



Just Between Friends

Friends of the Hope Borbas Okemos Library

VOLUME 12 ISSUE 2

SPRING 2017

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, April 16

Memorial Day Weekend -
Saturday, Sunday and Monday
May 27, 28 & 29

Independence Day -
Tuesday, July 4



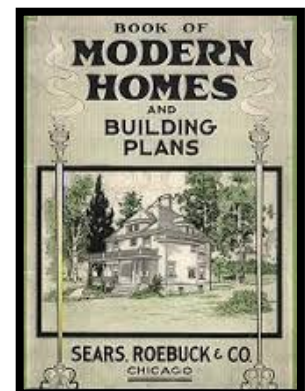
Hunting for Michigan's Mail Order Homes - *And "Mutch" More!*

Move over, Property Brothers! Andrew and Wendy Mutch are about to rain on your parade! This husband and wife team are motivated by a most unusual passion in the home-buying field: they own (and love!) their Sears "Hamilton" kit home. The roomy Hamilton home came on the scene over a century ago and is a beautiful specimen of kit housing. The Mutches have made it their mission to identify these kit-built beauties all throughout the Upper Midwest.

Join the Friends of the Okemos Library for their Spring Strawberry event on **Saturday, May 20** from 12-2 p.m. at the **Okemos Library** to listen to stories the Mutches have to tell from their Midwest travels. They will describe how they located and photographed these kit-built homes and also share the conversations they had with the current owners. Many of those owners have become fast friends, never before having realized that they too possess one of the early 20th Century's most-beloved iconic homes.

Like the enthusiasm of bird watchers, this couple, along with a cadre of other Kit-Built Hunters, catalog their finds. Some styles, like the magnificent "Magnolia", a rare discovery. Finding others are located in a row with like or similar models clustered together—a real bonanza!

Michigan's history with the premier kit-built manufacturer, Aladdin, of Bay City, started the craze that provided the average American with an opportunity to build and own a quality built home at a reasonable price that made the American Dream a middle-class reality. Listen and retrace this fascinating history with us.

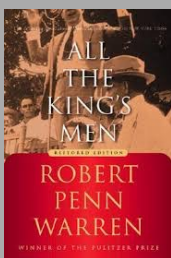


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Friends Book Group Reading

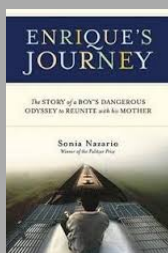
Group meets 1st Thursday of the month at 12 p.m. in the Library Community Room. Casual discussion.

MARCH



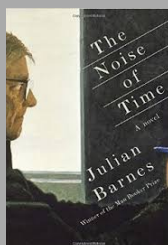
All the Kings Men
by Robert Penn Warren

APRIL



Enrique's Journey
by Sonia Nazario

MAY



The Noise of Time
by Julian Barnes

From the Librarian's Desk



Chili's to Sponsor Library Fundraiser

Enjoy an Eat-a-Thon and raise money for the library at the same time.

That's a pretty simple thing to do and it happens on Wednesday, March 22nd, at the Chili's Restaurant in Okemos. The restaurant is sponsoring a **Give Back Event** for the Haslett and Okemos branches of the Capital Area District Libraries.

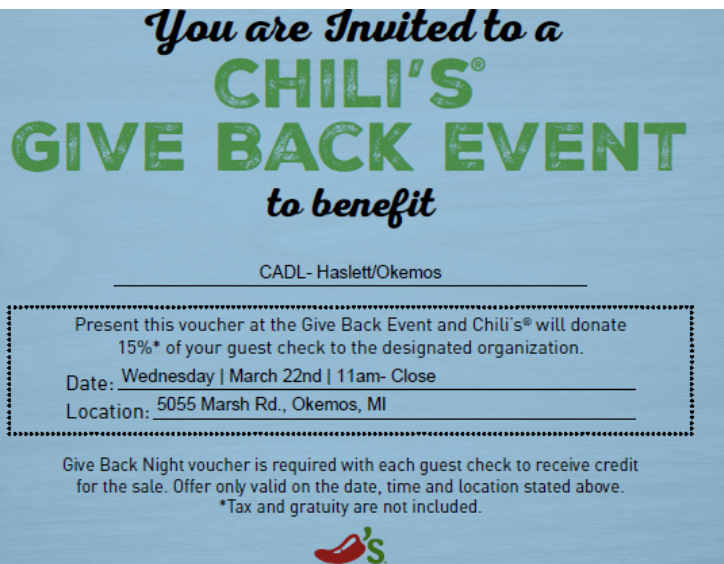
It works like this: Take the voucher below to Chili's, 5055 Marsh Road and enjoy a delicious meal. The restaurant will donate 15 percent of your tab to the specified branch, not including tax or gratuity. Guests may participate any time between 11 a.m. to 11 p.m.

Chili's partners with organizations that "strengthen families, promote a nurturing environment for children and emphasize student academic and physical achievement." That sound like the library, doesn't it?

We'd like to raise at least \$500, which should not be hard to do. Lunch combos are under \$8! A 3-course special with a dessert is just \$10! Craft burgers are under \$10! A grilled chicken salad (just 440 calories) is under \$10. Even a sirloin steak meal can be eaten for under \$13. Many great deals!

Invite a friend, or two, to enjoy a meal and support your library. Thank you!

Betsy Hull
Head Librarian





From the Friends' President

Cecelia Kramer, Friends' President

Everything Old is New Again *Housing - Then and Now*

The Friends of the Library are a group that embraces reform, growth, and change. We need that change to foster ever-evolving ideas, which beget new growth, so the cycle renews itself and stays relevant. And yet, as a group, we equally embrace tradition and the values that define our roots.

This year, our Friends' group celebrates its 64th birthday, and we find ourselves reflecting about the past, while looking proactively toward the future. We aim to continue keeping up with new ideas while being faithful to the old ones.

A good example of the traditional versus the new is in the field of housing. At our time-honored **Spring Strawberry Event** presentation (see front page) we will look back a hundred years at a particular style of "Kit Homes" that became all the rage in the early 1900s. Revisiting these period homes will show us how our grandparents defined "new and affordable" housing. These Kit Homes could be ordered right through the U.S. Mail from a catalog! Buyers just had to choose a design that fit their lifestyle and pocketbook, order it, and *voila!* it appeared off the rail car with everything included: lumber, windows, doors, and nails. All top quality materials. Downright revolutionary!

Contrasting that with a look at the latest trend in modern housing, another style of Kit Home is now becoming a movement of its own: the "Tiny House." It is turning on its ear the "bigger is better" home construction styles in recent decades, committed as it is to "*small, small, small.*" Caravan-style tiny mobile homes are hitting the open road in growing numbers. Super-small cabins are another form of this trend, as both styles conform to what a growing population segment wants: a simpler, more utilitarian, lifestyle.

Tiny Houses offer more freedom, adventure, and mobility, and require very little investment and overhead. Just watching this movement pick up pace makes those with standard homes wonder "*Could I do something that bold?*"

Maybe. Many who watch these Tiny Houses gain popularity open their closets one morning to de-clutter their living spaces, and by day's end are calling their realtors to downsize to smaller homes.

Will Tiny Houses stand the test of time and be available one hundred years from now? Stay tuned. We hope the Friends of the Library will be here in 100 years to answer that question.

2015-2016 OFFICERS

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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



Tip of the Hat



The **Tip of the Hat** is a salute to one of our Friends' Board Members who has done an outstanding job for our organization. This edition of our *Just Between Friends* newsletter shines a spotlight on Lois Neves for her outstanding contributions to us over the years.



Initially, Lois' love of reading and her passion for books brought her to our Board of Directors in 2005. Since then, she has blossomed into other areas and become a most valuable "utility player." With her dogged attention to getting the job done, Lois is our *go-to* gal. When an event needs planning, she volunteers to be on the Planning Committee and/or Food Committee. During event set-ups, her upbeat attitude and infectious laugh lighten the workload.

She has special skills in accomplishing handwork quickly, especially with napkin folding, making each crease neat and crisp.

Such small touches are not taken lightly in the Special Events world because of the indelibly beautiful effect they leave on guests. Whether Lois pours punch, or serves as welcoming-greeter, her heartwarming contributions make the environment – and the guests – *glow*! She makes friends everywhere she goes.

Every three months you will find Lois working at our Used Book Sale, helping with book presentation on the tables and also working in the Book Sale checkout room.

And so, Lois Neves, for your all-around valuable service to our organization, and your ever-welcome infectious laugh and cheerful outlook, we salute you with a big **Tip of the Hat**.



Mail-Order Homes, continued from Page 1



Attendees at "**Hunting for Michigan's Mail-Order Homes,**" the **Friends' Spring Strawberry Event** will enjoy a hearty buffet including fresh strawberries. The cost is \$15.00 for Friends' members, and \$18.00 for non-members. **Space is limited. Prepaid reservations are a must!** Make checks out to Friends of the Okemos Library and mail them or drop them off at the Library, 4321 Okemos Road, Okemos. **Reservations are needed by Tuesday, May 16.**

The doors will open at 11:30 a.m. on Saturday, May 20. For questions, please call Cecelia Kramer at 349-3297 or the Library at 347-2021.

Okemos Library Events

FOR ADULTS

Friends Book Group

1st Thursdays • 12 - 1:30 p.m.

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

March 2: *All the Kings Men* by Robert Penn Warren

April 6: *Enrique's Journey* by Sonia Nazario

May 4: *The Noise of Time* by Julian Barnes

Film Movement Series (Adults & Mature Teens)

3rd Thursdays • 6:30 - 8:30 p.m.

View a recently released, award-winning, foreign or independent film. See page 6 for the upcoming Spring 2017 schedule.

Conversational Spanish

Thursdays, March 9 & 23; April 13 & 27; May 11

• 10:30–11:30 a.m.

Do you know “un poquito de español”? This series, taught by native speakers, will help you refresh, practice and expand your knowledge, with a different theme each session. Registration required; call 347-2021 x3.

Personalized Technology Help

Drop in or call to make an appointment.

ESOL Reading Group (Adults)

Wednesdays, March 1-May 24 • 12 p.m. -1:30 p.m.

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

Meridian Senior Center Computer Club

(Held off-site)

March 8, April 12 & May 10 • 1–3 p.m.

We'll cover topics such as computer care, internet, smartphones, and digital downloads. Bring your device or computer.



Go Nativar!

Wednesday, March 8 • 6:30 – 8 p.m.

Use less water, less pesticide, and weed less when you use Michigan natives in your garden and landscape. Marilyn Lee will show how using natives, a cultivar of a native plant, can provide benefits and beauty to your home.

TED Talk® Tuesdays

Tuesdays, March 28, April 25 & May 25

• 1:30–2:30 p.m.

Watch a 20-minute video from a TED Talk and then discuss the subject, facilitated by library staff. TED Talks® are influential videos from expert speakers on education, business, science, tech, and creativity.

YogaFit® Series

Thursdays, April 13–May 18 • 1:30–2:30 p.m.

This series for beginners emphasizes proper body alignment and awareness. Instructor Mary Adamek, MPT, will demonstrate how to breathe and listen to your body to gain strength, balance, and flexibility. Dress accordingly and bring a mat. Limited to the first 15 adults to arrive.

FOR ALL AGES

Celebrate National Pi Day

Tuesday, March 14 • 9 a.m.–9 p.m.

Come to the library on Pi Day (3.14) and enter to win a free pie from Grand Traverse Pie Company!

Chili's® Give Back Fundraiser

Wednesday, March 22

• 11 a.m. – 11 p.m.

Enjoy good eats at an all-day fundraiser benefiting the Haslett and Okemos branches of Capital Area District Libraries. Pick up a voucher at either branch, then take it to the Chili's on Okemos Road. Fifteen percent (15%) of your check will be donated to the libraries.





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 2017 schedule:

Breathe (France) – Thursday, March 16 at 6:30 p.m.

Charlie is seventeen and bored. Her estranged parents are too caught up in their own drama to pay her much attention. School holds no surprises either, and Charlie grows tired of her staid friends. Enter Sarah, a confident and charismatic new transfer student who brings with her an alluring air of boldness and danger. The two form an instant connection, and through shared secrets, love interests and holiday getaways, their relationship deepens to levels of unspoken intimacy. But with this intimacy comes jealousy and unrealistic expectations, and soon the teens find themselves on a dangerous trajectory toward an inevitable and unforeseen collapse.



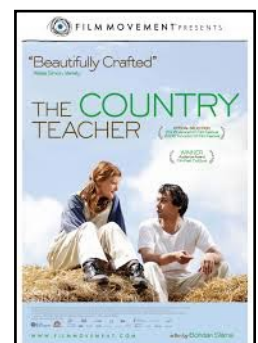
The Automatic Hate (USA) – Thursday, April 20 at 6:30 p.m.

When Davis Green's alluring young cousin Alexis appears on his doorstep one night, he discovers that a side of his family has been kept secret from him. Against his father's wishes, Davis travels to rural, upstate New York to meet his other cousins. Together, their discoveries force them to confront the temptation to keep their familial grudge, going rather than end it.



The Country Teacher (Czech Republic) – Thursday, May 18 at 6:30 p.m.

A gifted young teacher takes a job teaching natural sciences at a grammar school in the country. Here he makes the acquaintance of a woman and her troubled 17-year old son. The teacher has no romantic interest in the woman but they quickly form a strong friendship, each recognizing the other's uncertainties, hopes and longing for love.



Film Movement pictures are shown with permission under Movie Licensing USA.

Don't miss the Friends' Book Sale ~ March 4 & 5, 2017

Sales are held at the Okemos Masonic Lodge, 2175 Hamilton Rd., Okemos

“Put and Take” Magazine/Periodical Exchange

Take advantage of the marvelous opportunity for Okemos Library patrons to recycle current (within the last two years) magazines and periodicals of general interest. Bring them to the “Put and Take Rack” located across from the “New Non-Fiction” books display. Bring your magazines and periodicals, and place them on the rack for others to enjoy. Be sure to blacken out the address label if it’s a subscription.

Should you see an issue that interests you, take it home to read.



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:

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.

The Dark History of Orchids

Friends of the Okemos Library learn first hand of the mayham, mystery and murder that shrouds the history of orchids. Jerrie Nichols from the Greater Lansing Orchid Society brought the dark history of this spectacular bloom to light.



Orchid enthusiasts gather to learn more about the dark history of this lovely plant



Jerrie Nichols with what is thought of as the classic orchid, the Cattleya



Anshu Varma, displaying her door prize with Cecelia Kramer

Friends Book Sale Dates:
 2017
 March 4 & 5, 2017
 June 3 & 4, 2017
 September 9 & 10, 2017

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

