and play.

Or I could tell you about:

- Our newly added call ahead- curbside services,
- The 1,759 individual tech sessions we offer to people needing help with their computer or devices, and
- The 133,352 people who've visited the library through October this year.

Don't let anyone tell you people don't use the library anymore.

But the real bright spot in our library comes from our hardworking staff who together make all of this happen. They are the ones who help you find the materials you want or help you use technology and our digital services.

Not in the least is my appreciation for the broad and consistent support The Friends give to the library, too. It wouldn't happen without you.

Thank you, all.

Betsy Hull
Head Librarian



The Children's Ballet Theater of Lansing gave a mini-performance of the Nutcracker during a storytime.



From the Friends President

Cecelia Kramer, Friends' President

The Hard Truth

Complaints have been received and heard! They are about the Friends' lack of, or perhaps I should say outdated - ok, non-existent web presence. To respond, the Friends of the Okemos Library are moving into a new phase. We are looking to bring our organization into line with the rest of the 21st century with an active web presence.

Many Friends groups have only a small web presence on the site of their parent library. In our case it is the CADL web site, the parent library organization under which the Okemos Library functions. We have a page there under the Okemos Library, but it does need to be updated. Several years ago we tried to establish an electronic presence, but were unsuccessful in keeping it current.

The tech-savvy public out there has noticed that our old site hasn't been updated for quite some time. This is about to change. We plan to open a new, stand-alone website to be ready in the New Year. In addition to being able to post information on our many events, it will also offer a home for our entire current newsletter as well as back issues. Those of you who currently get the newsletter by e-mail will receive a link or a notice to look on the web site. This will end the current email problem of being unable to send and receive our newsletters because of the many photos we like to include. Further, the web site will offer a place to advertise our latest events and upcoming Used Book Sales, to offer memberships and, of course, to house a photo record of our gatherings.

With this in mind, if you have some ideas of what you would like to see that would be helpful for either the current Friends members, or even the casual public on-looker, please send me an email message at cremark1@sbcglobal.net. Thank you.



Above: The Lendewig family represented their home country Venezuela as part of Las Culturas de America Latina! Right: Bacon and Eggs enjoyed Libraryzilla along with 275 people at our Halloweenza party.



2018-2019 OFFICERS

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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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

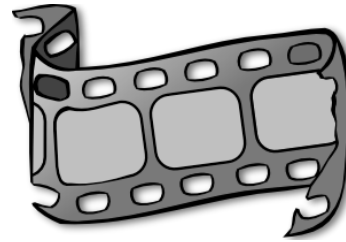
Second Thursday of each month
September through May

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 WINTER 2020 schedule:

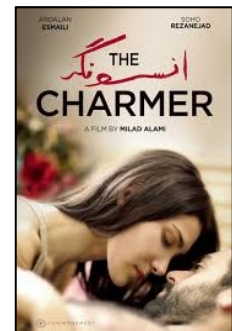
Bye Bye Germany (Germany) – Thursday, January 16 at 6:30 p.m.

Frankfurt, 1946. David Bermann and his Jewish friends have escaped the Nazi regime and are now dreaming of leaving for America. But how will they get the money in these tough post-war times? The smooth-talking businessman focuses on what the Germans now need most: fine bed linens nicely wrapped in amusing stories! The six talented entertainers go from home to home, praising housewives with ashy chutzpah until the flattered ladies have no choice but to buy their irresistible items. Business flourishes and a bright new future can be seen in the horizon. But questions about Bermann's past begin to catch up with him.



The Charmer (Denmark) – Thursday, February 20 at 6:30 p.m.

Esmail is a handsome young Iranian immigrant living in Denmark, who is desperately searching for a bride so he can become a citizen. Night after night he puts on the same suit and hits the Copenhagen bar scene hoping to turn the next woman he sees into his future spouse. But amidst a series of fleeting relationships and failed one-night stands, Esmail meets Sara, a beautiful Danish-Iranian woman who makes him question everything about himself and what he is doing.



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

In 1851, France's autocratic President Louis-Napoléon Bonaparte has ordered the arrest of all the men of a remote mountain farming village following a Republican uprising. The women spend years in total isolation, forced to tend the crops themselves. Some women have lost their husbands; others, like the shy but inwardly strong Violette, suddenly have no chance of experiencing physical love or motherhood. The women take an oath: if a man comes, they will share him as a lover. When a mysterious and handsome stranger arrives, he ignites passions and jealousies that threaten to destroy the tight-knit community.



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.

January 2: *Everything I Never Told You* by Celeste Ng

February 6: *The Other Einstein* by Marie Benedict

March 5: *What The Eyes Don't See* by Dr. Mona Hanna-Attisha *The 2020 Great Michigan Read Selection

Film Movement Series (Adults and Mature teens)

3rd Thursdays • 6:30 p.m.

Join film fans to view a foreign or independent film.

January 16: *Bye Bye Germany* (Germany)

February 20: *The Charmer* (Denmark)

March 19: *The Sower* (France)

See page 4 for movie descriptions

Mind Benders (Held off-site)

Thursdays, Jan. 9 & Feb. 13 • 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.

ESOL Reading Group (Adults)

Wednesdays, January 8 – February 26 • 12-1:30 p.m.

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

Conversational Spanish

Thursdays, Jan. 23 - Feb. 27 • 10:30 – 11:30 a.m.

Are you interested in enhancing a career, planning a trip to a Spanish-speaking country, or just wanting to learn about the culture? Refresh and practice the Spanish you know with native Spanish speakers and a different theme each session. Limited to first 8 to arrive.

***U.S. Citizenship Practice (Adults)**

Make a one-on-one appointment to practice for the U.S. Citizenship test by calling 517-347-2021 ext. 2029, or email stantone@cadl.org.

Ukulele Strum-n-Sing (Adults & Teens)

3rd Saturday of the month

Saturdays, Jan. 18, Feb. 15 & March 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.



Stretch & Balance

Thursdays, January 9– February 27 • 2:30 – 3:30 p.m.

Improve your posture, strength, and balance. Learn practical exercises and stretching techniques for levels of fitness experience in a friendly, informative environment. Classes limited to first 15 to arrive. Classes are not sequential but recommended. Led by Certified Personal Trainer Lauren Warshaw.

Lunar New Year (All Ages)

Sunday, January 26 • 2 – 4 p.m.

Celebrate the Lunar New Year by sampling dumplings, viewing a dragon dance demonstration, making a Year of the Rat bookmark and learning to use Chinese calligraphy to write lucky words for the New Year.



Saturday Beading 101 (Adults)

Saturdays January 11 & February 8 • 2:30 – 4 p.m.

We'll provide the supplies - you provide the creativity. Tea & light snacks provided. Limited to the first 10 to arrive. Get a green ticket at the info desk before the program.

Beaded bracelets 101 (Adults)

Fridays, January 17, & February 1 • 2:30 p.m.

We'll provide memory wire, beads, elastic and snacks--you provide the creativity. Tea & light snacks provided. *Limited to 12. Get a green ticket at the info desk before the program.

Beaded Earrings (Adults)

Friday, February 7 • 1 – 2:30 p.m.

We'll provide memory wire, beads, elastic and snacks--you provide the creativity. Tea & light snacks provided. * Limited to 10. Get a green ticket at the info desk before the program.

Don't Leave Your Car!

Curbside Pickup Now

Available



Did You Know? We Have Curbside Pickup!

One of the Okemos Library's little known benefits has been the introduction of a Curbside Pickup service. A service offered to all library patrons!

Early this summer, the Okemos Library ran a pilot program modeled after the popular service recently being offered by many of the local drug stores, grocery stores, and fast-food chains: Curbside Pickup. Essentially, you don't even have to leave your vehicle to pick up your library book order. Now you can swing by the library and stay warm and dry in your car while a library employee delivers your materials directly to you.

Sound great? Here's how Library Curbside pickup works:

Place the item(s) you would like to check out on hold using your CADL mobile app or directly through the website at cadl.org. When your item(s) are available, the library will call or email you.

You recognize the program so far. This is how the Holds Program works—you then drive to the library, enter the building, and check out your order. Here's where it gets even better.

To take advantage of the Curbside Pickup service, you need to take these three additional simple steps:

1. After you receive the message that your order is available, call the library at 517-525-8541 at least 30 minutes before you plan to pick up your Hold Order. You will need to have the list of items you want to pick up and your library card number. This phone is a dedicated number just for this service. The Librarians will locate your Hold Order and get it ready to be delivered to your vehicle.
2. Drive to the library and park in the designated Curbside Pickup location. This is a reserved parking slot on the South side of the Library Building. Have your library card and/or photo ID ready.
3. From the car call the number again (517-525-8541) and let the Librarian know you are ready to receive your order. Then relax. The Librarian will bring your order out to you.

This service should be a boon for parents of young children, and seniors, or those with mobility issues. The nicest part is that anyone can use it. The Circulation Desk has brochures that outline the program. Pick one up on your next visit!

Upcoming Book Sales:



March 7 & 8, 2020

June 6 & 7, 2020

September 12 & 13, 2020

December 5 & 6, 2020

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.

Enhancing Library Enjoyment

Well, we've all been reminded of what's coming with the recent early snowstorm. While not trying to rush the season any further, the Friends of the Library are thinking of ways to make our library more "reader friendly" for the days ahead.

Who doesn't love to be able to curl up in a comfortable chair by a roaring fire and ease into a good book? What a marvelous way to spend a cold winter day. The Friends agree.

The Friends plan to make this a reality with the purchase of an electric fireplace to be placed in the Quiet Reading Room. While it won't be quite the same as an actual log fire in a fireplace, it will give the room a cozy ambiance for enjoying a good book. It certainly will enhance the Okemos Library patrons' library wintertime experience.



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