



# Just Between Friends

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

VOLUME 15 ISSUE III

Summer 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

## The Best Laid Plans

*“The best laid plans seldom work out accordingly.”* I believe this sentence could easily be the theme for all of 2020. Take, for example, the Friends’ Events Calendar for its Annual Spring Luncheon. Our speaker’s topic was going to dovetail so perfectly with two other CADL events, one sponsored by the Okemos Library, the other by CADL Administration. The overarching theme was to be a salute to our First Nation’s peoples.

Capital Area District Library had secured a commitment from nationally recognized author Tommy Orange whose recently published book *“There, There”* outlines the lives of urban dwelling Native Americans. This was going to contrast nicely with the Okemos Library bringing in a speaker from the Nokomis Cultural Heritage Center to expand our knowledge of the history of local Chief Okemos and his band of the Saginaw/Chippewa Tribe. Then following these two events, we had scheduled Friends’ Luncheon speaker Patricia Shackleton, a member of the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of the Chippewa, to compare and contrast the Three Fires Council tribes, their culture and arts.



But then the unthinkable happened: a sudden pandemic assaulted us on a worldwide scale. This crisis caused chaos and resulted in a lockdown of most every function across the globe, right into the heart of all our cities. It touched our beloved CADL libraries, which were suddenly off-limits to us. That included all its many programs and events. As of this writing, it will remain so until the Governor’s “Gentle Opening” plan deems it safe to allow us to again go back to using our libraries.



As the Friends work with Ms. Shackleton to reschedule her presentation, we can’t help ourselves from reimagining our “Spring” event arriving a little late this year, bedecked instead in golden leaves, amid pumpkins and cider or even snow! Stay tuned.

Cecelia Kramer  
President Friends of the Okemos Library

# RE-OPENING LIBRARIES

## *A Slow Re-Entry Plan to our World of Books*

Both Okemos Library and Haslett Library, located in Meridian Township, are branches of the Capital Area District Libraries (CADL). CADL recently announced its plan to reopen its branches after being closed due to COVID-19 and Governor Gretchen Whitmer's Executive Orders.

Currently, except for essential functions, library staff are not allowed in library buildings until May 29. Once staff are allowed in the buildings, CADL will reopen branches in three phases:

**Level 1:** Contactless curbside or door pickup of library materials. Residents will call a new, designated telephone number, 517-525-8541 for a date and time to come to the library parking lot for their reserved materials ('Holds') to be placed in their trunk or car. Scheduling the pickups is sure to avoid the bumper-to-bumper-gridlock that would otherwise occur after two full months of pent-up Library demand! Please remember to have your library card and/or driver's license for librarian to quickly scan when material is delivered to your car. **CADL hopes this service begins June 15<sup>th</sup>.**

**Level 2:** As CADL moves beyond curbside or door pickup, the patrons will still have only limited access to the libraries. Many services may also be limited during this time, like access to public computers, use of the children's areas, and studying at the library. *And all library events are canceled until further notice.*

**Level 3:** Regular library services and hours will resume with any recommended social distancing guidelines still firmly in place.

Those whose library cards are expiring will receive information via the website as to its status.

This will be a slow re-entry process, for sure. But, though inconvenient for some and sad for others, it is being done with the library staff and patron's health as the first and foremost concern. We thank everyone for your *bottomless* patience as we accustom ourselves to these new procedures.

Additional updates: the due date for CADL materials has **been extended to June 15<sup>th</sup>**. Items on hold must be picked up by June 22<sup>nd</sup>.

**\*\* A final note:** These dates are subject to change, if and when directives at the State level change.



## Membership Renewal

Please look on your address label for the date your membership is due to be renewed. You can use the enclosed envelope to return your check, payable to Friends of the Okemos Library. Your membership and additional support of the Friends and our Okemos Library are always appreciated.

DONATION ENVELOPE	
Name: _____	Date: _____
Phone: _____	
Billing Address: _____	Zip: _____
Email: _____	
<input type="checkbox"/> CASH	<input type="checkbox"/> CHECK
AMOUNT \$ _____	
<input type="checkbox"/> VIA _____	
<input type="checkbox"/> MC _____	
CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____	
SIGNATURE _____	



## One *BIG* Thank You!

Each quarter the Friends of the Library work diligently to put on a used book sale. Held in the downtown Okemos Masonic Center, this event offers area book readers their choice of many gently-used hardback and paperback books for a fraction of the cost of brand-new publications. This is a big event to organize and a big/ongoing job to accomplish each quarter. It is the main fundraiser mechanism for our organization.

While it can be an enjoyable, behind the scenes book sale tasks are a major time sink and involve hours of work from a number of people; the Thursday Elves, Friday Box-Hauling Thugs and the Friday Sale Set-Up Whirlygigs, Saturday and Sunday Sale volunteers, and most especially, Book Sale Czar and Volunteer Coordinator, Jim Tellner. Our eternal gratitude to all the volunteers and Jim for their continued efforts on behalf of the Friends.

Please see page 4 for details on future book sales and how you can help.

**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.

## **Book Sales: Another Covid-19 Victim**

### *And a Plan to Collect Those Much-Needed Books We Are Short Of*

It is with regret that we announce the cancellation of the June 6 -7 Okemos Friends of the Library Used Book Sale. With the “Great Isolation Period” extending into the future, and the Capital Area District Library Board announcing the Library’s newest possible-reopening date of June 15, we have no ability to gather books for this sale through book donations at our usual library-book-donation site.

Although we regret canceling the June Book Sale, we recognize the appropriateness of this cancellation. Our Used-Book-Sales are so densely packed and attended by such a high percentage of vulnerable populations, that the contagion risk of holding this event is simply too great. At the end of August we will assess the possibility of whether or not to hold the September book sale based on the status of the pandemic/Governor’s Directives as well as the number of books we’ve collected. As always, the safety of our book patrons and volunteers is a top priority.

**Right now, our book-sale inventory is low.** This is due partly to the closure of the library eliminating where and how to get your books to us. But the Friends posted a community-notice that should help remind everyone of our much-needed book donations. In essence, our Community and Book-Sale friends are asked to review their book collection from bookcases, attics, dens, then bag or box them and set aside those to be donated. The Friends accept gently used fiction, non-fiction, Books-on-Tape or CD, DVD’s, and CD’s; *No textbooks, no encyclopedias, no musty smelling volumes, please.* Once you have your donation ready, call our Book Sale Coordinator Jim Tellner at 517-775-3959, or email him at [jmct1965@aol.com](mailto:jmct1965@aol.com), and he will arrange for a pick-up.

**PLEASE NOTE – NEW UPDATE:** Until further notice **DO NOT** bring your books to the library. **Call Jim** to make arrangements for your donation, no matter how small. Tax forms are still available as the Friends maintain a 501(c)(3) organization designation making your donation tax deductible. These book sales make up the Friends’ major source of funding.

Our great thanks for all your book donations over the years.



517-347-2021

Okemos, MI 48864

4321 Okemos Road

***Okemos Library***

***Friends of the Hope Borbas***